

# THE HARROVIAN

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## PALMERSTON SOCIETY

*Lord Soames, 'The future of Conservatism in Britain',  
25 April*

On Thursday 25 April, over 50 Harrovians (with, no doubt, a soon-to-be satiated greed for educated speculation, political education and eloquent diction) gathered in the OSRG to listen to the illustrious parliamentarian Lord Soames, who spoke about the future of Conservatism in this country and, more widely, to muse on the state of European and British politics. He was previously the Minister of the Armed Forces, as well as being an MP for nearly 50 years, and currently sits in the House of Lords and on the Privy Council. Lord Soames has a deep connection to the School, as he is the grandson of that most inimitable Winston Churchill. While regrettably, he himself attended Eton, one could not help but feel that the radiating greatness of Lord Soames was significantly amplified by the Churchill memorabilia in the room, such as the staunch bust that gazed down at Soames from the balcony or Churchill's paintings, which beamed Mediterranean rays from the walls.



Following a splendid banquet hosted by the Palmerston Secretaries, RKB and SPS, at which, I've heard, flowed excellent conversation, the 76-year-old man walked up the Hill and into the auditorium to begin his speech. He began by discussing his career. In similar fashion to his grandfather Winston Churchill (who served in the Boer War throughout the 1890s), after leaving Eton a year early, he began his career in the military; enlisting in what then was the Mons Officer Cadet School in Aldershot, before being commissioned to the 11th Hussars and later the Royal Hussars in 1967.

Later in the talk, he discussed how this short but invigorated fling in the army had affected his life and views. Soon after his commission, he was sent (at the ripe age of 19) to West Germany, where he would serve for the next three years in the British Army of the Rhine, the force whose nearly 60,000 men made up the largest percentage of NATO's permanent presence in the northwest German plain (a group known as NORTHAG). The Rhine Army's main function was to act as a militia defence force against a potential (and, in many ways, not unreasonably feared) Soviet invasion of capitalist Western Germany. To the modern reader, the previous sentence seems a relic of the post-war years: an expression found only in textbooks. But, indeed, right up until 1994, the British Army had anywhere between 20,000 and 100,000 men stationed in the sedate and pastoral area around the city of Mönchengladbach, armed to the teeth and ready for war.

Indeed, Lord Soames told us just how real this incredible experience had been. He described how he was taught to expect nuclear war at any time, regularly participating in nuclear deployment drills. Indeed, in the 1950s, the artillery component of the force there had been given hundreds of tactical nuclear missiles, as well as stocks of food to be distributed in the event of a strike. This constant abrasion with fear that Lord Soames experienced in his youth informed his modern opinions.

And yet, Lord Soames confided in us that he "believes[s] that this current hour of history is the most treacherous [...] the most dangerous than at any point in history". Despite his experience with "the bomb", and the fact that he believes it is presently "less likely [to be deployed] than in the Cold War", he stated that humanity is now in a more dangerous place than in his youth.

This leads us on the first point of discussion, which he found to be one of the most important things to consider for the future of this country, regardless of which party takes over the reins: defence. Lord Soames said the following:

"The [Second World] war left central Europe as a one blackened, smouldering heap of bricks and bodies. Whole countries had been reverted to a state of living comparable to that of the Dark Ages. And yet, a mere 20 years later, Europe had been reborn as a stable, content and co-operative continent." It was this rebuilding bond that made nuclear war impossible.

However, is this century-long period of "Pax Europaea" coming to an end? He reminded us, through sombrely reflecting on tensions in the South China Sea, the Middle East and Eastern Europe (the first major conventional invasion of its kind since 1945) that the tides are changing. Now that most of the governments of the world (he mentioned, at this point, our American allies, whom he believes have lost their appetite for issuing a blank check for European defence) have leaders far removed from the experiences of war, there is certainly a danger in the future of international conflict.

So, what role must the UK play in this brave new world? Recently, Sunak has raised the government spending on the armed forces from 2.2% to 2.5% and has also expressed support for the nearly £10 billion spent in the last decade on aircraft carriers (which Soames described as "sitting ducks" and "the greatest waste of public money, given that they'll explode before they even enter battle"). While Soames applauded the effort to increase military spending, he questioned where the money

could come from and whether it was too little too late. Soames recognised that Starmer has been wise to be non-committal about maintaining the 2.5% spending on the Armed Forces.

Indeed, Lord Soames took a refreshing view on this re-armament, asking simply “where will [they] get the money from?”. While being an affirmed anti-appeasement believer (as we discovered in the questions after), he believes that the escalation of militarism in the UK must be approached differently: the world is a very different place, and our approach in the future must be towards preserving peace sensibly, arming correctly, and focusing on solutions that prevent the causes of conflict. This leads us into the second of his discussions: immigration.

Soames recently voted, as many did, in favour of the Rwanda Bill, and firmly stated that “solving the refugee crisis is one of the most important issues of the modern day”. Similarly, he says that he takes a firm line on stopping illegal immigration (consistently voting in the Commons for stronger measures by increasing the power of the Government to remove and discourage illegal immigration). However, unlike many of his Conservative backbench comrades, Lord Soames takes a holistic view. He talked of his experiences with refugees and described them as “remarkable people [...] many of them educated at universities, and merely hopeful for a new life here”, finding it unfortunate that so many believe that life will be better in this nation when, in fact, the opposite may be true. Similarly, he stated support for investment in preventing immigration at its source, by investing in nations of origin and contributing to anti-slavery initiatives. This co-operation instead of isolationism, he said, is the only way to cease the flow.

Similarly, Lord Soames voted against both Brexit and most of his party in the 2016 referendum, which he described in the talk as one of the greatest British political disasters and has been a vocal critic of party leadership in many other regards. This leads us on to the final section of his talk: reflections on British politics.

He stated that he believes that Britain has lost “the reputation for competency” that it once proudly flaunted over its international allies. Over a disastrous decade, Britain has suffered from indecision and ineffectiveness perhaps only previously seen under the personal rule of Charles I. People have universally become disillusioned with politics and uncaring of moral values in governance (an effect that he described as a “global scythe”). PM after PM has been thrown into the “meat grinder” of politics, each flimsier than the last. However, Lord Soames acknowledged that this effect has as much to do with the politicians as it is to do with the environment: a time of Roman sophistry, medieval political literacy, and stone-age political instincts. While we might like to dream of a new Thatcher taking the reins in 2025 (an election which, he believes, could be a landslide Labour victory), he reminds us that holding the post of PM is more difficult than ever in history. By this maxim, he also criticised Sir Kei Starmer’s recent claims of increased spending in the sectors, for instance, of housing, stating that Starmer has yet to realise the immense strain awaiting him in office, stating that the future of one-nation Macmillan Conservatism is fraught with danger. He worried that Starmer’s incoming government would find they lacked the experience and resources to solve the problems which beset the United Kingdom.

So, what is the future of Conservatism? Despite his cheerful title, very bleak. Through discussions of war, peace and electoral polarisation, he has accurately presented the issues of modern-day governance. And yet, I feel that his holistic view of politics, his time-wrought appreciation of the importance of moral values, is refreshing. His message is sorrowful, but also uplifting. The future is bright if we choose it to be so.

After the talk, Lord Soames was presented with a facsimile of a letter from the Harrow Archives written in Churchill’s hand.

## JUNIOR LABORDE SOCIETY

*‘The lure of deep-sea mining’, Lucas Changbencharoen and Pasha Cambatta-Mistry, both Lyon’s, 23 April*

In this talk to the Junior Laborde Society, Lucas Changbencharoen and Saarvin Cambatta-Mistry, both *Lyon’s*, spoke about the controversial and relatively new topic of deep-sea mining. Deep-sea mining is the process of dredging across the sea floor to extract mineral nodules from the seabed to the surface for resource purposes. These nodules contain elements such as nickel, cobalt, manganese and copper, all of which are essential for technology that is used in phones and computers.

Deep-sea mining has multiple advantages. These include access to rare minerals that are becoming scarcer on land, reduction of mining on land, contribution to scientific exploration of the ocean, and the creation of new employment opportunities. Although deep-sea mining is costly, its profits are immense.

Changbencharoen and Cambatta-Mistry also explored a few drawbacks of deep-sea mining, such as the destruction of underwater habitats. For example, dredging equipment not only deposits a lot of waste in the water, but it may also tear up kelp and aquatic plants, disrupting the biodiversity in region. Because of this, many towns and villages that are situated by the ocean may experience a drop in economic activity. These towns tend to rely heavily on fishing to make money, but the loud machinery involved in deep-sea mining may cause fish to leave the area.

In conclusion, deep-sea mining is the dredging of rare metals and minerals from the seabed, which are then used in technology and everyday products. Although deep-sea mining does create profit and employment, the dredging process may disrupt marine life and habitats.

## ORIENTAL SOCIETY

*‘The rise of Asian athletes in Western sport – the path towards their progression’, Wesley Leong, The Knoll, 23 April*

The Oriental Society gathered for an interesting and well-researched lecture given by Wesley Leong, *The Knoll*, in which he explored the rise of Asian athletes in Western sport.

Leong started the lecture by introducing the sports that Asian athletes are usually associated with and the sports that Asian countries have been most successful in at the Olympics. Successful sports include table tennis, judo, taekwondo, badminton and volleyball. Leong then shifted the attention towards sports that are experiencing a steady increase of Asian talent in sports such as football, basketball and baseball.

Then, Leong drew attention to why there were not many Asian athletes in Western sports. The key points were lack of resources and investment, societal expectations and cultural differences, and a lack of superstar role models in sports. A lack of resources and investment mean there are few or no coaching and training facilities for athletes to train and hone their skills. Societal expectations also contribute to under-representation. Leong analysed the expectations and focus that Asian societies have – choosing to devote more time to academic study rather than professional sports. A lack of superstar role models also makes it difficult for younger children and athletes to envision themselves in the professional field, reducing the number of talent coming up through the ages.

However, Leong reassured us that there is a rise in Asian athletes playing at a high level in Western sports, attributing this to two main factors – increased investment in sports development in Asian countries, and the increased exposure of their talents via the internet. The former has allowed for

an improvement in sports academics, increasing the number of opportunities and resources for aspiring athletes to develop their bodies and skill at a higher level, leading to better chances to compete at international competitions. Secondly, technological advancements have also led to the development of more Asian athletes in Western sports. Leong explained that the improvement and implementation of technology and the internet has meant that scouting players has become a lot easier. In the past, scouts would have to fly to Asian countries to observe a player; however, now they can discover different players on all sorts of social media sites. This culminates in increased exposure to the world stage and leads to more Asian talent getting the opportunity to highlight skills.

Leong continued the lecture by talking about a few of the best and most notable Asian athletes in the world right now. Footballers such as Heung-Min Son, Kaoru Mitoma (Japanese footballer of the year in 2020 and 2022), Min-Jae Kim and Takefusa Kubo were mentioned, with Leong dissecting individual statistics and accolades. He then shifted the perspective from football to basketball, mentioning basketball stars such as Rui Hachimura (second-highest-drafted Oriental player), Yuta Watanabe (the first fully Japanese player to play in the NBA), and Cam Thomas. Finally, Leong focused on some other athletes, such as the famous Tiger Woods and Shohei Otani (the man who recently signed the most expensive contract in the history of North American sport).

Leong concluded the lecture by articulating his hope that Asian talent continues to grow in Western sports. With the advancement of technology and medicine, Leong is optimistic about the future of Asian athletes.

## THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S GOLD AWARD PRACTICE EXPEDITION

Amid the harsh terrain of the Lake District, a group of 12 Harrovians embarked on a transformative journey for their Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE) Gold expedition at the beginning of the Easter break. Another group completed a similar mission at the end of the break. The team consisted of Freddie Emery, *Moretons*, Ewan Gleason, *Rendalls*, Raulph Lubbe, *The Grove*, Algy Royle, *Rendalls*, Alex Akinluyi, *The Head Master's*, Daanyaal Apabhai, *Bradlys*, Yaaseen Apabhai, *Moretons*, Ittetsu Hoshi, *Druries*, Arinze Ofurum, *The Head Master's*, Sias Bruinette, *Newlands*, Jonny Cullinane, *Newlands*, Eshaan Firake, *Newlands*, and Hans Patel, *Newlands*. After a successful Spring term, the group was ready to start the adventure of a lifetime.

Day zero started with a slog out of bed in the morning for an early 6.30am breakfast in the SCH. The boys were happily fed and bundled onto the coach to begin the four-hour coach journey. Once we arrived (after stopping on the way for a snack), we were left in a car park in Grasmere with instructions on how to make it to the lakeside youth hostel in Ambleside by nightfall. At the hostel, it was interesting to see what food the group had brought, especially one boy, who had brought a jumbo-sized box of cornflakes along with his expedition food. The accommodation was comforting; we were fed a warm meal, made plans with our group leaders, and got an early night to feel somewhat prepared for the next 100 hours of action ahead.

Day one (20.57km) began slightly later, with boys waking up on the river. The packs were loaded, and we set out along a ridge towards Swirl How, where the wind was blisteringly

cold and heavy. Upon summiting and sighting the cairn (a mountaintop monument), we descended into the marshes down to Seathwaite Tarn, where we cut away from RMT. This was our first mistake. With limited experience, we chose the crags to the left of the lake over the grasslands to the right, making our last hour of hugging the lake all the more treacherous. Night fell, and the watery flurry began.

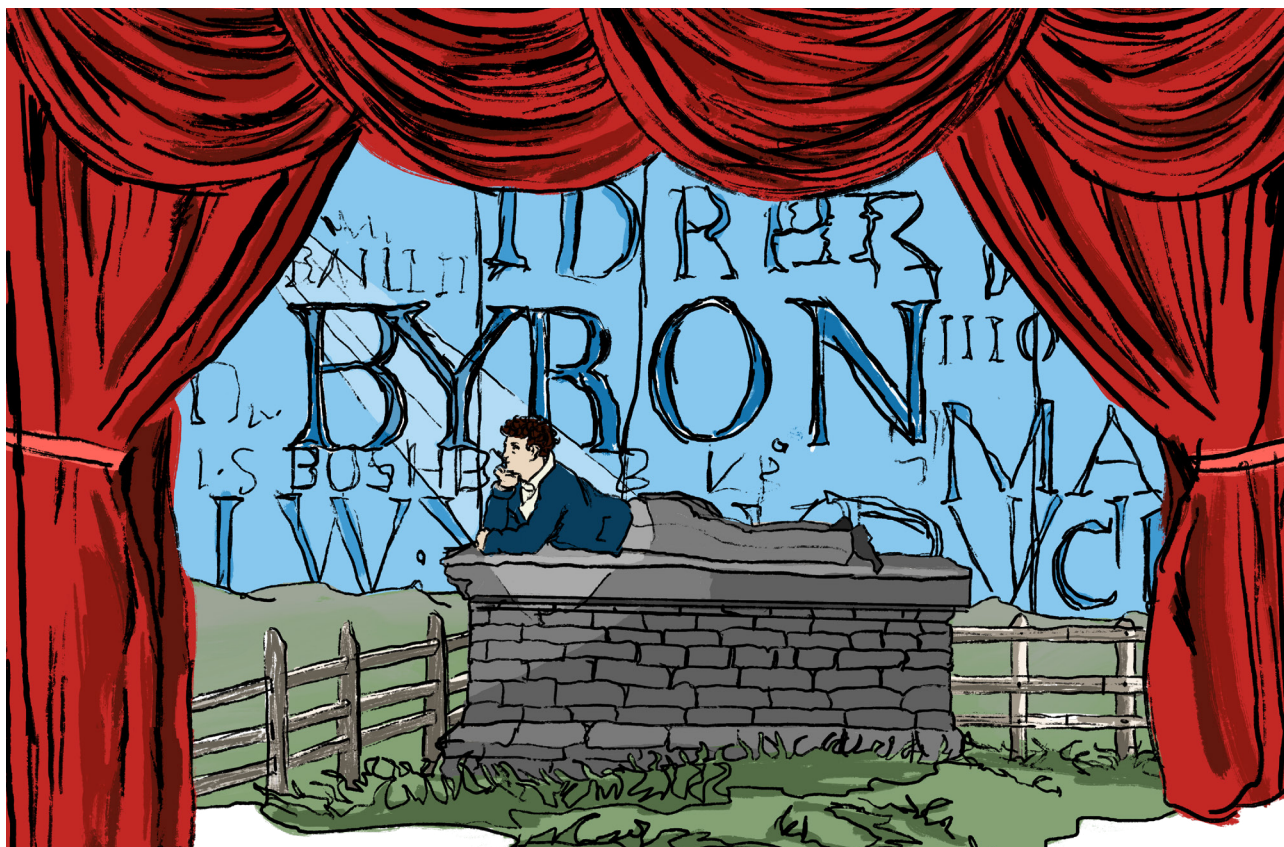
We awoke on day two (22.30km) to a sodden tent, mushy ground, and the spray from the lake coating our faces. The sheer length of the day ahead and the apparent bad weather meant that spirits were low. The route was flat half the way until a long gradual incline, 3km of muddy marshes, and a foggy grind up to High Tarn (2631ft). Once in the vicinity of the camp, there were a few more kilometres of descent before we set up camp at a stream up the hill from Easedale Tarn. The fog descended on the hills and we cooked a brew to round off the night.



On day three (18.60km), we set out for our final full day of walking, heading northeast towards Hartsop. The first climb was a feat of endurance; the goal was to make it to Grisedale Tarn as the rest of the day's hike (all steep descents) looked better from then on. The steep climb was a tricky one. In this crush, one boy's boots proved not so effective and decided to fall apart while on the rocky peaks. There were other feet-related issues: various blisters continued to play up, proving a difficult challenge to overcome for the groups. However, our extensive preparation helped to quickly resolve both problems efficiently, with the team's good morale, forethought and drive. The last part of the day was a short walk through the country roads to eventually sleep by a bubbling stream on the side of a path lying just outside Hartsop.

On the last day (15.00km), the goal was to make the finish by 1pm when our coach was to depart. The departure needed to be early; so, everyone was awoken by 5.30am to plod on to the carpark in Grasmere. One group took an unfortunate detour up the St Sunday crag, meeting its snowy peaks as the temperatures dipped into the negative. The aim was simple and the spirits were high enough to give us the energy to persevere through the last day with our (now lighter) backpacks. Living off our own backs was definitely an experience, as the preparation it required from the whole team to ensure the plan's success was unmatched. Well done to all those involved and we look forward to the Cairngorms in June for the qualifying expedition!





## OSRG ARTS SOCIETY

*Giants of Old, "The Life of Lord Byron", by Mr Peter Hunter, 19 April, Speech Room*

Two hundred years after the death of Lord George Gordon Byron, hundreds gathered upon the very Hill at which he was educated, to be educated themselves. Peter Hunter, the former House Master of The Park and current expert on the life of Lord Byron, delivered what I believe to be the best lecture to have ever graced the Hill. The lecturer himself was evidently much revered, given the array of generations who flooded Speech Room. Mr Hunter constantly mentioned objects, which all can be found in the OSRG's excellent Byron display. My mere written words will never do this lecture justice; fortunately, it is my understanding that its magnificence was recorded.

PDH began with Raulph Lubbe, *The Grove*, accompanied by Mark Liu, *Druries*, singing *Byron Lay* by E E Bowen, which told of Byron – the dreamer – and Peel – the doer. The lecture was also punctuated by TMB, Netanel Lawrence-Ojo, *The Knoll*, and Wisdom Edjeovwo, *West Acre*, reciting examples of Byron's passionate poetry.

Mr Hunter highlighted the line 'none so narrow the range of Harrow' to celebrate the variety in Harrovians and the non-existent nature of a simple, accurate Harrow caricature. Alas, the merry mood was not to last, as we knew that, soon in this story, Byron would be 'dying for freedom, far away'.

The Byron family was given the abbey and lands of Newstead by Henry VIII when the monasteries were dissolved. The barony was granted by Charles I, making the Lord Byron (George Gordon Byron), the 6th baron of the name. The beauty and dilapidation of the abbey left an impression on Byron from his childhood, as seen in his poem 'Wisdom'. Byron swore never to part with his ancestral home; however, he was the last baron to possess it, as he sold the land to Thomas Wildman, whose name is carved immediately below his in the Fourth Form Room. The father of this particular lord married a Scot for her money. Byron claimed to be 'half a Scot by birth – and bred a whole one', and it showed in his accent.

Byron came to Harrow in 1801, generously leaving his gold pocket watch to his nurse's son. He found himself being mocked for his dead father's Scottish accent and his own deformed foot. Mr Hunter taught us of Byron's beaks, who proved that the hatred he held for Harrow was mutual. Another reason for his hatred of boarding at Harrow was his unrequited love for his 18-year-old, engaged neighbour. Her refusal of a much younger boy's interest might explain his constant need to prove himself and his boasts that were little concerned reality. Yet Byron loved many people, including another Harrovian, John Fitzgibbon, the Earl of Clare. To his discontent, Byron had to bear staying at the School a little longer, as he developed into a poet upon the Peachey Stone. Perhaps the poem most telling about his character, which referred to Head Master, Dr Butler, as 'Pomposus', showed Byron's hatred of authority and his love for freedom, which would eventually kill him. Byron did however, come to respect his Masters many years later.

Byron's first visited Marathon during his 1809–11 tour to of Europe. He enjoyed the freedom, despite the discomfort. Travelling through Albania, Byron met Ali Pasha, a notorious despot who, however, had a soft spot for him. He, and his earlobe caressing, left such an impression that his clothes were epically appropriated by Byron like a colourful foreshadowing of Laurance of Arabia. Greece was most precious to Byron, of all the lands and seas he travelled. He saw the subjugation of Athens by the Turks, which, for him was an early taste of stolen freedom and war. Despite their shared nationality and schooling, Byron also wrote critically of Lord Elgin's supposed 'theft' of the Elgin Marbles from the Parthenon. Indeed, Lord Elgin is also a Scottish Giant of Old.

Upon Byron's return to London and the publication of some of his works, he discovered that he had become immensely famous. Some call Byron the first celebrity. He had several heterosexual love affairs on his return to Britain. Lady Caroline Lamb, a married woman, was the subject of a short-lived passion. Afterwards, she describes him as "mad, bad, and dangerous to know". At 20, Byron married Annabella Milbanke. The



morning after the wedding, Byron found himself regretting everything. He is said to have exclaimed, "Good God, I am surely in Hell". Byron's behaviour shocked his new wife, and she eventually took him to a doctor in search of a diagnosis for madness; the doctor decided Byron merely drank too much.



Inevitably, Byron was exiled and left England, never to return again. Curiously, in 1821, Byron began to sign his letters 'NB', for 'Noel Byron'. His wife, whom he had not seen for several years, had inherited the Noel estate. In Italy, Byron decided finally to do good; thus, he went to fight for freedom in Greece. By then, Byron, at only 30, had greying hair, loose teeth, and walked with a stick. He sold his possessions to give money to the war effort. Missolonghi, where he resided, was a wretched swamp that led Byron to quip that he may not 'die martially, but marshally'. Byron endured pain and hardship the like of which he hadn't experience before. He wrote 'I was a fool to come here, but being here I must see what is to be done'. Taking pills and drinking, Byron feared 'growing fat and growing mad'; the latter seemed unstoppable.

Byron grew far weaker after riding in the rain and catching a fever. He died, with fitting drama, during a thunderstorm in 1824. Yet, the lecture did not end there. Mr Hunter analysed the influence of Bryon and his lasting impact upon the world. He then told the story of a vicar who, over a hundred years on from Byron's death, opened his coffin to assure no robbery had occurred. Speech Room itself felt the presence of Byron. The lecture ended with the reading of Byron's most brilliant poems.

## 'LORD BYRON'

*by Frank Mcdonald*

Dear Byron, some may say that you were mad  
But surely never dangerous to know.  
Your many foes would claim that you were bad  
But it may be that fools had made you so.  
Today you would be called a likely lad  
As likeable as sun or Christmas snow.  
You gave us poems that sparkle and delight.  
Indeed, you walked in beauty, like the night.

A Harrow schoolboy who would rise to fame  
Fighting for Greece and darling of the Muse.  
You cast a spell on men who made their name  
In music, art and poetry. You would choose  
To favour independence. You became  
The lord of Europe with outrageous views.  
Death may have snatched your elegance away  
But, Byron, you still speak to us today.  
Your prisoners, lovers and adventurers

Brought entertainment to your fellow men.  
You were the scourge of thieves and plunderers  
And critics found you had a lethal pen.  
An early pop idol, you had your worshippers.  
A poet like you we will not see again.  
Two hundred years beyond your final breath,  
Your literature still storms the gates of death.

## BYRON AND SLAVIC POETRY

*Jonathan Ford, West Acre*

Lord Byron's imprint on the Romantic movement transcends geographical and linguistic boundaries and affected Slavic literature, particularly through the works of the Russian poet Alexander Pushkin. This deep influence is both a testament to Byron's vast appeal and his role as a beacon of the Romantic ideals that swept through Europe during the early 19th century.

Pushkin, often heralded as the founder of modern Russian literature, was enchanted by Byron's style and themes, which are vividly reflected in his work. From his intense focus on the 'Byronic hero' to the thematic exploration of love, rebellion, and societal norms, Pushkin's oeuvre during the 1820s, known as his 'Byronic period', clearly mirrors the turbulent and emotive style of Byron.



The introduction of Byron's works into Pushkin's literary "diet" was transformative. By learning English to appreciate Byron's work first hand, Pushkin aligned himself with Byron's ideological and aesthetic rebellion against "classical" norms. His poems began to echo the same romantic fascination with human emotion, nature's majesty, and individualism. This shift is notably exemplified in Pushkin's narrative poems, such as *A Prisoner of the Caucasus* and *The Fountain of Bakhchisarai*, which draw heavily from Byron's *Oriental Tales*.

Pushkin's 'Byronic teeth' anecdote, where he reportedly took care of his teeth to emulate Byron's appearance, underscores a deeper, almost spiritual odonatological ode to the English poet. Such physical emulation goes beyond mere admiration, reflecting a profound psychological and artistic communion with Byron. Furthermore, his fixation on Byron's mouth and its erogenous implications delve into the symbolic bridging of exterior beauty and interior complexity, a recurring theme in Byronic literature.

However, Pushkin's relationship with Byron's legacy was complex and evolved over time. While early admiration was marked by emulation and pastiche, later reflections reveal a critical engagement with Byron's works. Pushkin's *Eugene Onegin* transforms this critique into a narrative that channels Byron's Romanticism while firmly rooting it in Russian social and cultural landscapes. Unlike Byron's *Don Juan*, *Onegin* eschews exotic locales for a detailed exploration of Russian life, thus satirising the Byronic hero.

The conclusion is that Byron's influence on Pushkin and, by extension, on Slavic literature is remarkable. It highlights the complex dialogue between Western European and Russian literary traditions, wherein Byron's Romanticism provided a template for personal and poetic exploration. This cross-cultural literary exchange underscores the universality of Byron's themes and their resonance across diverse literary landscapes.

## BYRON, ROMANTICISM & REBELLION

*L P Hartley Society by Charles Edu, Lyon's*

In the tapestry of literary history, few threads are as colourful and enduring as the Romantic movement, and among its luminaries Lord Byron stands out as a particularly vibrant figure. The Romantic era, born out of a reaction to the industrial rigidity and rationalism of the Enlightenment, championed the sublime beauty of the natural world, the depth of human emotion, and the paramount importance of personal experience.

Lord Byron, with his tempestuous life and profound lyricism, not only embodied these ideals but also pushed them to their extremes. His tenure at Harrow and later at Trinity College laid the groundwork for a life that both scandal and brilliance would mark. Byron's works, such as 'Childe Harold's Pilgrimage' and 'Don Juan', illustrate his complex relationship with the mores of his time, often challenging societal norms and embracing a lifestyle that mirrored the freedoms he espoused in his poetry.

His poetry frequently explored themes of love, nature and existential reflection, deeply influenced by his own experiences and the turbulent romantic encounters he famously indulged in. These personal battles and passions breathed life into the archetypal 'Byronic hero', a character as enigmatic and rebellious as Byron himself. This hero was not only a fixture in his own literary works but has become a staple in broader cultural narratives, symbolising the eternal allure of the flawed yet fascinating individual against a backdrop of oppressive conventions.

Byron's influence extends beyond the pages of his poetry. His legacy is felt in music, where composers like Beethoven and Schubert have drawn inspiration from his themes, and in art, where his persona has symbolised the very essence of Romantic rebellion. Today, Byron's works continue to be a touchstone for those who seek to understand the Romantic

spirit, and his life remains a compelling study of genius and destructiveness intertwined.

Ultimately, Byron's story is a testament to the power of literature to reflect and challenge the human condition. His exploration of personal and societal boundaries through the lens of Romanticism invites readers and scholars alike to reconsider what it means to be both a creator and a critic of one's era. As we look into his verse and the vibrant era that fostered it, we uncover not just the beauty of the Romantic ideal but also the complexities and contradictions that give it life.

## MEDICAL SOCIETY

*'Malaria: Byron's Killer', by Penn Behagg, Elmfield,  
16 April*

The Medical Society was lucky to receive a lecture from Penn Behagg, *Elmfield*, on 'Malaria: Byron's Killer'. Behagg began the talk by explaining that malaria is caused by the plasmodium parasite, with the most prevalent being falciparum, which causes half of all cases of malaria.

Behagg delved deeper into the lecture, unravelling the intricate lifecycle of the malaria parasite. The transmission of malaria begins when infected gametes in a mosquito's gut form oocysts, which then develop into dormant sporozoites in the salivary glands. These sporozoites are injected into humans by mosquitoes during feeding, aided by salivary chemicals. The journey of sporozoites in the human body is a battle against immune defences, with only a fraction managing to reach the bloodstream. They then travel to the liver, where they reproduce and release merozoites. After bursting liver cells, merozoites infect red blood cells (RBCs), feeding on haemoglobin. The emergence of symptoms occurs as RBCs rupture, releasing more parasites to infect new cells. The cycle continues as gametocytes released into the bloodstream infect other mosquitoes, perpetuating the disease.

Behagg drew attention to the prevalence of malaria, particularly its historical and potential geographical reach. In the 1900s, malaria was a global health concern, prevalent wherever mosquitoes thrived, even reaching as far as Russia and Australia. However, through concerted government efforts and extensive research, its spread has been curtailed, primarily to regions near the Equator. Yet, the threat of malaria resurgence looms with the advent of global warming. As temperatures rise, mosquitoes may find Southern Europe more habitable, potentially leading to malaria outbreaks closer to home.

To end on a hopeful note, Behagg discussed malaria treatment options. Prevention involves using mosquito repellents, bed nets, and protective clothing. Malarone serves as a secondary defence against mosquito bites. Certain red blood cell disorders, like sickle cell anaemia and thalassaemia, offer partial immunity. Untreated malaria symptoms, such as fever and fatigue, can be fatal, especially for children under five. Chloroquine is commonly used to treat malaria, although some strains have developed resistance. Mefloquine is another option, often combined with other drugs. Long-term efforts target poorer Central African countries, with the WHO introducing vaccines funded by the Gates Foundation. Insecticide spraying of standing water helps prevent malaria despite ecological concerns. Wolbachia bacteria promise to block parasite transmission, but further testing for widespread use is pending.



## SHELL SCIENCE LECTURE COMPETITION

On Tuesday last week, the Shell Science Lecture Competition finals took place in the OH Room. The finalists Kieran Leung, *Lyon's*, Ludi Czarnowski, *Newlands*, and George Howard-Keyes, *The Head Master's*, all gave fascinating lectures about real-world topics at the frontiers of modern research.

### *Kieran Leung, Lyon's*

The competition started with Kieran Leung's lecture about dark matter and dark energy. As Leung stated, dark matter is a mysterious and undetectable (directly) substance that holds the universe together. Essentially, dark matter has mass but does not emit radiation. It was first proposed by Fritz Zwicky in 1930 and verified by Vera Rubin in 1970. However, we still do not know much about it, only that it exists, even though it makes up 85% of the universe's mass. Vera Rubin discovered dark matter and dark energy from black-hole observations. She realised that stars in a rotating galaxy did not obey the laws of circular motion (as they had different angular velocities); therefore, a form of mass had to be present to accelerate the stars in the galaxy's centre.

Dark matter is responsible for the formation of galaxies, galaxy clusters, and their distribution. It attracts mass, whereas dark energy repels and drives the expansion of the universe. Scientists have taken an interest in dark matter as it can help us predict the future of the universe, as well as the past. Current methods of detecting dark matter include running simulations and using telescopes (gravitational lensing).

### *Ludi Czarnowski, Newlands, winner*

After a fantastic lecture on theoretical physics, Ludi Czarnowski brought us to the other end of the science spectrum on his topic of bacteriophages. Bacteriophages are a type of virus that attack bacteria. They are made of a large head, a tube, fibre legs and a sharp spike. After landing on a bacterium, the phage inserts its syringe-like spike into the bacterium and injects its genetic material into the bacterium's plasmid. Two different cycles occur for the phage and bacteria.

The first is the lytic cycle, where the phage's genetic material interacts with the bacterium's plasmids. The recombinant plasmids will then replicate and produce viral proteins. These then assemble to make more phage, and eventually they release endolysin, a powerful enzyme that is able to hydrolyse the cell wall of the bacterium, thus killing it. The second – lysogenic – cycle, is very similar to the lytic cycle, except new bacteriophages aren't created immediately when viral proteins are produced. The lysogenic cycle can revert to the lytic cycle at any point.

Research is currently underway to see if bacteriophages can replace antibiotics in the future (phage therapy), as more bacteria are evolving with resistance to multiple strains of antibiotics. The WHO predicted that, by 2050, more people will die from antibiotic-resistant bacteria than currently die from cancer. We can also use bacteriophages as biocontrol agents to improve crop yields. Although phage therapy is presently not approved due to safety concerns, this is a promising way to potentially cure bacterial infections in the future.

### *George Howard-Keyes, The Head Master's*

The competition ended with George Howard-Keyes delivering his talk on 3D-printed meat. 3D-printed meat is made by first removing a small sample of tissue from the animal (similar to a biopsy) and extracting the stem and fat cells. The cells are then placed in a bioreactor and cultivated with growth media. Scaffolding is used before and after cultivation to add texture to the meat. The meat is then printed with a specialised 3D printer before it is ready to be cooked.

There are plenty of advantages to using 3D-printed meat. It is a much quicker and more efficient way to produce meat, and less greenhouse gases are produced (if done on a large scale). 3D-printed meat will also be cheaper and healthier, as we can adjust the fat content during printing. However, 3D-printed meat often requires expensive, pharmaceutical-grade technology. It is also currently extremely energy intensive to produce 3D-printed meat. The only country where it is legal to produce and sell 3D-printed meat is Singapore.

Overall, the three talks were all delivered to an extremely high standard, as proven by the judges' comments. In the end, Czarnowski emerged victorious with his lecture about bacteriophages. Many thanks must be given to CMC and ACL for judging the finals of this competition, and to the Biology Department for hosting preliminary round.

## MORTIMER SINGER PRIZES

21 April 2024

It was great to see 15 boys this year competing for the annual Mortimer Singer Prizes, which are kindly donated by former Harrow parent and School Governor Forbes Singer, whose son Mortimer (*Moretons 1990's*) took part in the first competition over two decades ago. The first round was for solo singers who accompanied themselves on the acoustic guitar, all with no amplification. Vincent Song, *The Head Master's*, bravely started the concert off with a fantastic version of Hozier's *Cherry Wine*, followed by a strong performance of *Yesterday* by Oscar Wickham, *The Head Master's*, who kindly performed early while Paddy Mulqueen, *Bradlys*, was trying to locate his guitar! Theodore Gowon, *The Park*, then made his debut on the Ryan stage with a convincing rendition of the Oasis classic *Don't Look Back In Anger*, followed by a chilled version of Grant Perez's *Cherry Wine* by Keith Au-Yeung, *Bradlys*. By this time, Mulqueen had found his guitar and gave the audience a rousing version of *Love is a Laserquest* by Arctic Monkeys only leaving Tomas Mugica Moreno, *The Knoll*, to close the first round with *Jigsaw Falling Into Place* by Radiohead.

The second round kicked off with an exciting performance of Franz Ferdinand's *Take Me Out* by Michael Guo, *The Grove*, JB Yeung, *The Grove*, Wickham, Au-Yeung and James McWilliam, *The Park*, who all owned the stage with this powerful song. Next came the (in)famous Barker's Boys (in fact the only band this evening with a name), who brought their energy to the Ryan with *Bigger Boys and Stolen Sweethearts* by Arctic Monkeys, with the band members Henry Barker, *The Park*, Stas Shatokhin, *The Knoll*, McWilliam, Gowon and Fihir Dahlan, *The Park*, really giving it their all. The music concluded with Mulqueen, Dawei Sun, *Bradlys*, Au-Yeung and McWilliam delivering a stylish performance of *Black Treacle* by Arctic Monkeys. This was a superb end to the evening.

The event concluded with the adjudicator, Sam Blewitt, giving a brief recap of the evening's music and awarding the solo prize to Mugica Moreno and the band prize to Guo, Yeung, Wickham, Au-Yeung and McWilliam. Well done to all of the performers for a fine evening of music.

Thanks must go to Forbes Singer for his continued support of this event as well as APC and his team for letting us use the Ryan Theatre. Videos of all the performances are available to watch on <https://harrowschools.planetstream.com/Default.aspx?catid=1706>

# OPINION



## HILL SHOP TO CLOSE

*The End of Compassion? A full-length editorial  
Investigation into the closure of the Hill Shop*

1. How did you feel when you heard that the School will be closing Hill Shop?

[More Details](#)

[Insights](#)

Distraught	239
Inconsolable	93
Indifferent	60
Jubilant	12
They're closing Hill Shop!?!?	124



As shall be abundantly clear by the end of this article, the closure of the Hill Shop is approaching and is set to occur at the end of this academic year, as has been confirmed to the writer of this introduction by members of Harrow School Enterprises Ltd as well as the beloved employees of the Hill Shop, whose positions at the shop are set to be terminated in August.

A few nights ago, as perhaps a few other Harrovians did, I looked out of my Moretons window and saw a horse-drawn hearse, laden with a coffin, being unceremoniously clopped down West Street. The carriage was unfollowed by a funeral train, merely paraded alongside by funeral directors and a whole flock of parking wardens in high vis, directing traffic down by the roundabout. Much like Shaftesbury's witnessing of the pauper's funeral, calling him to a life devoted to the service of the poor, I, similarly, felt called to a different consummation altogether. For, much like the man at the pauper's funeral all those years ago, combined with the earth entirely alone, so is the Hill Shop facing a quiet end: a death that many boys are unaware of.

For me, our mission as newspaper editors is to argue the principles of change: question the basis on which decisions are taken, while fairly considering multiple views. And, indeed, I am thoroughly disappointed by the School's handling of the situation, particularly regarding the fact that boys, the main benefactors, and donors to and of the School, have been left completely uninformed, as though the issue were being swept under the rug to avoid the inevitable disapproval.

Thus, the point of this article is to get discussion going over the following term: is it right to close a shop so close to our hearts? Additionally, I shall also consider the arguments of the School, by including a recent interview I held with a member of Harrow School Enterprises Ltd (the corporate entity which owns Hill Shop) to discover the reasons behind the closure.

### *Vox Populi*

Thus, spoke *The Harrovian* Editors. Every member of us falls in hard opposition to the closure. This, indeed, represents the

views of many of those who responded to the recent poll:

It seems that most responders are, as we can see, completely devastated by the news. If blue pie slices could discuss current affairs, they would say, "The end of the world has begun." The lack of jubilation all round (and prevalence of general exclamation, as evidenced by the tiresome and foul-mouthed purple-coloured slice) speak of discontent among the proles.

2. How many times have you used the Hill Shop in the last week?

[More Details](#)

Once per week	174
A few times each week	234
I use it daily	120



The answer to this quandry is clear in the results from this second graph, which clearly shows that the percentage of Harrovian who lack both spine and rotund tummy is a minority, as comes as no surprise.

This seemingly extraneous graph further proves the current necessity of the shop. The people have spoken, and the axe of inquisition has fallen on weak and unfortunate necks of the Governors.

3. Do you think the School should keep Hill Shop open for boys' convenience and use?

[More Details](#)

Yes, I used it all the time	457
No, there are other shops I use	71

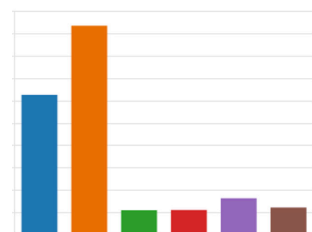


The small rotundity of the purple bulge is a matter of personal concern. Also, to all those who put "other", what else is there to buy/shoplift? Are you stealing the cabinets, you ikeatic, kleptomaniac morons!? Or perhaps, you browners are the purchasers of that infernal stuff "Bill-tong", as this can hardly be considered in any category, especially not food and drink.

4. What were the items that you purchased most frequently from Hill Shop? (multiple answers allowed)

[More Details](#)

School stationary like pens and ...	313
Food and drink	467
Silver plated Harrow branded b...	56
Memorabilia like post cards and...	57
I mostly shoplifted the mugs	83
Other	62



### *The truth of the matter...*

Distraught, afraid and mentally molested, as so many clearly are, I – much like the obese Floridian, who protrudes his lobster-like fingers into a packet of fried cancer, feeling for the perfectly soggy crisp to clog his renal artery – have decided to inquisitively poke around further into the matter



of the Hill Shop. Troubled by the lack of transparency from the Governors, I conducted an interview with a senior member of Harrow School Enterprises Ltd, the corporate body owned by the School, which runs the Hill Shop. The below conversation represents accurately (but certainly not verbatim).

### *What is Harrow School Enterprises Ltd?*

Harrow School Enterprises Ltd (HSEL) is a completely corporate body (that is to say, one which aims to make a profit) owned by the completely charitable organisation, Harrow School. Harrow, as a charity, is unable to spend money on corporate ventures which cannot be justified as educational affairs, which is why we exist: to run holiday clubs, stage OH meetings and, of course, to supply and manage the Hill Shop. Many charities have a corporate body: for instance, Oxfam has fingers in corporate business, to maintain its charity stores in the UK. All money made by HSEL is fed back into the School, so that it can be used to manage its charitable endeavours. The profit made is considerably large, and one of the largest sums made by an organisation of its kind of any charitable private schools in the nation.

### *Why is the Hill Shop closing?*

Since its opening a decade and a half ago, the Hill Shop has served boys by supplying sweets, stationery and other delicacies to the boys. Before the introduction of Surface Books around five years ago, the Hill Shop made a small but manageable profit on the vast amount of stationery it sold to the boys: this, indeed, was its main purpose on the Hill, with sweet sales being completely secondary. However, since the introduction of Surface Books [*the infernal machines of death –Eds*], the Hill Shop has been unable to sell as much stationery, changing its primary mode of business to sales of confectionary and merchandise. For the past five years, we have made a loss.

### *Why can't you just make more money?*

The nature of the business, as it works around the School and its hours, makes generating profit difficult. For instance, we must employ four members of full-time staff. And yet there are only customers in the shop for 45 minutes of the day, meaning that most staff are forced to be idle in hours when other shops, such as Dave's, might be generating the largest profit of their day. Each worker is paid a good wage, making a profit difficult. While, of course, we have a cornered and reliable customer base, the fact that boys can only come in at certain hours and only buy fairly inexpensive sweets means that, on a good day, the daily sales combine to an inconsiderable sum.

*[Given that the average purchase is low, and the other information he has given, we estimate that there is a (on the generous end) an average daily figure between £800-£1200 –Eds].*

This is also because the store cannot generate a profit during the holidays. It is, therefore, often impossible to make a daily profit, when other necessary business costs such as staffing, and energy are considered.

### *What about merchandise?*

HSEL makes a yearly profit of £11,000 on merchandise, making a small profit generated by OHs and parents. Recently, most of these sales have occurred online, and shall happen exclusively so after the closure of the Hill Shop. Due to lack of visitors entering the shop, the School has been unable to

turn over much of this merchandise at all (despite plenty of attempts at varying the types of merchandise available, such as honey and hipflasks). While it would be nice to think that ceasing the purchasing of merchandise might save the shop, HSEL overall has made profit on merchandise thanks to online sales. Therefore, it seems unlikely that such measures would fill the hundreds of thousands of pounds needed to save the shop.

### *What about the workers there?*

*[I have redacted this section, as I feel it inappropriate to publish opinions about the personal lives of our friends in the Hill Shop without consolidated facts. However, it is true to say that their contracts have been concluded and that the HSEL is looking for a new placement for them. –Eds]*

### *Why has the School failed to indicate and discuss the closure with the boys?*

No comment.

### *What is the future of the Hill Shop?*

HSEL, thus far, has not yet found an alternative use for the site. We are looking into creating a pop-up shop for Founder's Day and Speech Day. However, in terms of boys' daily acquisition of sweets, the service provided by the Hill Shop will move into the Hill Café. We are looking for "adaptations" to the café to make the situation viable.

### *Why is the Hill Café sustainable when the Hill Shop is not?*

The Hill Café is run by the School and not by us at all. It is organised and run by the Catering Department, and many of the members of the café team are full-time employees in the Shepherd Churchill staff as well. This lowers staffing costs considerably. It is also a much cheaper site to run [*That's why it does look gross down there. –Eds*].

The School, admittedly, still usually makes a loss on the Hill Café, but the minimising of outgoings makes the site viable. [*End of Interview*]

After exiting the Harrow-memorabilia-laden room, caked in sweat (as, in order to fit the LA Noire feel of the whole thing, I had chosen to wear a thick black wool trench coat and black fedora, despite it being midday and very sunny), a soup of thoughts flowed through my mind. Why had the School not told the boys? For us, it's like a second home: why didn't we get a say in its closure? And why has it come so suddenly? And, would it be right for the School to take on the cost of the shop, despite the huge deficit? Is it that important? All this, and more, pulsed through my head as a waddled up to House. Would I ever be the same again?

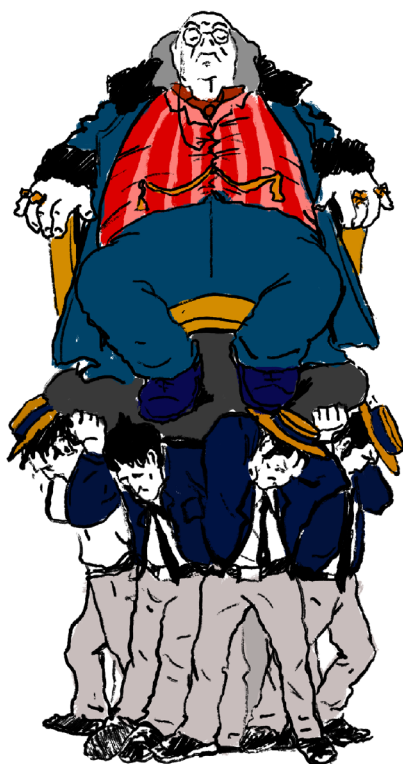
In the end, we have presented to you the facts, the fiction, and all the nibbly emotions. Taking all these opinions into account, I want you, dear reader looking down at me, to consider your own thoughts. Let them stew, makes some noise about it, and perhaps write a letter to *The Harrovian* in next week's edition. As always, we simply love editing, cutting, moderating, changing, and censoring your illegible garbage.

Actually, on second thoughts, if you feel that you must write in, please take time to spell check your work. That aside... the future rests with you!

The Editors feel that the Hill Shop could have a glorious future with the right ideas behind it. It is obviously popular with the boys, so we want to see an effort made!

# GREEDY, CAPITALIST FAT CATS CAN'T SQUEEZE ENOUGH OUT OF BOYS

*"Profit Not Enough", says Charity*



**"COULD HARROW SCHOOL  
PLEASE STOP BUYING LOCAL  
BUSINESSES?" FORMER  
EMPLOYEES AT THE OLD  
ETONIAN PLEAD**

*Arturo Saville, Rendalls*

Make way, Kwarteng and Truss... Harrow School has proved itself once again as the least competent economic decision-maker in Britain.

"This is Stet Fortuna Domus", claims senior management.

I never thought this day would come. We, the Editors of *The Harrovian*, have been notified that the management establishment – or deep state, who really hold the keys to power at Harrow – have decided to close the Hill Shop after all these years.

I am old enough to remember a triumphant Speech Room announcement, declaring that the School had purchased the

infamous Old Etonian High Street Italian restaurant. The declaration was met with rambunctious applause from the audience. Like jackals, we revelled in the expulsion of 'the other place' from our territory.

However, since this announcement, as far as I can tell, very little progress (other than an infamous incident involving traditional projectile-related games) has occurred. The Old Etonian sits silently, waiting for the School to garner funds towards its ultimate demolition. Its name still reads "OLD ETON'AN".

Senior management ran through the charred corpse of the famed restaurant like it meant nothing, and they have done the same with our beloved Hill Shop.

The Hill Shop is not only a crucial part of life for many Harrow boys (it is reported that many aspiring Harrow bodybuilders, having heard the news of the premises' soon-to-be demise, shed a tear into their creatine for their beloved post-lunch bulking exercise), but I believe that we also underestimate the soft power of this establishment: having a beautiful shop with interestingly customised School merchandise makes our School characterful and remarkable, and strengthens our spirit. I remember buying up a few Harrow teddy bears and other merchandise to send to my various aunts, uncles and grandparents. I know that KAF brings miniature footer stress balls and merchandise to American universities, heightening our profile and memorability to admissions officers. Prospective parents certainly experience the same results when visiting our School.

Closing the Hill Shop may be a wise financial decision. However, if we only ever listened to people who make wise financial decisions, our world would indeed be a dark and dismal place. A dark and dismal place much like the Hill Café, the basement grotto that the School proposes as the alternative to our beloved shop.

We may be students at an all-boys school, but we do appreciate beauty, light and aesthetics. The Hill Café is confined, low-hung, and dreary. Boys want a place to browse and enjoy themselves. The Hill Café clearly does not suffice, and the walk to Dave's is far too long for Hill Shop regulars.

The School's choice is clear: reverse this decision immediately, or face the consequences of another damaging Harrovian op-ed.

**ROBERT YOUNG: WE NEED MORE BILTONG**

If/when this shop closes, I am going to need to find a local spot where I can buy biltong. If this is not provided for me, I am going to purposefully fail every single one of my A Levels.

**JONATHAN FORD: ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT  
DEVASTATED**

The closing of the Hill Shop cleverly coincides with the untimely departure of three Economics beaks at the end of the year... Evidently, Harrow School Enterprises Ltd is incapable of understanding that the Hill Shop's location (boys literally walk by it every day) makes it prime for monopolisation. Perhaps CST could teach some beaks about simple location economics.

Furthermore, the success of 'Dave's' (despite being literally next to West Acre) demonstrates that a shop can clearly cater to boys' needs and be profitable. Perhaps a lesson from CTP on stock that sells is needed. (Literally, how is 450 memorabilia still being sold?).

**ARJUN KULAR**

**WHO THOUGHT THIS WAS A GOOD IDEA IN THE  
FIRST PLACE?**

The Hill Shop will not open in September. It will cease to serve Harrovians at the end of this term, and the general public in August, when contracts are terminated. Upon hearing this news, the employees at Dave's could be heard whooping and cheering from Elmfield.

It's not too surprising that Hill Shop makes a loss on the "souvenirs, gin and champagne, books and prints, Susan Rose china, and the 450 anniversary range". Some of the most



expensive items include: a Harrow 450 cachepot (£462.50), Harrow hat cufflinks (£132.50), and Harrow School private tour vouchers (£120).

I must ask who signed off on such matters – I don't know of a single boy (the regular customer) who wants a Harrow 450 cachepot, which is essentially an outdoor plant pot. And while Harrow hat cufflinks seem fun and interesting, no one can believe Hill Shop would find enough customers among the boys for those.

There are some solutions. First is to bring the Hill Shop into the non-profit side of the School, thus making its profitability a moot point. However, from an economic perspective, this still doesn't make any sense as the School would still be haemorrhaging money. Perhaps the better solution to this problem is to move the incredibly expensive products online, or to a different site (perhaps promote an OSRG gift shop?) where they would be more suited, instead of throwing them in among sweets, stationery, and schoolbooks. Thus the Hill Shop can maintain its most useful and profitable purpose (selling items to boys), the 450 and other such memorabilia can continue to be sold – perhaps reaching a greater market, and we boys may continue to enjoy the fruits of the shop, which may further expand its stock with the newly available space.

*BEN SHAILER  
LEAN AND INNOVATIVE'*

Amid the encroaching doom of VAT on private-school fees, it is clear that the SMT has made a Muskian economical decision to ensure that the School remains 'Lean and Innovative', electing to trim away many of the School's more obvious economical maladies, from the Hill Shop and Firefly to the SCDH's salmon portions. Fortunately, however, alongside these cuts, there has also been a spree of savvy investments made, including the newly finished car park – ensuring that Harrow's more generous benefactors can now approach without fearing a walk up the Hill. In the context of the approaching general election, some of these moves seem sensible, with the payroll from Harrow New York™ being delayed perhaps not helping either.

In reality, however, while I could care less about Hill Shop (I have genuinely never set foot inside) I must urge the SMT – even if the Government no longer sees us as quite so 'charitable', that doesn't mean that we should cease being so. In the School's quest to become 'Lean and Innovative', one thing we must not trim away is scholarship and bursary funds, and the help that Harrow as a school can extend to the local community. Principally, in a time where the cost of living is rising around the country, perhaps it is time to consider whether we really need new science and sports facilities. The £100 million budget for new works could be used to fund approximately 1000 council homes – trivially ending homelessness in the Harrow borough. Regardless of what happens in the future, we must have the honour and courage to continue to give back to our local community, and the humility to understand that they need it more than we do.

*TONY SHI  
THE STORY OF MY UMBRELLA*

Many terms ago, in the days of the rambunctious Remove, I remember being battered by the wind and the rain like a piece of SCH haddock. Whether climate change or Great British weather, I felt the need to obtain an umbrella, immediately. While seeking refuge in Hill Shop during break time, the Harrow 450 Anniversary Limited Edition Umbrella (large size) instantaneously caught my eye with its dazzling colours. I took it to the counter without even looking at the price tag (if it had existed in the first place...). However, how could I expect my meagre £50 Hill Shop allowance to suffice for such a perfect symmetry of metal wires amalgamated with a sheet of blue and gold polyester?

Disheartened by disbelief, I braced myself for more desperate

days of drenching downpours. Dazed upon the precipice of despair, I suddenly remembered Pandora's final, unopened gift. All my hope rested on my tentative question, "Do you have some smaller umbrellas?" When I heard the word "Yes", I was overjoyed. However, like all things, my hopes were of the dust, and all turned to dust again. "However," the voice continued, "We are not authorised to sell you the smaller umbrellas. We are told we have excess stock of large umbrellas, so we must sell them first."

With a nodding smile and a polite "Thank you", I quickly walked out of Hill Shop. If only I had known about supply and demand, I would have run. The next day, I ordered an umbrella from Decathlon. True, I had to endure three more days of rain; true, the colour was nowhere near as nice; true, my greys were often uncannily wet. But it only costs a quarter of the price of the Harrow hip flask. And I could now buy a dozen Ben & Jerry's ice creams with my remaining Hill Shop credit.

Though my shop-management experience is equal to none, many of my friends (who are faithful Hill Shop disciples) have suggested the following changes: Harrow 450 Merch Flash Sale: halve the price, quadruple the sales; sell more sweets and snacks: our happiness is your profit; price tags for all products: even the Monopoly banker tells you how much you have to pay...

*ARTHUR YANG  
THE CHARITY NEEDS MORE PROFIT*

The School, in its unfailing capacity, is a charity. A charity cares not for profit or income, but to serve the community, and shall devote itself to the 'teaching and instruction of children and youth in grammar', and to the 'comfort and encouragement of the Scholars'. Thus, I do not understand my colleagues, who, in their pinnacle of audacity, presented the most mystifying nonsense hardly seen outside a madhouse, in saying that the School is financially incompetent (especially when we have 13 overseas schools built for the purpose of making money).

The purpose of the Hill Shop is not profit, but to provide Harrovians with a desperately needed ice cream on a Wednesday lunch break in June, or a much sought-after protractor before the GCSE Maths exam, all for a small fee (about double the market price). The Hill Shop is a symbol of the service the School devotes itself to in order to maintain an enjoyable and convenient environment for Harrovians. The School should be prepared to do this even if it is not financially profitable, because this is the level of service a world-class school like Harrow is expected to offer, not only for reputation, but also for the fees which year-by-year incessantly increase in height and solitude.

**CORRESPONDENCE**  
*Letters to the Editors*

DEAR SIRS,

As I stood in line for Hill Shop today, clutching my £3 Doritos and £1 Mentos, I wondered to myself, "How can this Harrow institution really be going out of business?". Whilst the reasonable and calculated side of me tried to take this as a blessing, no longer would my bank account be broken come end of term (the owners of Dave's no doubt jumping for joy at a possible influx of new customers), the more capitalist side of me prevailed as I pondered the possible causes of the Hill Shop's net loss on the balance sheets. Surely if other public schools, and even our own international branches, can manage a thriving Hill Shop, then it is no Sisyphean task to restore the

Hill Shop to the glorious, profit-earning, monopoly-exploiting, Shell-preying establishment that we all remember.

My first critique is on the massive, cumbersome table that dominates the entrance as you walk in. This table, like Atlas bearing the weight of the sky on his back, holds not the heavens, but *Football: The Harrow Game*, "Winston the bear(s)", and foam Harrow footballs. This monument to Harrow memorabilia has a consumer base comprised entirely of parents of prospective students on open days, hoping that with each pound they spend, each "Winston the bear" they buy to stuff in an unknown cupboard, will help to gild the A5 paper on which their child's application sits – following in the footsteps of the inversely followed recommendation at the start of the year to start printing posters for lectures on A5. This wave of customers can probably be traced back to the construction of the new science building, their fundraising goals having been met. However, for all those boys who have already been accepted into this 'selective' institution, these tables serve as a feared bottleneck due to the awkward tango which occurs in this slim passageway between table and wall, where a candy-laden Shell dances around the irritable Sixth Former, reducing the flow of customers into the shop and the profit that comes with it.

My second piece of "constructive criticism" comes from not learned experience with this shop, but rather from common sense. If one takes a gander at the queue for checkout, or the shelves that line the back of the confectionary section, a certain, select few shelves are empty, picked to pieces by the ravenous Removes, whilst all other items remain untouched. When was the last time you bought a Milky Bar or Pot Noodles from the Hill Shop? If one simply analyses the data, which is surely readily available, as they keep a log of what we buy to charge us every term, we can most definitely arrange this data into a spreadsheet for ease of understanding, Ctrl-F-ing our way to consumer and market analysis in conjunction with gleaned data from the Hill Café. Through this we can most certainly identify what items are most popular and thus both stock more of those items and items similar to them, as well as weed out the dead stock that only lies collecting dust on the shelves; don't get me started on the birthday cards.

As I think of which new, groundbreaking strategy can turn the Hill Shop's fate around, I sip on my £2 Fentiman's lemonade and fantasize about the untold possibilities that surge pricing could bring on top of all these other changes. The inclusion of surge pricing would bring unforetold benefits for all. Whether it be lower prices for the price-savvy Lower Sixth now just learning about profit maximisation in Economics coming in off-peak hours and reaping the reward of lower-priced Kinder Buenos, or the exam-stressed Fifth Form, indifferent about a 50p price increase – mind you, they don't display prices so really anything goes. Surge pricing accompanied by market and consumer analysis could bring mouthwatering profit and an increased consumer base. The sky is really the limit.

The Hill Shop really is a space like no other. Without the influence of those pesky price tags, we can see how marketing of different products can influence the Harrovian's desire for an unneeded object through changes in product placement, how the flow of the store and the path of the consumer influences which products they buy and where they are more concentrated, how peer pressure affect consumer habits, the list goes on and on, with the Hill Shop potentially being a solid gold chimpanzee cage sent from a higher power in which we can run behavioural economics experiments, who knows what we can learn?

Although, perhaps turning a core part of the Harrow experience into a capitalist machination fuelled by profit isn't the best idea for a supportive School environment...?

YOURS ECCENTRICALLY,  
ETHAN SOONG, THE GROVE

DEAR EDITOR,

I am sure many of you have heard of the devastating news of the closure of the Hill Shop. My brief view on the situation is that it is a service, not a money-making enterprise. Boys enter the inviting atmosphere John and ladies create, which openly allows you to buy the essentials for Harrow life. The unique aspect the shop has to offer will leave the Hill for good. There are hardly any shops left on the Hill. Old Etonian gone, and now Hill Shop will follow suit. The convenience of swinging by will vanish. No John, no Nuala or Jill? During break, the Hill Café will become overcrowded and manic. The café will lose its relaxing atmosphere as bursts of people enter.

CASPAR SPENCER-CHURCHILL, *THE PARK*

## A HARROW ALTERNATIVE

Venice recently implemented a five-euro fee to enter the city centre, attracting controversy and provoking outrage. However, whilst the concept of "Veniceland" may be depressing to some as the city battles the increasing onslaught of both waves and tourists, perhaps a similar system could be implemented at Harrow School.

Harrow School similarly receives many waves of tourists throughout the year, often hailing from France, Belgium, or Germany, as well as many students from Harrow College. As the School is clearly struggling for funds as the Hill Shop closes due to a lack of profit, perhaps this can offer a solution.

Especially with the looming possibility of an increase in School fees with a future Labour government, a small £100 fee (adjusted for inflation, exchange rates, *The Harrovian's* budget, and the cost-of-living crisis) could alleviate some of these problems, and maybe even provide the opportunity for the School to finance more bursaries and construction efforts.

In addition to these matters, a fee could promote an air of exclusivity for the School – which we certainly do not have enough of – and which could thus boost its standing as a tourist hotspot as more people are intrigued to discover what lines in "WMALand". Perhaps, this may even draw tourists in to the Hill Shop, where the exorbitant prices and prime location make it a perfect gift shop – bolstering its profits once again.

But perhaps I am being ridiculous – a £100 fee just to step foot on the Hill? Do we really think that much of ourselves? Do we truly believe that the price of being allowed to simply view our grounds is worth £100?

I certainly believe so. Our School plays host to some of the oldest and most prominent schoolrooms and churches in the country, with a beautifully constructed Chapel and Speech Room. We have extensive grounds of beautiful playing fields, woods, lakes and gardens. The National Trust wishes it has what we have – so giving people the opportunity to experience this is something we should be happy to do for free, as a way of giving back to the community.

I may have been rather satirical regarding the £100 fee, but I do believe that we do not appreciate our grounds enough, and we should be willing to share it with the community for years to come – think of it as "The Harrow Trust", rather than "WMALand."



# SPORT

## ATHLETICS

*The Guy Butler Shield, 27 April*

For 33 years, the Guy Butler Shield was known as the Cholmeley Shield meeting and was hosted by Highgate School. It has been a most keenly fought meeting that has been graced by some outstanding athletes over the years. The brainchild of Geoffrey Williams, Master -in-Charge of Athletics and Director of Sport for 30 years at Highgate, the meeting began in 1980 and soon became the measure by which every school gauged their strength. With the advent of co-education at Highgate, the focus of weekend sport switched to other sports: including cricket, rounders, and tennis, but Highgate were keen for such a distinguished tradition to continue, and that the keenly fought competition and pursuit of individual and team records would remain for future generations to enjoy. In 2012, Highgate asked Harrow, who had begun running the meeting in 2009, to take up the hosting baton permanently, with Highgate opting to move to host and enter co-education matches instead. Harrow was (and is) very pleased to be able to continue the tradition of this Shield match and were asked to rename it as part of the handing-over process. We did not have to look very hard for a new name as Harrow's most successful Olympic athlete was the obvious choice. Guy Montagu Butler OH (25 August 1899–22 February 1981) won four Olympic medals in his specialist 400m event: one gold, one silver, and two bronzes. It is fitting that our match ends with the 4x400m relay races, as it was in 1920 that Guy Butler won his gold medal in this event as a member of the British quartet in Antwerp.

What an electrifying, thrilling and fiercely competitive afternoon of athletics we experienced on Saturday 27 April at the Guy Butler Shield competition when we welcomed Eton College, St Albans, Marlborough College, Coopers' Coborn, Dulwich College, Forest School and St Paul's to Harrow. Witnessing athletes pushing their boundaries and striving for personal bests, all while contributing to team success, was truly awe-inspiring. Kudos to every competitor for their dedication, teamwork and camaraderie; the mutual support demonstrated throughout the intense competition was remarkable. Our cherished values of courage, honour, fellowship and humility shone brightly throughout the event.

At the end of the exhilarating afternoon the results were as follows.

### Under-15:

1st Harrow – 211 points

2nd Eton – 191 points

3rd Coopers' Coborn – 176 points

### Under-17:

1st Harrow – 194 points

1st Eton – 194 points

1st Coopers' Coborn – 194 points

### Under-20:

1st Eton – 201 points

2nd St Albans – 192 points

3rd Harrow – 180 points

### Overall results for the Guy Butler Shield

1st Eton – 586 points

2nd Harrow – 585 points

3rd place Dulwich College – 492 points

Congratulations in particular to the following boys on winning their events: Murray Runacres, *Lyon's*, Luke Attfield, *Druries*, AJ

Anenih, *Rendalls*, Auberon Dragten, *Rendalls*, Henry Barker, *The Park*, Israel Olaigbe, *Moretons*, Tosin Oyegade, *Moretons*, Otis Farrer-Brown, *Newlands*, Tito Odunaike, *Elmfield*, Emile Majed, *Rendalls*, Jimi Adu, *Moretons*, Joshua Nwaokolo, *Newlands*, Henry Gilbertson, *Newlands*, Tommy Mackay, *Newlands*, Edward Latham, *Bradlys*, and Kepu Tuipolotu, *Druries*.

## CRICKET

*Various, 25 April*

3rd XI, Home v John Lyon School 2nd, Won by 41 runs

Harrow won the toss and made the positive decision to bat first. Harrow scored 161-2 after 20 overs and continued the momentum to restrict John Lyon for 120. Harrow won by 41 runs. Best batter – Josh Ashley, *Moretons*, 53 not out; Best bowler – Connor Scott, *Rendalls*, 3 overs 1 wicket for 14 runs.

Development XI & Under-17 XI, Home v Gordon's School, Won by 147 runs, National Cup Round 1

The Under-17 XI made a strong start to their National Cup campaign with a solid victory over Gordon's. Henry Snow's, *Rendalls*, 101 and Eesa Faheem's, *Bradlys*, 64 were the clear highlights with the bat. Tom Campbell-Johnston, *Druries*, and Mungo Lawson, *Elmfield*, both bowled their spin shrewdly and skilfully (both taking three wickets) to overcome the Gordon's batters.

Yearlings C, Home v John Lyon School, Lost by 8 wickets

This week's match had the Cs up against John Lyon's Bs. With bad weather rolling in we decided to play a twenty20. We won the toss and batted first on what looked like a good wicket, but the John Lyon bowling proved too good, restricting us to 28 after the first 10. We managed to scrape to a score of 73 after our 20 overs. We knew that, on that wicket, 73 was an under-par score and it was going to be a tricky target to defend. To our boys credit, they never gave in and, although we lost by 8 wickets, we managed to eke the game out to 16 overs because of some very tight bowling and also a good catch from Ethan Jones, *Druries*, (man of the match).

### *The School v Winchester, 27 April*

1st XI, Home v Winchester College, Won by 5 wickets

Winchester	R	B
Charlie Whitfield, ct Henry Macdonald, b Eesa Faheem	11	27
Henry Nicholls*, ct & b J Nelson	91	119
Sebastian Morgan, ct H Snow, b J Nelson	85	109
Aaron Hockey, ct Kalan Niyarepola, b Jack Nelson	19	14
James Kennedy†, st Dylan Rawal, b Charlie Nelson	8	8
Jack Bristowe, b Jack Nelson	3	4
Stephen Lam, not out	14	12
Amaar Malik, not out	5	7
Stanley Askew, did not bat		
Hamish Caird, did not bat		
George Bowder, did not bat		
Extras 18		
Total 254		

Harrow	O	M	R	W
Eesa Faheem	6	0	20	1
Henry Snow	6	0	23	0
Charlie Hope	2	0	20	0
Caspar Baker	3	0	13	0
Charlie Nelson	9	0	53	1
Kavish Mehta	6	0	21	0
Kalan Niyarepola	8	0	45	0
Jack Nelson	10	0	54	4
Total	50	0	254	6

Harrow	R	B
Dylan Rawal†, b Hamish Caird	9	14
Jay Madan, b Hamish Caird	90	111
Charlie Nelson*, b Charlie Whitfield	32	46
Henry Macdonald, not out	89	73
Kalan Niyarepola, ct Jack Bristowe, b Charlie Whitfield	14	25
Caspar Baker, b Charlie Whitfield	0	2
Eesa Faheem, not out	6	4
Henry Snow, did not bat		
Jack Nelson, did not bat		
Charlie Hope, did not bat		
Kavish Mehta, did not bat		
Extras 15		
Total 255		

Winchester	O	M	R	W
Hamish Caird	10	1	39	2
Stanley Askew	4	0	23	0
Aaron Hockey	5	0	29	0
George Bowder	9.5	0	55	0
Charlie Whitfield	8	1	52	3
Sebastian Morgan	9	0	55	0

After a strong start to the season for both sides and a great team performance for the boys against Wellington last week, both sides were up for it on a grey and gloomy day with the possibility of rain heavily looming later in the day. The two captains tossed up, with the coin landing the wrong side for Harrow, and the Winchester captain opted to bat first on what looked a good true wicket with a little bit for the bowlers. Eesa Faheem, *Bradlys*, and Henry Snow, *Rendalls*, opened up the bowling, bowling tight lines and beating the edge too many times to count. The Winchester openers looked strong, with some confident shots through the covers both off the front foot and back foot, before Faheem got their No 1 to flick one straight to Macdonald, *The Park*, at mid-wicket, who took a comfortable catch. The oppo were 32-1 off the first 8, a strong start for the home side. Next came their illustrious No 3 Morgan, who played a patient and well-timed innings, scoring at a good rate and building a brilliant partnership with their skipper Nicholls, both playing shots all around the ground despite the efforts of Charlie Hope, *Rendalls*, and Caspar Baker, *Moretons*. A few chances gone begging and some fairly scrappy fielding allowed them to rotate the strike well, which saw a change in the bowling as captain Charlie Nelson, *Bradlys*, and debutant Kavish Mehta, *The Grove*, came on to bowl. Both bowled very well, restricting the batsmen to singles and twos while challenging the edge and the front pad multiple times. But the Winchester duo seemed unbreakable, both bringing up their half centuries, and after a tidy short spell from Kalan Niyarepola, *The Head Master's*, Winchester went into the lunch break 143-1. With 20 overs left for the visitors to pile on some runs, the captain of the home side made a crucial bowling change with Jack Nelson, *Bradlys*, coming on to bowl. He and Niyarepola produced some great partnership bowling while the Winchester batsmen were attacking the short boundary hard. Nelson finally broke through with the scalp of Morgan for 85 as the visitors brought up 200 in the 41st over, with a simple catch from Snow at point to leave them 200-2. Nelson didn't stop there as two overs later he took a smart catch off his own bowling to remove their skipper for a well-made 91, and, in his next over, Niyarepola took a teasing catch at extra cover to give Nelson his third wicket of the game. With 4 overs of the Winchester innings to go, the oppo were 229-4 as the skipper brought himself back on to bowl after Niyarepola had supported Nelson Jr very well. Two wickets in quick succession and some tight fielding and bowling from the brothers kept Winchester to 254-6 off their 50 overs, with standout bowling from Nelson with 4-54 (10).

After pulling it back in the field with some strong bowling performances, the boys knew we could chase a total of this size

on this wicket, and so the dynamic due of Jay Madan, *The Park*, and Dylan Rawal, *Bradlys*, strode out to the crease, both off the back of good performances against Welly last week. Madan and Rawal started strong with some punishing stroke play and capitalising on the loose balls until in the 4th over Rawal was bowled by a very good yorker from their Kiwi bowler for 9 as Harrow went 23-1. Out strode captain Nelson, ever reliable, who built a solid platform with Madan, rotating the strike well while playing some scintillating shots to the boundary, timing the ball superbly. However, with the introduction of spin, the rate began to decrease and dots built the pressure as Nelson got an absolute beauty from one of their two left-arm off spinners for a well made 32, leaving the home side 94-2 after 21. This brought Macdonald to the crease, promoted up the order to his more comfortable position of 4. With the rain looming and every weather app saying certain downpour at 6pm, the DLS method was heavily in play and, so far, Harrow were ahead. Madan and Macdonald knew the last thing we needed was to lose a wicket, and so they stuck in there, blocking the good balls, rotating the strike, and punishing the bad balls with some incredible shots from Madan through midwicket and some trademark cover drives from Macdonald, pushing the rate along nicely as Madan brought his 50 up. As the two moved around the crease very well to some challenging spin bowling, the team felt extremely comfortable, with the runs ticking over and some seriously good viewing from the boundary as Macdonald brought up his 50 as well. With Harrow seemingly on top, the Winchester skipper was forced to make a change and brought back on the opener Caird for his final 3 overs. He bowled some good length balls at decent speeds, and the seemingly impenetrable defences of Madan were broken as he clipped the top of off, and Madan was forced to trudge off for a superb 90. This brought Niyarepola to the crease, also promoted up the order, who faced the final two of the seamer's overs with some excellent short pitch bowling, beating the edge multiple times. Niyarepola stuck in, however, as Macdonald countered from the other end, playing some brilliant cricket shots. With the rain beginning to fall, Harrow were still well ahead of DLS, before their left-arm off spinner managed 2 in quick succession as Niyarepola was caught at mid wicket and Baker was bowled, leaving Harrow 241-5. With the realisation that we needed to win this game with the runs, Macdonald continued to strike the ball beautifully, finding boundary options all around the ground, and with Faheem at the other end, the duo brought the game to a close with 5 wickets in hand as the rain began to chuck it down. Macdonald ended on a superb 89\*(73) and Faheem 6\*(4) as Harrow chased down Winchester's target of 255 in a brilliant game of cricket.

#### 2nd XI, Away v Winchester College, Abandoned

When this fixture was last contested in 2021, Harrow won by 73 runs, but coming into this match off the back of an 8-wicket victory over Bradfield last Saturday, Winchester were hungry for another win this week. The toss was conducted in cold and soggy conditions that endured until the game's conclusion, and ultimately the weather determined the game's lamentable destiny.

Having won the toss, the Wykehamists elected to bat. Ben Taylor, *The Knoll*, bowled his best spell of the season, recording figures of 6-0-25-1, dismissing one of the openers by bowling him through the gate, but Henry Porter, *Moretons*, was the first to strike with wicket-keeper Miles Herron, *Rendalls*, taking an outstanding one-handed diving catch that stunned the opposition into silence. Taylor and Porter's spells did much to set the tone for the innings, Porter picking up two more wickets towards the end of his allotted overs to finish with impressive figures of 8-1-20-3. When Tom Campbell-Johnston, *Druries*, came on as first change, Winchester were in trouble at 49-4 off 12. One of the highlights of the game occurred when Campbell-Johnston's bowling was hit to midwicket where Will Stabb, *The Head*



*Master's*, volleyed the ball up in the air only for the catch to be taken by the ever-alert St John Smith, *Newlands*, making the score 49-5 off 15 overs. Stabb himself bowled a steady spell of dot balls after replacing Porter at the city end, and he clean-bowled Winchester's number five. Batters seven and eight proved more resistant to Stabb and Campbell-Johnston's attack, but Smith broke the partnership in the 29th over with Taylor taking a regulation catch at mid-off. With 10 overs left, Winchester were 93-8. Smith is learning that he is at his most threatening when he bowls fuller and straighter, and he bowled Winchester's number ten to make the score 102-9 off 34 overs, finishing with tidy figures of 5-1-9-2. A straightforward stumping by Herron off captain Archie Jones', *Lyon's*, bowling brought Winchester's innings to a close with just 113 on the scoreboard. There is no doubt that this was the 2nd XI's best performance in the field so far, and the team's spirits were high during the tea interval.

Unfortunately, the hard work in the field was in vain as steady rain set in across Hampshire at 5pm as forecast, and the nearby Queen Inn looked increasingly alluring to the umpires. Although Archie Jones and Gabriel Harrington-Myers, *Bradlys*, both made starts and were dismissed by good balls, and James Felton, *The Park*, was hitting the ball cleanly to score 16 off just 14 balls. However, the match was abandoned just 13 overs into the Harrow innings, depriving the visitors, who had already scored 52, of an almost certain victory.

4th XI, Home v Winchester College 3rd, Won by 34 runs

A shaky start with the bat was somewhat steadied by a confident 21\* from Freddie Emery, *Moretons*, in the final overs. However, despite posting an underwhelming total of 100 runs, the bowling attack gave Winchester no chance of chasing, with James Talamai, *Druries*, taking 3 wickets in a single maiden over.

Michael Samuelson, *The Head Master's*, 3-8, James Talamai 3-12, Freddie Emery 21\*

5th XI, Home v Winchester College, Won by 83 runs

The 5th XI set a hard-to-beat target of 186 in the first innings, with half-centuries secured by Boegh-Nielsen, *The Head Master's*, (58(43)) and Yeung, *Elmfield*, (60(43)).

Colts A, Away v Winchester College, Abandoned

Colts B, Away v Winchester College, Won by 116 runs

Harrow (169/5) beat Winchester (53/7) by 121 runs.

The Colts Bs beat Winchester by 121 runs. George Porter, *Druries*, (3 wickets for 7 runs) and Jed Hurley, *Bradlys*, (83 from 55 balls) were the standout performers.

Junior Colts A, Away, Winchester College, Abandoned

A spirited fightback after some soft dismissals, from Rishya Rawal, *Rendalls*, 37, Louis Nicholson, *The Park*, 48 and an unbeaten 27 from James Hyatt, *Elmfield*, rallied the scoreboard to 172 all out. Sadly, the weather thwarted any possibility of a result.

Junior Colts B, Away v Winchester College, Won by 8 wickets

The Junior Colts B recovered from several dropped catches to chase down Winchester's total of 129 with 4 balls to spare. Pasha Cambatta-Mistry, *Lyon's*, was the pick of the bowlers, and Freddie Danos, *Bradlys*, batted fantastically, making 58\*.

Junior Colts D, Away v Winchester College, Lost by 7 runs

Having won the toss and chosen to bowl, Almo Pang, *Bradlys*, took 2 wickets in his first over, leaving Winchester at 0 for 2. They then managed to rally and their 11th batsman added 32 runs, though they were all out for 97 after 15 overs. After 20 overs, we had only lost 4 wickets, but had only reached a total of 90. This meant that we lost by 7 runs!

Yearlings A, Home v Winchester College, Won by 4 wickets

Yearlings A (135-6) beat Winchester (131-7) by 4 wickets. George Bamford, *The Head Master's*, took 3 for 13 and Matthew Hughes, *The Head Master's*, was man of the match with 6 overs 1 for 9 and 34 not out to see the team home.

Bowing first on a drizzly day, Yearlings A had to endure a strong Winchester opening partnership, which put on 93 until it was broken by captain Aaryan Basu, *Druries*, aided by one of three excellent catches by Barnaby Winters, *Elmfield*. Despite the strong Winchester start, Harrow fought back well, and regular wickets from Bamford paired well with very tight and miserly bowling by Hughes to restrict the visitors to 131-7 from their 30 overs.

In reply, Ritesh Patel, *Bradlys*, got Harrow off to a flier with a run-a-ball 26, but regular wickets left the boys in a precarious position at 77-5. From there though, Frank Thompson, *Elmfield*, and Hughes combined maturely to see Harrow all but to the winning line, with Thompson sadly departing with just one run to win. A hard fought victory for the Harrow boys to make it three wins out of three to start the season.

Yearlings B, Home v Winchester College, Won by 72 runs

Harrow won by 72 runs against a resilient Winchester in particularly wet conditions. MOTM was George Jacot de Boinod, *Rendalls*, with his 74 runs and tight bowling.

Yearlings D, Home v Winchester College, Won by 5 runs

Harrow Yearlings D 99-9 (20 overs); Winchester 95-4 (20 overs)

A much improved batting performance saw Harrow nearly double their score this week. A solid fielding game saw them contain Winchester in the crease, though a few wobbles in the latter overs still gave Winchester the a chance to win with the last ball – albeit only with a 6! Highlights include two spectacular catches from Edward Hedgecock, *Moretons*.

Cosmo Abernethy, *The Knoll*, 7, Darrell Yeoh, *Lyon's*, 2-13

Yearlings E, Home v Winchester College, Lost by 8 wickets

## TENNIS

*The School v Radley, 25 April*

1st, Away v Radley College, Lost 3-6

Some excellent tennis despite a 3-6 reversal against a very strong Radley team. Mostyn Fulford, *The Knoll*, and Hugo Maclean, *West Acre*, winning two of their three sets. Charlie Chambers, *Rendalls*, and Diego Castellano, *Rendalls*, showed great spirit to win their final match.

2nd, Away v Radley College, Won 5-4

A superb comeback victory with Harrow trailing 2-4 going into the last round of matches. Harrow won all 3 sets to win 5-4. Eliot Chua, *The Knoll*, and Ollie Jones, *West Acre*, as a 2nd pair, and Arthur Porter, *Druries*, and Jaden Lim, *The Head Master's* as a 1st Pair both won two of their three matches.

3rd, Away v Radley College, Lost 1-8

A tough day against a strong Radley team ending in a 1-8 loss.

Boys Under-18D, Away v Radley College, Lost 4-5

A match that went to the wire with Harrow just losing out in the final set to lose 4-5. The star pair were Charlie McDowell, *The Knoll*, and Alfie Anderson, *Moretons*, who won two of their three sets.

## Colts A, Away v Radley College, Lost 2-7

A very tough away trip for the Colts A to Radley. A wet and grimy afternoon fixture saw the hosts play some magnificent tennis to run out deserving 7-2 winners. Tosin Oyegade, *Moretons*, and Filip Wiszniewski, *Druries*, won two of their three games and they really should have beaten the Radley 1st pair who usually play for the Radley Seniors.

## Boys Under-16B, Away v Radley College, Lost 3-6

The Colts B team lost 3-6 away to Radley on a miserably wet Thursday afternoon. They found the hosts in uncompromising mood and two of the visiting pairs were beaten in all three of their sets. Ethan McCullough, *The Park*, and Lucian Tyacke, *The Head Master's*, bucked the trend performing superbly to win all of their sets convincingly.

## Junior Colts A, Home v Radley College, Won 5-4

Well done to Harrow JCA tennis for a convincing win against a strong Radley A team. Standout performers were Alex Alexeev, *Bradlys*, and Arthur Brown, *Druries*, who won all three of their rubbers, including a convincing win against Radley's imposing 1st pair.

## Junior Colts B, Home v Radley College, Lost 4-5

JCB tennis lost 5-4 on a drizzly Thursday afternoon to a strong Radley side. Well done to Henry Zhu, *Bradlys*, and Mark Pecherskiy, *Moretons*, who won two of their three rubbers.

## Boys Under-15C, Home v Radley College, Won 9-0

Junior Colts Cs romped to a 9-0 crushing of Radley, defying the damp and dreary conditions to produce some compelling tennis. Well done to all who played, especially Caspar Davidson, *Rendalls*, and Caspar Spencer-Churchill, *The Park*, who dropped only three games over their three sets.

## Yearlings A, Home v Radley College, Lost 4-5

The boys battled well today, coming up against a strong Radley outfit. The 2nd pair were the standout team today, winning two of three matches.

Aleks Tomczyk, *The Grove*, and Takuya Asakura, *The Park*, have developed a strong partnership together and their games complement each other well.

Pablo Castellano, *Rendalls*, also impressed with some powerful serving and was probably the owner of the shot of the day. A clutch volley dropshot that had the opponents baffled!

## Boys-U14B, Home v Radley College, Lost 1-8

A tough afternoon with lots of close sets, Tristan Lim, *The Head Master's*, and Theodore Cheuk, *The Grove*, winning a tie break to get the only win for the B team.

## Boys Under-14C, Home v Radley College, Lost 4-5

An excellent afternoon with Antares Au, *Moretons*, and Evan Song, *Rendalls*, winning two of their three sets. All pairs beat Radley's 1st pair, and losing narrowly in the final set to a tie break.

## 1st, Away, ISL

A highly creditable effort to come 2nd of four teams in the ISL group. We beat Charterhouse 10-2 and KCS Wimbledon 7-5, but lost 1-11 to an exceptional Reed's team. The star performers were Jaden Lim, *The Head Master's*,

and Arthur Porter, *Druries*, who both won five of their six matches. All eight boys produced some fine tennis under slippery conditions.

*The School v Eton, 27 April*

## 2nd, Home v Eton College, Lost 1-8

A disappointing day for the B team against a very strong (and tall) Eton team. Will Riddick, *Rendalls*, and Algy Royle, *Rendalls*, were the star performers on the day, losing a narrow tie break but then gaining a win in the last match of the day.

## 3rd, Home v Eton College, Won 6-3

An excellent result against a strong Eton team. Oscar Bearman, *Moretons*, and Xander Jones, *West Acre*, played with brilliant spirit throughout and came back from 5-1 down in a captivating final match, while the star performers on the day were Charlie Allday, *Moretons*, and George Mackintosh, *The Knoll*, who played tremendously to beat the 1st pair 6-2 and then went on to win the next two matches also.

## Colts A, Away v Eton College

Harrow played well but unfortunately lost some tight matches. Pair of the day was Diederik Brouwers, *The Head Master's*, and Lucian Tyacke, *The Head Master's*, for showing admirable determination and improving through the afternoon.

## Boys Under-16B, Away v Eton College

Harrow played some impressive sets but didn't quite have the consistency to come away with a win. Pair of the day was Xavier Majumdar, *The Knoll*, and Christopher Squire, *Bradlys*.

## Junior Colts A, Away v Eton College, Lost 0-8

A comprehensive defeat against Eton, nevertheless some good tennis was played! With some further practice on volleys and serving, the Junior Colts A team should be able to realise significant gains in future matches. Special mention goes to Alex Alekseev, *Bradlys*, and Arthur Brown, *Druries*, for a nail-biting game concluding in a 6-6 draw.

## Junior Colts B, Away v Eton College, Lost 0-8

The Junior Colts Bs were beaten in all matches against a strong Eton side. Nevertheless, the boys demonstrated good resolve in the face of adversity and seemed eager to improve their game in future. Special mention goes to William Bearman, *Moretons*, and Mark Pecherskiy, *Moretons*, for their dexterity on the court.

## Yearlings A, Home v Eton College, Won 6-3

An excellent team performance with wins from all pairs, Pablo Castellano Burguera, *Rendalls*, and Max James, *Elmfield*, winning all three sets. A great tie-break win against the top pair from Aleks Tomczyk, *The Grove*, and Takuya Asakura, *The Park*.

## Boys Under-14B, Home v Eton College, Lost 1-8

A tough afternoon with Reagan Sabir, *The Grove*, and John Li, *The Grove*, winning one of their sets. A mixture of partnerships and some of these players playing up from the Cs, yet all competing well throughout the afternoon.

**Ways to contact *The Harrovian***

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