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PALMERSTON SOCIETY

Mr Richard Tice, 'What hope for young people in broken Britain', 14 May

The Palmerston Society welcomed Richard Tice, leader of Reform UK, to speak on Tuesday 14 May. After a lively dinner in which every yard of his party's policy had been scrutinised, Tice made his way to an overflowing Old Speech Room Gallery, brimming with fascinated and expectant boys.



The title of Tice's lecture was 'What hope for young people in broken Britain', and not unsurprisingly he painted a gloomy picture at first. He described how Britain was in its worst position in many many years. Be it getting a Deliveroo order, the tube, or a GP appointment, the country is a mess, he argued. He claimed that both the Conservatives and Labour are socialist parties – neither of whom are fit to lead. Tice did interestingly note that he's certain the Tories will stay socialist even after the next election – and that there is no chance someone like Suella Braverman, who many are tipping, will become leader.

Tice also devoted a section of his speech to advocating for proportional representation. He pointed out that in Europe only Belarus share our first-past-the-post system. "Not good company," he remarked. He argued that the form of proportional representation that is in play in Scotland (AMS) is the best and fairest voting system. He pointed out that there has been a relatively stable government there under the SNP for many years, so it avoids the issues of constant instability that arise under other forms of PR.

On net zero, a topic on which his position on is obviously quite contentious, he claimed that while climate change is obviously real, we are sacrificing growth in the name of net zero, and this is a mistake.

So, after just under half an hour of well-rehearsed, well-delivered and fascinating rhetoric, we moved to questions.

Immediately hands shot up with people desperate for him to elaborate and explain just about everything and anything! On the future of his party and how they could avoid just disappearing after causing some disruption, he argued that they wouldn't ever make a deal with the Tories and trust them again. He spoke on how he believed not this year's election, but the next one after that, would result in a Reform majority. He pointed out, fascinatingly, that while they are mainly thought of as more of a threat to the Tories, he believed they could also be a serious problem for Labour. Tice also made the interesting point a

couple of times that aspects of new Labour and Tory policy has actually been taken from Reform UK.

On Nigel Farage's future, he said that he expected by July he would have made his decision. He has three options according to Tice – stay on working in media in the UK, throw himself into US politics, or, of course, re-enter the frame in the UK, with Reform.

Tice was also quizzed about how while Reform UK are polling well in the popular vote, even when they are 4/5/6 points off the Tories they are still projected to gain well under ten seats. He pointed out that in a FPTP system, while two main parties usually dominate, the drop off can be huge and that the Tories could face a complete crumbling in terms of numbers of seats, which would make way for Reform.

Once the event was wrapped up, Tice was immediately swarmed – people desperate for photos, signatures and more answers! After about 25 more minutes of this, people slowly began to ease out. Whatever the differing opinions of him were, the general consensus from almost everyone was that his ideas had at least given them something to think about.

This was a fantastic final Palmerston event of the term and academic year, and we would like to express our upmost thanks to all the people who helped make this brilliant occasion work so well.

MEDICAL SOCIETY

Professor Shakur, 'Frontier Medicine: Research, AI Integration and Wearable Biosensors', 30 April

On the final day of April, the Medical Society – joining hands with the Scientific Society – was honoured to invite Professor Rameen Shakur, a leading cardiologist in the frontiers of medicine. Professor Shakur shared his insight into not only his journey to becoming the world's foremost leader in enriching clinical precision medicine with his establishment of the electrocardiogram wearable company, but also the motivations and inspirations that led him down his pathway as a medical researcher.

First, he described his story as a young medic who read medicine at St John's, Cambridge. For his third-year project on the relationship between genetics and heart diseases, he won a Wellcome Trust scholarship. His interest in genetics was a pure coincidence, derived from his desire to win the scholarship for free lunch and dinner served at the university. While studying at the Wellcome Trust Sanger Centre, he came across a set of genes and collaborated with a team that completed the whole human genome sequencing. His endeavours to bridge the gap between genetics and cardiology continued in his studies, including his project investigating the role of genetics in heart transplant rejection.

He completed his MPhil in Immunology at Cambridge and residency at John Radcliffe Hospital at the University of Oxford and also at the University of Edinburgh. Professor Shakur's continued studies in leading institutions were good news for his parents, who eagerly wished their child to become a doctor. However, he felt it was important and found joy in conducting research in genetics and cardiology and wanted to become more than a physician following existing guidelines. For more than

20 years, he immersed himself in academia as a research fellow, professor and student. He received accolades at the world's most distinguished institutions including Harvard Medical School, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Mayo Clinic, and World Health Organisation. The depth and accumulation of his study prompted him, in 2015, to begin his entrepreneurial step in building an AI-supported wearable electrocardiogram (ECG) that would precisely reflect a person's heart conditions.

Called the Cambridge Heartwear, this revolutionary wearable ECG received a real-time AI response that produced much more sensitive data than the single lead wearable device of the time. The AI was able to point out irregular rhythms that hint at a dangerous heart defect or condition, providing continuous diagnostic support to the customer. This finding is significant because it resolves the existing problem of diagnosing irregular heartbeat due to atrial fibrillation only in a case of stroke; the deep-learned AI can diagnose this much earlier by collecting large amounts of data to find irregular patterns in the seemingly ordinary cardiogram. Through the scientific complexities and ergonomic design aided by the Royal College of Art, the device can prevent cases of death or severe neurological deficits.

Naturally, Professor Shakur was fascinated by the idea of precision medicine that could enact preventive treatments or measures earlier in order to slow the disease's progression or even eradicate it. He explained what precision medicine offers and how this personalised approach has advantages and disadvantages.

Precision medicine uses molecular information (most commonly genomic) to predict disease development or provide the most suitable treatments as the disease progresses. As suggested by the term 'precision', this healthcare approach provides accurate results and guides the patient in taking the optimal steps to improve their condition, whether it be a healthy diet and exercise routine or specific medications. Precision medicine has more significant implications than the benefit to an individual. Currently, 50% of NHS patients are directed to general care, which he claims only benefits 20% of the patients. Therefore, substantial resources are needed to make medical diagnosis and prescriptions are wasted. Precision medicine would significantly reduce this waste by offering the optimal treatment and refer patients to the most suitable medical departments to seek help.

Though there are obvious advantages to precision medicine, there are also ethical concerns. Sharing the complete, or even a portion, of one's genomic information to a doctor one has never encountered before is alarming, raising issues with biohacking and privacy violations. This uncomfortable truth about AI's efficient analysis makes us question our reliance on AI in medicine: and even the potential dominance of AI over human civilisation. However, with appropriate control and use of AI analysis, as well as securely managed patient genomic data, precision medicine could continue to prove the most viable solution to a multidisciplinary range of problems, from medical to economic issues.

Professor Shakur continues to develop as an educator of precision medicine at worldwide institutions such as MIT; as a Kauffman teaching fellow he teaches novel techniques to students. He is committed to nurturing aspiring medics and ensuring they take the suitable professional pathway for them. For instance, he served as an admissions tutor at St John's, College, Cambridge, was examiner and inspector of the General Medical Council of UK medical schools, and author of *A Career in Medicine: Do you have what it takes?*, a realistic view of the variety of medical professions and what values one must hold.

With his extensive knowledge and expertise, Professor Shakur answered each question from boys and beaks enthusiastically and with care, spending a good five minutes on each question. The questions ranged from a simple question about cardiology to addressing real world issues, and his opinions about the ethical concerns around precision medicine. We thank Professor Rameen Shakur for his meaningful talk, confident that each of us learnt a lesson.

JUNIOR LABORDE SOCIETY

Hector Llewellyn Palmer and Lucas Changbencharoen, Lyon's, 'Terra Incognita: mapping Earth after mankind', 21 May

On 21 May, the Junior Laborde Society held the final lecture of the year, delivered by Hector Llewellyn Palmer and Lucas Changbencharoen, both *Lyon's*. As Mr Cullen stated in the introduction to the lecture, Llewellyn Palmer and Changbencharoen have been two dedicated members of the society during their time at Harrow, and this lecture would no doubt be of the highest quality.

This lecture, titled '100 Years After Humans', promised to dive deep into the theories on what the Earth would look like if all humans disappeared. The boys began with a summary of how they would map Earth after mankind. This consisted of environmental factors such as ecological succession and changes in geological landscapes, along with climate improvement and oceanic changes. They started confidently, drawing on geological facts about the Earth to create an informative start to the lecture.

The first aspect considered was infrastructure. Primary effects were that sites that needed constant maintenance would immediately collapse, such as dams and nuclear plants. Mains electricity would soon shut down, causing a global blackout with only the Sun's illumination. In the long term, residential areas would collapse, and erosion/weathering would break existing defences.

Moving on to cities, Changbencharoen introduced the first effects including power failure, sewage failure and flooding. Then, after months and years, infrastructure would begin to decay, with nature invading cities in the form of plants and animals. Over centuries, the remnants of human civilisation would be completely covered by nature.

Nuclear plants are other structures that could have devastating impacts on the Earth if we aren't around to maintain them. Reactors would shut down quickly, along with fuel rods overheating and exploding. They explained that these nuclear accidents would be similar to Chernobyl and Fukushima.

Then, they explained the coastal effects, which are taught in the Remove Geography syllabus. The case of Bangladesh was considered because of its 580km coastline. Flood management would halt very quickly, followed by sea defences like sea walls and embankments collapsing under the force of the sea. Power supplied to flood gates and drainage systems would halt, leading to flooding and land being claimed by the sea. Cities would quickly be flooded due to impenetrable surfaces preventing water infiltration into the ground, with drains becoming waterlogged.

For the penultimate topic, agriculture and wildlife would experience seemingly adverse effects to begin with, but, in the long-term, nature would correct the damage done by humans. For example, crops would rot and weeds and insects would invade fields. Eventually, shrubland would grow with pioneer species; soil would be regenerated with all the minerals and nutrients, and biodiversity would return to the wild. Unfortunately, domesticated species like pigs and caged animals which are unable to survive on their own would perish. Natural selection would once more take over and only those most fit to survive would inhabit the wild.

Finally, the climate. Human activity has flooded the atmosphere with CO₂ and other greenhouse gases. Climate change is one of the most prominent issues now, but with humans disappearing, air quality would improve and the ozone layer would slowly recover from the pollutants. On the other hand, not everything would regenerate. The great Pacific Garbage Patch would grow, oil would be spilled into the sea, and eutrophication would occur from all the chemicals and sewage on land.

To conclude, there were many questions expertly answered from the audience, after such a well-delivered talk encouraged them to engage with this intriguing topic. On the subject of nuclear fallout, the duo established how there may be mutations

to animals from the radiation. However this would not cause a drastic change in species. This is purely speculation, so we could never be confident that biodiversity would increase with unusual traits. Llewellyn Palmer and Changbencharoen surprised the audience by having prepared a Kahoot about the topics covered to end this fascinating lecture.

GORE SOCIETY

Harris Yin and Martin Tobio Souto, West Acre, 'Machiavelli', 21 May

On 21 May, Martin Tobio Souto and Harris Yin, both *West Acre*, delivered a talk to the Gore Society on Niccolo Machiavelli. Machiavelli was born on 3 May 1469 in Florence, Italy. He was a philosopher-diplomat and writer now accredited as the father of modern political theory.

Machiavelli is famous (or rather, infamous) for his political treatise, *The Prince*. A true paradigm shift, *The Prince* broke from medieval ideologies to focus on often ruthless political tactics. Machiavelli was a senior official in the Florentine Republic for many years, where he took part in diplomatic missions and observed the politics of Italian cities. His experiences during these years moulded his views on power and how to govern a country.

In 1512, the Medici family returned to power and re-established the monarchy in Italy. Machiavelli was fired from his post, imprisoned, and tortured for a few weeks. When he was set free, Machiavelli went back to his estate near Florence and began to write books that would cement his legacy.

The Prince, written in 1513 and published in 1532, tells rulers how to gain and maintain power, and that it is acceptable to do so by any means necessary. He famously stated that it is better for a ruler to be feared than loved (though it is optimal to be both loved and feared). His work suggests that the goal of a ruler should be the effectiveness and survival of his reign rather than upholding moral scruples or honesty.

Aside from *The Prince*, Machiavelli wrote numerous other political discourses, historical reflections and even plays. Machiavelli's influence extends beyond political theory into areas such as philosophy and leadership studies, demonstrating the enduring relevance of his insights into human nature and power dynamics.

FOX TALBOT PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

Richard Petty once again most generously sponsored the latest Fox Talbot Photography Competition here at Harrow. For those who do not know, his son, William, was at Harrow from 1995 to 2000. This is the 25th year he has kindly sponsored this annual award. It is one of the most valuable prizes in the School and annually commands a most competitive field. This year was no exception. There were hundreds of entries of which 100 were shortlisted. This year, were Clive Barda OBE and Clare Park.

Clive is one of Britain's most distinguished photographers of the performing arts and was awarded the OBE in 2016. While reading Modern Languages at London University, Clive developed a passion for music and photography, which remains undimmed. In 1974, he photographed *La Bohème* for the Royal Opera House and went on to work with the RSC, the National Theatre and with all the main UK opera companies. He has built up an unrivalled record of past and current performers, including countless album covers, portraits of musicians and stage performers. He became a Freeman of the Musicians

Company in 2017. He has also published a number of books and a major retrospective exhibition of his work toured in China and the UK in 2012.

Clare Park's creative energy and insight into physical psychology and human behaviour enable those around her to fully participate in photographic storytelling. Clare originally trained as a ballet dancer and, in the 1980s, she entered the world of international fashion as a model and an aspiring photographer. Later, she veered away from the fashion industry to study photography at the Royal College of Art and began exploring self-portraiture, developing this work through narratives of her own life journey. The expressivity of the body lies at the heart of both her personal and collaborative work. Clare's distinctive style is evident in the posters she devises for theatre companies, such as the Royal Shakespeare Company and the National Theatre, as well as for editorials, portraiture and books. In collaboration with co-creator Debbie Green, she recently self-published *Breaking Form: Re-Formed* about one man's journey with Parkinson's, and *A Square Foot of Sky*, visually interpreting the writings of a woman's experiences of 13 years spent in secure institutions. This personalised way of working is the key to Clare's photography. Clare has won many awards and her work is widely exhibited. It is held in permanent collections at the National Portrait Gallery and the V&A Royal Photographic Collection.

Prize winners 2024

Senior First Prize

Piccinni, Oliver Mitchell, *Rendalls*, Upper Sixth

Piccinni is a photograph of a young boy that I captured at the annual Goroka show in Papua New Guinea. The photograph emphasises the dichotomy between the ancient tribal history



Senior Second Prize

Distance, Oliver Mitchell, *Rendalls*, Upper Sixth

I took this photo in the mountains of Nepal. I have named this photo 'Distance' because the formidable old woman has been

travelling a long way, but also because of how strange it is for us to see a person of older age taking on such a strenuous task.



Senior Third Prize

Autumn, Alex Akinluyi, *The Head Master's*, Lower Sixth

The photo features a serene forest setting with a singular, striking tree that stands out due to its bright orange colouring, contrasting vividly against the surrounding greenery.

Junior First Prize

Contrast of life. Jack Chen, *Elmfield*, Fifth Form

This poignant photograph captures a moment of stark social contrast in an urban setting. In the foreground, a man sits on the wet pavement, cradling a small dog, both sharing a moment of quiet amidst the chaos. He is surrounded by meagre belongings, highlighting his vulnerable position in society. The background offers a sharp juxtaposition with the glowing neon lights of an upscale Angus Steakhouse, symbolising abundance and consumerism.



Junior Second Prize

Cigarette, Mengtao (Joseph) Li, *The Grove*, Fifth Form

Taken in front of a subway station in Nanjing, China. The old man was squatting by the side of the road smoking and seemed happy with the idea of me taking a portrait. Smoking remains a big problem in China. Although it has a great effect for a photograph, it doesn't for health!



Junior Third Prize

Sting, Jonathan Ford, *West Acre*, Fifth Form

This photograph seeks to examine the lines between male and female, aligning Mapplethorpe's eroticism with Candy Darling's gender expression.

LUMINA FOR LONG DUCKER IN 2024

In preparation for Long Ducker next term, the School has chosen to support Lumina, which will receive half of the money raised. Lumina is a transformative collaboration amongst like-minded schools that enables young people in care, a group at significant educational disadvantage, to achieve their full potential. Lumina provides personalised, one-to-one online tutoring and mentorship, fostering academic success, building self-esteem and creating a network of support for vulnerable students – all on a pro-bono basis by teachers in the community and at no cost to young people, carers or local authorities. A number of our own beaks volunteer their time to deliver such tutoring. The support we will give them will allow Lumina to scale-up operations significantly in the coming year.

This week, in Speech Room, we had the privilege of hosting Bernadette Alexander, the Enrichment Coordination Supplier for Barnet, Brent, Ealing and Harrow Virtual Schools. She shared that “the greatest chance for a fulfilling, successful life and career comes through education. My heartfelt desire is to see others have the same life chances as Harrow boys – in particular, children in care.”

She went on to say that “whilst most likely 100% of you will progress to university-level education, only 15% of care-

experienced young people will do so. Think of that – what a vast gap there is between 100% and 15% – a world of difference.”

Mrs Alexander gave us devastating examples of the lack of educational opportunities suffered by young people in care, many of whom have been subject to abuse and neglect or are often sent far away from home. She ended by telling us that our funds will help Lumina do much more to support children in care to achieve academically and have life chances similar to the rest of us.



Bernadette Alexander with Father James and Douglas Collins after Speech Room this week.

METROPOLITAN

ST JOHN'S, OXFORD, CLASSICS ESSAY PRIZE

Arturo Saville, Rendalls, Winner, Ancient History category, ““How far did ancient Greek and Roman travellers go, and why did they not get any further?””

This essay will outline the vast journeys across continents for various purposes, including trade, conquest, and the pursuit of knowledge, that ancient Greek and Roman travellers undertook. This essay will also show that these ancient peoples achieved journeys across great distances, despite limitations due to the era's technological and navigational constraints, alongside prevailing geographical misconceptions.

The impulse to traverse vast distances, to reach the unknown and explore the uncharted, is a defining trait of humanity that transcends eras. From journeying to the British isles to landing on the moon, human beings have always sought out the great journeys of their time. In the ancient worlds of Greece and Rome, this impulse was manifested through a variety of forms, from the extensive road networks of Rome and the maritime routes dominated by Greek traders, ancient civilisations travelled far across their respective realms.

Pilgrimages to sacred sites like Delphi or Olympia, the quest for knowledge or philosophical discourse, and the mere pleasure of witnessing the known world's wonders were common. Homer's "Odyssey," a quintessential epic of travel, encapsulates the era's spirit of adventure, illustrating not just physical journeys but the quest for intellectual and spiritual growth (Homer, circa 8th century BCE).

In parallel, the Roman Empire, with its unprecedented size, facilitated movements across territories, integrating different cultures and economies in the Pax Romana. Essential to this was engineering an elaborate network of roads, renowned for

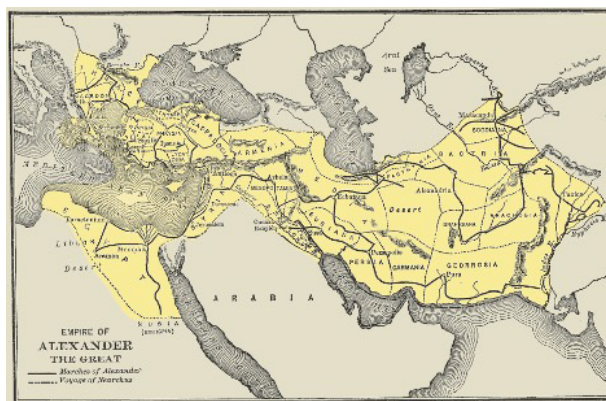
their durability and extent, enabling swift communication, military mobilisation, and trade. These routes also allowed Roman citizens and subjects to undertake journeys for leisure, with wealthy citizens visiting famed thermal baths, theatres, and ancient cities.

Trade expeditions served as another crucial travel motivator, with Greek and Roman merchants navigating perilous sea routes to establish commerce with distant provinces. These endeavours not only spurred economic growth but also fostered cultural exchanges, bringing a cosmopolitan essence to ancient cities through imported goods and foreign customs. Strabo's "Geographica" offers an extensive compilation of the known world's geography and peoples, providing insights into the interconnectedness fostered by these travels (Strabo, 1st century CE).

Military campaigns, while primarily strategic and expansionist in their objectives, inadvertently linked large parts of the ancient world together. The popular phrase 'all roads lead to Rome' had to come from somewhere. Roman soldiers, often accompanied by scholars and engineers, traversed diverse territories, encountering various civilizations. Julius Caesar's commentaries on the Gallic Wars offer a vivid portrayal of such travels, detailing the landscapes, peoples, and customs that his armies encountered across Europe (Caesar, 1st century BCE).

Religious pilgrimages were also pivotal in shaping ancient travel landscapes, with both Greeks and Romans embarking on journeys to venerate deities at renowned sanctuaries. Pilgrimages from all Greek states to Delphi were extremely common. Similarly, the advent of athletic contests, especially the Olympic Games in Greece, instituted a tradition of sports tourism. These pilgrimages were significant in fostering a shared religious, ideological and cultural identity between the Hellenic states. The nature of ancient travel was not simply about expansion, but also connecting states with each other.

Educational pursuits, particularly among the Roman elite, prompted travels to Greece, perceived as the cultural and intellectual epicentre. Young aristocrats would embark on educational tours, engaging with Greek philosophers, orators, and artists, paralleling the Georgian grand tours, millenia later.



Roman and Greek travel

The scope of ancient Greek and Roman travel was as vast and varied as the motives behind it, stretching across continents. These journeys, driven by the quests for more land, commerce, education, and leisure, unfolded across a very large geographical area that extended from the British Isles to the fringes of the Indus Valley, from the northern forests of Germania to the deserts of Africa. Alexander the Great's empire spanned across Anatolia, Syria, Phoenicia, Egypt, Mesopotamia, Persia, Afghanistan, and India. He extended the boundaries of his Macedonian Empire as far east as the city of Taxila in modern-day Pakistan.

In ancient Greece, mariners and merchants set sail across the Mediterranean and Black Seas, establishing trade routes and colonies that facilitated cultural exchange and economic prosperity. Figures like Pytheas of Massalia ventured beyond

familiar waters to the British Isles and possibly even the Arctic Circle, demonstrating remarkable curiosity (Roller, 2006). Meanwhile, intellectuals and scholars travelled to centres of learning such as Athens or Alexandria, engaging in the exchange of ideas. Plato may have travelled in this way to Italy, Sicily, Egypt, and Cyrene.

Roman travel, underpinned by the empire's expansive reach and infrastructure, was even more extensive. The Romans constructed a network of roads famed for their wondrous engineering, spanning over 250,000 miles at the empire's zenith and enabling movement and communication across vast distances (Chevallier, 1976). These roads were arteries of the empire.

Military expeditions led by commanders like Julius Caesar and Trajan expanded boundaries, bringing vast territories under Roman control and establishing a presence in regions as distant as Britain and Mesopotamia. Caesar's detailed accounts of his campaigns in Gaul and Britain in "Commentarii de Bello Gallico" demonstrate his eagerness to push the boundaries of empire (Goldsworthy, 2007). Expansion was also one of the main sources of popularity and *autoritas* for Roman generals. Journeying to far off lands in conquest was exceedingly popular with the people. However, the *Pax Romana*, a period of relative peace and stability across the empire, fostered an environment conducive to travel for purposes beyond mere survival or conquest. Roman citizens, particularly the wealthy elite, journeyed for education, health, and pleasure, visiting famed cultural sites in Greece, healing spas across the empire, and scenic destinations like the Bay of Naples. The Grand Tour of Greece, undertaken by Roman students and scholars, was a form of cultural and educational tourism (Elsner, 1992).

Religious and athletic events also motivated travel, drawing participants and spectators from across the empire. Pilgrimages to sacred sites like the Oracle of Delphi or the temples of Jerusalem were common, reflecting the spiritual and cultural dimensions of ancient travel (Golden, 1998).



The expansion of ancient Greek and Roman travel, though impressive, was significantly curtailed by the technological and navigational constraints of the time. Despite their ingenuity and resourcefulness, the ancients faced limitations that shaped the extent of their travels, influencing everything from the speed to the safety of the travellers and the accessibility of further travel.

In ancient Greece, maritime warfare was a deciding factor in almost all inter-state conflict, and maritime travel was essential for trade and exploration. However, the technology of shipbuilding and navigation, while advanced for its era, was of course rudimentary compared to modern standards. Greek ships, powered by sails and oars, were subject to weather and seaworthiness limitations. The absence of the compass and reliance on celestial navigation meant that Greek sailors often hugged coastlines, avoiding open sea voyages where possible (Casson, 1994). This inherent limitation restricted the range of Greek maritime exploration.

The Romans, inheriting and expanding upon Greek knowledge, made advancements in road construction, which facilitated greater land travel across their vast empire. Roman roads were engineering marvels that enabled rapid movement of armies, commerce, and communication. However, the technology for individual travel, such as carriages and donkeys, remained relatively basic. The Roman *cursus publicus*, a state-run courier and transportation service, was limited to official use, further constraining private travel opportunities (Chevallier, 1976).

Roman maritime technology, while enabling a formidable naval presence, also had its limitations. Despite innovations such as larger ships and improved harbours, Roman vessels were primarily designed for the Mediterranean and ill-suited for oceanic voyages. Ship-building technology in that time wasn't nearly as good as it was in the days of the Vikings, when they crossed the Atlantic around AD 1000, some 900 years after the heyday of Rome. The lack of advanced navigational instruments like the magnetic compass, which would only appear centuries later, made navigation precarious, especially in adverse weather conditions or when out of sight of land (Landels, 2000).



Moreover, the ancients' geographical knowledge was fraught with errors and myths that further complicated navigation and exploration. Maps, where they existed, were often rudimentary and inaccurate, and sailors' and travellers' understanding of the world was peppered with superstition. The geocentric models of the universe, advocated by figures like Ptolemy, contained fundamental flaws that would not be corrected until the Renaissance (Romm, 1992).

The culmination of these technological and navigational constraints meant that ancient travel, while ambitious and often successful, was fraught with risks and uncertainties. There was little political will to explore further towards the Atlantic.

The ancient world, with its curiosity and quest for understanding, was circumscribed by significant geographical misconceptions and limited knowledge. The Greeks and Romans harboured various misunderstandings about the world's geography, which, combined with the technological constraints of their era, significantly influenced their travel capabilities and ambitions.

In ancient Greece, geographical knowledge was a blend of empirical observation, speculation, and religious interpretation. Early Greek philosophers like Anaximander and Hecataeus made pioneering efforts to theorise about what the greater world might look like, but their work was speculative and not grounded in true observations (Romm, 1992). Greeks envisioned the world as a flat disk surrounded by an endless river, Okeanos, and their concepts of distant lands were often filled with fantastical creatures and legendary realms. For example, unicorns are not found in Greek mythology, but rather in the accounts of natural history, for Greek writers of natural history were convinced of the reality of unicorns, which they believed lived in India, a distant and fabulous realm for them.

The Romans, inheriting and expanding upon Greek geographical knowledge, developed a more systematic approach to mapping their empire, which came out of pure necessity. Ptolemy's "Geographia," a landmark work of Roman-era geography, compiled vast amounts of data into a representation of the world. While Ptolemy introduced important concepts such as latitude and longitude, his work also perpetuated errors, such as underestimating the Earth's circumference and misrepresenting distant regions (Ptolemy, 2nd century CE).



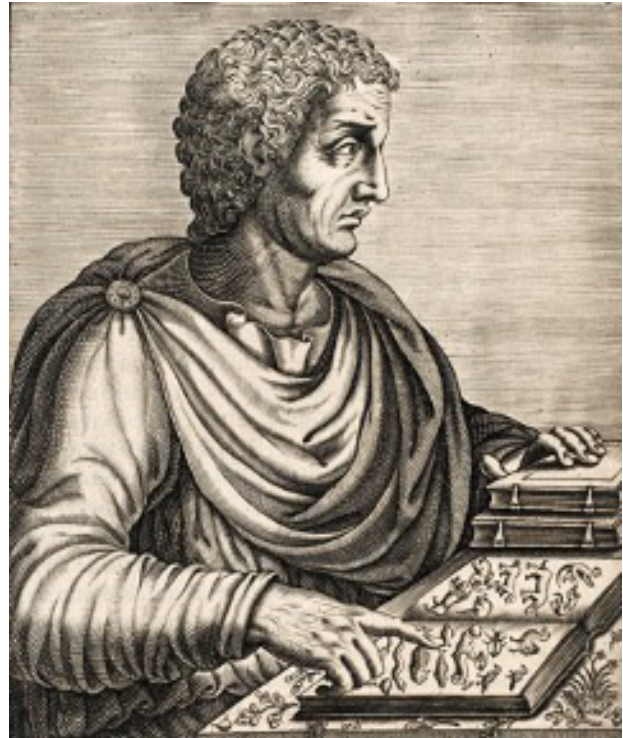
These geographical misconceptions had practical implications for travel. The perceived dangers of venturing too far afield, whether into the supposedly torrid zones believed to encircle the Earth or across the boundaries of the "known world," dissuaded explorers and travellers from pursuing more ambitious journeys.

Despite these limitations, ancient geographers and travellers contributed significantly to the accumulation of geographical knowledge. Strabo's "Geographica" and Pliny the Elder's "Natural History" are works that collect and analyse the geographical knowledge of their time, (Strabo, 1st century CE; Pliny, 1st century CE). These works, while reflecting the misconceptions of their era, also demonstrate a keen interest in empirical observation and critical inquiry.

Ancient Greek and Roman travellers embarked on numerous journeys, pushing the boundaries of their known world and laying foundational stones for what can be considered early tourism. These explorers, traders, and pilgrims traversed vast distances, reaching as far as the British Isles and the deserts of North Africa, influenced by a mix of economic, military, religious, and intellectual motives. However, their capacity for further exploration was circumscribed by the technological and geographical limitations of their time.

The Greeks and Romans navigated using primitive tools and understanding, which, while innovative, did not allow for precise or long-distance navigation, especially in open waters. The reliance on landmarks and celestial navigation, as

described by historians like Casson (1994), significantly limited the range of their maritime expeditions. On land, although Roman roads, such as the famed Via Appia, facilitated extensive territorial connectivity and movement, the absence of faster, more reliable modes of transport capped the pace and ease of travel (Chevallier, 1976). Geographical knowledge, too, was a limiting factor. Misinterpretations of the earth's size and layout, as seen in Ptolemy's "Geographia," and mythical beliefs about distant lands, hindered a clearer understanding of the world and curtailed further exploration. Travellers of antiquity were often deterred by these misconceptions, coupled with the daunting physical risks of unknown territories.



The ancient Greeks and Romans achieved remarkable feats of travel and exploration. Yet, their endeavours were constrained by the period's navigational and geographical limitations.

ECLECTIC TUNES

Welcome to the second instalment of *The Harrovian's* music column: after some positive feedback (alongside a few deathly stares from across the High Street), I present more eclectic tunes for those on the Hill to enjoy.

Indie/Folk Music of the Week

Sufjan Stevens – *Illinois*

Where does one begin with Sufjan Stevens? The 21st-century indie icon is both omnipresent and inexplicable, carrying a defiant force of hope and devastation with the quietest of whispers. After establishing himself as a master of lilting folk on *Michigan* and *Seven Swans*, Stevens secured his place amongst the greatest artists of all time with *Illinois*. A sprawling, ambitious statement dedicated to Chicago's home state, the album stretches from brass arrangements, string quartets, electric guitars and Stevens' own banjo, while Stevens' surreal, personal lyricism delves into UFO sightings, racial strife, serial killers, paedophiles, jazz singers and Abraham Lincoln. An absolute masterpiece.

Rock Music of the Week

Bauhaus – *In the Flat Field*

There is some debate as to who invented gothic music: some turn to the dark undertones of 1960s groups, namely The Doors and The Velvet Underground; others look towards the 1970s, when Joy Division and Siouxsie and the Banshees introduced anti-cultural, ironic twists. Yet, most agree that *In the Flat Field* was when goth-rock made its first, fully-fledged appearance. Crucially, Bauhaus' debut is more than just pioneering: its distinctive riffs and biting vocal deliveries carry a chilling tension that permeates the record, while its haunting lyricism bruises and stains the mind. This is an intense listen, but a truly rewarding one.

Pop Music of the Week

The Beach Boys – *Surf's Up*

Everyone knows about The Beach Boys. Everyone knows about *Pet Sounds*. Everyone knows about 'Good Vibrations'. Not everyone knows about *Surf's Up*. Under instructions of newly appointed co-manager Jack Rieley, America's favourite band revamped their image, bringing their iconic sound into the '70s. Beginning with the delicate 'Don't Go Near the Water' (somewhat ironic given the band's reputation for soundtracking America's surfing craze) and concluding with potentially the greatest three-track run in pop history, *Surf's Up* presents a record that is both grand and affecting, comforting yet defiant. Brian Wilson's touches are felt across the work, with the title track taken from the legendary Smile sessions; yet the album also presents itself as crucially collective, an amalgamation of the beauties and strengths of one of the greatest bands of all time.

Electronic Music of the Week

Kraftwerk – *Trans Europe Express*

In the 1970s, Kraftwerk sought to establish a new sonic identity for post-war Germany. Taking the angularities of Bauhaus and Weimar jazz to their logical conclusions, Kraftwerk introduced a synthesizer-led odyssey of grandeur and discipline to soundwaves in Europe and across the globe. With 1974's *Autobahn*, the band shocked the musical establishment; with 1976's *Trans Europe Express*, they singlehandedly set forth the electronic revolution. Sparse yet dense, harsh yet free, euphoric in repetition, *Trans Europe Express* encapsulates the fears and joys of a mechanised, interconnected yet isolated future, all while ensuring that Daft Punk, Massive Attack, Depeche Mode, and all others who dared use a synthesizer would be eternally indebted to them. A masterpiece by every measure, this record deserves to be both enjoyed and admired.

Surprise Music of the Week

The Magnetic Fields – *69 Love Songs*

Frontman Stephen Merritt's nonpareil songwriting may appear somewhat obtuse at first glance; indeed, the sheer scope of 69 tracks ranging from country and folk to jazz and punk presents a daunting prospect to any listener. It is a testament, then to The Magnetic Field's sonic craft that this triple-disc (or six-record volume on vinyl) not only retains one's attention but captivates one's imagination. Merritt has made it clear that these songs are not about love; they are about love songs as a genre, presenting an ironic, tongue-and-cheek and, at times, bitter window into one of music's most esoteric minds. Yet, much like Charles Ives' *114 Songs* which inspired Merritt, the album flows beautifully, packed to the brim with witty one-liners and stunning musical variety. A record far greater than the sum of its (admittedly brilliant) parts, it leaves one breathless.

P.S. Where else can you find dancing bears, Billie Holiday, bunny-rabbit cosplay, sarcastic nice-guy syndrome, xylophones, 19th-century boudoirs, funerals, rodeos, Ferdinand de Saussure, headless chickens, bottles of gin, and zebras on one album?

Until next time, comrades!

TRIALS 2: ELECTRIC BOOGALOO

by Isaac Wong, *The Park*

Dear God! We are back at it again,
This cesspit we call Trials and all of its pain
Coalesce into a singular slime and grime mass,
Like the hairball of a cat just waiting to pass.

Our backs start to ache from our study most gruelling,
Our hands start to ache from our study most gruelling,
Our legs start to ache from our study most gruelling,
And our eyes start to ache from the crying and bawling.

Is it not the best time of the year, so they say?
The blossoming of hydrangeas and other floral forays?
The only time the Sun shines on this country forsaken,
Yet the exam season has from us all this taken.

My God how I wish it would all end here,
And my face dons an expression most cavalier,
For it's not over yet, there are days still to go,
And any slips-ups will cause me to fall low and low.

Everything feels blurry, I think I've studied too hard,
Yet my beaks still think I'm too lazy, and that I must guard
My future, but who cares? Nothing but the present matters
And my envy of the U6 grows without any satis...

Because they get to escape.

OPINION

DEAR SIRs,

As Mr Sunak ran to be leader of the Conservative party, I was struck by the number of questions posed to the man about football. I'm sure I would have heard the same asked to Truss, were I bothered to listen to her. Politics and relationships both rely upon a detailed knowledge of the players, teams, and stadia dedicated to kicking about a truncated icosahedron. Unfortunately, a cultured school such as Harrow offers opportunities to focus on higher class sports such as fencing, croquet, or shooting. Alas, this has left Harrovians unable to gain the favour of the common man. I contend that the School must offer some sort of Elective or course on the game.

One cannot just turn on the television and learn, as football programmings cater toward an advanced level of hooliganism which is not beneficial for a beginner such as myself. The football elective, or lecture series, must start from the simplest matters such as the rules. Then I should like to learn about teams and cups. I recently learnt that football games begin with some sort of ritual to do with children, and I should like to discover what exactly that is about. Whenever I am asked my favourite team, I have responded with 'Chelsea' since year 1, when the first boy who asked was wearing a shirt with the proper noun upon it; unfortunately, this response is now met with either angry shouts of other places across the country or curious questions about athletes of whom I have never heard. Even many Harrovians discuss the game, which has led to great discomfort in my TP lessons, given that the only team I know players of is The Inconsistent Triad – a 4-a-side team which trains in The Grove five-a-side and is managed by Mr Bownass.

Knowledge about football has long been a criterion for manhood. If Harrow is to sculpt men, leaders, or lads, it must not

neglect this crucial area of expertise which too often separates Harrovians from the common man.

YOURS INQUISITIVELY,
R.T.M. YOUNG

DEAR SIRs,

In last week's edition, Isaac Wong, *The Park* wrote in to complain about the editorial quality of the paper. It is quite interesting to see Mr Wong, an aspiring Editor, perhaps, criticise so openly the very Editorial board which he may seek to join.

He claims that we (as editors) somehow accidentally let typos into the paper and make no effort to clean it up whatsoever. It appears to me that Mr Wong would rather his articles be published unfiltered.

Unfortunately, this cannot be the case. Editors are chosen for the board, for the most part, on account of our ability to write interesting, entertaining, and informative articles (not to toot my own trumpet). The knowledge of impeccable grammar and perfect spelling are somewhat secondary to that. This is because Editors spend far, far more time writing than we do editing. Indeed, in the last edition alone (in which Mr Wong's letter was featured), nine out of 19 (almost 50%) of the pieces exhibited were written of Editors – at least to my knowledge, there is a great chance that some of the other write-ups were also written by Editors. Almost every recurring feature in *The Harrovian*, from the music and book reviews to the translated poems to editorials, is written by the editors.

Every Thursday, the editors meet and discuss not whether the oxford comma is proper grammar, not the correct spellings of words (other than “spoonfuls”-gate), and not whether the interrobang is acceptable punctuation. We discuss what articles to write, what news is going on, what write-ups to do when no boy has bothered to do one, which editorials to create, whether we need more new weekly segments. It is a lot of work. Unlike other boys in the School, who may write articles and letters whenever they so please, Editors are often writing one or two full length articles a week, every week. On top of this, we must sacrifice our Wednesday evenings in order to clean up the other 50% of the paper, removing interrobangs (much to my dismay) and ensuring proper formatting is followed for the sporting reports.

However, because we seek to uphold the high(ish) standard that we have set for *The Harrovian* over the past year, we also feel an impulsive need to reword, rephrase, or even rewrite whole articles in order to make them more fitting with our standards. Unfortunately, Adobe InCopy has terrible spellcheck because it doesn't understand half of the words used in *The Harrovian* (think of all the Harrow 'slang' and the names of boys, societies, and houses, etc.), and so when we – at 9:00pm on Wednesday evening – stumble across an utterly terrible pile of rubbish that some poor boy submitted to SMK for *The Harrovian* and we are obliged to rewrite it, we must do so without spellcheck and without any Editors to edit our edits.

I don't mean to sound as if I am complaining about the workload of being an editor. It's very fulfilling to see one's work published in a physical form, and I immensely enjoy writing and editing *The Harrovian*. I am merely informing Mr Wong (and the rest of you readers) that the workload of an editor is surprisingly high when you pile it on top of preps, trips, dance classes, a social life (yes we do have one), sports (very occasionally), lectures, and everything else that makes life on the Hill so busy, and so I ask Mr Wong to be a little more lenient whenever he sees a misplaced comma or the word received spelt incorrectly, because it is very difficult to spot one's own mistakes until after it's been published. Much like how it's very difficult to know that *you have forgotten to attach a word document* until after you have sent an email.

YOURS EDITORIALY,
ARJUN KULAR

SPORT

CRICKET

Junior Colts A, Home v Watford Grammar School for Boys, Won by 9 wickets

ESCA Cup – Last 16, Junior Colts A v Watford Grammar School, National 40-over Cup Round of 16

The Junior Colts A resumed their successful season after a short half-term break. Harrow won the toss and elected to field. The opening bowlers Rishya Rawal, *Rendalls*, and Aditya Singh, *Moretons*, bowled some hostile deliveries, and Watford found themselves in a difficult situation at 50-3. However, a strong partnership was to follow. The Harrow side stayed resilient, found a breakthrough from Luke Attfield, *Druries*, and kept on disrupting partnerships. The tale was finished off well by Aditya Singh taking a hat-trick and Watford were 196 all out.

The Harrow openers Louis Nicholson, *The Park*, and Alf Beresford-Peirce, *Elmfield*, played freely and tried to get ahead of the run rate early. Nicholson played some powerful and classy shots and Beresford-Peirce played a fine supporting role. Nicholson brought up an elegant 50 and looked set to go on. Beresford-Peirce brought up a very well made 50 with some classy stroke play not soon afterwards. The openers brought up their second 150-run opening partnership of the season. However, Beresford-Peirce was caught and that ended a remarkable 183 run partnership. With Nicholson having been in the nervous nineties for a while, he punched one down to mid on and that brought up a sensational 100. The game was wrapped up soon after. Harrow look to continue on Tuesday against Merchant Taylors'.

Louis Nicholson 105* (102), Alf Beresford-Peirce 66 (76), Aditya Singh 3-38 (including a hat-trick)

Junior Colts A, Home v St Benedict's School, Won by 111 runs, County Cup Semi-Final

A strong batting performance from Rishya Rawal, *Rendalls*, 35, Luke Attfield, *Druries*, 51*, Edward Stabb, *The Head Master's*, 52* and Arjan Lai, *West Acre*, 25 set the tone for the day.

1st XI, Home v Tonbridge School, Won by 7 wickets, Cowdrey Cup

The 1st XI defeated Tonbridge School by seven wickets to continue their unbeaten run in the Cowdrey Cup. Kalan Niyarepola's, *The Head Master's*, legendary 3-48 helped the 1st XI restrict a strong Tonbridge side to 254-9 from their 55 overs. Caspar Baker's, *Moretons*, 1-19 at the top of the innings and Charlie Hope's, *Rendalls*, 3-48 at the death proving crucial in limiting the Tonbridge total. Harrow came out firing after the change of innings and Dylan Rawal's, *Bradlys*, 90 off 72 balls (including five 6s!) gave the 1st XI a brilliant platform to launch their chase. But it was Jay Madan's, *The Park*, 108* that took the game away from Tonbridge to leave Harrow the victors by seven wickets.

Tonbridge School	R	B
Robert Greenway, lbw, b Kalan Niyarepola	61	92
Leo Selvey-Clinton, ct Dylan Rawal, b Caspar Baker	11	29
O Morgan, ct Rishya Rawal, b Kalan Niyarepola	39	52
Sam Secharan*, ct James Felton, b Charlie Hope	41	45
J Hazari-Webb, ct James Felton, b Kalan Niyarepola	16	30
Tristan Peters, ct Henry Snow, b Eesa Faheem	3	16
Sam Pike, ct Caspar Baker, b Charlie Hope	16	33
Edward Lee, b Jack Nelson	13	12
Veer Kapur, not out	10	13
Frederick Smith, ct Henry Snow, b Charlie Hope	3	6
W Huddy, not out	4	3
Extras 37		
Total 254		

Harrow	O	M	R	W
Eesa Faheem	9	1	30	2
Henry Snow	3	0	9	3
Caspar Baker	6	0	19	2
Charlie Hope	8	0	48	3
Charlie Nelson	4	0	32	8
Kalan Niyarepola	11	0	48	0
James Felton	4	0	15	4
Jack Nelson	10	0	43	4
Extras 10				
Total	55	1	254	9
			26	

Harrow School	R	B
Dylan Rawal†, ct O Morgan, b J Hazari-Webb	90	72
Jay Madan, not out	108	116
Charlie Nelson*, b Frederick Smith	2	9
Jack Nelson, ct Unsure, b Leo Selvey-Clinton	31	28
Caspar Baker, not out	10	10
Henry Snow, did not bat		
Eesa Faheem, did not bat		
Kalan Niyarepola, did not bat		
James Felton, did not bat		
Charlie Hope, did not bat		
Rishya Rawal, did not bat		
Extras 14		
Total	255	

Tonbridge	O	M	R	W
W Huddy	6	0	40	0
Veer Kapur	5	0	23	0
Sam Seecharan	3	0	31	0
J Hazari-Webb	11	0	56	1
Frederick Smith	7	0	46	1
Leo Selvey-Clinton	6.5	0	56	1
Extras 3				
Total	38.5	0	255	3

2nd XI, Away v Tonbridge School, Lost by 21 runs

Tonbridge made a bright, aggressive start and had raced to 29-0 before a fine catch from Gabriel Harrington-Myers, *Bradlys*, at second slip removed the dangerous Underwood (who had scored 23 from 15 balls). The game started to settle down at this point, not least of all because of the introduction of Henry Porter, *Moretons*, who offered some control in his seven-over spell and was well supported by Harry Beresford-Peirse, *Elmfield*, at the other end. Nonetheless, Tonbridge continued to build a total and looked well placed at 125-2. However, two quick wickets on the stroke of lunch evened up the game. First, the impressive Tom Campbell-Johnston, *Druries*, (5-75) removed Nolan for 37 and then Mungo Lawson, *Elmfield*, trapped Kirkland (50), who was threatening to take the game away from the visitors. After lunch, sloppiness crept into the field, but wickets continued to fall at regular intervals, leading to Tonbridge eventually being bowled out for 238 in the 52nd over.

Harrow felt relatively confident of overcoming this target, but appeared to be in irretrievable trouble at 14-3 and then 47-4. However, Aaron Patel, *The Knoll*, and Lawson commenced a rescue operation and had taken the score to 110 (a partnership of 63), before Patel was bowled by Nolan, 6 runs short of what would have been a well-deserved 50. Lawson continued to graft, but when he was bowled, attempting a rash shot over mid-wicket, it looked as if the game had turned in the home side's favour once again. Beresford-Peirse, however, had other ideas. He played with great freedom and tenacity, looking to accumulate runs, as the total started to become a tantalising possibility. Porter and Campbell-Johnston offered stoic support, but the last three wickets fell rather quickly, leaving Beresford-Peirse stranded on 49.

This was another excellent game of cricket and the 2nd XI should be congratulated on their willingness to stay in the

contest. Radley on the Sixth Form Ground this coming Saturday poses the next challenge.

3rd XI, Away v Tonbridge School, Lost by 2 runs

The 3rd XI lost by two runs, having bowled Tonbridge out for 69. Freddie Williams, *Moretons*, took 3 for 9 and James Talamai, *Druries*, took 4 for 14. Rory Grant, *Moretons*, took an extraordinary catch on the boundary.

4th XI, Home v Tonbridge School, Lost by 10 wickets

Harrow were bowled out quickly and set a rather underwhelming target of 57, despite an impressive debut performance from Edmund O'Callaghan, *Elmfield*, with an unconventional 17. Unfortunately, a highly energetic field were unable to stop the Tonbridge momentum, with the opening batsman securing victory inside four overs.

Colts A, Away v Tonbridge School, Won by 10 wickets

An outstanding display from the Harrow Colts A. Harrow bowled first tightly and accurately, with superb fielding to restrain Tonbridge to 112 all out. In reply, Freddie Bourne-Arton, *Elmfield*, wasted no time going after the Tonbridge bowlers. Tanez Francis, *Druries*, joined with an excellent debut 50 and saw Harrow to an emphatic 10-wicket win.

Colts B, Away v Tonbridge School, Lost by 14 runs

Junior Colts A, Away v Tonbridge School, Lost by 5 runs

A great day's cricket despite the loss. A lot of learning from their first loss and an opportunity to show that learning in a week when they face the same opposition in the National Cup semi-finals. Edward Stabb, *The Head Master's*, 31, James Hyatt, *Elmfield*, 51 and Louis Nicholson, *The Park*, 29*

Junior Colts B, Away v Tonbridge School, Lost by 11 runs

Junior Colts Bs lost by 11 runs, having bowled Tonbridge out for 129 in a highly skilled and competitive game.

Junior Colts C, Away v Tonbridge School, Lost by 4 wickets

The Junior Colts Cs played a great game with a superb comeback in the second innings after scoring 92 runs in the first innings. Harrow lost the toss and batted first. The two opening batters were Max Nardo, *Bradlys*, with 1 run and Almo Pang, *Bradlys*, with 7 runs. Prejeev Suhitharan, *Druries*, scored 46. In the second innings, Kush Kadyan, *The Knoll*, scored an outstanding five wickets and took a splendid catch. Pang put his body on the line with his fielding, catching two nearly impossible balls. Finally, Sean Tiernan, *Newlands*, had an amazing match, hitting his first ball for a 4 and being run out with a strike rate of 125%. His fielding was superb, stopping many boundaries. Overall it was a great match even with the loss in the final 10 balls.

Junior Colts D, Away v Tonbridge School, Lost by 160 runs

The Tonbridge team amassed an impressive total in their innings. We failed to come anywhere close. The only positive from a Harrow perspective was the fact that Aeneas Paudel, *West Acre*, took three Tonbridge wickets.

Yearlings A, Home v Tonbridge School, Lost by 9 wickets

Yearlings A (182-5) lost to Tonbridge (184-1) by 9 wickets. Luke Attfield, *Druries*, scored 43 and Aaryan Basu, *Druries*, 42.

Yearlings B, Home v Tonbridge School, Won by 3 wickets

The Yearling Bs lost the toss and were asked to bowl. After some disciplined bowling and tight fielding, we had Tonbridge scrambling at 32/5. Zuhair Malik, *The Knoll*, took three wickets. Concentration levels dropped towards the end of the innings, allowing the opposition to set a awkward score of 118. Harrow lost an early wicket in the run chase, but a solid partnership

between Ned Bloomfield, *Elmfild*, and George Jacot de Boinod, *Rendalls*, placed Harrow in a comfortable position to chase down the total. However, a couple of quick wickets mounted pressure on the tail end. A strong finish by Ned Bloomfield, *Elmfild*, saw the team cross the line with five balls to spare. Harrow won by three wickets. Man of the match – Ned Bloomfield 68 not out.

Yearlings C, Home v Tonbridge School, Lost by 9 wickets

The Yearlings Cs played a fantastic game of cricket. Harrow batted first, but Tonbridge's fielding ability was making it hard for Harrow to find the extra runs to create a competitive score for Tonbridge to chase. In the end, Harrow tried their best to prevent Tonbridge from making runs. However, their efforts were unsuccessful.

Yearlings D, Home v Tonbridge School, Won by 13 runs

Harrow batted well to set a target of 134. Their defence faltered at times and hope seemed lost with five overs to go, but a brilliant spell from Rufus Hunnisett, *The Knoll*, saw the Tonbridge bottom order collapse with only 13 runs to go.

Vadim Goldin, *Newlands*, 22, Felix Harrison, *Rendalls*, 23, Rufus Hunnisett, *The Knoll*, 4-16

Yearlings E, Home v Tonbridge School, Lost by 10 wickets

GOLF

1st v Berkhamsted School v Harrow, Win 2.5-0.5

An inexperienced but determined golf team came out victorious against a good Berkhamsted side at Northwood on Thursday. Fine debut performances from Louis Criddle, *Newlands*, Hutton McRoberts, *The Knoll*, and Caspar Spencer-Churchill, *The Park*, saw the team record a resounding 2.5-0.5 win.

TENNIS

The School v Eton College, 6 June

1st, Home v Eton College, Won 6-3

An excellent effort for all six boys. We went into the final round of matches at three sets all. We then won the three remaining sets. Adam Wong, *The Park*, and Freddie Harrison, *Moretons*, won all three sets, having saved a match point in their last match.

Junior Colts A, Home v Eton College, Lost 2-7

A tough outing against an ever-strong Eton side for the JCA tennis team, with both of Harrow's points coming from rubbers won by the first pair Alex Alexeev, *Bradlys*, and Arthur Brown, *Druries*.

Junior Colts B, Home v Eton College, Lost 1-8

Well done to the JCB tennis who – despite the 1-8 score line against Eton – put up a brilliant fight. With four rubbers being lost 7-5 or 7-6, this match could have easily gone Harrow's way.

Junior Colts C, Home v Eton College, Lost 2-7

Boys Under-15D, Home v Eton College, Lost 2-7

Boys Under-15E, Home v Eton College, Lost 2-7

Yearlings A, Away v Eton College, Lost 1-8

Yearlings B, Away v Eton College, Lost 0-9

Yearlings C, Away v Eton College, Lost 0-9

Yearlings D, Away v Eton College, Lost 0-9

Boys Under-14E, Away v Eton College, Lost 1-8

The School v Tonbridge, 8 June

1st, Away v Tonbridge School, Won 6-3

A wonderful performance after an unfortunate injury to Jaden Lim, *The Head Master's*, who was inadvertently hit in the eye by a shot from his partner William Riddick, *Druries*. This meant we had to win five of the remaining six matches to force victory. Tonbridge had previously only lost once this season. Adam Wong, *The Park*, and Freddie Harrison, *Moretons*, at 1st Pair and Charlie Chambers, *Rendalls*, and Diego Castellano, *Rendalls*, at 2nd Pair produced their best tennis of the term to win all six sets. Great resilience under pressure characterised an impressive display.

2nd, Away v Tonbridge School, Lost 1-8

A tough match for a severely depleted team due to injuries. The star performances came from Oscar Bearman, *Moretons*, and Charlie Allday, *Moretons*, who played well all afternoon.

Junior Colts A, Home v Tonbridge School, Lost 2-7

Harrow played some good tennis and took some games right down to the wire but unfortunately lost to a good Tonbridge outfit. Pair of the day was Alex Alekseev, *Gayton*, and Arthur Brown, *Druries*.

Junior Colts B, Home v Tonbridge School, Lost 3-6

Harrow played well but unfortunately Tonbridge's more aggressive style of play overwhelmed us in key sets. Pair of the day was Jake Jung, *The Knoll*, and Daniel Zhou, *Druries*.

Junior Colts C, Home v Tonbridge School, Lost 2-7

A loss for the Junior Colts Cs, partly due to a few players missing because of injury. Nevertheless, an enjoyable day was had by all, and the C team put up a valiant effort.

Boys Under-15D, Home v Tonbridge School, Lost 1-8

A conclusive loss for the Junior Colts D team against a capable Tonbridge side. The Ds put up a good effort and won a fair few games, but could not capitalise on this at the match level. Nevertheless, the Ds were in good spirits and enjoyed an early start to the weekend. Special mention goes to Lucas Godoy, *The Head Master's*, and Raphael Waterhouse, *The Grove*, for winning the only match of the day.

Yearlings A, Away v Tonbridge School, Won 8-1

A strong win for the Yearlings As today, resulting in their best win of the season. Special mention to Claudius Tyacke, *The Grove*, who demonstrated some exceptional skills and was fundamental to the A1 pair's dominance in the games.

Yearlings B, Away v Tonbridge School, Lost 4-5

An unfortunate loss for the Yearlings Bs, with many lessons to be learnt from the gameplay shown today. Although the boys fought to the bitter end, a series of losses for one pair led to a close miss. The boys continue to learn from the matches with different schools, and they hope for a more positive outcome next week.

Yearlings C, Away v Tonbridge School, Won 5-4

Another successful week for the Yearlings Cs, winning through 5-4 in some tightly fought matches. Taking the results down to the wire, a final win in the third set of games guaranteed the win for Harrow.

Yearlings D, Away v Tonbridge School, Won 9-0

A very strong result from the Yearlings D, winning through 9-0 – their best result of the season. All players have found their stride in their partnerships, and it was encouraging to see that the boys had paid close attention to refining their serves.

SILVER ARROW

In 2013, 11 long years ago, the shine of the Silver Arrow last illumined The Hill. The giants' blood now runs in idler sons, loving less manly games. The tradition of Harrow's dominance with the bow was taken by John Lyon. However, our spirit today is not dead, as men say, for every year the strongest men of Harrow have shot for the School, never losing sight of the trophy's forgotten glimmer.

This year, the clouds cleared for the sun to enlighten Leo Fitzherbert, *Lyon's*, Jason He, *The Head Master's*, Jin Huang, *Lyon's*, Jooney Ku, *West Acre*, Daniel Lau, *Elmfield*, Vinsson Li, *West Acre*, Tony Shi, *The Grove*, John Ye, *Elmfield*, Robert Young, *The Grove*, and Tamir Zolboo, *The Head Master's*. They strung their bows and waited, continuing the decade-long wait. Jovial John Lyon jested as they built their bows, but the stoic Harrovians would not let it disturb them; their strength, their faith rested in the bended yew. Indeed, John Lyonians train twice a week all year round, unlike the multi-talented Harrovian who only draws his bow once a week during the summer. Yet, destiny does not accept excuses; thus, Harrovians do not make them. Fate is not written in the stars but in ourselves.



Shooting began at 4:45 pm, 6 June 2024 CE. The concentration of every archer, as their arrows flew to the target, could not be broken. They stood on the grounds where our forefathers had shot. One could only hear the pumping of the heart, the twang of the strings, the flight of the arrows, and their guided landing on the target. Alas, the competition continued for thirty shots from each archer. The Harrovians, tired from exams, the beating sun, and each individual shot, would not allow their accuracy to diminish. They persevered. Harrow archers mirrored that of Aquinas.

After every arrow had landed, the counting commenced. Unclear who won, and the scores needing to be checked, the master of strings and bows – DNB – and his John Lyon counterpart scrutinised every shot. Silence fell across the Hill. John Lyon had scored a strong 1009 points. Harrow scored 1037.

This, the closest victory in living memory, is owed to every archer; however, Tamir Zolboo must be commended as our greatest victor, after scoring 267 points from a maximum of 300. This triumph connects us with our history, and surely our future. The boys rose in their strength, to show by word and by deed they are worthy seed of our sires who drew the bow.

ATHLETICS

Middlesex County Championships, Valley Athletics Centre, 8 June

On Saturday 8 June, 21 athletes journeyed to the Middlesex County Championships at the Lee Valley Athletics Centre. These athletes had previously qualified for the event through their outstanding performances. The day was marked by exceptional athletic feats, with every participant displaying remarkable grit and determination to achieve personal bests.

All boys are to be commended on their performance but in particular:

Sterling Smith, *Lyon's*, achieved 2nd place in the U15 300m in a personal best time of 39.9s.

Jimi Adu, *The Park*, achieved 2nd place in the U15 80m hurdles in a personal best time of 12.18s

Joshua Nwaokolo, *Newlands*, achieved 3rd place in the U15 high jump.

Zach Elliott, *West Acre*, achieved 4th place in the U17 800m.

Nathan Kasonga, *The Park*, achieved 2nd place in the U17 triple jump with a personal best of 12.70m.

Lase Akindele, *Newlands*, achieved 2nd place in the U17 Long Jump.

The following were crowned Middlesex County Champions.

Berkley Barnicoat, *Moretons*, won the U15 Shot put with a personal best of 11.68m.

Jesse Aidoo, *Bradlys*, won the U15 triple jump with a personal best of 10.80m.

Emile Majed, *Rendalls*, won the U17 discus with a personal best of 38.16m.

Otis Farrer-Brown, *Newlands*, won the U17 1500m in a personal best time of 4.08.83s.

Tom Dargan, *Druries*, won the U17 shot put with a personal best of 12.80m.

Tito Odunaikie, *Elmfield*, won the U17 triple jump.

Tori Backhouse, *Druries*, won the U17 javelin in a personal best of 36.86m

The performance of the day came from Auberon Dragten, *Rendalls*, who achieved 2nd place in the U17 400m setting a new school record and personal best time of 51.08s – the previous record had stood since 2011.

Ways to contact *The Harrovian*

Articles, opinions and letters are always appreciated.

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

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