

THE HARROVIAN

VOL. CXXXV NO.18

March 11, 2023

THE LIFE OF KING ARTHUR

Ryan Theatre, 28 February and 2 March

Druries and Elmfield performed *The Life of King Arthur*, as a prequel to Bradbys and The Knoll's *The Death of King Arthur*, at the Ryan Theatre on Tuesday 28 February and Thursday 2 March. The timeless tale of adventure, romance and heroism has inspired countless works of literature, art and film, including this theatrical production, which promised to be a corker.

Act one, *The Life*, opened with the story of Arthur's accession to the throne, perhaps foreshadowing the dizzy heights to come for Ben Cutts, *Elmfield*, who showed great potential in a leading role. With the help of his knights, including Sir Lancelot, played by Freddie Tompson, *Elmfield*, Sir Bors, played by Kepu Tuipulotu, *Druries*, and Sir Gawain, played by Charlie Ni, *Elmfield*, Arthur established his kingdom and created the Round Table, a symbol of equality and justice.

Performing in the round, it was impressive to see every actor adjust their performance to accommodate to the stage configuration. As King Arthur began his quest for the Holy Grail, not only did Morgana, played by Hector Rogberg, *Druries*, begin to cause problems for the young King, but Camelot was also threatened by the likes of the Red Knight, played by Fuad Abualsaud, *Elmfield*, and the Green Knight, played by Mac McDowell, *Elmfield*. To make matters worse, Morgana was also assisted by Mordred, her loyal agent in the court of King Arthur, played by Bertie Bradley, *Druries*, whom many will remember from his comic portrayal of Don Corleone in *House Scenes* earlier in the Autumn term.



The play reached a cliff-hanger denouement that is characteristic of all the great franchises – think *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows* Parts One and Two – advertising Act 2, *The Death of King Arthur*, as the audience were left eager to revisit the intriguing world of Camelot. Although Mrs O'Neal must be credited for her considered use of the ensemble and wider cast, distinctly engaging performances came from Ben Cutts, Hector Rogberg and Arhan Maker, *Druries*, who burst onto the stage with an energy and precision that is rare in a debut acting role. Also worth noting was Yizi Wei, *Elmfield*, in his portrayal of the coquettish Caroline that left audience members rolling in the aisles.

Returning to the Ryan Theatre after a three-week sabbatical were Joey Quartey, Jasper Brockwell, Arthur Porter and Joe McLean, all *Druries*, who did well to integrate so quickly from

Shakespeare in Love into a curtailed rehearsal process. They played a key role, no doubt, in setting the tone for what was an impressive spectacle, which was further enhanced by expertly co-ordinated lighting, courtesy of David Lui, *Bradbys*. ACO, and, indeed, ERPB, must too be praised for crafty application of the rostra/tower upstage left – yet another inherited facet of the *Shakespeare in Love* production earlier in the term.

Act 2, *The Death of King Arthur*, was then performed by Bradbys and The Knoll on Wednesday 1 and Thursday 2 March. Although this production picked up not long after the events of Act 1, there was a pronounced tonal shift from comedy to tragedy. Thus, under the keen direction of ERPB, the audience were given the opportunity to enter the world of Camelot for one final time.



The action began with the 'disruption' of the Knights of the Round Table in their quest to retrieve the Holy Grail, modelled eloquently by grail maiden Alexander Coventry, *The Knoll*. Then came enthralling physical performances from Netanel Lawrence-Ojo, *The Knoll*, who played Sir Galahad, and Omar Ait El Caid, *Bradbys*, who played Sir Percival. For the past two years, Ait El Caid has established himself firmly in the School community as The Actor – a title he truly deserves – and I am sure that those who have had the pleasure of seeing him perform will join me in wishing him the best of luck in his future theatrical endeavours.

Lamenting the loss of Sir Galahad and Sir Percival, King Arthur, played by Jasper Smallwood-Martin, *The Knoll*, turned to his Guinevere, played by Sean Pao, *Bradbys*. Although the audience might have been shocked to see that Smallwood-Martin was not wearing a dress, they were comforted by the fact that he would not lose his regal demeanour – which we hope doesn't get to his head – by having to transition from Queen Elizabeth I to King Arthur. It would not be, however, a happy ending for Arthur as he discovered Guinevere's affair with his best friend Sir Percival, played by Charlie McDowell, *The Knoll*.

The rest of the narrative was consumed by King Arthur and Sir Gawain's, played Aaron Patel, *The Knoll*, campaign for revenge against Lancelot and Mordred, played by Rafferty McGougan, *Bradbys*. The play was crowned by numerous yet unique fight scenes, choreographed by ERPB, who illustrated the practical applications of his knowledge of the Medieval period (where the play is set). Just as in Act 1, Morgana, played by Jeffrey Arthur, *The Knoll*, and Mordred combined to give nuanced and unsympathetic performances. Further excellent acting came from

Zain Ayoub and Mostyn Fulford, both *The Knoll*, whose vocal delivery, in particular, gave the audience some comic relief in what was a tragic play otherwise.

With Arthur retreated to the 'Vale of Avalon', the audience were left with much to reflect on, both in terms of performance and production. The musical element was one defining feature of both productions: it helped capture the spirit of the story and stirred the emotions of the audience. Furthermore, costumes designed by Ms Broughton seamlessly married both acts up into one holistic performance – combining even the likes of Bradley and McGougan. These many beautiful aspects of the production provided a sense of intricacy that further lent it a real energy and sense of magical realism.

A diversely experienced cast is to be expected from a House play and gives boys the opportunity to contribute in a manner in which they feel comfortable; however, the ensemble nature of this production stood out. Their maintained focus and diligent performance style served as the impetus for a particularly well-paced production. Indeed, everyone involved in this arresting performance deserves our congratulations and I look forward to seeing many of them back on stage in the years to come, such is the objective of House plays: to encourage participation in theatre and foster new talent across the School.

SPRING CONCERT

The Spring Concert took place on Saturday evening in Speech Room and its theme was 'Music for Screen'. It featured performances from the Symphonic Winds, String Orchestra, Big Band and, finally, the School Orchestra. It was the last concert in Speech Room for this academic year and a farewell to it for all boys in the Upper Sixth. The evening commenced with the *20th Century Fox Fanfare* from the Symphonic Winds and this was certainly a very suitable way to open the night. It instantly caught the attention of everyone in the audience as the sound of the large brass section filled the entire room.



Following this, Symphonic Winds performed a set of pieces from 'Hollywood Classics' which were particularly enjoyable and contained some very iconic melodies including *Titanic's* 'My Heart Will Go On'. They then performed 'Gabriel's Oboe', which is the main theme for the 1986 film *The Mission*, with Robert de Niro, Jeremy Irons and Liam Neeson, directed by Roland Joffé. Dante Doros, *Elmfild*, took centre stage for this piece and played a beautifully executed solo. The final performance from the Symphonic Winds was the theme from *The Incredibles* by Michael Giacchino, which was a punchy and thrilling way for Symphonic Winds to end their proceedings for the evening. Next up were the String Orchestra who performed Shostakovich's *8th String Quartet* arranged for String Orchestra. Conducted passionately and expressively by WJC, this incredibly dark piece of music could not have been any more different

from the pieces that had come before it. The main theme of the quartet is Shostakovich's monogram, D, S, C, H [D Eb C B], which is his initials in German notation, Eb = 'S', H = B natural. The piece was composed in 1960, when he was fearing for his life and the people around him believed he was taking large quantities of sleeping pills and was probably even suicidal. This powerful and emotional piece was performed exceptionally and really sent shivers down the spine of every audience member. The Big Band then performed a series of slightly more uplifting pieces directed by SM, starting with the main theme from *Family Guy*, written by Ronald Jones. This was followed by another Dante Doros solo in the main theme from *Taxi Driver* by Bernard Herrmann. Herman Hong, *Rendalls*, then gave a fantastic solo on the trombone in *The Way We Were*. The Big Band wrapped things up with *Happy* by Pharrell Williams from *Despicable Me* and this was certainly an audience favourite. The night concluded with five pieces from *Star Wars* by John Williams from the School Orchestra, conducted by DNW. The main theme came first, followed by 'Princess Leia's Theme', 'The Imperial March', 'Yoda's Theme' and finally the 'Throne Room' and end title. It was a highly impressive and exciting performance and was undoubtedly a crowd pleaser. For Upper Sixth boys in the orchestra, it was their last performance together in Speech Room. Kieran Leung, *The Park*, Francois de Robert, *Lyon's*, Andre Ma, *Moretons*, Alexander Chow, *West Acre*, Hadrian Ho and Henry Woodcock, both *The Head Master's*, have all been in the orchestra since joining in the Shell and we thank them for their longstanding commitment to the orchestra. On the whole, the concert was great to watch and listen to and I'm sure that every boy involved put a lot of hard work into making it so successful. Well done to all involved for what was a fantastic evening of music.

HOUSE ART COMPETITION

Adjudicator: Mr. Paul Deller, Christ's Hospital School,
28 February

The House Art competition of 2023 proved to be highly engaging and I would like to extend my immense thanks to Mr Paul Deller, Head of Art at Christ's Hospital School, who kindly agreed to adjudicate the event. In addition, thank you to LWH and all the beaks who offered their expertise in assisting House Art representatives curate the work. Many congratulations also go to all those boys whose work was on display; it truly was an exemplary exhibition.

Bradlys

The Bradlys display was an effective and eclectic mixture of work spanning all year groups. Dawei Sun's paintings demonstrated a vibrant sea, and execution of brushwork that would make Van Gogh proud. Omar Ait El-Caid won the prize for Best Upper Sixth with his artwork exploring the mystery of a late family member. Bradlys continued the winning streak with Mir Hamid winning the prize for Best Shell.

Druries

The Druries enclave of work melded a punk aesthetic with the macabre through Joe McLean's film entitled *Benjamin's room (breaking the sheen of boyishness)*. Tom Pollock's textile-orientated work was an homage to the work of fashion designer Vivienne Westwood and a smattering of the graphic sensibility of Jamie Reed. Pollock also showed his painterly dexterity with two large-scale canvasses based on his three-dimensional works.



Elmfield

Winning the prize for Best Lower Sixth in the exhibition, Rei Ishikawa's mixed-media work combining sculpture and painting conveyed an underlying political message about the ongoing war in Ukraine as well as aspects of those seeking asylum from oppressive regimes. What dominated the Elmfield display was a range of ambitious use of media as well as the inclusion of multiple large-scale works by Yizi Wei, Gus Corsellis and Luke Tsoi in the Upper Sixth.

The Grove

The Grove put forward yet another impressive display of work spanning all year groups. Of note were the fresco-oriented works of Maxi Gardner and the religious iconography of two large-scale pieces executed by Chris Jolker portraying the Virgin Mary. Michael Guo's gentle humour shone through his detailed drawing which incorporated the protagonist in Edvard Munch's *The Scream* with seemingly random objects.

The Head Master's

The Head Master's submission included a stunning array of urban photography as well as an impressive large-scale charcoal drawing of the Sagrada Familia by William Wang. Alex Akinluyi's spray-painted work on board incorporated some well-observed aspects of Brutalist architecture; the colour-scheme seemed to amplify the dystopian aesthetic synonymous with the style.

The Knoll

The Knoll had many highlights. Of note were Alex Ghani's abstract oil paintings that explored the vulnerable relationship humanity has with nature. Mr Deller appreciated the skilful and light brushwork involved in creating Tian Zhang's *A Cloudy Morning in St Ives*. Congratulations to Enhe Hu on winning the Prize for Drawing for *Endangered*, his large-scale charcoal drawing of a honeybee. Mr Deller noted that "it was of painstaking detail and was well dimensioned".

Lyon's

Even though there were no individual distinctions, this year's adjudicator deemed Lyon's the overall winner due to the overall effect achieved. This included impressive paintings by Bill Chen, Louis Lord and Puna Anantaprakorn. Bill Chen's depiction of an urban landscape mixing reality with fantasy employed a plethora of unusual colours that achieved a dreamy effect. Louis Lord's double portrait incorporated elements from artist Alex Katz and reminded of an impasto from Frank Auerbach.

Moretons

With a collection of painting, drawing and sculpture, *Moretons* demonstrated a range of dexterity in different media. Mr Deller was impressed by Dani Neal's intricate soapstone sculptures. Nick Arnison presented a range of fascinating mini-paintings and a very powerful crowd scene, evoking the work of German artist Max Beckmann.

Newlands

Newlands' strength was in presenting a small albeit perfectly curated collection of works that included Charlie Tack's highly commended diptych depicting a nocturnal Harrow bathed in streetlamps, and Jesse Eledan's photorealistic drawing of the human eye that earned a well-deserved Prize for Best Remove. Joe Storey's couch tempted viewers by suggesting an urge to sit down that the viewers were deprived of. Overall, Newlands offered a wide array of very good quality artworks, bringing home a well-deserved third place!

The Park

George Ansell's impressive large-scale abstract painting was undeniably the piece-de-resistance of the submission, utilising a palette that seemed to tip a hat to the work of Vasily Kandinsky and the *Blaue Reiter* (blue rider) school of Expressionism. George conveyed confidence through his use of form pattern and colour to transport viewers into the surreal environment. James McWilliam's monumental charcoal drawing seems to suggest that the music enriches the brain though the dramatic disproportion between the headphones and the back of the head.

Rendalls

The art heavyweight had a quirky and surreal range of artworks. The ambition to mix photography and cinematography is certainly refreshing to see. Archie Stuart's painterly rough depictions of machinery contrasted with the delicate ink portraits of Freddie Sloss. Mr Deller appreciated Arturo Saville-Mascioni's film-installation, which seamlessly blended imagery with Chopin's music, earning him the Prize for Best Fifth Former. Congratulations on seizing second place in the House Art competition, with a multi-disciplinary and consistent presentation. Also appreciated was Edwin Oh's humanoid paper sculpture *Sense of Belonging*, which ironically felt out of place, almost fragile, in a sea of viewers.

West Acre

Overall, West Acre offered an array of strong drawings across the range of year groups, spearheaded by Harrison Zhao's stunningly detailed and technical digital imagery as well as Luca Cox's variations depicting St Paul's Cathedral and Steven Chen's blender animation inspired by celestial bodies. Harry Morse's experimental film *Dark* proved to be a fascinating and visually immersive hybrid of experiments with an oscilloscope and software programs such as Photoshop and Premier Pro. Particularly interesting was the fact that the videography fell perfectly in sync with his self-composed soundtrack, earning him the Prize for Innovation.

Overall, this was a very impressive exhibition of work across all 12 Houses, reflecting the energy and vibrancy of work at Harrow as digital artworks more than hold their place alongside traditional media.



SUMMERSON SOCIETY

What is Contemporary Art?, Dida Tait and Ally Bennett, Contemporary Art Society, 21 February

On 21 February the Summerson Society was lucky enough to be addressed by Dida Tait and Ally Bennett from the Contemporary Art Society. They provided the assembly of the OSRG with a deep dive into one of the most lucrative and mysterious industries, the modern and contemporary art market.

Ms Bennett and Ms Tait opened by giving brief accounts of their extensive experience in their fields as well as describing the routes they took in order to break into the art world. The speakers gave us a look into the roles they play inside the Contemporary Art Society, detailing the operation and motives of the organisation. They described the organisation's non-profit strategies in helping to develop public collections of contemporary art in the UK, working with museums and galleries to help them acquire new works of art, and also providing support and funding to emerging artists through various programmes and initiatives.

The speakers educated the Summerson Society on the importance of the roles that people in their line of work play in both shaping and enriching public collections. They do this by working with museums and galleries to help them acquire new works of art and ensuring that works that they feel are significant can be made accessible to a wider audience. They are also key figures in the nurturing and promotion of up-and-coming artists. By providing funding and other resources to emerging artists, the Contemporary Art Society helps to highlight talent and support the development of new and innovative works of art.

This lecture alerted the audience to the esoteric responsibility that working in this field entails, as well as shedding light on the potential risks associated with such a fulfilling career path. The speakers helped us to better understand how large an influence they have on both public perception of contemporary art as well as the influence they have on an artist's image and promotion.



Ms Bennett and Ms Tait disclosed the disturbing injustices present in the art world, involving severe imbalances in equality regarding both gender and race. After exposing an unsettling array of statistics, they went on to explicate both the Contemporary Art Society's actions and plans to combat this inequity.

Ms Tait and Ms Bennett's knowledge of the art market stemmed from their expertise and experience in this field, and with knowledge acquired from working different roles across their respective fields, they gave us a broad yet thorough insight into such a unique sector.

PIGOU SOCIETY

Veeraj Puri, The Park, 'Modern-day monopolies: does big tech have too much power?', 1 March

On Wednesday 1 March, Veeraj Puri, *The Park*, gave the first lecture of the month to the Pigou Society entitled 'Modern-day monopolies: does big tech have too much power?', focusing on the complete grasp on the tech market by some of the biggest companies in the world, mainly Apple, Amazon and Google.

To start the talk Puri presented the logos of some of the biggest tech companies, which were immediately recognised by all of the attendees. This helped to show just how integral tech companies are to the everyday lives of all people, and thus helped him expand this idea into explaining monopolies, when a market is effectively dominated by one company. This company usually own complete control of the distribution and production of products in a market, and Puri used a supernormal profit diagram to represent this. He gave reasons for monopolies, particularly focusing on the idea of economies of scale being responsible.

Puri then segued into describing modern monopolies. The two main types of monopolies he mentioned were national monopolies and artificial monopolies. He then explained the differences between them, and showed that the main reason was due to barriers to entry in the market caused by these companies. Therefore, tech companies are in artificial monopolies. This helped illustrate the rise of monopolies in the 20th century in the USA, and more recently specifically in the tech industry. The three most recognisable and sizeable ones are Apple, Amazon and Google in their respective tech fields.

After this, Puri talked about the problems associated with these monopolies, specifically in the shady aspect of their operations and staying on top. The most prominent of these are the constant leaks of privacy, thus breaking the anti-trust laws set by many governments. Google and Amazon have been fined billions and hundreds of millions respectively having been found guilty of anti-trust violations by the EU, which have started to be much harsher on these companies than before. Even the USA, which is traditionally very lenient towards them, has started to regulate anti-trust policies and thus companies. The competition in these markets is also fierce, and it is very hard for small new companies to make significant waves in them. Even if they do make it big, the expansion of companies such as Meta buying WhatsApp and Instagram means that these small companies are bought almost immediately or, due to improper regulation, destroyed by the bigger companies copying them or watering them down.

Puri concluded this highly informative and interesting talk by explaining that these monopolies have become so large, and necessary for so many people, that it would be almost impossible for them to go away or be completely regulated, especially in the current world. However, improvements are being made, and the fact that almost all of us use their products is testament to the sheer sizes of their monopolies. Many thanks to both Puri and DMM for organising this insightful talk.

PIGOU SOCIETY

Mark Liu, *Druries*, 'What is stagflation and how to solve it with mathematical models', 1 February

Intricate. That's certainly one way to describe Mark Liu's, *Druries*, presentation on mathematical modelling as a solution to stagflation. From the several equations he used to the sheer depth of analysis, this seemed more like an undergraduate -level talk rather than one given by a schoolboy.

Classically, like an economist, Liu began by describing the phenomena of stagflation. He first defined growth, unemployment and inflation, and explained the inter-relationships and trade-offs between these crucial macroeconomic objectives using a Phillips Curve. Namely, he highlighted how falling aggregate demand (short-term economic downturn) leads to loose labour markets and thus lower costs of production for firms, which translates to lower price levels in the economy (deflation). He even went as far as representing this relationship via Okun's law, which directly illustrates the relationship between unemployment and production. Ultimately, he explained how stagflation is an uncommon and unusual phenomenon, in which an economy experiences falling demand (economic downturn) but also higher inflation.

To further our understanding, he provided the infamous example of the 1970 'Great Inflation' episode. Liu didn't hesitate to get straight to the point, explaining that the primary cause of inflation was the tripling in oil prices by the OPEC cartel, and falling demand was the result of the draconian policy of Paul Volcker (Chairman of Fed), which increased interest rates and thus lowered inflation, at the cost of a negative demand shock. The government was also unable to intervene with Keynesian policy to prop up demand, due to squeezed federal deficits from the Vietnam War. Liu also showed that negative supply shocks went beyond oil prices via the Investment-Savings curve, explaining that the rapid rise in interest rates de-incentivised investment for firms.

Liu then revealed the fundamental macroeconomic model that can be used to solve this phenomenon. It was an alternative form of the Phillips Curve which showed how changes in inflation and output correlated with each other. Usually, governments target a disequilibrium in the curve, with economic growth at sustainable rates of inflation (2-3%); large disequilibriums, along with other market conditions, can lead to stagflation. What truly seemed to engage the audience, however, was the unique formula Liu provided to explain the curve: in simpler terms, it highlighted how current inflation (π_t) was the sum of expected inflation from the previous year (π_{t-1}), demand in the

economy ($\bar{v}\tilde{Y}_t$) and supply shocks (\bar{o}). Liu particularly highlighted how controlling inflation expectation and reducing the effects of fluctuation in supply (supply shocks) could tackle stagflation.

Finally, he described strategies to specifically control these crucial metrics. He sought forward guidance, from reliable and trustworthy central banks, as an effective way to control inflation expectations. Trade deals, like the US-Saudi agreements of 2022, were also effective at dealing with stagflation by increasing total supply in the economy and thus reducing the effects of fluctuations in supply. Purchase of futures (in which the government is obligated to buy assets at a predetermined future price) and increased competition also help to solve stagflation in a similar way, by increasing supply in the market. Lastly, and perhaps more interestingly, investment into renewables could also help suppress fluctuations in supply by increasing total supply but also decreasing dependency on foreign-sourced energy, which has seen increasing price volatility.

The Pigou Society, and Lower Sixth economists in particular, thank Liu for this detailed and informative lecture. If you have any enquiries, or would like to know more about the topic, Liu can provide an extensive essay that he wrote on this exact topic.

GORE SOCIETY

Robert Young, *The Grove*, 'Am I the only Solipsist?', 27 February

Now, when Robert Young, *The Grove*, saw the crowds, he went up on a hillside and stood up. Young's sermon on the hill was a spectacle of education from which many a beak could learn. After a, slightly, late start, he opened his mouth and taught them. The story began in 4th-century China – BC. A butterfly, Zhuangzi, flew around in the wind, enjoying sweet nectar. Yet, when Zhuangzi woke up as a man, he wondered, 'Was I am man dreaming I was a butterfly or am I a butterfly dreaming I am a man?' This excellent introduction primed the canvas for the paint of words to form solipsism.

To keep us on our seats, Young brought us on a journey of millennia before even defining solipsism. Most people credit Gorgias as the founding father of solipsism as he said 'Nothing exists, even if something exists – nothing can be known about it, and that even if something can be known about it – nothing can be communicated about it.' Which is pretty sceptical, and begs the question 'what can we know?'.

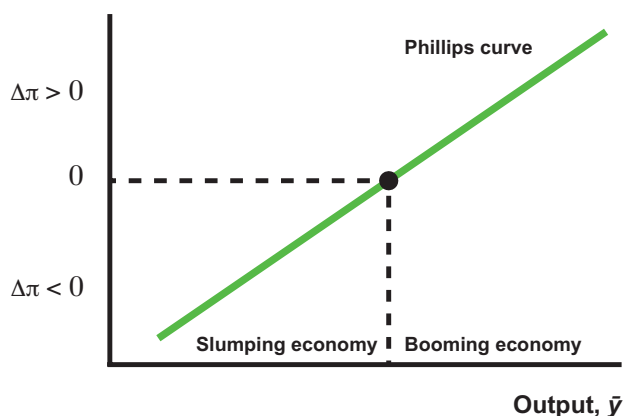
Mr Descartes, a little known philosopher, spoke the obscure and largely forgotten words *Cogito ergo sum*, which means 'I think, therefore, I am.' The full implications of which, Young pointed out, are 'I only exist, when I am consciously thinking'. This is the only thing that we, and a solipsist, can really know. This was coupled with Berkley, who showed that all of perceived existence, and existence itself, depends on the mind. And, finally, that 'to be, is to be perceived'.

Young then mentioned Dualism, another work of Rene, which states that the physical world, of laptops and double, is fundamentally disconnected from the mental world of our minds. The logic tracks as our mind is certainly real – but it is not bound by a measurement or dimension. These two realms are separate, and a solipsist would say that the mental reality is the only reality.

Before we all physically fell off our seats, Young defined a

The Phillips Curve

Change In Inflation $\Delta\pi$



$$\pi_t = \pi_{t-1} + \bar{v}\tilde{Y}_t + \bar{o}$$

solipsist as someone who only believes the provable, namely: that there is no one else in reality, no physical world, only a separated consciousness which creates and experiences what we idiots think to be reality. A solipsist of the present moment might even say that there is no time – as one can't even trust memory and one only exists when actively thinking; however, they would have no one to say it to. It is quite simple.

Some of the "evidence" or logic behind the thought is the problem of other minds, as Young put it: that one cannot prove that anyone else consciously thinks or feels. From a scientific standpoint – when was consciousness evolved? Does a plant feel? Do insects think? Does a fish ponder philosophy? Do dogs dabble in duality? WMAL claims to be able to prove otherwise. Therefore, if you buy evolution, there must have been a point when someone first thought – and they wouldn't have known it. Maybe every mind is just built from biological instinct and urge. You think you would know the difference – but if you put Chat GPT into a 'meaty marionette', as Young put it, not even Turing could tell. Perhaps everyone else is a mere NPC. Simply put, it is impossible to know that someone else thinks. We do not know that we aren't alone.

On that bombshell, Young mentioned Descartes' knock-off dream that was very similar to that of Zhuangzi. Thus, he moved on to enlighten our marinating meat minds by discussing the limitations of our senses. We do not see all colours. We do not see all energy. We do not see all truth, though Young almost persuaded me otherwise on that one. Illusions and hallucinations show that one cannot trust any sense, neither can one trust memories. This means that all of the reality we know, depends on our brain. This furthers the arguments of Berkley.

Young sensed discomfort with his iron-clad logic, thus he critiqued some supposed criticisms. Many people need evidence in order to believe something; however, Young had proven that one cannot know anything as reality, and our perception, depends on the mind. Solipsism is the end result of scepticism, accepting only what one can prove – thus, if you insist you need evidence to believe something, you ought to be a solipsist.

It has also been suggested that something cannot create something more complicated than itself. The universe is vastly more complex than our mind, thus the mind could not have made it all. However, there were many issues with this that Young cleverly quipped. The easiest to understand of these was that there doesn't have to be a universe – only what we see is what exists, and we definitely understand that. He also mentioned that, in fact, intelligence can make more complicated intelligence; thus, the reasoning fails.

Many people also try to refute solipsism with mention of God, and how he would never do such a torturous deed. Young said that he didn't quite have the time to disprove God, and that it may have to be another lecture. That said, he suggested that if there is no evidence for even other minds and reality, he thought that is was not, perhaps, to crazy to suggest believing in a God. It would be crazy to reject him on the grounds of a lack of evidence.

Nearing the end, Young comprehensively questioned the life of a solipsist, concluding that it is one of sorrow, sadness and solitude. Solipsists are often nihilists and quite mentally affected by getting a fake job and charming an unconscious boss as a 'life'. Many solipsists become narcissistic and psychotic, but Young sensibly suggested that perhaps those qualities lead people to solipsism. Young also stated that, in our capitalist society, we live near-solipsistic lives that never question the thoughts or minds of others. 'Solipsism is a spectre haunting philosophy'.

To end, I would not only like to thank Young and the massive audience, for I should also mention that JDBM made the night one to remember three times over. First, the mysterious and anonymous beak on duty did not come, thus JDBM sat in and observed; he also intelligently invented the paradoxical title 'Am I the only Solipsist?', and finally, he had the idea of allowing the lecturer to do his own write up.

F1 IN SCHOOLS

1 March

On Wednesday 1 March, two teams from Harrow took part in the regional stage of the F1 in Schools competition. With Aconitum Racing in the Development Class represented by Sharan Hinduja, *Bradlys*, Thomas Kelsey, *Elmfield*, Josh Mather, *The Knoll*, Alex Garawal, *Elmfield*, and Rupert Lam, *The Knoll*, and Vertex Racing in the Professional Class represented by Justin Changbencharoen, *Lyon's*, Andrew Stratton, *Newlands*, and Luca Stubinski-Aldridge, *Lyon's*, the day was poised to be an eventful and exciting affair.

A lot of the drama had already come the afternoon before, as both teams scrambled to get their cars, portfolios and pit displays finished and set up for race day. A lot of credit needs to be given to the boys, who did an excellent job in performing under stress and completing the competition requirements. Completion was also thanks to the amazing effort put in by DMD and Mrs Pender, who allowed the workshop to stay open well past closing time for tasks to be completed.

Fast forward to 7am on the day, with the final packing completed, both teams entered the minibus with a sense of nervous anticipation, not quite knowing what to expect. However, after a bit of stress and banter on the journey, it was all excitement heading into the venue.

In the competition site, both teams got busy setting up their pit display, making sure each poster, model and item were positioned perfectly. This was immediately followed by a short introduction by the host (afterwards the teams quickly realised that this would be their only respite for the rest of the morning). Vertex Racing was immediately thrown into their enterprise portfolio judging, verbal presentation, pit display judging and racing. Aconitum's schedule was just as packed, with their design and engineering portfolio, verbal presentation, pit display and enterprise portfolio judging all taking place.

Time flew by, and both teams survived to lunch when there was an hour's break before the final events. All the team members were drained, scraping the bottom of the barrel for any energy they could get. Something that did revitalise spirits was the showing of Vertex Racing's nationals interview. There were a few red faces, but the screening was largely enjoyed.

The events finished with Aconitum completing their race and Vertex completing their design and engineering portfolio judging. Aconitum swept clean their competition on the track, making them the second-fastest development class team at the competition. Vertex came second in their race as well, hoping that the other aspects of the competition would propel them into first place.

Finally, it was time to announce the results. With everything packed away, there was nothing else that could be done and it was all down to the judges. The tension was palpable, especially since Vertex knew only one Professional Class team could get through to nationals. Awards were handed out to both teams including the Best Pit Display and Fastest Reaction Time for Aconitum Racing and the Best Portfolio for Vertex.

Now was the moment of truth: the overall ranking of each class. The teams waited on the edges of their seats. In second place for the regional class, Aconitum! Officially securing their place in the national finals for the very first time. Vertex, unsure of whether they made it, were stunned when the presenter suddenly announced that both Professional Class teams would make it to nationals due to their excellent performances, going against the original rules of the competition. The relief of Vertex Racing was obvious. Both teams were immensely pleased, and morale was high on the journey back, just in time for period 5.

While the boys all did great work representing the School, none of this would have been possible without the help of DMD, Mrs Pender and TMK. So, on behalf of both teams, thank you very much! (*Note from the editor: Good luck!*)

OSRG ARTS SOCIETY

V&A: Africa Fashion

Just before the half-term break, boys of the OSRG Arts Society travelled to South Kensington to see the latest fashion exhibition at the V&A: *Africa Fashion*. It was a quiet afternoon and the gallery was not at all crowded so we had easy access to all of the tableaux and the explanatory labels. A soundtrack of instrumental music from Ethiopia played in the background to help set the context. The first garments we encountered were traditional and had been collected in colonial days. Some were made by stitching together narrow strips of colourfully patterned woven cloth but the majority were hand-dyed or hand printed cottons of simple shapes (although women's headdresses were intricately folded and tied into fabulous creations which gave height and authority to the wearer). The colour blue predominated: indigo was a highly prized dye and such blue cloth signified wealth, abundance and fertility. Adire is the name given to indigo dyed cloth produced by Yoruba women of south western Nigeria using a variety of resist dye techniques.

The traditional garments established some general shapes and patterns that responded to the climate as well as to the natural or spirit worlds. Shirts, tunics and kaftans were loose around the body; light, bright colours reflect the sun and are cooler than dense, dark ones. Animal and plant motifs were abundant.

The exhibition then moved rapidly into the present and showcased the outfits created by new generations of African designers. The creativity on display was nothing short of astonishing. Traditional aspects of costume were frequently acknowledged but the garments were now enhanced by high quality tailoring, or by borrowing fabrics or techniques from other cultures. There was an arresting fusion of cultural shapes; vibrancy and colour were still a huge factor but the new garments now seemed to explode with innovation and style. All looked eminently comfortable, wearable and appropriate for the climates for which they were designed. Sustainability was not over-looked and local materials featured prominently. Accessories and jewellery made from seashells, cow's horn, coconut shells, or recycled glass were skilfully crafted and desirable. A show-stopping tableau featuring complimentary outfits for a young man and woman on the occasion of their engagement was especially memorable.

The politics of costume and fashion was touched upon too; there were several garments that were obvious political statements of resistance against external and internal tyranny. The bright and positive colours were a joy to behold; though one is aware that a certain climate would be needed to wear them, as well as a certain societal acceptance which is not yet commonplace. The exhibition was, quite literally, enlightening.

TREVELYAN SOCIETY

'To Kidnap the Pope: Napoleon and Pius VII' – Dr Ambrogio Caiani, University of Kent

The Trevelyan Society was delighted to welcome Dr Ambrogio Caiani from the University of Kent to deliver the Lo Lecture in Speech Room, entitled 'To Kidnap the Pope: Napoleon and Pius VII'. Dr Caiani spoke on the topic of Napoleon Bonaparte's abduction of Pope Pius VII, a controversial event that left a lasting impact on European history. Dr Caiani, a renowned historian and expert in the field of Revolutionary France, Napoleonic Italy and Catholicism, illuminated the audience with his vast knowledge and insight into the event.

The lecture began with a discussion of the political climate of the time, highlighting the complicated relationship between Napoleon and the Catholic Church. In an attempt to consolidate his control over the papacy and gain legitimacy as not just a ruler, but the Emperor of France, Napoleon orchestrated the kidnapping of Pope Pius VII in 1809, during the war of the Fifth Coalition in Central Europe, taking him captive in the French Imperial Palace of Fontainebleau.

Dr Caiani's nuanced analysis of the event was both informative and enlightening. While the abduction was undoubtedly a significant event in European history, Dr Caiani highlighted the dichotomy of the event, suggesting that the issue was not entirely black and white. Napoleon's motivations were multifaceted, and the move was not entirely unexpected given French revolutionary sentiment towards the Roman Catholic Church and Napoleon's unwavering ambition.



The lecture also delved into the psychological impact of the event on both Napoleon and the pope. Dr Caiani noted that while Napoleon had the pope in captivity, he also needed the pope's approval for his own legitimacy. The lecture highlighted the lengths that Napoleon went to exert control over the pope, even going as far as to force him to sign a concordat that significantly reduced the power of the Catholic Church. Given the pope's reputation at the time as a mystical and universally recognised figure, Napoleon's measures were truly remarkable.

Throughout the lecture, Dr Caiani's extensive knowledge of European history was on full display. His meticulous examination of the event shed new light on the topic and challenged some of the preconceived notions that the audience may have had. Dr Caiani's ability to provide a fresh perspective on such a well-known event was testament to his expertise in the field. At the end of the talk, he responded to a wide variety of questions from the audience, considering the extent of Napoleon's ambition and the lasting impact of this event on the reputation and, indeed, the legitimacy of the Catholic Church.

In conclusion, Dr Ambrogio Caiani's lecture on Napoleon's abduction of Pope Pius VII was a fantastic talk filled with knowledge and insight. I was particularly impressed by his ability to offer new perspectives on such a well-covered event in European history.

METROPOLITAN

AD ASTRO

Stargazing

‘When I was a boy, I couldn’t stop looking up either.’

Edward Hunter was sitting on the porch of his family’s Iowan farmhouse, head cupped in his hands, index fingers on his temples, listening to the gentle buzz of a cool summer evening. The late sunset had left the air with a golden tint as it mixed with the deep blue of the infinite sky. The moon hung silently, gliding incrementally across the gilded firmament. His father had seen him from the kitchen window and opened their creaky screen door to join him. He sat, and they both gazed delicately at the waving fields of corn and the heavens above them.

‘How was school Eddie?’

‘Same as always dad,’ he replied, his mind still taken by the radiant beauty of the sunset.

For a while they sat in silence, each enjoying the company of the other as they listened to a chorus of crickets humming in the gentle breeze.

‘Mrs. King asked us today what we wanted to be when we were all grown-ups,’ the boy resumed, ‘but I don’t know.’

His father chuckled, remembering the easy days of his own youth.

‘When I was your age, I wanted to be an astronaut.’

‘An astronaut?’

‘Yeah... I thought I’d like to get a closer look at the stars.’

The boy looked up to the fading light of the evening sky and noticed the gentle twinkle of those distant bodies as they revealed themselves.

‘When I was young, we’d up look up and wonder where we sat in the cosmos,’ the old man continued. He too looked up and smiled, but his expression faded as his gaze shifted downwards. ‘Now we can’t help but look down and worry about our place here in the dirt’.

The boy thought awhile.

‘Why papa? Why is everyone looking down for?’ he asked.

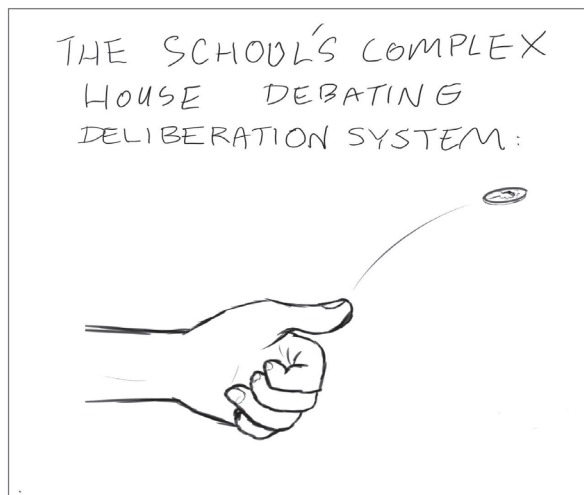
‘I don’t know Eddie.’ The man looked to his son and for the first time the boy saw a watery veil encompass his father’s eyes. ‘I guess we got old.’

The boy thought awhile longer.

‘That’s OK papa. When I’m a grown up I’ll go see the stars for you.’

The old man blinked, a single tear running down his cheek.

‘You will?’ he said, ‘That’s very kind—I’d like that.’



OPINION

AN AI EDUCATION OVERHAUL?

The current education system has been an essential mechanism of society for centuries, forming the basis from which young individuals learn to think and act, and preparing them for their future careers. However, as the current education system further tends towards becoming obsolete, thus arises the question, is it time for an overhaul? Advancements in technology, particularly artificial intelligence (AI), have been the subject of much controversy in recent months. AI has created new challenges, but also new opportunities for education. Perhaps a fundamental redesign of how we approach education is necessary to address and embrace these changes.

The majority of institutions continue to practise the same traditional approach to education today. However, this system is thoroughly inadequate. One of its biggest shortcomings is its inability to cater to the individual needs of students. The current system is dependent on a ‘one size fits all’ approach, which makes the invalid assumption that all students are equally able to learn at the same pace, and possess the same academic ability. In many cases, a significant number of students fall behind or become disengaged with their learning in the classroom due to this ineffective and inefficient approach to education. As a result, students must bear the negative impacts this has on their academic and professional careers, but also more importantly, the effects on their mental health. When students are not motivated to actively pursue their education, they are often less likely to succeed and unlock their maximum potential.

Another concern brought to light amid the recent controversy is that the current education system tends to prioritise memorisation and regurgitation of fact-like information over critical thinking and problem-solving skills. This approach may produce good employees, but does not create good thinkers. The emphasis on memorisation can give rise to a lack of creativity, as students are not forced to think ‘outside the box’ and approach problems from their own unique perspectives. This focus on ‘fact learning’ over creativity can also stifle the development of essential skills such as collaboration, communication and leadership, which are critical for students to succeed in their professional as well as personal lives. In the rapidly changing and extremely competitive world that we now live in, it is essential for students to acquire these skills in order to succeed.

Recently, the rise of AI, especially in the form of language optimisation models such as ChatGPT, has taken the world by storm. This has created much concern for educators, as students can use these programs to write their assignments for them. This underlines why the current education system needs an update. *AI has the potential to be an asset, rather than a liability for educators.* AI can be used to provide learning experiences personalised for individual students by analysing their strengths and weaknesses, and tailoring courses to their specific needs. Personalised learning is extremely beneficial for students as it helps them gain a deeper understanding of their subjects, focusing on areas where they need the most improvement. This can lead to greater engagement and motivation among students by giving them the opportunity to learn in a way that best suits them.

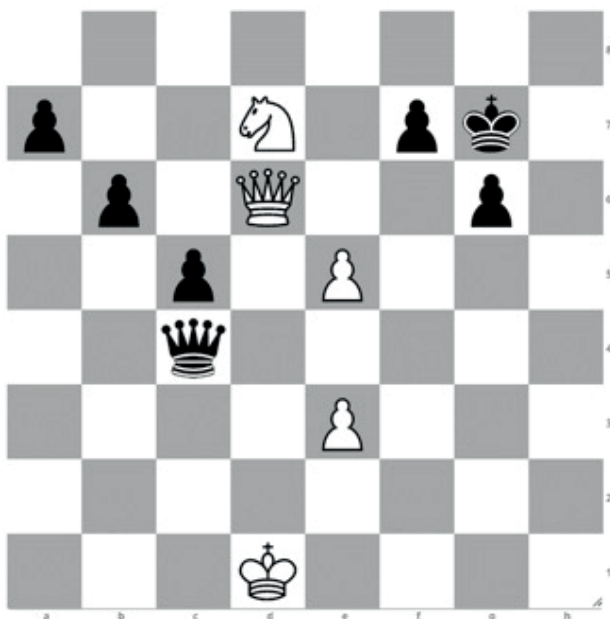
A common opinion is that the advancement of technologies such as AI are breaking the educational system, but perhaps there is another perspective. We should see the situation we are in as a wake-up call and embrace the new opportunities created by technology to prepare students for a world where we interact with technology every day. The purpose of education is to ensure that young individuals are prepared for their future

lives, but how could we do so if the method by which this is done remains the same as in the past? Changes should not be feared but encouraged, in order to improve the quality of education and to provide students with high-quality resources and materials, helping them prepare for their future lives in the ever-changing, rapidly evolving world beyond school.

CHESS

The weekly puzzle set by JPBH. Submit your solution by email (jpbh@) to enter the termly competition.

White to play and mate in two moves.



Last week's answer: 1. **Qh6+** Rh7 (if Kg8 or Bh7 then 2. Qg7#) 2. Rf8+ Bxf8 3. Qxh8#.

Interested in chess? Come along to Chess Club, 4.30-6pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays in MS 5. All abilities welcome!

SUDOKU

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

SPORT

FOOTBALL

*Junior Colts A v The Grammar School at Leeds, away,
Lost 5-2, 28 February*

Harrow were unfortunate to drop out of the ISFA trophy at the semi-final stage, being defeated 5-2 by a direct and physical GSAL team, despite being by far the better footballing side. The boys should be immensely proud of their efforts this year, going further than any other Harrow Under-15 side in both the main and trophy ISFA competitions.

1st XI v Radley College, away, Won 1-0

A determined, battling display as the 1st XI struggled to get into a decent rhythm in the first half and were grateful to Caspar Baker, *Moretons*, for a series of outstanding saves. In a better second period, a moment of class from Charles Edu, *Lyon's*, provided the assist from which Max Baygual-Nespatti, *Elmfield*, scored the winner. Kanta Morisigihe, *Newlands*, was excellent throughout, breaking up play and distributing with class.

3rd XI v Radley College 2nd, away, Draw 2-2

Last Thursday, Harrow made the arduous trek over to Radley. The game started slowly, with a few early chances for Radley held safely at bay by Josh Owens, *Rendalls*, who displayed consistent defensive sparkle. Balls from the middle and wings gave Hugo Maclean, *West Acre*, many a chance and after a Rashford (MBE)-esque run, he was brought down unfairly in the box, gifting Harrow a penalty. McLean stepped up and placed the ball on the right side of the goal, the keeper diving left: 1-0 to Harrow. Quick responses from Radley and some lackadaisical defending from Harrow allowed Radley to go 2-1 up in the first half. Brilliant runs by Inigo Doyle, *The Park*, kept immense pressure on the left side and more passes were fed to Maclean from all angles until eventually one was buried away to finish the first half 2-2.

The second half saw the brunt of the battle in the middle. Dominant runs from Tobi Amusan, *Moretons*, kept up the attacking force. No goals were scored in the second half, leaving an anti-climactic end to a stellar match of football, with Radley kept at bay mostly by William Wright's, *West Acre*, fantastic keeping display. One for the history books.

4th XI v Radley College 3rd, away, Won 1-0

The 4ths continue their unbeaten run with a first clean sheet of the season to win the game 1-0 against Radley's 3rd XI.

Harrow started the game well with a flurry of chances but, with both teams unbeaten, there was a lot to play for and Radley certainly remained dangerous on the attack. Bode Kolawole, *Newlands*, and Louis Parry-George, *The Park*, both played extremely well to cut the threat going through the centre, whilst Jonathon Brockwell, *Moretons*, produced a brilliant, man-of-the-match performance to nullify their main threat on the wing.

Harrow remained a threat and began to dominate as the first half came to a close. Fin Smith, *Lyon's*, had several good chances and was finally rewarded soon into the second half with a well-taken finish. Following this, Harrow reduced Radley to very few shots at goal and Olly Hills, *The Head Master's*, positioning was excellent to sweep up any Radley through balls. Paddy Elliot, *Druries*, and Melvin Ackah, *Newlands*, also helped Harrow to maintain a threat in possession. Another excellent performance and another win for the 4th XI.

5th XI v Radley College Boys Under-18D, away, Won 2-0

"A tumultuous battle of wits, strength, and balance led to a

storming victory with goals scored by our loan 4th XI striker extraordinaire, and an unfortunate Radley defender who scored a lovely chip into his own top corner.”

A few player-specific points:

James Amihyia-Marsden, *West Acre* – great chat;

Felix Boegh-Nielsen, *The Head Master's* – sturdy and firm-footed in midfield;

Nikita Evlanchik-Kutepov, *The Park* – really got stuck in – only fell over eight times;

Fergus McKie, *The Grove* – excellent body-checking to deny Radley strikers; how he didn't get sent off I won't know;

Leo Waschkuhn, *Lyon's*, (Capt) – lovely through balls and quick-steps;

Ulrico Zampa, *The Head Master's* – “Thunder-shins” made several crunching tackles that echoed across the Oxford swamplands;

Jojo Kunitomo, *The Knoll* – fierce tackling like a feisty piranha trying to win the ball;

Alex Greaves, *Bradby's* – excellent defensive capabilities and kept us safe several times;

Rahul Ponniah, *Newlands* – made several excellent attempts on goal, and scored a beautiful penalty in the second half;

Leo Mazrani, *The Park* – sturdy and great ball-handling skills led to some promising attack-play – great work!

6th XI v Radley College Boys Under-18E, away, Won 4-1

A resounding 4-1 victory away to Radley's 5th XI marked the 6th XI's best team performance of the season so far. A nice flat pitch on a beautiful sunny and spring-like day provided perfect conditions for a proper footballing contest with both sides trying to play a passing game. The first ten minutes or so were largely controlled by Radley, who looked particularly threatening down the flanks, but their early sorties forward were checked comfortably by our increasingly impressive defence. There was a welcome return to the team for Aaron Sohal, *Moretons*, at left back. His reading of the game, focus and resolve are most impressive and his battle with Radley's right-winger was a fine contest throughout the match. When balls made their way into the box, Josh Thompson and Jensen Christie, both *The Head Master's*, at centre-back intercepted and mopped-up in commanding fashion, while Seyon Santhamoorthy, *The Knoll*, filling in at right-back, was strong in the tackle and showed no little skill when bringing the ball out of defence. All in all, this awesome-foursome snuffed out the most promising of Radley's attacks before they became genuine chances, while Arthur Kay, *Lyon's*, in goal was largely untroubled. When he did manage to get his hands on the ball, it was to be noted how excellent Kay's distribution has become, setting up a number of attacks with long punts but also some good passes to our wide players.

It was one of our defenders in fact, Christie, who bagged the assist for our opening goal, finding himself in a forward position on the right and feeding a nice pass through to George Heywood, *West Acre*, in a CAM role, to slot home emphatically past Radley's keeper. This goal put a real spring in Harrow's step and we began to dominate possession, creating a few near-chances in quick succession. A free-kick about 40 yards out did not seem to pose too much of a threat to the Radley goal, but the ball was struck beautifully by 6th XI debutant Bradley Morrison, *Lyon's*, straight over the keeper, who had been somewhat off his line, for a fantastic second goal.

With the half drawing to a close, Harrow were very much in control. What was particularly pleasing was the energy and resolve all players were showing in going about the business of closing down, harrying the opposition and rushing them into making mistakes. The midfield deserve much credit for this, with Toni Alaka, *The Head Master's*, embodying this high-energy approach. Time and again he would win back possession through his relentless determination and resolve, setting up a number of very promising counter-attacks. Meanwhile, Captain Tiarnan O'Brien, *Bradby's*, was, as usual, calmness

personified, collecting loose passes and deftly playing simple passes to keep us on the front foot. He reads the game so well, and always seems to have a little more time on the ball than those around him, quietly but effectively frustrating opposition attacks and launching our own. Our front three of Heywood, George Ansell, *The Park*, and Alexander Banfield, *The Knoll*, were also looking a constant threat. Ansell's balletic forays forward dribbling through the middle kept Radley's defenders very busy trying to stop him and we could easily have added to our first-half goals tally with just a little more composure, and luck, in the Radley box.

The second half continued as the first half ended, and it wasn't long before Harrow netted a third. Superb work from Banfield on the right saw him use his pace and dribbling skills to get past two players before whipping a superb ball across the face of goal for the excellent Ansell to tap in from close range – a brilliant assist from Banfield laying it on a plate for the marauding Ansell up front. Radley did grab a goal back, deservedly really for their effort and endeavour, but it was Ansell again a few moments later who put the result beyond all doubt with a superb lob over the advancing keeper – a great way to round off a terrific team performance. There was almost time for a fifth after a fantastic cross by Morrison found Heywood in a great position at the back post, but he was just unable to get a clean header.

A great team performance though overall and a thoroughly enjoyable match for players and coach alike! We now look forward to Berkhamsted at home next weekend and hope to continue this winning streak.

Colts A v Dr Challoner's Grammar School, home, Draw 2-2

While not at their best, the Colts A worked hard to recover from going two goals down and had opportunities to win the game in the second half.

Colts B v Dr Challoner's Grammar School, home, Lost 0-5

Junior Colts A v Dr Challoner's Grammar School, home, Won 2-1

Following a hard defeat in Leeds, the Under-15s settled into the game against Dr Challoner's well. Starting from the back, Harrow played some great passing football in the first half after going 1-0 up through Teddy Tarbotton, *West Acre*, with some clinical pressing on the opposition. Harrow proceeded to hold off the opposition's attack well with some great defending from the whole back line. Unfortunately, Dr Challoner's recovered, scoring a free kick shortly before the half-time break. Going into second half, the game became more box to box with both sides showing desire to win, with Michael Lourie, *Newlands*, making some great defensive tackles, preventing dangerous crosses. Harrow continued to pass well, despite the difficult pitch. With the game coming to a close, Lase Akindele, *Newlands*, scored a classy finish inside the box in the last five minutes of the game, securing the win for Harrow. The JCAs kept the ensuing celebration classy!

Junior Colts B v Dr Challoner's Grammar School, home, Won 2-0

Junior Colts D v Wetherby Senior School Junior Colts B, home, Won 5-0

Junior Colts E v Wetherby Senior School Boys Under-15C, home, Won 4-0

Junior Colts B v Wetherby Senior School boys, home, Won 5-0

Yearlings A v Haileybury, away, Lost 1-5

Harrow were constrained rather by an especially narrow pitch, which did not suit their attempts to play a more expansive style of football. Sadly the pitch did suit the more direct style of the opposition, who were very dangerous from set pieces, long throw-ins and long balls over the top of the defence. Sadly

Harrow were unable to recover from going 2-0 down in the first half, eventually losing 5-1. Rish Rawal, *Rendalls*, made a several excellent saves and Damon Chiu, *Newlands*, scored an excellent goal from a narrow angle and with his left foot.

Harrow started brightly in the second half, being a lot stronger in the tackle and beginning to move the ball more quickly through the midfield, but had their momentum checked by conceding early in the half from a Haileybury corner. Two late goals made the scoreline very flattering for the opposition.

This was a tough defeat to take for the Yearlings but they are confident that they will bounce back in their game next week against Berkhamsted.

Yearlings B v Haileybury, away, Lost 1-3

RUGBY UNION

*Yearlings A v Whitgift School, Won 7-0,
National Cup – Quarter-final*

Harrow dominated the collision and looked exciting with the ball in hand. Unfortunately, careless penalties conceded allowed Whitgift to utilise a well-practiced set piece maul. Though the opposition lacked any other threat, Harrow were unable to exploit the overlaps created effectively enough, and ultimately relied on Nicolas De Leo, *The Park*, to bully his way over from a scrum to win the game.

SWIMMING

The Tonbridge Trophy Gala, Won, 2 March

On Thursday 2 March, Harrow's swimming teams travelled to Tonbridge School to compete in the prestigious invitational competition, The Tonbridge Trophy, where we successfully regained the trophy the team had won some three times in the past. In recent years, this gala has become one of the leading school competitions where some of the strongest school swimming teams compete including the likes of hosts Tonbridge, Ardingly, Dulwich, Eton and the continually strengthening Reed's School. After returning to the competition last year, the team was determined to improve upon its third-place finish. Harrow took both an A and a B squad to the event led by captain James Rates, *Newlands*, and vice-captain Seb Moscoso, *The Knoll*.

The whole team swam exceptionally well with Eshaan Firake's, *Newlands*, efforts deserving particular mention as he was required to compete in his weakest events. The points Firake won were critical in building an advantage over the opposition, as were the performances of John Yap, *Newlands*, and Ayobami Akindele, *West Acre*, who was required to swim breaststroke as part of the individual medley competitively for the first time since returning from knee surgery. Impressively, Data Photipat, *The Head Master's*, showed off his natural talent and surpassed all expectations on returning to competitive action in the 100m butterfly by finishing in the top and thus gaining important points for the team.

A Team v Royal Hospital School, away, 23 February

A long journey to the imposing setting of Royal Hospital School and its highly idiosyncratic 38m pool was ultimately worth the effort. A relatively small team of eight boys consisting of four Shells and four Removes coped with the journey and the odd pool commendably well to record a victory. At first, it appeared that this fixture would be quite tough, as Royal Hospital had a couple of strong swimmers who won the first couple of events. In the long run, however, Harrow's greater strength in depth showed, resulting in a well-deserved win.

RUGBY SEVENS

The School v Millfield School, Won 38-14, Cup Final

An outstanding first tournament for the 1st VII that saw Harrow retain the Middlesex 7s trophy. In the group stage, Harrow defeated Gordon's 38-0, London Oratory 50-7 and Tiffin School 20-10. This led to a semi-final victory against St. Paul's 31-7. In the final, Harrow were up against Millfield. A fast start thanks to excellent kick-off routine allowed Harrow to build a 24-7 lead at the half. Composure and clinical attack in the second half meant Harrow won the tournament with a convincing 38-14 victory.

The School v Gordon's School, Won 38-0, Group Match

The School v Tiffin School, Won 20-10, Match

The School v London Oratory School, Won 50-7, Group Match

The School v St Paul's School, Won 31-7, Middlesex 7s

Cup – Semi Final

RACKETS

1st v Marlborough College, home, Won, 23 February

A fine display on debut in 1st Pair for Charlie Hope, *Rendalls*, and some dominant hitting from Stephan Baranov, *Moretons*, in a convincing 3-0 win.

2nd Pair v Marlborough College, home, Won

A ferocious display of hitting from Brij Sheopuri, *Lyon's*, and some steady play in the rallies from Charlie Nelson, *Newlands*, combined to win 3-0 in an entertaining match.

Colts A v Marlborough College, home, Lost

Despite a spirited effort in a tight third game Tom Campbell-Johnson, *Druries*, and Henry Porter, *Moretons*, slipped to a 0-3 defeat.

Colts B v Marlborough College, home, Lost

A promising debut for Jaden Lim, *The Head Master's*, and a determined effort from Algy Royle, *Rendalls*, who just lost out 2-3 in a five-game thriller.

Junior Colts A v Marlborough College, home, Won

A convincing 3-0 win underpinned by severe serving for Charlie Chambers and Diego Castellano Burguera, both *Rendalls*.

Yearlings A v Marlborough College, home, Lost

Some real signs of progression and good play from Arjan Lai, *West Acre*, and Ned Steel, *Druries*, who lost 0-3 against a strong pair from Marlborough.

HOCKEY

*1st Team v Dr Challoner's Grammar School, away,
Won 3-0, National Plate – Round 3, 2 March*

Harrow started the game strongly, putting pressure on the Dr Challoner's defence immediately with speedy counterattacks. Dr Challoner's created several early chances, but the Harrow defence kept them out. However, early in the first half, the opposition made a mistake, leaving a simple tap-in to open the scoring for Harrow. After conceding, Dr Challoner's tried to fight back and put Harrow under pressure. However, Harrow's

defence was stronger, preventing potential scoring opportunities. Harrow continued to dominate possession, creating more chances but failing to convert them into goals, with quick plays from Freddie Emery, *Moretons*, Jack Scott, *The Park*, and James Gisbourne, *Moretons*, dominating the midfield. Just before half-time, Harrow doubled their lead through Will Stabb, *The Head Master's*, who scored a fantastic goal after some excellent linking play from a swift counterattack. Stabb received a quick counterattack ball played by Captain Shrey Rawal, *Rendalls*, who found him in the opponent's box. Stabb then brilliantly dribbled past two defenders with 3D skills and scored a world-class in-air reverse shot to end the first half, with Harrow leading 2-0. The second half saw Dr Challoner's determined to get back into the game. They created a few chances but could not get past the Harrow defence. Harrow's goalkeeper Charlie Arnison, *Moretons*, played an exceptional game, making crucial saves, including a penalty flick, to keep his team's lead intact. He was aided by Sam Philips, *Moretons*, and James Basilian, *Rendalls*, who performed well in the centre of defence against an all-out attacking opposition side.

Late into the second half, Harrow scored their third goal through Kalan Niyarepola, *The Head Master's*. A quick switch-through ball against the run of play from the sideline played by Jerry Qi, *The Park*, found Basilian at the edge of the opposition's 25, and Basilian played a fantastic backhand pass directly into the box. Niyarepola then took a masterclass touch to guide the ball through the legs of the opposition keeper to score Harrow's third goal of the match. Harrow continued to defend well and hold onto their lead, with Philips and Arnison being a wall at the back, maintaining the Harrow lead despite a series of short corners giving Dr Challoner's a chance to get back into the game. Overall, it was a dominant performance by Harrow, who played well from start to finish. Dr Challoner's showed excellent fighting spirit but could not break the Harrow defence. Harrow will be pleased with their performance and will look to carry this momentum into the next round of the competition.

2nd Team v John Lyon School 1st, away, Lost 1-5

This mixed team of 2nd XI and JC A players was up against the John Lyon 1st XI team. The two teams proved to be quite evenly matched, though the opposition had the edge and the score reflected the passage of play. They were faster on the restart and caught us on the break. Harrow defended well but struggled to retain possession, causing most of the attacks to fizzle out. Nevertheless, it was an enjoyable, good-natured game on a lovely sunny afternoon.

Yearlings A v Northwood Senior, home, Lost 1-2

A disappointing game resulted in a 2-1 loss.

FENCING

1st v Eton College, Away, 23 February, Won

On Thursday, the fencing team travelled to Eton for an eagerly anticipated match. The first match was epee which consisted of Daniel Eldridge, *The Grove*, Jonny Cullinane, *Newlands*, and Julian Herschel, *The Grove*. In a very hard-fought match, the epee team narrowly lost 45-41 with a great performance from Cullinane, who had an indicator of positive of 5. The next match was foil which consisted of Hadrian Ho, *The Head Master's*, Nathan Goff, *Lyon's*, and Francois de Robert Hautequere, *Lyon's*. Unfortunately, the foil team lost 45-34 but a strong performance by Goff, who had an indicator of positive 4. Lastly, was sabre which consisted of de Robert Hautequere, Aidan Lee and Luke Pain, both *The Head Master's*. With some excellent fencing, the Sabre team won 45-32 with an outstanding performance from Lee, who had an indicator of positive 8. Overall, Harrow won 124-122 in a brilliant fixture with every member of the team putting in maximum effort.

1st Team Away v Latymer Upper School Mixed Under-18A

The fencing team made the short trip to Latymer Upper on 25 February to fence in all three blades, with all A teams present. Foil went first, finishing with a score of 45-27. With Nathan Goff, *Lyon's*, Henry Barker, *The Park*, and Hadrian Ho, *The Head Master's*, all showing extreme skill with some very good score-to-hit ratios, the best being Goff with 15:6. Next was the Epee, who won with an amazing victory of 45-20 with Daniel Eldridge, *The Grove*, Johnny Cullinane, *Newlands*, and, Julian Herschel, *The Grove*, with Eldridge only getting hit twice throughout all his fights. Then to finish off was the Sabre team of Brain Chang, *Druries*, Luke Pain and, Aiden Lee, both *The Head Master's*. Chang showed off his expertise with the blade by only getting hit twice. Overall, it was a very successful day and once again the fencing team returned to the Hill in triumph.

1st v Bradfield College, Home, Won, 2 March

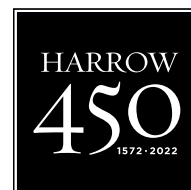
On Thursday, the fencing team took on Bradfield College for the last match of the season. First was epee, which consisted of Daniel Eldridge, *The Grove*, Arthur Cullinane, *The Head Master's*, and June Hyun, *West Acre*. In a hard-fought match, epee won 45-36 with a great performance from Eldridge, who had an indicator of positive 4. The last match was foil, which consisted of Francois de Robert Hautequere, *Lyon's*, Hadrian Ho, *The Head Master's*, and Sean Jarrett, *The Grove*. In a dominant display, foil won 45-16 with an outstanding performance from de Robert Hautequere, who had an indicator of positive 17 and did not get hit. Overall, with 90-52, Harrow ended the season on a high. Special thanks to Eldridge and de Robert Hautequere, *Lyon's*, for captaining the team this year.

Ways to contact *The Harrovian*

Articles, opinions and letters are always appreciated.

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