

THE HARROVIAN

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PIGOU SOCIETY

Rishaad Bhushaan, The Grove, 'Elon Musk: How he moves financial markets with a single tweet', 13 September

On Wednesday 13 September, the Pigou Society welcomed Rishaad Bhushaan, *The Grove*, who gave Pigou's first talk on Elon Musk's market manipulation. He provided a comprehensive analysis of the controversies surrounding the use of media to influence stock prices. The presentation effectively explored different case studies, cryptocurrency, the legality of it all and its future today.

The lecture began with a detailed overview of Elon Musk and the social media platform X, formerly known as Twitter... Ensuring he had the audience's attention, Bhushaan proceeded into this fun yet highly effective game of 'Up or down?'. The game allowed the audience to guess whether tweets Elon Musk had made had caused the stocks to rise or fall. This was well received by the audience, and everyone took part.

The case studies looked at the Tesla Buyout tweet. In August 2018, Musk sent out a tweet stating he had "funding secured" to take Tesla private at \$420 per share. This caused Tesla's stock price to surge, and shareholders and regulators accused Musk of manipulating the market by spreading false information. Musk later settled with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), resulting in his exit as Tesla's chairman and a \$20 million fine. This example was effective because it caught the youth market, which was amused with the goal of \$420 share price. The tweets covered in the talk did not just target some of Elon Musk's companies.



Companies such as Etsy and GameStop were explored in great depth. Elon Musk's tweet about Etsy stating, 'I kinda love Etsy' resulted in a 9% rise, while the tweet 'Gamestonk!!' resulted in a meteoric rise for the GameStop stock price. The exploration of the power of Twitter in politics was vividly depicted through the collapse of Tesla stock after he tweeted, "In the past I voted Democrat, because they were the kindness party. But they have become the party of division & hate, so I can no longer support them and will vote republican. Now watch their dirty tricks campaign against me unfold me... (popcorn emoji)". This collapse was due to the majority of Tesla owners being democrats. The inclusion of past instances of market manipulation enabled the audience to contextualise Elon Musk's actions within the broader landscape.

In recent years, Musk's tweets about various cryptocurrencies, including Dogecoin, have significantly influenced their market value. After Musk's tweets, the price of Dogecoin experienced

significant volatility and confusion, which raised concerns about market manipulation and the influence of individual tweets on cryptocurrency prices.

Towards the end of the lecture, an interview with Elon Musk was shown. The video portrayed Musk as a calculating figure who had a strong sense of self and little regard for other people's opinions. The lecture covered important controversies related to Musk, such as cases of insider trading and market manipulation. This allowed a broader perspective and an enhanced understanding of market manipulation, which further enriched the discussion after the presentation.

While Musk's influence over markets has raised questions about market manipulation, it is essential to note that his tweets and public statements reflect his individual opinions and should not be considered official endorsements or financial advice. Nevertheless, his sizable following and influence have made his remarks capable of significantly affecting an asset's value.

This lecture was able to cover the uprising complexities facing the regulation of market manipulation with the age of social media. Musk has left a lasting impact on the internet. He now controls what was one of the biggest social media platforms on the web. He also looks to further consolidate his power as the richest man in the world and he can change peoples' minds in under 280 characters.

SHERIDAN SOCIETY

Zain Ayoub, The Knoll, 'Writing Wrongs, Alex Wheatle's Journey Through Literature' 12 September

The Vaughan Library was the place to be as Zain Ayoub, *The Knoll*, spoke to the Sheridan Society on the famous Jamaican author Alex Wheatle. He initially provided a walkthrough of Wheatle's early life and how this shaped his work. His mention of the abuse that Wheatle received in his care home was particularly disturbing to hear, but these details only added to the profound image of the author's life. His first novel, *Brixton Rock*, was vividly described by Ayoub as he provided an insight into how Wheatle's life had an influence on the story. Ayoub also emphasised the impact of the Brixton riots, an event close to the heart of Alex Wheatle. Wheatle himself served prison time for participating in the Brixton riots, an unfortunate fate that many people championing social justice at the time had to endure. However, it wasn't all bad. Wheatle met his mentor Simeon during this time. Simeon had a huge influence on Wheatle, and if it weren't for him, the world-renowned author may have never turned his head towards literature. Ayoub then discussed *East of Acre Lane*. This novel, again, is set around the time of the Brixton riots, this time with 'Biscuit' as the protagonist. Wheatle uses Biscuit to spotlight a side of struggle within London that had never really been acknowledged before. Ayoub made it clear that Wheatle's passion about his background was glaringly clear in this novel, and it is through this that Wheatle has had an impact on so many young people over the years. The accuracy within Wheatle's work allows people to appreciate a side of London that has never been written about in such detail. Ayoub should be commended for his engaging presentation and his ability to stimulate a discussion that was well-received by his audience.

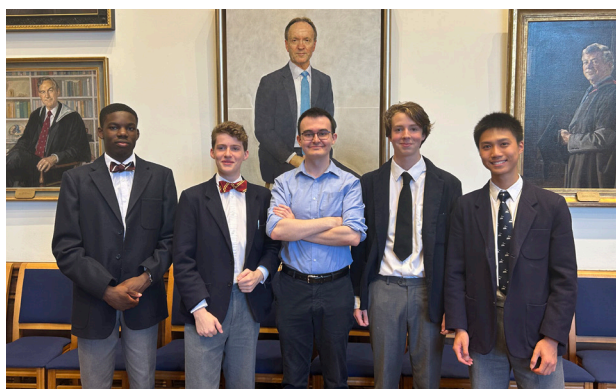
DEBATING SOCIETY

Boys v Beaks, 'Should Harrow adopt co-education?'
Adjudicated by Mr George-Hakon Benson

Last week, the Debating Society held one of my favourite events of the year: Boys v Beaks.

The motion? 'This House believes that Harrow School should become co-educational'. The teams? A spirited squad of four beaks (SMK, EMH, Mr Dolan, and CNHS) against a dynamic quartet of boys featuring the likes of Vincent Song, *The Head Master's*, Robert Young, *The Grove*, and Ben Shailer, *Rendalls*.

SMK, our Head of Classics, kickstarted the debate. SMK read a comprehensive speech, drawing on the School's values of fellowship, honour, humility and courage (or as a certain Rendallian honestly phrased them earlier this week: Honour, Courage, Strength and Conditioning). He suggested that excluding girls from Harrow was contrary to the founding principles of the School. SMK argued that by denying female students entry, the School inadvertently promotes sexist tendencies among its male students.



He drew attention to the School's founding charter, granted by none other than Queen Elizabeth I, and the irony of how a school founded with a woman's blessing does not allow female students. Adding weight to his argument, he noted how Harrow's franchise schools welcome girls, while the original does not.

On the logistics of inclusion, SMK playfully suggested expelling the academically lower half of the boys to make space for girls. To further his argument, he mentioned the positive impact girls would have on the academic and social development of the boys. Jokingly, he even suggested that given Mr Young's GCSE results, Harrow was in dire need of female students!

Taking the stand next was Andrew Arthur, *The Knoll*, representing the boys. He made a case for maintaining traditions, suggesting that introducing girls would disrupt the essence of some of Harrow's competitions (he mentioned Long Ducker, Glee and Twelves, and Harrow football). Mr Dolan, representing the beaks, interjected with a pertinent point on gender abilities, which left Mr Arthur stumped.

The speaker then presented an intriguing statistic: only 5% of boys in co-ed schools chose English literature compared to 20% in single-sex schools. He saw this as evidence of the freedom boys have to be themselves in a single-gender environment. I myself have noticed this about Harrow, and I saw this as one of the more effective arguments from the opposition. Rather amusingly he summed up in a booming voice with the School's motto: "STET FORTUNA DOMUS!"

EMH, the second speaker for the beaks, argued for the educational and social benefits of going co-ed. She believed that both genders could enrich each other's experiences, making for a more well-rounded learning environment. She then pointed out that going co-educational would lead to an increase in endowments to the School. However, this was countered in a POI by Young, who said that it would not change the number of endowments, or (as he put it) would make them catastrophically

decrease. His argument was that with the same number of students and alumni, there would be no real change in people donating. He also said that former boys would be less likely to give back to Harrow if it went co-educational.

For me, the spotlight of the debate was truly stolen by Young, the second speaker for the boys. Lacking any clarity or structure, his speech charmed and amused much of the audience (perhaps this is the point of an exhibition match).

Young recounted his initial days at Harrow, bringing up a memorable interaction with SMK in his first lesson at the School. According to Young, SMK passionately declared to a young Young that Harrow was the best boys' boarding school in the country.

Through the speech, Young passionately argued about Harrow's longstanding history as an all-boys institution and how introducing girls would change its very essence. Young's speech was a blend of wit, humour and strong opinions, characteristics often seen in his pieces for the esteemed publication *Harrow Notes*.

Mr Dolan, Harrow's specialist debating coach, delivered what I considered the highlight of the evening. Beginning with a light-hearted remark about his professional duty to evaluate debates, he wittily suggested that the opposing boys' team was somewhat lacking in their argumentative prowess. His experience as a teacher shone through as he methodically dismantled some of the points raised by the boys, with a special emphasis on refuting Andrew Arthur's contention about risk-taking in all-male environments and Young's claim about teachers' adaptability to teaching another gender (a weak point, might I add).

Mr Dolan compared Harrow to institutions like Brighton College and Magdalen College School, which have transitioned successfully to a co-ed model. One of his most compelling points centred on the limitation of beak talent at Harrow due to its single-sex nature. By suggesting that some teachers might shun Harrow because teaching in a single-sex environment contradicts their values, he highlighted the potential intellectual loss the School suffers from.

Mr Dolan then powerfully equated the exclusion of women to potential racial discrimination, arguing that such factors, which individuals have no control over, should never serve as a basis for discrimination (here, here).

Ben Shailer took the stage as third speaker for the opposition. Shailer approached the debate from an unexpected angle: the welfare of the potential female students. Instead of defending Harrow's male-only tradition, he homed in on the crucial question of whether Harrow, with its longstanding male-centric ethos, would be the best environment for female students. Drawing on numerous studies and real-world observations, he delved into the nuances of single-sex education versus co-education. Shailer postulated that there could be unforeseen challenges, both socially and academically, that girls might face in an institution primarily designed for boys. He also presented the argument that in single-sex schools, girls are more confident and willing to take risks (just as his partners has demonstrated was the case for boys). He backed this up with the observation that girls do not put makeup on in the morning at most single-sex schools, and that many universities report that girls who attended single-sex schools are typically more likely to apply for positions of responsibility. Shailer emphasised the importance of ensuring that any transition would prioritise the needs and wellbeing of the girls, rather than being a mere exercise in modernisation.

As the debate neared its conclusion, CNHS, often seen around Harrow in his signature dashing three-piece suits and bow ties, made a significant impression as the proposition's final speaker. A newcomer to the Debating Society, and to debating generally, his articulation and structured approach to the motion were commendable for a first-time debater. One of his most striking points was about the contribution of female beaks to Harrow's various competitions. He posed a compelling question: if female teachers could contribute positively to the fabric of Harrow's academic and extracurricular life, why wouldn't female students have the same impact?

Additionally, CNHS moved away from the conventional arguments about co-education and dived deeper into the essence of why parents choose Harrow. He argued that the decision to send a child to Harrow is not rooted in its single-sex nature. Instead, it's about the unparalleled teaching, world-class facilities, and the School's strategic location. Such a perspective turned the debate's focus from mere gender considerations to the core values and offerings of the institution.

His concluding point presented the idea that no one chooses their gender at birth and so discriminating on such an involuntary basis is fundamentally flawed. CNHS' speech greatly impressed this Harrovian editor, particularly for a first-time debater.

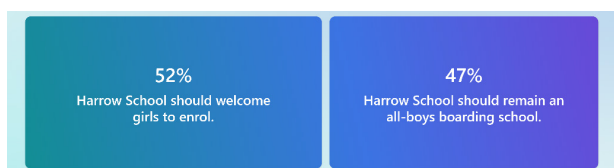
Vincent Song, Harrow's debating captain, was the final voice for the boys. His opening was a mixture of jest and criticism, followed by a fervent defence of Harrow's tradition. He questioned the need to change the essence of the School and how it might affect the current student body.

As the debate wrapped up, the audience of Harrovians had the chance to vote. It seemed the boys had swayed public opinion, as the vast majority opposed the motion. However, our external adjudicator, after assessing the debate, declared the beaks the winners. I am inclined to agree, as do the boys of Harrow School, it seems. According to this newspaper's poll of 500 Harrovians, the consensus seems to be leaning towards a co-educational future for Harrow. One day, perhaps soon, it will be the Harroviennes dominating this Debating Society.

HARROVIAN POLL

Should Harrow go co-educational?

The beaks played an absolute blinder last Thursday, although perhaps in the modern world of 'toxic wokeism', it was too easy to hurl the common slander of sexism at an All-Boys Boarding School, without needing to give much thought to the benefits of single-sex education. But are the political, social, and, I dare say, traditional winds starting to blow in a different direction? Might Harrow School have a future 450 years hence with Harroviennes playing on the Sunley? The poll results are in, and with over 500 votes, it seems that boys are split nearly down the middle, with 52% of the School who want to welcome girls, and 47% believe we should remain a traditional all-boys environment, and 1% confused by the question.

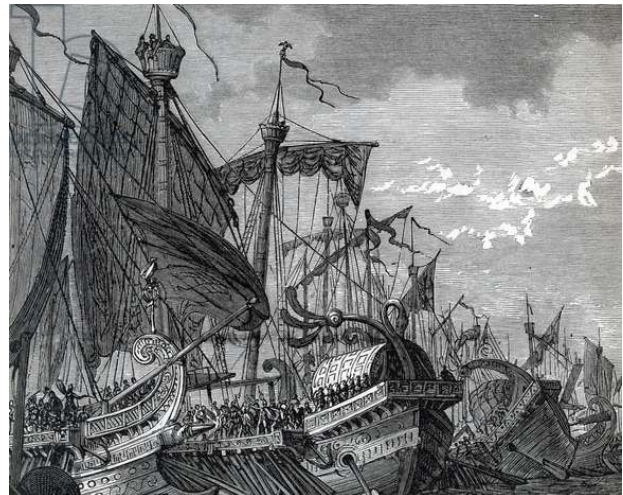


EVANS SOCIETY

Henry Emerson, Newlands, 'The Battle of Cape Ecnomus', 14 September

On Thursday 14 September, the Evans Society hosted its first lecture of the year, with its very own secretary Henry Emerson, *Newlands*, speaking on 'The Battle of Cape Ecnomus'. Emerson started with a brief introduction to the epic background of this massive naval battle. The battle took place in 256 BC, roughly halfway through the first Punic War. The battle involved a joint number of 290,000 soldiers and 680 *quinqueremes* and *triremes* – the specialised warships of the era.

Emerson then explained the lead up to the battle, discussing how Carthage was fighting for the strategic islands of Corsica and Sicily, while Rome was looking to expand its borders at the same time. In 264 BC (eight years earlier) Carthage had



established a presence in Sicily by intervening in a dispute between Messana and Syracuse. Rome retaliated by attacking Messana, leading to Carthage's withdrawal. However, Rome failed to control the rest of Sicily. This prompted the Consul, Marcus Atilius, to invade the shores of Carthage itself with 330 ships behind his back. They were met by the 350-strong Carthaginian fleet led by Hamilcar Barca, father of the legendary Hannibal. This meeting of fleets took place at the Cape of Ecnomus. And so, the battle started with both sides eager to win!

The Carthaginian fleet set up in a defensive line with two blocks, in an attempt to outflank the Romans. However, the Romans attacked Hamilcar's defensive line with an arrow formation, forcing the Carthaginians to retreat. With both Carthaginian flanks left unprotected, the Romans seized the day and proceeded to decimate both flanks. After destroying the flanks, they attacked the main body of the Carthaginian forces again. This time, the Romans utilised the *corvus* (a deployable bridge attached to the front of their ships), which allowed the Romans to effectively engage in a land battle on the enemy ships.

The Romans eventually won the engagement at Ecnomus, destroying 94 ships and killing 30,000 to 40,000 men, while losing only 24 ships and 10,000 men. This was a major turning point in the Punic War and would lead to the eventual downfall of Carthage. Emerson's talk was short and sweet, giving a very detailed and interesting discussion about this important battle.

SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

June Hyun, West Acre, 'Jocelyn Bell Burnell', 12 September

On Tuesday 12 September, the first lecture of the year was given to the Scientific Society by June Hyun, *West Acre*, who explored the struggles, achievements and discoveries of Jocelyn Bell Burnell, the highly decorated Northern Irish astrophysicist, noted for her discovery of pulsars while studying for her PhD at Cambridge. Hyun discussed the importance of this discovery to the world of physics and how it helped prove Einstein's theory of relativity.

Bell Burnell's story began when she, along with other doctoral students under the supervision of Antony Hewish, began building the interplanetary scintillation array by hand. Having been granted £20,000 (the equivalent of £464,000 today when adjusted for inflation) to find quasars, one of the brightest bodies in the universe powered by black holes that form at the centre of most galaxies. Hewish and his students set out to explore the unknown.

Bell Burnell told journalists that she frequently experienced imposter syndrome throughout her time at Cambridge: she

was a poor, Northern Irish woman studying at the prestigious Cambridge University. She undoubtedly faced discrimination on a daily basis. In spite of this, she used this as motivation to work even harder and prove them wrong.

In November 1967, with a backlog of data to analyse, Bell Burnell noticed regular interferences in the data set from August. With each occurrence separated by exactly 1 and 1/3 seconds. These interferences appeared too rhythmic and precise to be a simple coincidence and so Bell Burnell named them Little Green Men.

It was in the very same month that she directly observed these interferences for the first time. Upon taking the collected data to her supervisor for review, he was also of the belief that these interferences were more than just anomalies. They validated the data with field research that confirmed the occurrences as they were observed again.

The initial theory was that the interferences were coming from a neutron star, the remains of a supergiant with a diameter of 12km yet 500,000 times denser than the Earth. This hypothesis was to some degree correct, as pulsars are neutron stars that are constantly rotating at an incredibly high speed, emitting both light and dust.

The existence of pulsars was confirmed in 1968 when a separate group of scientists was exploring the Crab Nebula. Antony Hewish and Martin Ryle, Bell Burnell's supervisors, went on to win the Nobel Prize for Physics in 1974 for the discovery of pulsars. Meanwhile, Bell Burnell, the actual discoverer of pulsars, was ignored by the Nobel committee and did not receive acknowledgement. This provoked great anger throughout the scientific community, as many believed the committee's decision was inspired by the misogynistic customs of society at that time.

Indeed, even after the publication of her discovery, the press ignored her scientific excellence and, instead, interviewed her about private matters such as her relationships and clothes. Simultaneously, Hewish and Ryle were being asked about the scientific details of the discovery and reaping the rewards of Bell Burnell's work.

The significance of this discovery cannot be overstated. These celestial bodies move so quickly that they are a more accurate timekeeper than an atomic clock. The nature of pulsars has helped identify both the existence of dark matter in the universe and demonstrated that the existence of black holes is plausible. Moreover, two pulsars in tight binary orbit helped prove Einstein's theory of relativity by allowing us to observe the effects of gravitational ripples in space.

Therefore, I am sure that it will come as no surprise to you that Bell Burnell has won every single prize possible for a physicist, bar the Nobel prize itself, which she should have also received if it weren't for the discrimination towards women in the 1970s. She is a truly inspirational woman who followed her passions and dreams, which have paved the way for astrophysics to flourish.

PEEL SOCIETY

Tony Shi, The Grove, and Henry Barker, The Park, 'Was Napoleon correct to say that history is a set of lies agreed upon?'; 12 September

The evening of Tuesday 12 September was dark and dull, but intellect illuminated Old Schools 5 as the Peel Society hosted its first meeting of the year. To unveil this term's theme of 'History, memory and truth, Tony Shi, *The Grove*, and Henry Barker, *The Park*, explored the question, 'Is there historical truth?'. Shi began the talk by attempting to pursue historical truth. He argued that historical dates and facts (the bane of double history) were agreed upon by all historians because there is hard, concrete evidence for them: primary sources such as newspapers and photos. Then Shi introduced us to a

German historian, Leopold von Ranke, famous for saying that "[History merely aims to show] how it really was". Ranke's historiographical philosophy epitomised the production of a scientific and objective account of history by referring to archival evidence and primary sources. However, Shi questioned Ranke's purely objective historiography, saying it was "drier than the Sahara". Shi then talked about a British historian, E. H. Carr, who believed that history is always written with the historian's interpretation. A historian's own values and beliefs inevitably shape their interpretation of the past; like builders, historians all have the same bricks, the same facts, but whether to build a car park or a castle, that is up to them. Thus, Carr did recognise the importance of historical facts, warning, "First get your facts straight, then plunge at your peril into the shifting sands of interpretation".

Barker then took over the baton, discussing why there is no "true" history. Barker began by introducing the concept of implicit bias. Emphasising that everyone will interpret an event differently based on their viewpoints or upbringing, Barker used the Vietnam War as an example; while an American patriot would have remembered this war as a hard-fought struggle between a tactically and morally superior US over the Viet Cong, the Viet Congs would have remembered this war quite differently. Barker also asked the audience if they believed that we would be learning the same history if the Nazis had won the war. He reinforced this point by introducing a masterpiece by George Orwell, the novel *1984*. *1984* clearly shows that if enough people believe in a certain truth, it could become a historical fact. Finally, Barker concluded that recorded history could easily be changed by implicit bias, and therefore, it could be argued that history is a set of 'lies' agreed upon.

The talk was rounded off with a small vote, with the majority of attendees agreeing that history is a set of lies agreed upon. Well done to Barker (and Napoleon)!

METROPOLITAN

FILM REVIEW

'Rashomon', by Mac McDowell, Elmfield

The newly established Harrovia Film Review Column is a place where I'll share a movie with you, in the of enticing you to give it view, or if you've already seen it, to cast the film in a new light, perhaps reflecting on the messaging, film techniques, or history of the making of the film itself.

Over the summer, along with mowing the lawn and working away at holiday preps, my family and I would end the night with a movie. Not dissimilar from the family tradition of the Head Master (as mentioned in Chapel) only, in my case, much more frequent, being every night rather than at the weekends. Setting the tone for what I hope will be a weekly column, I have chosen the famous *Rashomon*, directed by Akira Kurosawa and released in 1950; it is one of my favourites of all the movies watched this summer.

The story, set in Japan, and in Japanese (with English subtitles), follows a strange set of events including a murder, a trial, and a reflection on the elusive conception of truth. It begins with a shot of two men sitting beneath the wreckage of a Kyoto gate in a rainstorm. A Kyoto gate, is a large Torii-like structure, in this case, the ruined gate is symbolic of the state of Japan around that time, a consequence of Allied bombing and a conscious decision by Kurosawa to depict the grief of the lost WWII. One dishevelled and damp-looking man (the woodcutter) is sitting perplexed on a fallen beam and is visibly affected by something that has just happened. "I don't understand, I just



don't understand." He says blankly. This reaction is to a story that he has just been told by the second man, a priest. The atmosphere is sombre, and the two men lament about the way the world is, the absence of truth, and, beneath the ruined gate, the two men are powerless to fight the fact that no one can ever know the truth of anything at all. Interestingly, Kurosawa cuts to a faraway shot of the gate, and we see a beggar run towards the two men coming from behind the camera, as if he were an audience member. This third character, the beggar, then insists the two men tell him the story that affected them so much, and, in a way, it is as if one of the audience members has prompted the progression of the plot, wasting no time, an example of a running theme of viewer-participation throughout the film.

The story is told and the screen fades as we are shown a scene of a woodland bandit, played by Toshiro Mifune, ambushing a couple (a nobleman and a princess) on horseback and taking them both as hostages. This aspect of the story is constant, but the fascinating thing about the movie is the fact that, by the end of the scene, the nobleman is dead, and we can't be sure who did it. The movie itself is made up of three parts, which I have named to make it easier to understand: the Tokyo Gate, where one man is recounting the story as the beggar listens enthusiastically, and the other man stares blankly into space. The Main Story, the basic plot being the nobleman and the princess are travelling through the woods and are jumped by the bandit. After the whole experience in the forest is over, the nobleman is dead.

Finally, The Trial, where the suspects testify and give their side of the story, one of whom is the Priest who is recounting the whole story. The characters taking part in the trial face the camera directly, almost uncomfortably so forcing on us the burden of decision, a repetition of Kurosawa's intended participatory feeling. The movie itself is an attempt to get to the truth of who killed the nobleman while making us consider perspective. It is interesting to note that the bulk of the story takes place in the shaded woods, inferring a place where lies may hide, sheltered from the hot sun of truth. In the open air, the sun illuminates things, making every crevice clear and truthful, which is the reason why the trial scenes are filmed out in open air, with the almost oppressing sunlight beating down on the characters on trial, the pressure of truth. The people on trial are the Princess, the Bandit and the Priest (who himself was not involved in the matter but only glimpsed it from behind a tree, having come across the conflict on his walk.) The final and most interesting witness is the Ghost of the Nobleman. I say 'most interesting' as his inclusion in the trial shifts the whole film from being a study of a physical circumstance to an ethereal, surrealist study of truth itself. The presence of the ghost is accepted relatively easily by the members of the trial, none of them daring to question it and as if they are so engrossed in the pursuit of truth and perspectives, the supernatural world can almost be overlooked.

Each story given by the characters has a different person as the murderer; in every case the person testifying claims himself to be the killer. Commenting on truth and honour this section makes us question whether, in an absence of definitive proof, is it the right/noble thing to take the blame for something, knowing

you may have saved an innocent person from being condemned to blame. Perhaps the characters in the film thought themselves to be guilty of so many other things, believing themselves to be more than deserving of any punishment brought upon them.

The plot deals with themes of infidelity, honour and chivalry, all of which are driving factors in the confessions of the suspects. *Rashomon's* influence was so profound it prompted the definition of the eponymously named 'Rashomon effect', defined as 'an event given contradictory interpretations or descriptions by the individuals involved, thereby providing different perspectives and points of view of the same incident' i.e. the unreliability of eyewitnesses. This theme is exceedingly prescient for historians and journalists as it deals with the handling of the truth and all the power that entails. Many believe the movie itself was made to help the Japanese understand their feelings of anger and injustice after the Second World War. To conceptualise blame, understanding all the variables that lead to the outcome, in this case the nuclear bombing, and more generally the loss of a war the country whole-heartedly believed it would win.

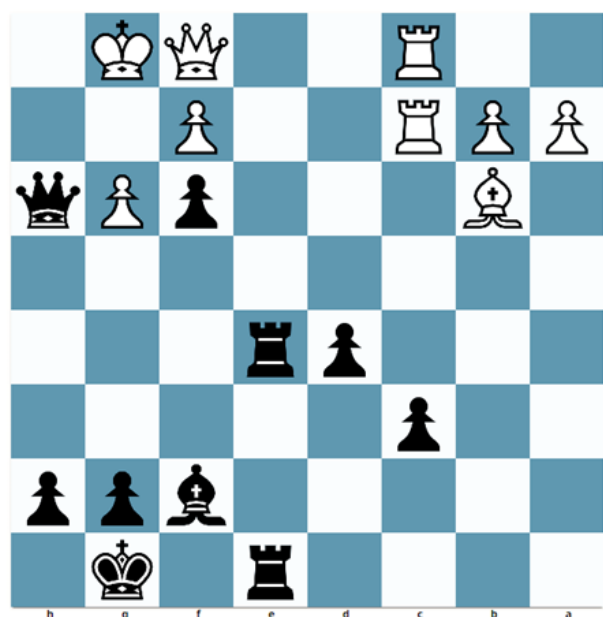
This movie is not one to be put on "as background" and I would even recommend watching it alone, after prep or on a Saturday night. The ending and the way the story affected the three men under the gate is masterfully done. The plot is wrapped up beautifully, still leaving room for discussion, while a feeling of greater humanity consumes you. Giving the film the thought it deserves will leave you in an introspective mood for hours to follow, and may even prompt you to do a little written articulation of those very feelings. The movie is only 88 minutes long and is not a confusing one. With attention and appreciation of its many layers, I think you will find it's well worth a watch. I could go on for much longer about the film, but the only way to really digest it is to watch it. Please do contact me for any movie reviews you'd particularly like to see included.

CHESSE

The weekly puzzle is set by JPBH. This week's features some brilliance from American Reuben Fine with the black pieces in a 1937 game against Canadian Paul Vaitonis.

Submit your solution by email (jpbh@) to enter the termly competition.

Black to play and mate in 3 moves.



Last week's answer: 1. Qg6+ hxg6 2. Bxg6#.

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

FROM THE ARCHIVE

This year marks the 451st year of our beloved School's history. In that time, rich and varied traditions have been established, including unique names (eccer, bluers, greyers) and punishments found nowhere else (double, Custos). There are also several papers and magazines that have been distributed for hundreds of years: The Portico, The Triumvirate, The Tyro, and Harrow Notes (which today is a different magazine).

The Harrovian, Vol I, No. 1, was published in March 1828. Since then, it has undergone many name changes and gaps in publishing. The content of the paper has changed as well. In 1828, poetry and prose of a more artistic nature was written and published. Today we see society write-ups and sporting recaps dominating most of the paper.

The School Archive, run by Ms Duck, contains documents and papers about the School's history. Within that Archive lie thousands of editions of *The Harrovian*. There are editions filled with beautiful prose in the early 1800s, and editions filled with heart-breaking obituaries of boys who died in the First or Second World Wars. So, join me every week as I dive deep into the Archive and hand-pick the best articles, written by boys in the last 200 years.

To begin with, we have a lengthy piece of prose written by a boy about his first day at Harrow, rather fitting considering we have only returned recently. It is from the first recorded edition of *The Harrovian* – March 1828 – and has been abridged because the original wrote in detail about the splendour and squalor of the author's 'contemporaries' (a sentiment many of us may also wish to share)!

First Day at Harrow — The Harrovian (March, 1828)
The amiable St. Pierre denominated men, “de grands enfans,” grown up children; and Rousseau, in that most extraordinary work, “Emile,” speaking of the young, characterizes them as, “des petits hommes”, men in miniature; the truth of the latter proposition, no one, I think, who has passed any time at a public school, will be inclined to question.

Here, within a circumference considerable less than a drawing room in St James's, you have coteries of scandal, literary and scientific groups, exquisites in green surtouts and silver buttons, leaning on a post and taking the odds on the St. Leger. Here, there, and everywhere, the tribe of Balaam paying their devotions, in the shape of a fingered paper of verses, bedabbled all over by sundry breaks, which, if I may so speak, present a beggarly account of skeleton lines. A little further, sitting on the steps, like Niobe, all trembling, is one ordered to “wait, hélas!”* What a face! how unctuous in sorrow, what a look he casts upon the shivering little urchin in the corner, who comforts himself under the shadow of a “first fault.”

* *We need not explain this word to a Harrovian*

A public school is a theatre for training; it levels distinctions, it places the poor gentleman by the side of the noble with twenty thousand pounds a year, and makes the duke, who traces his family back to the conquest, bow to the talented youth, who boasts no other ancestry than an honored and stainless name.

The republican would be amazed to see the sons of the proudest among the aristocracy, carrying the viandes which are to cover the table of the more fortunate plebeian. I am not exulting over the great: thank God, not a drop of republican blood flows in my veins. I merely instance what I consider the most glorious privilege of the institution to which I have the honor to belong—the measuring each individual by that unerring standard, the purity and nobility of the soul. I mention it, because it is interwoven with all my recollections of days, when no flattery was mingled with our praises, and offers undeniable proof that genius is one of those all-pervading powers which beautify and sweeten the paths of life.

Every one knows the remark of the facetious Charles, when some one talked of the *visible* church, “I know no place where the church is visible,” retorted the merry monarch, “save at

Harrow-on-the-Hill.” I never felt the breeze play on my cheek as I walked up the ascent leading to that venerable structure, without experiencing the sensations so eloquently described by him, of whom it has been said, that he died without conferring one benefit on mankind—I mean the misguided author of the *Nouvelle Heloise*. Every step we take on elevated ground, seems an approach to the bound between us and heaven. We throw ourselves on the air which bathes us in perfume, till our pulse becomes gentle as the fanning of the winds; the mantle of earth falls from off us, like a withered leaf from the wing of a bird, when he springs from his nest into the sunniness of daylight.

The bell for the first call had ceased when I reached the school, the door of the great room was open, and as I glanced round, I thought the pale-blue sky shone sadly through the casements upon the old wainscotted walls, which were covered with names, some cut in a finished manner, others rudely traced, and almost obliterated by age. In a corner, hid among a multitude of straggling nomenclatures, I discovered, or fancied that I did, the signature of Sheridan. What scenes did that name bring before me. I heard the shouts of revelry and rejoicing, the bursts of merriment, and the exclamations which followed the repartee of the brilliant and unfortunate Sheridan. I seemed to wander through princely halls and glittering palaces, and rooms lit up with the smiles of beauty – and then these vanished, and I sat in the chamber of mourning, by the couch of sorrow and adversity.

From Sheridan, my thoughts turned to Byron – the clouded yet magnificent Byron, whose dirge may be comprised in the word – departed. I know not how long I had continued in this dreamy meditation, when the quickly-echoed answers of “here, sir,” aroused me from my reverie. Having been entered only the day before, my name was nearly the last on the list, and I amused myself with scrutinizing the appearance of my contemporaries.

If any additional argument were needed in support of the proposition with which I set out, viz., that the young were *de petits hommes*, the universally received law of fashion would afford it. A law which is prevalent in most public schools, from the sixth form-boy, in all the majesty of jolted ideas, and Greek metre, to the little jacketed fag with cold hands, stooping back, and dirty shoes; who reads Ovid and writes *sense* verses. It is the fashion for instance, to appear in the morning with your clothes thrown carelessly on, eyes scarcely open, no kerchief round the neck. Again, it is the fashion to impress your tutor with a notion, that you have little appetite, and then adjourn to recreate the gastral powers with the odorous sacrifice offered up on P——'s polished round table.

And now, most courteous reader, we will even rest awhile, the critics say a little learning is a bad thing, too much is sometimes perhaps far worse. So in the expectation of continuing to enlighten you respecting the manners and customs of the Harrovians till our next meeting, on the first of April, we do most respectfully bid you farewell.

CAR PARK CATASTROPHE

Returning to the Hill and walking past Maths Schools, one would assume that our glorious Head Master has discovered some Ancient Roman ruins, or perhaps a new tradition to introduce to Speech Room. Alas, this is not the case. Instead a far worse fate has befallen the wonderous bushes and stones we Harrovians love so much. A car park carastrophe has occurred.

Anyone who walks down Football Lane will notice the dreadful sight. At the heart of the School lies a desolate wasteland of rubbish and rubble and disgruntled workers – Maths Schools. And next to Maths Schools, nothing but mud, exposed cables, and port-a-loos. This mess isn't going to be cleaned up anytime soon. Can you spot the worker playing Candy Crush? Is this scene of chaos and catastrophe a metaphor for our future?

We ought to have seen this coming. It started with the

destructions of an admittedly derelict cottage. Then, as one boy called it “a gross mismanagement of hedge trimmers”, the hedges were cut now. WeHarrovians assumed it was the School becoming Rishi Sunak and doing a u-turn on its green policy. We should have known that the School would do its dirty work while we were away; no objections could have been raised! So now we suffer as we look on to the wreck that is a so-called “parking lot”.

Imagine what our new Shells must be thinking; perhaps they are even questioning why they chose Harrow at all! A few months ago, Shells might have come to the Hill on an open morning, having heard the “name and fame of Harrow”. They probably saw wonderful, gorgeous, historic buildings such as the Vaughan Library, Chapel, New Schools and Speech Room. Yet, upon their arrival, they are greeted with a dining hall missing of half of its roof, a skeleton of a science building, and piles of earth and rubble arranged like sacrificial pyres.



Now we have a sight of destruction: we are only left with the memories of the serene garden at Museum Cottage, with its bare bamboo swaying in the breeze and the hedgerows rustling in the wind. So tranquil, so harmonious. But they are gone. EMH is distraught. The cottage demolished, the hedges dug up, the path destroyed: all wiped away like flecks of dust.

The Editors wanted to find out the public sentiment about the new “car park”, so we have asked several people for their opinions. Joni Mitchell said, “You don’t know what you’ve got till it’s gone, they paved paradise, put up a parking lot.” An anonymous boy said “It’s only taken them three years!” JPBH, whose mobility from Maths Schools has been so severely affected that he now needs to use the Pelican crossing, has been heard weeping uncontrollably when he thinks he is alone. “It’s the first building site in the UK with its own Math Schools” chortled SMK, looking out at the roses in Chapel Terrace.

GIANTS OF OLD

Getting to know the Lesser-Known Old Harrovians

In this new series we will dive into the events and times of some Old Harrovians who are not in so much of a spotlight as those we sing about. We are privileged to inherit a golden past in terms of whom we succeed at School. The history of such Old Harrovians is truly outstanding.

In this week’s article, I will explore, in brief, the life and times of Charles Seymour, the 6th Duke of Somerset.

Charles Seymour attained the dukedom in the year 1678 (aged 16) after his late brother, the 5th Duke, was shot by a Genoese gentleman named Horatio Botti. His brother had inherited the title from his childless cousin. Before becoming a duke he was 4th Baron Seymour of Trowbridge.

There is very little about information about Charles Seymour’s time at Harrow and, indeed, the actual dates, but the year-group systems of the era were different from today. He went

on to study at Trinity College, Cambridge. As impressive as that sounds, the age was different, meaning a title was a ticket to a place. Our knowledge of his education is limited, but a quote from the 1st Earl Cowper revealed he was ‘a man of vast pride, and having had a very low education, shewed it in a very indecent manner.’

At the age of 20, he married the great heiress Lady Elizabeth Percy, aged 15, already twice widowed. She brought him immense estates and wealth including Petworth House and Alnwick Castle. In the Glorious Revolution of 1689, he supported the Prince of Orange, who became King William III. He further befriended Princess Anne, being greatly favoured on her succession to the throne in 1702. He was neglected by John Churchill, but as the Marlborough family started to lose favour in the royal household, the Somersets took up their lost positions. He was appointed Master of the Horses, and his wife replaced the Duchess of Marlborough as Mistress of the Robes. In 1722, his wife died of breast cancer. In the same year, the Duke of Marlborough died too. He is recorded to have sent “feverish love letters” to Sarah Churchill, but she remained loyal to her late husband. He did go on to have a midlife marriage with Lady Charlotte Finch.

The “Proud Duke” as many called him, was also notable for rebuilding the baroque Petworth House. He did this on a palatial scale, filling it with the finest art.

Somerset died in 1748 and was buried in the Seymour chapel. He was succeeded by his heir Algernon Seymour. He will go down as one of Harrow’s most notable boys, as he lived at a time when Britain was flourishing.

HEARSAY FROM THE HILL

The aim of *The Harrovian*’s new weekly column on School life is to be as insightful as possible within the bounds of censorship. Next week’s style might be different, if this is deemed to be too “confrontational”. One can only wait and see.

The new School term at Harrow School begins with its own existing customs. A convention in Speech Room, a talk for the Shells in the Fourth Form Room, a Beginning-of-Term Service, sports and music trials, in addition to various other activities. All these events appear to align with the School’s principle of keeping the boys busy to ensure that they are getting the most out of Harrow. Harrow, after all is essentially a school version of an all-you-can-eat buffet. Our parents pay £50,550 for us, the boys, to get as much as possible from the multitude of opportunity available to us. Hence, it is understandable for us to hear that Harrovians ought to ‘get stuck in’ and to avoid being ‘wasteman’, a term that has now officially entered the mainstream (at least in the beaks’ room). Without the spectrum of co-curricular activities available on the Hill, Harrovians would become idle, thus engaging in mischief, reducing the high-achieving status the School environment currently possesses. In spite of this, the School may already be in danger of swinging the pendulum too greatly towards a scenario where the boys have hardly any time to pursue an activity that is seen to be important, but hardly given much attention: reading. The simple fact of the matter is that if one wants to truly fit the School’s mould, reading consistently merely becomes a pipe dream.

Following the scrapping of reading periods following the 2019/20 academic year, finding adequate time to read for pleasure has become a pipe dream. The constant onslaught of eccer four times a week, CCF, rehearsals, compulsory cross-country runs, 20 hours of work a week (as stated by Existing Customs p.16), has meant that finding the time to read Hemingway, Marlowe or Hobbes has been almost impossible. By the time one has fulfilled the School’s expectations academically, sportingly and culturally, there is only enough time to check on the Firefly planner that there is no more work to be done. We are told

that reading is good for us, so why is there very little time to do it? Finding the time to do important activities on a daily basis is ultimately one's personal responsibility, yet even the most organised student simply hasn't got the time to indulge in literature other than the mandatory reading set by the higher-ups at OCR or AQA. Humanities students are often told that the reason that they do not get into Oxford or Cambridge is because they simply don't read, yet that is fine and dandy when there is very little dedicated private-study time. Harrow has historically been a breeding ground for intellectuals (the cynics would disagree) and, if it is to continue to be like that, the School should possibly consider structuring constructive reading sessions where boys have an opportunity to regularly debate and discuss critical ideas. As a boy, I essentially have no real authority to comment on School policy, but here you have it. The first 'Hearsay from the Hill.

There is a popular social media phrase urging keyboard warriors to go outside and 'touch grass'. Maybe as Harrovians, we should 'touch books' more often.

Harrow seems to be in fine fettle at the start of the new term. The XV have had an excellent start, winning both of their fixtures; the Chapel Choir are in fine voice and there is generally positive buzz on the top of Harrow Hill. In order to achieve even greater intellectual success, possibly increasing reading time could help to balance the books...

OPINION

CORRESPONDENCE

Letters to the Editors

DEAR SIRS,

I was disappointed to read the results of your Speech Room poll last week – although perhaps not for the reason you may expect. What upset me was the misidentification of the High Street crossing as a Pelican, when it is, in fact, a Zebra.

May I suggest the Editors review their copy of the Highway Code to ensure they can identify the differences between zebras, puffs, pelicans and toucans?

Yours etc.,
JPBH

GAFFE AND GOWN

Quips from around the Hill

"My head hurts today" "Why is that, sir?" "Actually, because I walked into a tree yesterday."

"It stinks of burnt candles in here." "Well, they have to test the fire alarm somehow."

SPORT

RUGBY UNION

The School v Dulwich College, 16 September

The 1st XV away v Dulwich College, Won 45-12

It was a comprehensive victory from the Harrow 1st XV, playing with great ambition, courage and accuracy. A fast start took the 1st XV to a 17-0 lead early on before a strong second

half saw Harrow pull away as supreme 45-12 victors. Tries were scored by Seb Brindley, *The Park*, Cameron Knight, *Newlands*, George Simpson, *Newlands*, Patrick Keaveney, *Druries*, Sam Winters, *Elmfield*, and Charlie Griffin, *The Head Master's*.

2nd XV away v Dulwich College, Won 45-0

A good game we like to play on the coach when visiting dreadful Dulwich is "how far away from the Hill you can get in the time it takes to get to Dulwich for rugby". Popular suggestions include Bristol, Dundee or even Paris (a place I would much rather have been heading, anyway). Once you arrive at Dulwich, however, it usually feels worth it – it's always a hotly contested fixture that the boys want to win, and the 2nd XV were just rearing to tear the dorky Dulwichians to pieces, like a mob of hungry wolves. The game started strong, and it was not long until Oliver-Willwong, *Bradlys*, crashed over in the corner. Josh was involved again soon after, cutting off his wing to take the ball from Andre who had run out of steam after a magnificent break, before unselfishly feeding Zachary Uduchi, *Lyon's*, who scored under the post. With a conversion and a penalty from Keir Parker-Delves, *West Acre*, the 2nd XV were 15 points up within 15 minutes.

To their credit, Dulwich worked hard to get back into the game and had a good spell of possession as the first half wore on. But not hard enough. The 2nd XV defended resolutely with some robust tackles from Lawrence-Ojo and Williams, and some excellent lineout work from Lester disrupting Dulwich's momentum. However, with the ball, the 2nds were erratic, failing to clear their lines or work cohesively as a team. The game lacked structure and the 2nd XV were unable to impose it. Mercifully, Dulwich's 'operation score a try' was going about as well as England's. The stoppable force cancelled out the movable object, and we made it to half-time after a passage of play that, if early medical trials go well, will soon become a lucrative cure for insomnia.

After a deft deployment of the 'hairdryer treatment' from some senior players, the second half showed signs of improvement. Williams scored twice, first from a driving maul and again shortly after after some better control and phase play saw the 2nds breach Dulwich's 22. The game from here became scrappy as Dulwich, by this point well beaten, struggled to retain possession. Nonetheless, the 2nds began to turn the screw. Another lovely lineout from Hoshi gave us good field position from which to attack before strong carries from Hersee and Herron took us into the 22. Parker-Delves muscled over the whitewash for a score soon after, and the 2nd XV scored again when Codrington fed Akinluyi after a good break from Smallwood down the right wing. Late tries from Boshoff and Lawrence-Ojo took the game well out of Dulwich's reach, with a final score of 45-0.

All in all, it was a powerful display from the 2nd XV, who will nonetheless be frustrated to have left plenty more points on the field. Wellington next week will pose a sterner test that we look forward to greatly! We were also delighted that Ashton, Charlie and Zac made their debuts for the XV during yesterday's match. Congratulations to them and we hope for plenty more!

3rd XV away v Dulwich College, Won 42-5

An exciting journey to Dulwich as always, taking in the sights: Trafalgar Square, Big Ben and the Houses of Parliament.

Unlike the House of Commons, there was no debate among the boys on how this game was going to go. They voted with an overwhelming majority for crunching tackling and fast-flowing rugby. Charlie Nelson, *Bradlys*, was the speaker of the house and vocally conducted his party/forward pack. He sniped round the edges, beat the shadow scrum half and popped to Rei Ishikawa, *Elmfield*, who passed legislation over the line to score the first try of the match. Nelson scored the second try shortly after powering over despite his size like a smaller party in a coalition he punched above his weight.

Two catch and drive tries were scored with a superbly organised maul one with a peel from Ishikawa and pop to the excellent Seb Boreham, *Elmfield*, and the other scored by the versatile Emerson who can change positions like some politicians change their policies. Toby Shemilt, *The Grove*, was outstanding on the day, despite butchering a try he created 'in the thick of it' and later scoring a try he clearly dropped over the line. Tobi Olorade, *Elmfield*, delivered a try from a scrum move that was drawn up on the training ground like an outstanding manifesto (apart from that it was delivered). Oscar Sutherland, *Lyon's*, celebrated his powerful try as though he had won a by-election by a landslide. The final try was a real thing of beauty. With power and precision, phase play, quick ruck speed (less than the vaunted 2 seconds?) followed by beautiful passing before Maxi Farah, *The Park*, found Cameron Elliot, *West Acre*, for a try in the corner. Ulysses Hu, *The Head Master's*, who the party leader initially thought was a backbencher, was the player of the match and was thankfully brought into the cabinet.

A fantastic start to the season with a really enjoyable match played with a great attitude and spirit. Tougher tests to come according to the pollsters.

4th XV away v Dulwich College, Won 66-0

The boys played very well, showing great determination and humility in their impressive 66-0 win. Oliver Rezek, *Druries*, was man of the match.

Colts A v Dulwich College, Won 29-10

The stage was set on the Sunley pitch, with the weather seemingly blessing the day for a display of running rugby that would leave spectators in awe. The stands were alive with drunken parents and cheering peers, creating an electric atmosphere for the clash against Dulwich College.

However, the beginning of the match brought an unexpected twist, as Harrow's defensive co-ordination crumbled, allowing Dulwich to score an early try. It was a moment that underscored the team's need for improvement in this crucial area.

But adversity often serves as a catalyst for growth, and this Harrow side was no different. They saw the early setback not as a hurdle too high but as a challenge to be overcome, a chance to show their true character.

Tom "The Mountain" Dargan (VC), *Druries*, also known as "the Shell muncher" or "the toilet-seat destroyer", embodied the newfound spirit of the team. His ferocious 'bull' carries resulted in not one, but two tries.

Michael "The Riddler" Lourie, *Newlands*, added his own touch of magic to the game. His try was a work of art, a testament to the improved workrate and discipline instilled in the team. His deft touches through contact were nothing short of exquisite.

As the first half unfolded, the Harrow side displayed a remarkable transformation. Defensive coordination, their Achilles' heel earlier, started to take shape. The first-half deficit was steadily erased, as the team's unity on the defensive end grew stronger with each minute.

The second half began with the forwards seizing control, dominating in the scrum and lineout. Rory Griffin, *The Head Master's*, the wily fox, consistently pilfered possession from his opposite number, highlighting the importance of discipline and workrate in the breakdown.

Matthew Finnegan's – The Edge Protector, *Druries*, try was emblematic of a team that had honed its discipline. His swift response to Arjun Basran's, *The Park*, slick pass showcased the improved coordination and workrate.

Ben "Le Artiste" Leinwand, *Moretons*, a thorn in the opposition's side all day, saved his *pièce de résistance* for the end. His dazzling individual break and try exemplified the team's newfound initiative and determination.

Throughout the game, Harrow's players took it upon themselves to claim the cage with more authority. Their runs

to the line were marked by purpose, a clear reflection of the team's collective determination.

As the final whistle blew and Harrow Colts A emerged victorious, the transformation was clear for all to see. They had not only conquered the challenges posed by Dulwich but had also shown that they were a team with the potential to continue growing and improving. Vive Le 'Row.

Colts B v Dulwich College, Lost 10-17

The Colts B started off a bit lethargic in the first ten minutes of the game but soon found their stride running in a well worked team try to go 5-0 up. Some good physical play by the opposition and poor discipline by the Colts resulted in us going in all square at the break. The majority of the second half saw some excellent physical and skillful rugby on display by the Colts, but the pressure did not result in the scoreboard ticking over – only one try scored after sustained pressure. Unfortunately, continued poor discipline and poor decision making in the latter part of the second half took its toll and the opposition ran in an after-time intercept try and the Colts B team had to settle for second best on the day.

Colts C v Dulwich College, Lost 15-55

In their first match of the 2023 season, the Colts Cs went up against a team that arrived with the composure and confidence of a well-drilled squad. Throughout the game, Dulwich were able to exploit holes in the Harrow defensive line, making use of the fast paced players on the wing which sealed the away team's victory.

Despite the final score, there were many moments of great play from Harrow. From a scrum near the 22 metre line off a Dulwich knock-on, Jerry Qin, *Newlands*, received the ball on the blindside and scored Harrow's first try in the eighth minute of the game. Raphael Ghani, *The Knoll*, similarly scored a try in the 27th minute, and Gary Wang, *Newlands*, pushed through to score the third try. As a squad, Harrow displayed some excellent tackling and ball carrying, with the last few minutes of the game showing great promise for the rest of the season.

Junior Colts A away v Dulwich College, Lost 5-22

This was a tough fixture for the JCAs against a well organised Dulwich side. There were moments of brilliance but the consistent pressure from Dulwich made opportunities to score very difficult. A great learning process offering lots to work on.

Junior Colts B away v Dulwich College, Lost 14-33

The JCBs made a sluggish start to the match, conceding early to a very disciplined Dulwich side. It took the diggers a while to grow into the game and they were turned over far too often in the first half. Loarn Lawson, *Elmfield*, made some heroic last-ditch tackles and man of the match Suleman Mohammed, *West Acre*, was a trojan in attack, smashing through tackles for the full 60 minutes and well and truly putting his body on the line. Captain Pasha Cambatta-Mistry, *Lyon's*, led the team well in the second half and the boys kept parity with the opposition. They managed to build phases and made the most of their limited opportunities against a structured Dulwich defence. A superb breakaway try from Lere Pedro, *The Grove*, and a Hector Craven, *Elmfield*, try were both converted by Alf Beresford-Pierse, *Elmfield*. Missed tackles and poor rucking cost the team on the day.

Junior Colts C away v Dulwich College, Won 15-14

In our opening game of the season we travelled to Dulwich, a slow, two-hour trip across central London. However, the boys were in high spirits and excited to begin the campaign after two weeks of preparation.

We started the game with some real intensity. The boys carried hard and supported each other excellently. With a couple of quick phases, moving the ball through the hands and

finding space out wide, we were able to make good forward progress. Dulwich defended valiantly to ensure to were not to open the scoring early. The game flowed nicely with both teams maintaining possession well. However, Harrow persisted and got the breakthrough when Tito Odunaike, *Elmfield*, found space out wide once again following a few phases of heavy carries from our forwards, who secured possession and Rupert MacDonald, *The Park*, was able to maintain fast recycling of the ball throughout the phases which meant Dulwich were out of shape. Odunaike went over the line out wide to score the first points of the game. Dulwich 0-5 Harrow.

Harrow, with the wind in their sails continued to press forwards with real purpose. Dulwich opting to clear their lines with kicks up field. But Harrow maintained good structure and were able to pick up the loose ball. Both sides playing well with cover tackles, cross field kicks and tactical moves from the backs throughout. It was a pleasure to watch. Harrow scored again, this time with Rupert scoring after the forwards had worked their way through the middle of the pitch.

The JCCs had played superbly all afternoon and came out firing in the second half. Determined not to score next. Both sides played expansive rugby, trying to build phases and move the ball through the hand to the wide areas. Forwards carrying hard and back playing an elaborate game with accurate kicking, moves developing and a high degree of skill. Harrow scored again! This time, Daniel Shen, *Druries*, scores a try after we had Dulwich on the ropes and their clearance kick failed to clear their lines. Dulwich 0-15 Harrow.

All due credit to Dulwich, as they emerged from difficulty to solve the issues and raise their heads. They came back firing and with a vengeance. They put us under real pressure following a break that allowed their best ball carrier some space to go in under the posts. Dulwich 7-15 Harrow. This put some real wind in Dulwich's sails and they rode this wave of confidence to score again! Dulwich 14-15 Harrow. This set the game up for a dramatic last five minutes of rugby.

Harrow defended with everything they had, cover tackles flying in as they scrambled to hold on to their slender lead. Dulwich came again, this time with us defending phase after phase on Harrow's try line in the final moments of the game. Dulwich moved the ball superbly to recognise the space out wide and additional numbers. It goes through the hands, once, twice, a third time... The try line begging as Harrow's last defender is passed. Open space and 5m out. Last play of the game. Try-line fever strikes and Dulwich drop the ball. Final whistle blows and they have won! Harrow held on to victory when they faced certain defeat. A memorable victory.

Junior Colts D away v Dulwich College, Lost 5-70

The JCDs sadly lost 5-70. Aidan Au, *Moretons*, scored a try within the second half with great speed and gumption, which lifted the spirit of the Harrow side greatly!

Junior Colts E away v Dulwich College, Lost 5-36

A well-fought battle to the very end left the boys disappointed by the result but in high spirits for the year that lies ahead. Harrow lost 5-46 with Alex Kim, *Rendalls*, being our only try scorer and Man of the Match for the day.

Yearlings A v Dulwich College, Drew 5-5

A physical encounter saw Harrow on the back foot for much of the match, but a renewed determination at the break enabled them to find the whitewash to tie the game up.

Yearlings B v Dulwich College, Lost 10-36

Harrow were outplayed by a physical Dulwich side. Man of the match: Balthazar Bret, *Elmfield*.

Yearlings C v Dulwich College, Won 46-5

For a first outing, this was a promising performance by a

group of players who played as though they have been together for several weeks. The match was an even contest with no score during the first quarter as both sides cancelled each other out. In the second quarter, Harrow took the reins and began a display of passing, offloading, and broken field running, which continued until the final minutes. The first try was scored by Joshua Nwaokolo, *Newlands*, whose coruscating runs through the midfield proved too much for Dulwich. Nwaokolo completed the match with three tries, making a strong case to play further up in this age group. Harrow finished the half with two further tries scored by Walter Lawrie, *The Park*, and Jimi Adu, *The Park*. Lawrie was immense in his carries to the heart of the Dulwich defence all afternoon, while Adu showed that he is a fluid runner.

After the break, Harrow took advantage of the downward slope and immediately scored again through Jerry Xie, *Rendalls*, who often took four or five Dulwich players to slow his runs. Harrow were positive in attack, and the offloading game was incredible to watch, with players supporting the ball carrier very well. It would be impossible to mention every player, however, as far as keeping the ball alive was concerned, Elyas Naderi, *Moretons*, and Huw Griffith, *Druries*, were excellent, pushing the ball out of the tackle and finding players running off their shoulders, thus keeping the forward momentum going and, at the same time, providing a solid platform for Harrow's stand-off and captain, Loic Du Roy De Blicquy, *Elmfield*, to find his runners outside him. Du Roy De Blicquy is an outstanding passer of the ball from both hands, and floats his passes into his runners' midriff, allowing them to run on to the ball. Elite players would be proud of such skills.

Harrow scored two more tries to complete the game. Although he didn't find himself on the scoresheet, Pablo Castellano Burguera, *Rendalls*, must be mentioned as he had an outstanding game, often running from deep with a wonderful sidestep, then finding runners in open spaces. Harrow's defence was excellent as they showed determination to ensure that they did not give Dulwich any time on the ball. Dulwich began to get going at the conclusion of the game, running in a try from good phase play. Harrow were guilty of going to sleep but this was the only low point in an otherwise great first performance.

Yearlings D v Dulwich College, Won 35-5

Led by Henry Murray, *The Head Master's*, Harrow began proceedings properly, warming up with purpose and focus. The ups and downs of trials and three gruelling training sessions had all been put behind as the Dulwich coach arrived. The game started with Harrow and Dulwich looking pretty evenly matched. Ten minutes passed with big tackles made on both sides, a few breaks here and there, a knock-on, a high tackle, some hands in the ruck. Soon enough, Harrow found their confidence. The unmissable length of Henrik Willet, *Druries*, was cutting through Dulwich defenders; he ran past some and through others. Throughout all of this, Nate Wei, *Rendalls*, was biding his time. Until, out of nowhere, he was released and in came the first try.

As soon as our tails were up, the intensity of ball-carrying increased, and the likes of Jayden Kong, *Lyon's*, and Dara Odujinrin, *Newlands*, found their way over the line. Unfortunately, some sleepy defence on the wing led to a Dulwich try, but such a lapse in concentration was not to happen again for the rest of the game. The engine of Harrow's forwards, Alwin Huang, *The Head Master's*, who single-handedly secured rucks against three Dulwich boys, also managed to get over the line with his determined strides. Speaking of determination, there was no one on the pitch more insuperable than Nedum Njoku, *The Head Master's*, who somehow managed to score a try with five Dulwich players hanging off him, powerless to stop his inevitable strength. Two fantastic pitch-length tries from Wei and Larry Jang, *The Park*, put the nail in the coffin, before two more strong running tries from Kitan Akinyemi, *Druries*, and Claudius Tyacke, *The Grove*.

This was a statement of intent. Harrow played with belief, intensity, and a real awareness of each other on the pitch. In future games, it would be good to see quicker hands in the backs and more cohesion in the breakdown. But we couldn't have asked for a better start to the season. Onwards and upwards.

Yearlings E v Dulwich College, Lost 17-19

With a squad of 23 boys, the Yearlings E had great depth of strength and oodles of stamina facing a historically challenging Dulwich side. Due to slight issues with numbers on the opposite side, the Harrow squad dropped to 13 in order to equalise the playing field. The first half only proved the considerable strength of the Harrow RFC, as some fantastic tries and conversions from Harry Tait, *The Head Master's*, and Maximilian Basirov, *The Grove*, ensured Harrow finished at half-time with a 12-5 lead. At the start of the second half, Harrow hit the Dulwich boys hard. But, much like stepping on a rake with great vigour, this enthusiasm resulted in several injuries. The game was reduced to a 10-a-side squad, but Dulwich pushed back to provide an ultimate twist to the match. With 20 minutes to go, the game now sat at 12-12. Oliver Benbow, *The Park*, who had been an integral part of the squad in this game, drove through the opposition to score a final try for the Harrow side, but sadly no conversion, leaving the score at 17-12. A final push from Dulwich's surviving boys resulted in a try and conversion, with 12 minutes to go. Unfortunately, Dulwich's coach insisted on calling the match early, resulting in a Harrow loss. This was a fantastic first match, and demonstrated that the Yearlings E have huge potential for success going forward.

Yearlings F v Dulwich College, Won 25-24

The match was well played on both sides with particular mention to Agastya Asnani, *West Acre*, Gabriel Olubanjo, *Rendalls*, and Edward Hedgecock, *Moretons*, for spectacularly playing their selective roles extremely well, and well done to George Marriott, *The Park*, who settled very nicely into his role as flyhalf and to those who played for Dulwich, as it is difficult to play for the very team that our School is playing against. The match progressed with Harrow taking the lead at first, and it remained a mystery until the last second of the match who would win. Eventually Harrow ended up with a close 25-24 victory. I am sure our team will play with the same vigour and determination as was displayed in this match in all the matches to come.

FOOTBALL

The School v Haberdashers', 14 September

Development A XI v Haberdashers' Elstree Schools, Won 2-1

The Development A made a lightning start to the season with a sharp-focused first-half. Two excellent finishes from Bradley Leong, *The Knoll*, gave Harrow a comfortable lead, but the boys toiled in the second period in the heat and showed plenty of grit to secure the victory in the end.

Development B XI v Haberdashers' Elstree Schools, Won 2-1

Harrow settled nicely into their 4-3-3 shape in the opening 25 minutes, keeping the ball comfortably and creating plenty of dangerous opportunities. Eventually the pressure told as Jack Young, *Newlands*, ran onto Elliot Macleod's, *Newlands*, through-ball to slot calmly past the keeper. Peter Ballingal, *Moretons*, doubled the lead shortly before half-time, lobbing the goalie after high pressure forced a mistake in possession.

Haberdashers' came into the game in the second half and, indeed, scored with about 30 minutes to go. After that point, however, Harrow began to exude more control and were not threatened in the latter stages of the game. The Development Bs should be happy with their performance and look to be more ruthless in coming games.

Development C XI v Haberdashers' Elstree Schools, Won 5-2

The Development Cs started the season in excellent fashion, with Tochi Orji, *The Park*, and Leon Mills, *Newlands*, racking up goals and assists in a 5-2 victory, while Cameron Childs, *Newlands*, moved the ball incisively from the back. The fellowship among the squad was as impressive as the football, as boys from three different year groups generated a positive team spirit in their first match together.

The School v Forest School, 16 September
Development A XI away v Forest School 1st, Lost 0-1

The Development A XI set off for their second game of the season against a formidable challenge in Forest School. After losing half of the warmup to an overriding bus journey, the team had to start strong, which was not the case. The first 15 minutes clearly went the way of Forest, with Zane Akbar Khan, *Moretons*, and Eli Dewotor, *The Head Master's*, providing composure at the back to make sure we did not concede. Despite this, a string of mistakes led to a free kick, which was dealt with but converted by a free man in the box. With Forest 1-0 up, this provided a shock to the system for the Harrow side. Ralph Collier-Wright, *Rendalls*, took momentum and ran with it throughout the whole game, providing an industrial performance in the midfield. Going into the second half 1-0 down, a completely different team stepped onto the field. From the whistle, everyone worked hard to find an equaliser. Mubarak Tinubu, *The Knoll*, proved to be a weapon this half, pocketing his opposing winger. The front three of Tobi Amusan, *Moretons*, Bradley Leong, *The Knoll*, and Max Baygual Nespatti, *Elmfield*, continued to work extremely hard to snatch an equaliser despite the seeming lack of opportunities coming their way. Akachi Anyanwu, *The Grove*, picked up this motivation, proving to be a huge factor off the bench with his energy and 1v1 ability. This finally created a couple chances as Anyanwu and Leong, came close with shots. Amusan was also able to sniff out a chance, with a "supposedly offside" goal. Caspar Baker, *Moretons*, provided some top-class goalkeeping to make sure Harrow did not concede another, and the whole second half pointed towards Harrow snatching an equaliser. Despite this, great game management and football IQ shown from the Forest team allowed them to be able to just about keep Harrow at bay, as they begged for the final whistle. Nonetheless, the Development A XI should be proud of their second-half performance, and should aim to start quicker and stay positive against Whitmore High on Thursday

Development B XI away v Forest School 2nd, Lost 0-4

Harrow started brightly and were very unlucky not to get the first goal after Peter Ballingal, *Moretons*, went close, playing excellent football and regularly getting in behind the opposition defence. Two penalties, one either side of half-time, led to Harrow going 2-0 down despite playing well at the beginning of both halves. Sadly after conceding a third goal the game got away from Harrow and they lost their shape rather. That being said this was overall a good performance from the boys in a game that was affected as a contest by the two penalties. All the boys fought for each other right until the final whistle and should be commended for their resilience. Jack Young, *Newlands*, embodied this tenacity throughout the match and was a deserved MOTM.

Development C XI away v Forest School 2nd, Lost 1-6

The Dev C's travelled to Forest School for their second game of the season hoping to improve on an impressive performance against Haberdashers'. Due to some poor traffic conditions, the Dev C's arrived with only a small amount of time to warm up, but in spite of this Harrow started the game on the front foot and created a couple of clear-cut opportunities through Tochi Orji, *The Park*, and Rocco Desai, *Elmfield*. In midfield Eric Pan, *Lyon's*, and Eddie Cooke, *The Park*, maintained this positive tempo,

striving to push the Dev Cs forwards wherever they could and feed the ball out wide in order to utilise the pace of Desai and Leon Mills, *Newlands*. Annoyingly, Forest had decided to play a rather dull and repetitive route-one tactic that bypassed our entire midfield and saw the newly formed centre-back pairing of Louis Deshpande, *Moretons*, and Babade Fasinro, *Lyon's*, constantly being peppered with high balls. Unfortunately, the backline's efforts proved to be in vain as Forest managed to grab two goals in quick succession. Things looked to be heading from bad to worse when Forest were awarded penalty on the stroke of half-time; however, goalkeeper Will Wright, *West Acre*, had other ideas and produced a fantastic save to keep the Dev Cs in the game and swing the momentum in our favour. After a galvanising half-time pep talk from the gaffer, the Dev Cs started the second half with a renewed determination that quickly paid dividends. Tochi Orji and Jamie Jevons, *Lyon's*, began an instant attacking onslaught that culminated in Desai lashing home a well-taken and deserved goal to put Harrow right back in the game. At the back, the tenacity of fullbacks Harry Owens, *Rendalls*, and Luke Smedley, *Druries*, meant that Forest had no choice but to resort to their long ball game again. As the game grew old and the Dev C's legs grew tired and weary, Forest found the back of the net on several occasions, with Harrow being unable to respond, not aided by being reduced to only 11 fit players. A valiant performance nonetheless, but many things still to work on in training.

SWIMMING

The School v Haileybury, Won, 14 September

A first competitive swim of the year against a plucky Haileybury team. Harrow swam incredibly well, winning all but one event at the gala. Mark Zeng, *Elmfield*, provided the highlight of the day with his blistering performance in the 50m breaststroke.



FIVES

*The School v Eton College, 14 September
1st away v Eton College, Lost*

The boys senior team battled hard against Eton away in hot conditions, with the second and third pairs struggling in the different conditions from our own courts. The second pair of Charlie Allday and Valentine Ballingal, both *Moretons*, were unlucky not to win a set with some strong rally play.

The highlight was the strong performance from the first pair who ended up drawing at 2-2, running out of time to play the last set. Alfie Anderson and Gus Stanhope, both *Moretons*, played some outstanding points and kept the home team on their toes all the time.

Harry Burt and Sam Phillips, both *Moretons*, improved as a third pair, but this match was more about the experience for them.

Colts A away v Eton College, Lost

The boys lost 2-0 today with some spirited performances from Bertie Bradley, *Druries*, and Harrison Gray, *The Park*. Olly Filo and William Martin Jenkins, both *The Park*, also learnt some further skills to be more competitive in their next match representing the School at first pair.

Junior Colts A away v Eton College, Lost

The Under-15s performed well, showing some big improvements on the set pieces, but lost 2-0. The boys showed a good competitive nature throughout.

GOLF

*1st away v Merchant Taylors' School, Northwood,
Lost 2-1, 12 September*

The golf team played their first foursomes cup match of the season against a very strong Merchant Taylors' side at Sandy Lodge Golf Club on Tuesday, sadly losing 2-1. However, Bertie Bradley and Tom Campbell-Johnston, both *Druries*, secured a vital point in the fixture.

1st away at West Sussex Invitational

Fred Hewer, *The Park*, and Oliver Cheuk, *The Grove*, continued their partnership at West Sussex Golf Club in the invitational foursomes competition. They were looking to bounce back from Tuesday's loss, this time in Stableford rather than matchplay. They started off strong, birdieing the first after Cheuk's breathtaking laser of a hybrid to 20 feet on the par 5. A couple of bogeys followed, but Hewer's dart of an approach on 4, followed by Cheuk draining a 10-footer, led to another birdie. After a tough stretch from holes 5 to 8, Cheuk and Hewer made three pars and one birdie in the next four holes, which was highlighted by Hewer's delicate touch of chipping it to a foot on 11. The heather was penalising on the home stretch, but Cheuk and Hewer fought valiantly to finish the round with 29 points.

Thomas Tian and Kieran Wee, both *Newlands*, partnered up for the first time. They fought hard for a total of 22 points on the Stableford scoring system. With a smooth 4-iron onto the fairway, Wee started demonstrating his strong and consistent performance in the game. Despite ending up in the heather at times, Tian was able to secure the holes with some up and down bogeys. The back nines appeared more friendly, allowing Tian and Wee to take full advantage of the long distances, and thus saving many pars. In particular, Tian's excellent chipping co-operated well with Wee's incredibly reliable putting, leading to the sinking of multiple 15-foot putts.

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