

HARROW NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 2024



HARROW
SCHOOL

LESSONS BEGIN IN THE
NEW BIOLOGY AND
CHEMISTRY SCHOOLS

HARROVIAN SUCCESS
IN ACADEMIC
COMPETITIONS

ART, DRAMA AND MUSIC
ROUNDUP



FROM THE HEAD MASTER



It is a privilege and a delight to see boys being taught in our newly opened pioneering building for Biology and Chemistry; as a Biology beak, I am full of excitement for the opportunities it will afford for excellence in teaching, Electives, boy-led research and work with our partner schools. The laboratories, lecture theatre and energy centre are the culmination of many years of hard work and dedication to realise a wider vision for the academic landscape on the Hill. Harrow has a long tradition of scientific excellence and we are proud and honoured to serve as a proving ground for future generations of scientists and pioneers.

Harrow's outgoing Upper Sixth achieved outstanding A-level results after their exams in the summer. Almost a third of all grades were A*, with over two thirds of the grades at either A* or A. Significantly, over 90% of all grades this year were A*-B. This success sees more boys going to global top 10 and top 100 universities than ever before, and to a greater range of universities.

We welcomed our new cohort of Shells in September and I am already astounded by their talent, for example 13-year-old Max who became the youngest Junior (Under-19) World Champion in real tennis. We've enjoyed some superb musical and dramatic performances, including the Shell Drama Festival on the theme of 'Crossings', and our academic societies, the beating heart of academic extension, continue to give boys a platform to delve deeper into their interests as well as welcoming various inspirational speakers of note.

I hope the successes and events of which you will read in these pages will give you a taste of what it is to be a Harrovian but, as always, I would encourage you to come and see us at one of our open mornings.

Alberto Lewis

OPEN MORNINGS

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

Visit harrow.school.org.uk for forthcoming dates and to book.

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Front cover: New Biology and Chemistry Schools

NEW BIOLOGY AND CHEMISTRY SCHOOLS OPEN

In September 2024, the first lessons took place in the new Biology and Chemistry Schools. Opened by Old Harrovian Professor Sir Huw Thomas (*West Acre 1977*), Consultant Gastroenterologist at St Mary's and King Edward VII's Hospitals in London and Professor of Gastrointestinal Genetics at Imperial College, the new building features a separate level for each subject, with each departmental floor containing seven state-of-the-art teaching labs, a university-level research lab for A-level students, a meeting room with Harkness table, a dedicated prep room for technicians, and a staff room.

At the heart of the building is a stunning floor-to-ceiling media wall that fills the impressive atrium and links the two teaching floors. The media wall will showcase films reflecting the beauty and awe of the scientific world, as well as showing what is going on in the laboratories, live streaming experiments, highlighting boys' achievements, or communicating events or news. On the ground floor is the 180-seat Sir Joseph Banks Lecture Theatre, which can accommodate whole year groups. The basement houses a sustainable energy centre that will provide energy-efficient facilities to this and other School buildings.

Outside, a botany greenhouse and pond serve as living classrooms, providing hands-on learning that can't be accessed in a traditional indoor setting. A planting scheme includes species relevant to teaching and will embed the building into the surrounding landscape.

The Biology and Chemistry Schools' cutting-edge facilities, in particular the new lecture theatre, will play a major role in enhancing Harrow's outreach and partnership work with local schools and the wider community.





Leavers 2023/24

EXAM RESULTS AND UNIVERSITY DESTINATIONS

Harrow’s outgoing Upper Sixth achieved outstanding A-level results after their exams in the summer. Almost a third of all grades were A*, with over two thirds of the grades at either A* or A. Significantly, over 90% of all grades this year were A*–B.

Two boys achieved five or more A* grades, with 12 boys gaining four or more A*s. Twenty-six boys gained three or more A*s, and 80 boys gained three or more A*–A grades.

These strong A-level results have translated into a positive set of university outcomes with Harrovians taking up places at six of the eight Ivy League schools in the USA, and 47 boys taking up places at institutions ranked in the world’s top 20 including Princeton, Columbia and Edinburgh.

Forty percent of GCSEs were awarded grade 9, with two-thirds at grade 9 or 8. The 9–7 grade percentage is the highest since 2013. Sixteen boys gained ten or more grade 9/A*s and 24 gained nine or more grade 9/A*s.

INTERNATIONAL BOYS’ SCHOOLS CONFERENCE HELD AT HARROW

Harrow welcomed over 600 delegates from boys’ schools around the world at the annual IBSC (International Boys’ Schools Coalition) conference. This is the first time that such a conference has taken place in Europe since 2011. The theme of the conference was ‘Tradition. Leadership. Innovation.’ and focused on the ways boys can contribute positively to social and environmental change in an ever-evolving, globalised world.

Twenty-nine Harrovians from the Shell to the Sixth Form acted as Ambassadors, meeting and greeting delegates, introducing keynote speakers and performing music and drama at the beginning of each session.

Jaz Ampaw-Farr, CEO of Human First Ltd, gave an inspirational talk about teachers as everyday heroes, touching on how the lessons she learned from her challenging and often brutal childhood led to her rise as a TV presenter and TEDx speaker. Ben Fogle, broadcaster and adventurer, spoke about preparing boys to lead lives of exploration. Other sessions looked at safeguarding boys in the online world, digital learning and AI, and relationships education. The IBSC is a non-profit organisation that champions boys’ schools (both independent and maintained) across the globe.



The International Boys’ Schools Coalition held their annual conference at Harrow

BROTHERS COMPLETE CHARITY CYCLE RIDE

Two Harrow brothers completed a 340km cycle ride from Leeds United’s football ground to Harrow School. Tianyi and Jinyi Zhou made their epic ride to raise money to tackle educational inequality in the UK – a cause both boys are passionate about.

They have already raised well over their target of £5,000 for Harrow School’s charities, our local partner schools and the Leeds United Foundation, the charity arm of Leeds United Football Club. They were joined on the last leg of the journey by Harrow’s Registrar Dr Eric Sie.



Tianyi and Jinyi Zhou completed a cycle ride for charity



Christopher represented Great Britain in a polo test match against India

NEW SHELLS MAKE THEIR MARK ON WORLD SPORT

Thirteen-year-old Max became the youngest Junior (Under-19) World Champion in real tennis. Max won the tournament in Bordeaux in mid-August, having already become Under-16 and Under-18 British Champion. He showed great tenacity to save two match points in his quarter-final and beat some incredibly talented opposition from other schools.

At the Rajasthan Polo Club in Jaipur, Christopher was selected to represent Great Britain in an under-16 international test match against India. The captain of the India team was His Royal Highness the Maharaja of Jaipur. The Maharaja’s grandfather, Bhawani Sawai Bhawani Singh, was an Old Harrovian. It was a fast-paced game with excellent play from both teams. India were the eventual victors with a score of 9-8 in their favour.



Max became Junior World Champion in real tennis

HARROW CELEBRATES LORD BYRON

Harrow marked the 200th anniversary of the death of one of its most famous Giants of Old, Lord Byron. Lord George Byron was educated at Harrow from 1801-05 and is regarded as one of the major figures of the Romantic movement, as well as one of the greatest English poets.

Over the course of three days, boys from ten different societies gave talks on Byron's life. One boy spoke about the influence of Byron's poetry on Slavic literature, while another explored the importance of his life and work to the Romantic movement across the world. A talk to the Medical Society discussed malaria, the cause of the poet's untimely death. Other boys composed poems to mark the occasion. The week culminated with a talk about Byron's life and work by former House Master of The Park and Byron expert Peter Hunter.



Bust of Lord Byron by Edward Hodges Bailey (1788-1867)

OLD HARROVIAN TAKES UP APPOINTMENT AS CHIEF OF THE BRITISH ARMY

General Sir Roly Walker KCB DSO (*The Grove 1983*) took up his new appointment as Chief of the General Staff and Aide-de-Camp to His Majesty. In his previous role as Deputy Chief of Defence Staff (Military Strategy & Operations), he was responsible for advising on and directing new operations to support significant events such as the deaths of the late Duke of Edinburgh and Queen Elizabeth II, the coronation of King Charles III and numerous evacuation operations.

General Walker was made a Knight Commander of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath in 2023, and a Companion of the Distinguished Service Order in 2010. He is President of the Honourable Artillery Company, Army Rugby and Army Winter Sports.



General Sir Roly Walker (left) with Head Master Alastair Land

NEW DIRECTOR OF THE CO-CURRICULUM

Mr Eugene Higgins is Harrow's new Director of the Co-Curriculum. Eugene read Chemistry at the University of the Witwatersrand in South Africa and came to Harrow in 2001 to teach Mathematics. A former House Master of Newlands, Eugene is also Master-in-Charge of the exchange programme for foreign students. He was appointed Sixth Form Registrar in 2022 and is a Governor at Caldicott Prep School.



Eugene Higgins

CHEMISTRY

In the annual C3L6 competition aimed at students in Year 12, the two highest achieving Harrovians were Spencer Chan and Cary Zhang. Overall, Harrovians achieved an excellent 15 Golds and 22 Silver certificates. It is even more impressive that these results include entries from seven Fifth Form and four Remove boys. Three of the boys in the Fifth Form received Gold certificates.

PHYSICS

Harrovians in the Lower Sixth, Fifth Form and Remove sat British Physics Olympiad Challenges. In the Senior competition, Lower Sixth boys achieved five Gold awards, 12 Silver awards and 29 Bronze awards. Of particular note were Fifth Former Jonathan Song, who achieved a Gold award and scored the top mark in the School, Luke Tang, who also achieved a Gold award while in the Fifth Form, and Remove Eugene Sorokoumov, who achieved a Silver award. In the Intermediate competition, Fifth Form and Remove boys achieved 13 Gold, 15 Silvers and 71 Bronze awards.

Vincent Song was named as second author on a research paper titled 'Associating astronomical observations and natural language with multi-modal models'. To have published an academic paper while still at school is a remarkable achievement – usually the realm of those studying for a PhD.



Jaden Lim's prize-winning essay covered the subject of the domestication of dogs

BIOLOGY

Fourteen Lower Sixth boys participated in this year's Intermediate Biology Olympiad. This online competition tested their understanding of core biological principles and problem-solving skills. Over half of the Harrovians achieved a Gold, Silver or Bronze award. Special mention goes to Jaden Lim, Spencer Chan and Penn Behagg who were awarded Gold.

Ninety-six Removes joined 45,000 pupils from across the globe to participate in this year's Biology Challenge. Twenty-nine Harrovians were awarded Gold, the highest tally that Harrow has ever achieved. Hector Llewellyn Palmer scored the top mark of 91%.

Jaden Lim was chosen as winner of the Year 12-13 category of the Oxford Scientist Schools Competition for his essay on 'Dogs, avocados and yoghurt – harnessing evolution through domestication'.

ECONOMICS

Sixth Formers Guy Manley, Garrick Tan and Brian Chang were highly commended and placed in the top 25 of 3,000 entries in the Young Economist of the Year competition. Their submission was a superbly researched and referenced animated video on the impact of the gig economy. Lucian Tyacke and Aris Aldrich-Blake were highly commended in the Economasters essay competition for their essays, with Marc Gaw achieving second place in the competition.

MODERN LANGUAGES

Rupert Lam was selected as one of four finalists from a field of 140 applicants to participate in the final of the annual National Japanese Language Speech Contest. The four finalists had to give a five-minute presentation on a topic of their choice. Rupert’s presentation on ‘Three ways my school can help the environment’ was confident, fully memorised and delivered in fluent Japanese. After an almost flawless presentation, Rupert was submitted to a five-minute Q&A session. He was the only one of the finalists not to ask for a rewording or repeat of a question and was awarded second prize overall.

Lower Sixth Former Tony Shi won the Oxford University French Flash Fiction Competition for his 100-word composition, *La Tulipe*. His composition demonstrated outstanding mastery of poetic and narrative devices in French. Two boys received commendations in the Anthea Bell Poetry Translation Competition: Wesley Leung for his Spanish translation and Nick Arnison for his German translation.



Tony Shi’s winning composition was titled *La Tulipe*

SUPER-CURRICULUM

Lower Sixth boys joined girls from Notting Hill and Ealing High School for a symposium on the grand theme of ‘Power’. With some starting sources and an academic expert on hand, the groups worked independently to write papers about Jacobean masques, infinite sets, the London Mayor, the powers of education and language, and more. The symposium culminated with the groups presenting their impressive work at the Royal Society, followed by a reception and dinner at the Oxford and Cambridge Club, making for a symposium true to every meaning of the word.



Harrovians took part in a symposium on the theme of power

THEOLOGY & PHILOSOPHY

Two Sixth Form Harrovians were invited to give lectures at the Royal Institute of Philosophy Young Philosophers’ Conference. Arturo Saville Mascioni was chosen to present his paper on ‘Theological v secular moral ideas: does morality need to exist?’

and Nathan Karri spoke on ‘Does epistemic uncertainty shape our views on the morality of evangelism?’. In the Lincoln Philosophy Essay Competition, judges awarded Felix Boegh-Nielsen an honourable mention for his exceptionally high quality submission.



‘Counting’ was the theme for National Poetry Day

ENGLISH

Harrovians celebrated National Poetry Day by composing 12-word poems on the theme of counting. There were several imaginative and skilled entries that were highly commended by the judge.

<p>One – The cycle begins. Twenty, adjourned adulthood. Regret grasps sixty, Eighty forgets.</p> <p>By Alfie Murton, Lower Sixth</p>	<p>Whispers of the truth Floating above me Unreachable, untouchable But counted nonetheless</p> <p>By Acksel Sathish, Shell</p>	<p>Another scroll Another world – DOPAMINE DASH! Tik-Tok... Tik-Tok... minutes hours lives Drained.</p> <p>By Tony Shi, Lower Sixth</p>	<p>If I stopped asking only why, I would soar through the sky.</p> <p>By Caden Soon, Remove</p>
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ART AND PHOTOGRAPHY

The Summer term saw two of the most prestigious prizes for Art and Photography being awarded. The Neville Burston Prize for Art was adjudicated by Peter Monkman, former Head of Art at Charterhouse School and winner of the National Portrait Prize. The exhibition was a celebration of the Upper Sixth work, and Rei Ishikawa was judged the eventual winner for his series of expressive portraits and tableau scenes. James McWilliam was awarded second place and Freddie Sloss third.

The Fox Talbot Photography Competition for digital photography is open to the whole School, with Junior and Senior categories. The judges were Clive Barda, one of the UK's most distinguished photographers of the performing arts, and Clare Park, whose work is held in permanent collections at the National Portrait Gallery and the V&A Royal Photographic Collection. They awarded the Senior First Prize to Apollinaire Chandresinghe for his photograph of a young boy at the annual Goroka show in Papua New Guinea, with second prize going to Oliver Mitchell for his photograph *Distance*, and third prize to Alex Akinluyi. Winner of the Junior category was Jack Chen for his image of a man sitting with his dog. Second came Joseph Li for his photo of an elderly man smoking a cigarette, and third prize went to Jonathan Ford for his photograph *Sting*.

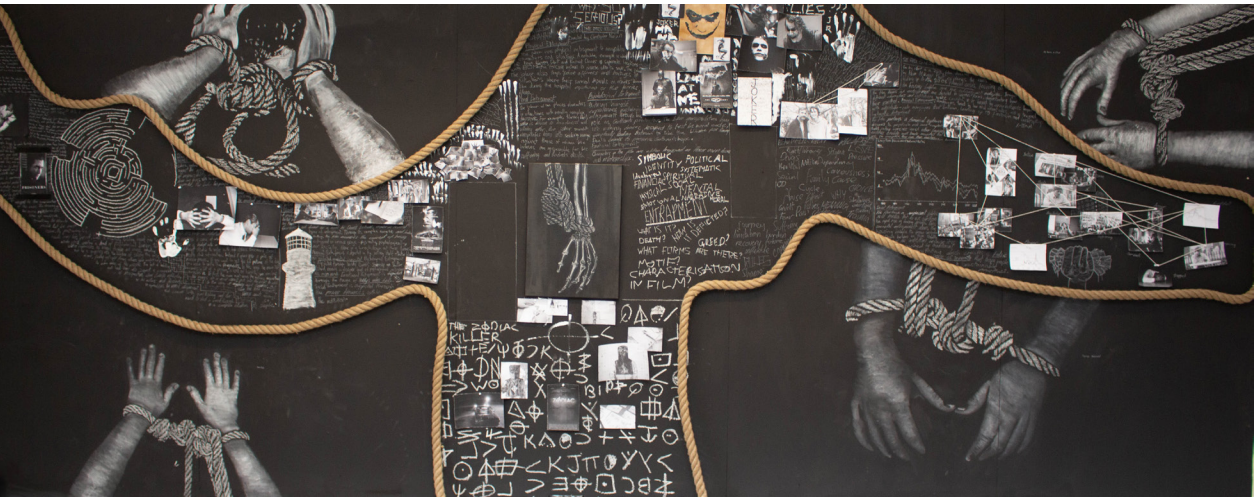
The Neville Burston Prize



Senior winner of the Fox Talbot Prize



Junior winner of the Fox Talbot Prize



DRAMA

The Summer term’s drama programme started with a busy season of performances forming part of boys’ A Level and GCSE Drama assessments. Fifth Form boys presented monologues and duologues from plays including *Amadeus*, *The 39 Steps* and *The Woman in Black*, while boys in the Upper Sixth performed monologues by contemporary writers including Ella Hickson, Stephen Adly Guirgis and Martin McDonagh.

The final School production of the academic year was *Lord of the Flies*, performed in the penultimate week of term by the Junior Rattigan Society. A large company of boys from across Houses presented a dynamic version of the dystopian classic. Maxi Jones, Toby Woolf and William Stroud led a strong ensemble cast as Ralph, Piggy and Jack respectively. In the final week of term, the Primary Shakespeare Company was hosted in the Ryan Theatre, bringing together five local primary schools to perform *Julius Caesar*.

The start of the Autumn term saw the annual House Scenes competition, in which each House presents a self-produced piece taken from the opening scene of a play or film. This year, all the scenes were from scripts written by women. The adjudicator was Dr Joanna Bratten, Head of English at St Paul’s Girls School and former Head of English at Harrow. She awarded first prize to Newlands for their hilarious version of a scene from the BBC series *Ghosts*. In joint second place were Druries and Lyon’s for their performance of scenes from Agatha Christie’s *A Witness for the Prosecution* and Yasmina Reza’s *Art* respectively.

New Shells all take part in the Shell Drama Festival, for which boys from each House present a short scene, directed by Sixth Formers. The 2024 festival was on the theme of ‘Crossings’ and featured tales of journeys far and wide.



Lord of the Flies



Lord of the Flies



Lord of the Flies



House Scenes



Shell Drama Festival



New Directions concert

MUSIC

The Concerto Evening is one of the highlights of the year, where senior boys play movements from concertos with an invited orchestra. Works included Tchaikovsky's *Violin Concerto* and Ravel's *Piano Concerto in G*. The Upper Sixth leavers invited everyone to 'Come and Sing Handel's Messiah' for their Leavers' Concert. It featured some of the leavers singing solos and conducting choruses from Handel's most famous work.

Members of the local community enjoyed several concerts on the Hill, and the Big Band Summer Jazz Picnic on the Hill Café Terrace was a particular treat.

The Music Prize Finals, adjudicated by Russell du Plessis from The Pilgrims' School in Winchester, proved to be an eight-hour feast of music of an extremely high standard. The programme for the annual New Directions concert was remarkably eclectic and included Piazzolla's *Four Seasons of Buenos Aires* and movements from Duke Ellington's *Sacred Service*.

The new term began with the annual Commemoration Concert in celebration of the Founder of Harrow School. For the concert, Harrovian musicians were joined by children from local primary schools. The programme was designed with these children in mind and featured Copland's *Appalachian Spring Suite* and folksongs from around the world.



Winners of the Music Prizes with adjudicator Russell du Plessis



Commemoration Concert



Handel's Messiah

PALMERSTON SOCIETY

Politics

The Palmerston Society hosted several prominent figures from the political sphere. Sir Vince Cable is a former leader of the Liberal Democrats and former MP for Twickenham. After an introduction describing his path to becoming an MP, his period as a member of the coalition government from 2010 to 2015 and his work as a lecturer at LSE, Sir Vince’s talk focused on what is required to be an MP in the modern era. Sir Nicholas Soames is a former Tory MP and is a grandson of Sir Winston Churchill. He described his life and career, and his opinions about the future of Conservatism in the UK. Richard Tice, former leader of Reform UK and now a member of parliament, spoke on the subject of ‘What hope for young people in broken Britain?’. He gave his opinion on the current state of the country, and suggested reforms that he felt would improve it. He also explained some of his political beliefs, following which there was a lively Q&A session with the audience. Dr John Ritzema of The Critic magazine gave a talk exploring how someone with left-leaning political beliefs might defend the institution of the monarchy despite being critical of it.



Sir Vince Cable

OLD SPEECH ROOM
GALLERY ARTS
SOCIETY

Lee Jones, Head of Product Design at The Royal Mint, delivered a talk to the OSRG Arts Society describing the development of his own concept for the award-winning Metaxy medal. He had a capacity audience, and many boys stayed on afterwards to discuss with him not only their own design experience – they had designed and made their own medals earlier in the term – but also The Royal Mint’s arrangements for the production of new coinage bearing the portrait of the king.

TREVELYAN SOCIETY

History

To mark the 80th-anniversary year of D-Day, the Trevelyan Society invited Ronald Koorm, an expert on military intelligence and code-breaking, to talk about ‘Intelligence and planning for D-Day’. The lecture focused on the vital role of non-combatants, both men and women and particularly the intelligence services, in the successful planning and execution of the D-Day. Mr Koorm’s talk covered the creation of dummy invasion forces, the role of the public in the detailed mapping of the French coast, the extensive spy networks, the success of the codebreakers and the blanket secrecy that made the success of the operation possible.

SHERIDAN SOCIETY

English language and literature

Poet Raymond Antrobus gave the first Sheridan Society talk of the academic year. Mr Antrobus has won many awards for his poetry, including the Ted Hughes Award and the Rathbone Folio Prize. He has written several collections of poetry, some of which are currently studied in the A-level curriculum. Much of his work relates to his family and his heritage as a Jamaican-English man. Mr Antrobus spoke about his life and read some of his poems, describing what had inspired and influenced them. He later answered questions from the audience and discussed with them what masculinity is and what it means to be a man.



Professor Peter Singer

SLAVONIC SOCIETY

Alf Torrents, Executive Director of the Russo-British Chamber of Commerce gave a talk on the Russian Baikal-Amur Mainline, a train that runs for 4,300km from the town of Tayshet in the east, through some of the world’s toughest terrain all the way to the Pacific Ocean, a journey that takes four days. He described its conception in the 1930s, the delay in its construction until the 1970s, its opening in 1989, and the current plans to market it as a viable and greener alternative to the Suez Canal for carrying goods between Asia and Europe. A second talk was given by Old Harrovian Michael Gibson, who headed out to the wild world of Russian advertising in the 1990s. He has been working as an advertising creative director ever since and has created some iconic TV campaigns. He is an anchor on the TV station Big Asia and has his own YouTube channel, ExPatting Russia. In his talk, ‘The absurd and the sublime: a 30-year adventure in Russia’ he described the ups and downs of his career and what it takes to work in the advertising industry.



Lee Jones of The Royal Mint lectured on medal design



Raymond Antrobus

GORE SOCIETY

Theology, philosophy and ethics

Peter Singer, Emeritus Professor of Bioethics at Princeton, is an Australian philosopher and is possibly one of the most widely known utilitarian ethicist of our time. Along with Harrovians, over 300 pupils and staff from 24 of Harrow’s partner schools came to hear him speak. In his talk, Professor Singer described the concept of utilitarian ethics, which holds that the right action is the one with the most favourable outcome for the greatest number of people, and explained effective altruism, which is a philosophical and social movement that advocates using evidence and reason to calculate benefits and prioritise causes to provide the greatest good. He put forward various scenarios in which effective altruism could be used to determine the best course of action before focusing on the issue of animal rights, an area in which he has a particular interest. He discussed the ethics of using animals in food, arguing that, like racism and sexism, speciesism (discrimination against animals) is also a situation where a dominant group uses a minority for benefits, inflicting unacceptable suffering and death. It was an enlightening and engaging lecture that challenged the audience to think deeply about their moral responsibilities and how they could approach some of the world’s issues in a new light.



Boys v Beaks debate

DEBATING SOCIETY

Members of the Debating Society started the Autumn term with an exhibition debate against four Old Harrovians. The motion was ‘This house would require parents to obtain licences before having children’, which was proposed by the boys and opposed by the OHs. Mr Dolan, the School’s debating coach, acted as adjudicator and awarded victory to the School IV, whom he considered gave overall more persuasive and relevant arguments and spoke with better rhetoric and style. Next, the boys faced their teachers on the motion ‘Beaks’ salaries should be performance-related pay’. The adjudicator was Mr Jordan Anderson, a respected debater with 21 competition wins. Although the boys made strong arguments, they were unable to meet the quality of the debating skills of their more experienced opponents, and the beaks were eventually judged to have made the more convincing case.

The Dulwich College Debating Competition is the largest schools’ competition in the UK. Arturo Saville Mascioni and Harry Winward made it to the Silver final – a first for Harrow. They did very well as a team and were placed second in the final round. Arturo was also judged fifth-best speaker overall at the competition, from a pool of 180.



Inspire graduation ceremony for participants in 2023/24



Community arts project event



The Grove Gardening Club

SHAFTESBURY ENTERPRISE

The Harrow School Inspire Scholars Programme welcomed 25 pupils from 12 local primary schools to begin a new academic year for the borough’s most promising young students. The afternoon’s events included an engaging Maths workshop led by Siew-Chiang Lim, Head of Mathematics, supported by Harrow’s top mathematicians. Pupils were also given the opportunity to explore creative-writing techniques with English beak Sofia Shafi, in a session designed to inspire a love for language.

Over the course of Inspire’s free year-long programme, students are not only academically challenged in Maths and English but also develop critical-thinking and communication skills through debating sessions. Additionally, they have the chance to participate in tailored Royal Institution Primary Maths Masterclass series. At the end of the course, they take part in a graduation ceremony at Harrow.

The Inspire Programme forms a key part of Harrow School’s Widening Access initiative, which seeks to support talented boys and girls from diverse backgrounds, particularly those who may have faced limited life opportunities.

Harrow’s Ryan Theatre was the venue for a showcase of community-based arts projects that are working with children and young people across the Harrow borough. The event was supported by John Lyon’s Charity, the Young Harrow Foundation and Harrow School.

HARROW RIFLE CORPS

The Pringle competition is a tough event hosted by the Royal Marines for their cadets from across the UK. The Harrow team, competing in Tier A, comprised Freddie Williams, Algy Royle, Jenkyn Keigwin, Ben Cutts, Charlie Chambers, Henry Campbell-Johnston, Henry Barker, Colville Wood and Zach Elliott. They had trained hard, much of it in their own time, and were placed third overall, the best Harrow outcome in some years.

CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABILITY

Sixth Former Cyrus Chang won the Warwick University Global Sustainable Development essay competition with his response to the title ‘The UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are due to expire in 2030. What would you propose to substitute the UN SDGs after 2030?’. This is an enormous achievement in such a prestigious competition.

YESfest, in partnership with the Eden Project and Harrow Council, invited over 100 primary-school children from 17 local schools to come to Harrow to learn about nature, conservation and environmental sustainability. Harrow boys led workshops and tours of the nature walk in a thoroughly engaging day. Harrow also hosted a CPD day for Heads, Assistant Heads and Eco-leads from 35 local schools, with talks from UCL and the National Education Nature Park. Eight boys also went to Northwood College to take part in a mock COP 28, playing the roles of different countries in negotiations.

Boys in The Grove with an enthusiasm for horticulture have established the Grove Gardening Club. Its goal is to promote sustainable agriculture and show people where their food comes from. Member have grown courgettes, jalapeno chillies, cherry tomatoes, rhubarb chard, French beans, spinach, green and red lettuces, rainbow radishes, mustard leaves, mizuna, pak choi and mixed salad leaves. They also have a herb bed with basil, parsley, thyme, rosemary and salad onions, as well as a strawberry bed interplanted with garlic to fend off pests. Teaming up with Harrow’s Horticultural Society, the club aims to provide fresh and organic produce to all members of the Harrow community, so that everyone can enjoy a taste of fresh fruit and vegetables, grown in the rain and sunshine!



Harrow hosted YESfest

POLO

Harrow's polo players faced Eton at their annual showdown at Guards Polo Club for the Jenny Masters Trophy. From the opening chukka, it was evident that both teams were fiercely determined to secure victory. The Harrow team were on top form and finished the first chukka with a 5-1 lead. They strengthened their lead with two more goals in the second chukka, and, after a goal-less third chukka, the final chukka brought a flurry of adrenaline-fuelled action, and the match ended in an 8-1 victory for Harrow – and a seventh win in a row in the competition.



RUGBY

Kepu Tuipulotu, captain of the 2023/24 1st XV, was named England Under-18 captain, leading the side on tour in South Africa over the summer. He was joined by centre Charlie Griffin, who scored multiple tries for England on the same tour. Both Kepu and Charlie signed for Bath Rugby alongside their studies at Bath University and have exciting professional careers ahead of them. Reggie Hammick also signed a professional contract with Saracens and will combine this with study at Loughborough University. Sam Winters captain of The XV for 2024/25, represented the England Under-18 rugby team in a three-match tour of South Africa, playing against Georgia, South Africa and Ireland.



CRICKET

Having beaten Eton at Lord's for the third consecutive year, the 1st XI completed a famous Cowdrey Cup campaign with a win away at Charterhouse. Having already beaten Eton, Tonbridge, Wellington and Radley, it was the first time since 2008 that Harrow has won the competition. In the final game, the XI were put under early pressure by the Charterhouse bowlers, but Henry Macdonald's sublime 124 from 83 balls helped Harrow to 255 all out at the half-way point. A 130-run third-wicket partnership from Charterhouse put Harrow under pressure again but a fine spell from Jack Nelson swung the momentum back to Harrow. Charterhouse eventually fell 52 runs short to leave Harrow the victors.

After a superb regular season, the Junior Colts A team travelled to Arundel Castle Cricket Club for the Under-15 T20 National Cup Final day. Only Harrow, Shrewsbury School, Scarborough College and King's College, Taunton remained from the 950 schools that had entered. After defeating King's College by 45 runs in the semi-final, the Harrovians overcame Scarborough College in the final by 63 runs and brought the Under-15 T20 National Cup to Harrow for the first time in the School's history.



SWIMMING

Upper Sixth Former Nick Finch represented Great Britain at the European Junior Championships in June, winning two golds. Alex Moore, Max Stafford Davies and Eric Lesesne competed at the British and English Schools national competition, all swimming personal best times in their events.

TRIATHLON

Remove Harry Jodrell participated in the finals of the British Triathlon Super Series. He competed in the Under-15 event and finished 13th of 60 competitors.

WATER POLO

Sixth Former Sias Bruinette was selected to represent the London Region at the Open Under-18 Inter-Regional water polo competition.





CLIMBING

Three Harrovians took part in the HarroWall Big Comp, a climbing competition that attracts a range of participants including Olympians and some of the best climbers in the UK. Rupert Lawless took part in the Senior competition, and Gary Li and Sean Tiernan competed in the Junior category. Rupert's victory in the Under-21 category put him in 7th place overall.

JUDO

Leone Bartoccioni Menconi of the Shells won a bronze medal in the Under-50kg category at the English National Judo Championships. This is an outstanding result.

CROSS-COUNTRY

Michael Cattini competed in the Under-18 England National Championships, achieving 12th place and covering the 6km in 18:58 minutes.



ATHLETICS

Twenty-one Harrow athletes went to the Middlesex County Championships. These athletes had previously qualified for the event through earlier outstanding performances. The day was marked by exceptional athletic feats, with every participant displaying remarkable grit and determination to achieve personal bests. The following became Middlesex County Champions:

- Berkley Barnicoat – Under-15 shot put
- Jesse Aidoo – Under-15 triple jump
- Emile Majed – Under-17 discus
- Otis Farrer-Brown – Under-17 1500m
- Tom Dargan – Under-17 shot put



TENNIS

During the summer, over 80 boys in the Shell year played tennis. The Shell A team enjoyed excellent victories over Eton, Tonbridge and Wellington. The Harrow senior teams had an outstanding term, in particular the 1st team, which had an exceptional second-round win in the ISL and won all but one of their matches during the term.



- Tito Odunaike – Under-17 triple jump
- Tori Backhouse – Under-17 javelin

The performance of the day came from Auberon Dragten who achieved 2nd place in the Under-17 400m, setting a new School record with a personal best time of 51.08 seconds. The previous record had stood since 2011.

Tito Odunaike won gold in the Under-17 triple jump at the English Schools National Track and Field Championships. His winning distance of 14.53m (a new School record) now ranks him first in the United Kingdom.

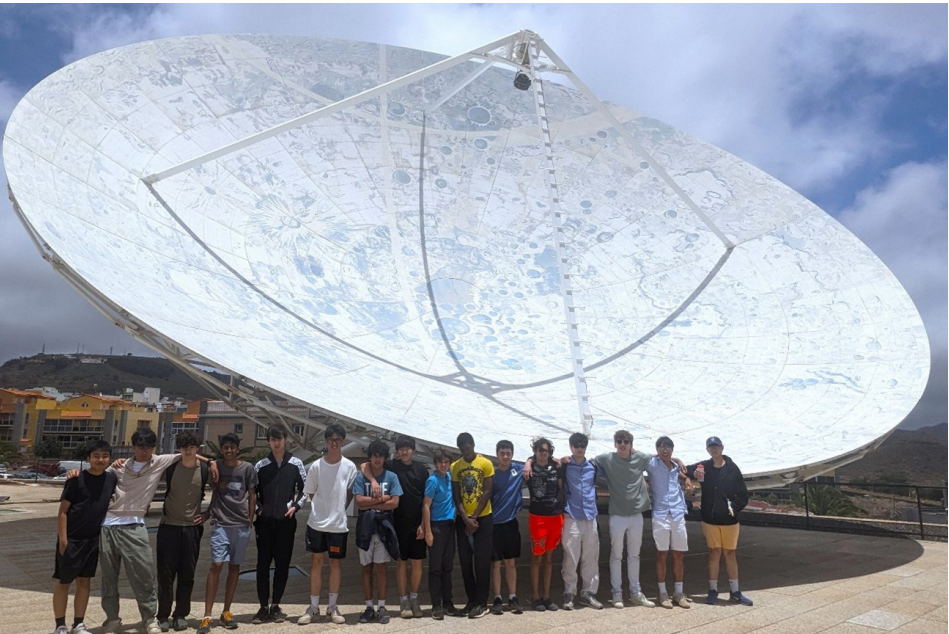
DIVING IN MEXICO

A group of enthusiastic Harrovian divers travelled to Mexico to explore the pristine waters around the coast of Cozumel. During their dives, they witnessed the vibrant colours and diverse marine life of the abundant coral reefs, and tested their navigation skills in the unknown depths of the Palancar caves. They observed nurse sharks resting underneath coral reefs and stingrays and turtles gliding alongside them. Perhaps the most exciting experience of the trip was witnessing the seasonal whale sharks, swimming as close as an arm's length away. The trip concluded with an incredible wreck dive – the C-53 Felipe Xicotencatl wreck was extraordinary, amalgamating the tides of time with the beauty of the sea.



SOCCKER TOUR TO CALIFORNIA

California was the destination for 25 Harrovians on a soccer tour that aimed to prepare the 1st and 2nd XI squads ahead of the new season. The boys faced a variety of academy and next-gen teams spread across the state, including teams from the San Jose Earthquakes and LA Galaxy. Between fixtures and training sessions, boys were hosted by the Head Coach of the Stanford Cardinals as they toured campuses at both Stanford and UC Berkeley, and they had the opportunity to experience much of what Golden State has to offer, including an all-American barbecue at Rincon Beach and an early-morning tram ride down to the Golden Gate Bridge.



STARGAZING IN TENERIFE

Sixteen boys with an interest in astronomy travelled to Tenerife to experience the clear skies and unparalleled stargazing opportunities the island has to offer. Their itinerary included a visit to the European Observatories located near the summit of Mount Teide. During this excursion, they met with research teams from the Canary Islands, gaining insights into Earth's position in the vast cosmos. A highlight was the opportunity to participate in astronomy fieldwork sessions held in the national park situated within the caldera.

THE SITES OF CLASSICAL GREECE

Twenty-eight Harrovians visited some of the major and most enthralling sites of ancient Greece. In Athens, they explored the monuments of the Acropolis, the Agora and the treasures of the National Archaeological Museum and Acropolis Museum, before travelling the next day to the port of Piraeus and taking the ferry to the island of Aegina. They moved on to Delphi with its famous temple of Apollo, to Olympia, home of the Olympic Games, to Mycenae – made famous by the tales of Homer – and the ancient cities of Sparta and Corinth, with a final stop to watch a magnificent sunset from Cape Sounion.



OLD HARROVIAN NEWS



Ibi Akhtar with members of teamArchie



Will Seex



Freddy Paske



Finlay Douglas and Charlie Young



Matthew Chin



Jafer Chohan



Ben Eadon



Michael Gibson

Charlie Rubin's (*Bradlys 2004*) company Purdy & Figg Ltd was ranked in the Sunday Times Fastrack top ten fastest growing companies in the UK in 2024.

Will Seex (*The Knoll 2009*) graduated with an MBA from The Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth in June 2024. During the ceremony, Will received the Julia Stell Award for substantial contributions to Tuck, leadership in school programmes, and extraordinary efforts to help fellow students. In 2025, he will be joining Bain & Company as a Consultant in London.

Benjamin Eadon (*Druries 1998*) has been appointed as the next Priest Administrator at the shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham.

Edward Dowler (*The Head Master's 1981*) was installed as Dean of Chichester.

Finlay Douglas (*Newlands 2018*) and **Charlie Young** (*Newlands 2018*) partnered with Ukrainian charity Voices for Children and cycled 2,000km from the UK to the Ukrainian border. Voices for Children has helped 83,000 children in the past year and raised over \$8 million. The trip took 18 days plus two rest days, an average of 125km per day.

Chester Robinson (*The Knoll 2007*) was inspired by his mother's homemade granola to create RAISE, a range of snacks based on nuts and seeds.

Richard Rowlandson (*Moretons 1953*) and his tennis partner John Barnett won the Over-85 Men's Doubles competition at the National Indoor Championships. They were also runners-up in the National Grass Court Championships and the Over-80 National Clay Court Championships.

Freddy Paske (*West Acre 1999*) is an award-winning wildlife artist and formerly Queen Elizabeth II's Artist in Residence. An exhibition of his latest work, inspired by expeditions to Australia and Africa in 2023, will be showing at Gallery Different in London in November.

Cameron Ellis (*Rendalls 2018*) has been signed for a one-year professional contract with rugby club Newcastle Falcons. He will do this while studying at Newcastle University.

Jafer Chohan (*Lyon's 2015*) has been selected for the England Men's Cricket team in their white-ball tour of the West Indies.

Michael Gibson (*Rendalls 1982*) returned to the Hill to give a lecture to the Slavonic Society.

James Ross (*Newlands 1985*) conducted the Kent Sinfonia for Albion Record's *Royal Throne of Kings: Vaughan Williams & Shakespeare*, a collection of orchestral music composed by Ralph Vaughan Williams for Shakespeare plays at Stratford Memorial Theatre and for BBC Radio. None of the orchestral music featured on the album has been previously recorded.

Ibi Akhtar (*The Head Master's 2010*) completed seven marathons in seven days across seven European countries to raise funds for The Archie Lloyd Charitable Foundation in memory of his school friend Archie (*The Head Master's 2010*) who died in 2015. He ended by running the old Long Ducker route from Bill Yard to Marble Arch. He was joined by a number of OHs and friends and was cheered on by Harrow beaks. Ibi has raised nearly £23,000 so far in aid of teamArchie, which works with partner charities to ensure that personal circumstances are not a barrier to the fulfilment of potential.

Matthew Chin (*Bradlys 2018*) is halfway through National Service in Singapore. He was awarded the Sword of Merit as one of the best Officer Cadets in the entire cohort, performing well while keeping up with his studies.

Harrow School

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