

THE HARROVIAN

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THE GROVE & LYON'S HOUSE PLAY

Ovid's Metamorphoses, Ryan Theatre, 17-18 March

Last week, in the Ryan Theatre, the Lyon's and The Grove House play took place. They performed Ovid's *Metamorphoses* and presented several different stories from the possible 250 to choose from. The script was written by ERPB, Julian Herschel, *The Grove*, and Tony Shi, *The Grove* and what had seemed as if it were going to be a particularly average production exceeded all expectations.



To start with, the musical accompaniment that assisted the storytelling of the performance was simply outstanding; it raised the entire production to another level. Composed and conducted by Joseph Wragg, *The Grove*, what sounded like a professional score was performed by an orchestra made up entirely of boys in The Grove and Lyon's. Throughout the performance, the music controlled the atmosphere in the auditorium, effectively showing the audience the chaos and destruction the storm causes at the opening of the play as well as building in volume and tempo when tension arose in individual scenes.

The choreography was another element of the production that worked particularly well. What many people may not understand is the amount of rehearsal that has to go into any form of group movement to make it work. As well as learning the individual moves yourself, the most important part is the synchronisation required by the entire ensemble to make the whole movement look fluid and effortless and have some form of effect on the audience. As well as the narration from Alonso Fontana, *The Grove*, and the musical accompaniment, the opening movement section, performed by an ensemble, effectively conveyed the disarray and mayhem caused by the storm, which clearly set the tone for the rest of the performance.

After the opening section, we were welcomed to Achelous' cave-type setting where we met many other heroes who told several different myths while they waited for the storm to pass. Achelous was played by Tom Leonard, *Lyon's*, who effectively conveyed Achelous's comedic character and took ownership of the stage when speaking, clearly delivering the confidence his character is meant to portray. Rowland Eveleigh, *The Grove*, made his second appearance in just two weeks on the Ryan Theatre stage, this time portraying Theseus, the minotaur slayer.

His bold stage presence emphasised the bravery his character has shown in past situations, and the confidence in Theseus was only depleted when Pirithous entered the stage, played by Jamie Jevons, *Lyon's*. Jevons used his natural height to tower above the other characters on stage, gaining status and power in his scene, as well as clearly conveying the annoyance Pirithous feels towards the other characters such as Theseus by gesturing with his hand as well as using a range of facial expressions. Ralph Lubbe, *The Grove*, did a remarkably good job in his first appearance on the Ryan stage, and when presenting his myth he spoke with good diction, making it very clear to the audience what was happening on stage. Ben Leonard, *The Grove*, was another actor who made his second appearance on the stage in just two weeks, taking on two rather different roles. When playing Pygmalion, he combined well with Luke Tang, *Lyon's*, who played Pygmalion's statue. They did a very good job in creating a comedic effect, which they continued throughout the scene. Ben Leonard also performed a more serious, bad-tempered character later in the production, carrying the momentum of the final scene, where, along with the music, he effectively built up tension before the closing movement section ended the performance.



Overall, the production was extremely enjoyable to watch and huge congratulations must go to both ERPB and TMB for directing what was in the end quite a complicated performance with multiple different elements to it. As always, a well done must go to all the members of the backstage team led by Dylan Winward, *Lyon's*, and a thank you must go to James, Kieran, Penny and all the Ryan Theatre staff. Many Harrovians aren't aware of the many responsibilities of all the members of the backstage team during a performance. Without them, however, it simply would not happen.

CLASSICAL SOCIETY

*Stephen Anderson's Masterclass on 'Writing Latin',
24 February*

On 24 February, the Classical Society was most fortunate to have been able to invite Mr Stephen Anderson to give a masterclass on Latin prose composition, which is the art of

translating English into Latin and is a core component of the A-level Latin course. Mr Anderson is the Rodewald Lecturer in Classical Languages at New College, Oxford, and was also the Head of Classics for an incredible 25 years at Winchester (including when HRF was teaching there, as we were to learn about later on). Throughout his career, Mr Anderson has also been heavily involved in public examinations, serving as the chairman of the committee that developed the Greek and Latin syllabuses for Cambridge Pre-U, and as the Chief Examiner in Greek for the same qualification.



Despite his near-legendary status in the field, the atmosphere in the Deno Leventis Library was most relaxed and engaging: echoes of laughter could be heard constantly as we sat around the table armed with good, old-fashioned pen and paper while the rest of the Classics Department sat behind us, armed with, as always, a few bottles of alcohol.

First, Mr Anderson clearly explained to us the significance of imitating Roman idioms and customs when translating from English to Latin. For example, he demonstrated that, while the sentence ‘Rome was afraid of a rapid Carthaginian advance through Italy’ makes perfect sense in English and is technically grammatically correct when directly translated into Latin, the alternative ‘The Romans were fearing that the Carthaginians would rapidly advance through Italy’, despite its minute differences, is much preferable and more in line with how the Romans would have spoken. The core concept and idea when translating English is, therefore, especially at higher levels, to translate the ‘big idea’ the original writer was trying to convey with Roman customs in mind rather than translating specific, individual words.

It is with this in mind that Mr Anderson led us to translate together into Latin a passage written by the 18th-century historian Edward Gibbon on the death of Flavius Valens, emperor of the Eastern Roman Empire, at the Battle of Adrianople in 378 CE. We went through the passage line-by-line, with Mr Anderson providing clear guidance when we were unsure. Moreover, he demonstrated clearly the many different approaches we were able to take when translating these lines so that we might be able to incorporate a degree of ‘variatio’, a rhetorical device used by Roman authors such as Tacitus and Livy, by conveying the same message but with a variety of different expressions into our translations. Before finishing, he showed to us a more complex Tacitean version of the translation, which we were able to compare to our own so that we might be able to further develop the complexity of our translation with Roman rhetoric.

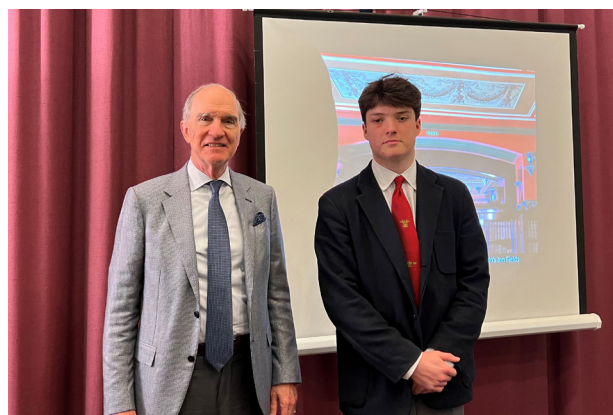
Mr Anderson spoke in an engaging manner with great clarity and knowledge, and his wisdom around the subject was truly valuable and fascinating. Given his distinguished career and status in the academic world of Classics, the Classical Society is deeply grateful to him for giving up his time to deliver a masterclass at Harrow.

EVANS SOCIETY

*Bruce Boucher, ‘The Soane’s Collection,’
OSRG, 10 March*

It was the great pleasure of the Evans Society to welcome Dr Bruce Boucher, director of Sir John Soane’s Museum, to the School. Dr Boucher has studied at Harvard, Magdalen College, Oxford, (where he was Rhodes Scholar) and the Courtauld Institute of Art. Dr Boucher then taught at University College in the University of London for more than 20 years. Dr Boucher became curator and the Head of European Sculpture, Decorative Arts and Ancient Art at the Art Institute of Chicago in 2002, before joining the Soane in 2016. Dr Boucher’s talk concerned the 18th-century reception of vases from antiquity and the misnomer that they were in fact “Etruscan.” The talk, for obvious reasons, had a particular focus on the collection of Sir John Soane.

Dr Boucher began by providing some context on the life of Sir John Soane, after whom the museum of no less than 40,000 objects is named, as a result of his generous historical donations. He was born in 1753 and died in 1837. Sir Soane was a self-made man, his father being a bricklayer, which Dr Boucher described as “very unusual” for the time. His talent was recognised by prominent architect George Dance, who recommended he attend the Royal Academy. While there, Soane had great success, being awarded both silver and gold medals. As a result of his success, Soane had his own “Grand Tour” paid for by the Royal Academy. This was important as it allowed him to associate with many young aristocrats, academics and architects doing similar things.



During his career as a prominent architect, Soane held many important public commissions. Unfortunately, most of these works no longer survive. However, the Dulwich Picture Gallery was designed by him, and still exists today. It serves as an excellent example of his work.

Dr Boucher then moved onto discuss the interest in vases in the 18th century. As he explained, they were mainly decorative items. Indeed, Dr Boucher suggested that they sometimes “rise like finials on top of bookcases”, and that they were “household furniture”. Robert Adam illustrates this the best in one of designs for a clothes press from 1764 in which vases do appear almost as finials. Therefore, as Dr Boucher explained, Soane’s interest in vases was not antiquarian.

Next, Dr Boucher expanded on the vases in Soane’s collection. Many in Soane’s collection were bought from James Clarke, a Scotsman living in Naples and dealing in antiques. Initially Soane’s collection was designed for his country house, Pitzhanger Manor. The most expensive, and the centrepiece of Soane’s vase collection, is the Cawdor Vase, bought at auction in 1800 for £85, 13 shillings and sixpence. This is a late 4th-century Apulian krater, which Soane supposedly only purchased due to the volutes and their similarity to architectural volutes, once again proving the point that Soane was not simply a curious

antiquarian. Dr Boucher explained that much of Soane's collection of vases occupied the midpoint of the price range and were bought merely for aesthetic purposes.

Then Dr Boucher got into the "Etruscan" nature of the vases and other misconceptions. This was, as he explained, an unhelpful mistake on the part of many archaeologists and collectors. Perhaps unhelpfully, this misnomer was included in one of the first books published about vases, written by Sir William Hamilton (British ambassador to the Kingdom of Two Sicilies, and the man whom Lord Nelson cuckolded) and published by William D'Hancerville. Even more unhelpfully, the name stuck when Josiah Wedgwood began copying the vases and calling them Etrurian Ware. The misconception surrounding the nature of the vases at the time was born from the fact that the vases were being dug up in Etruria at the time. This was mainly due to the fact that Greece was "terra incognita" at the time, whereas Italy was very much part of the civilised world. Following this, Dr Boucher discussed the beliefs about use of these vases. One of these was that they had funerary connotations. This was a view taken by D'Hancerville. The simple explanation for this was that all the vases archaeologists had found were in tombs. Finally, Dr Boucher discussed the somewhat random but firmly held belief that antique vases were associated with the Eleusinian mysteries. This belief was also held by D'Hancerville, but also by James Christie (founder of Christie's), who included such an association in one of his auction catalogues. Unfortunately, due to a lack of information concerning the Eleusinian mysteries, this belief is hard to confirm or deny.

Dr Boucher finished up by taking a few questions. Overall, a highly detailed and informative talk by a distinguished speaker, which was enjoyed by all. If you would like more information about the Evans Society or would like to get involved in future, please contact Jerry Qi, *The Park*, or Archie Tait, *The Head Master's*.

MEDICAL SOCIETY

Ray Moon, *West Acre*, 'Telomeres and Longevity: How Can We Expand Our Lifespan?', 31 January

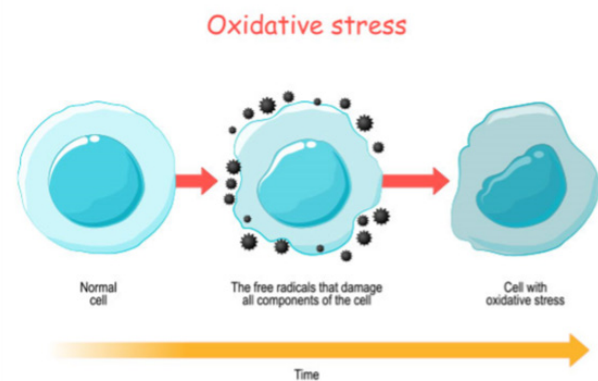
On Monday 31 January, Ray Moon, *West Acre*, gave a talk to the Medical Society on telomeres, their effect on longevity, and how to expand one's lifespan. Firstly, Moon defined telomeres: telomeres are protective caps on the end of our chromosomes, similar to the plastic on the end of shoelaces. They protect the chromosomes from degrading during each cell cycle, a series of events when a cell grows and divides. In each cell replication, the telomeres get shorter and shorter until they are too short and cells cannot divide, leading to tissues dying. They are rebuilt by an enzyme called telomerase that restores cell division, but if division becomes uncontrollable and overtakes the telomeres, cancerous tumours are formed. Therefore, in healthy cells, telomeres cleverly prevent this by limiting cellular life span.

Moon pointed out the different factors that inhibit the shortening of telomeres and factors that degrade telomeres. The inhibiting factors are reduced IGF-1, SIRT 1 activation, antioxidants and oestrogen, while the degrading factors are oxidative stress, chronic inflammation and cell division. Acute inflammation like burns and cuts can be easily healed, but when they lead to chronic inflammation they are harder to heal and can be fatal.

The telomere length of humans decreases by ~71–72 base pairs per year, while adult humans normally contain 1500–2000 base pairs at the end of each chromosome. This may not seem like much, but factors such as oxidative stress, like smoking, can increase the base pairs lost per year.

Moon then went into more detail about the inhibiting factors of the shortening of telomeres. Antioxidants defend cells from free radicals, slow telomere shortening and, most importantly,

defend cells from oxidative stress. Moon then showed a slide (see below) depicting a cell before and after it was under oxidative stress, showing the negative effects. SIRT 1 (short for Sirtuin 1), meanwhile, is an NAD⁺ dependent gene that protects organisms from illnesses and enhances metabolism. IGF-1 is a hormone that controls the growth in the body. It is a biomarker that shows the level of inflammation happening in the body. IGF-1 increases neurogenesis, cell survival, synaptogenesis, neurite growth and myelination. It also increases the concentration of ROS (reactive oxygen species), which are not good for cells, which means antioxidants are necessary in combating it. IGF-1 prevents autophagy, which is the cleaning of damaged cells. Since it prevents autophagy, it will lead to the accumulation of cell debris, which will lead to cancerous tumours. IGF-1 also prevents stress-resistance and, because of this, cells are more prone to damages of stress. Interestingly, oestrogen is also an inhibiting factor, which explains why, on average, women have longer lifespans than men.



Moon moved on to the preservation of telomeres. The aforementioned NAD⁺, which is a coenzyme involved in many metabolic processes, is a helper molecule that regulates the essential cell functions that convert nutrients to the energy required in metabolism. However, NAD⁺ declines with age, leading to problems with metabolism. This induces obesity and insulin resistance, which furthers diabetes and high blood pressure. David Sinclair of Harvard Medical School states that by the age of 50, one will have about half the level of NAD⁺ than that at 20, which indicates how NAD⁺ levels decline.

Booster experiments on yeast, worms and mice have succeeded in increasing NAD⁺ levels, activating sirtuins that require NAD⁺ and increasing their lifespan. Scientists are still trying to implement these results on humans.

There are two primary ways of boosting NAD⁺: enhancing enzymes involved in NAD⁺ biosynthesis and taking NAD⁺ precursor molecules. To enhance the enzymes in NAD⁺ biosynthesis, fasting and exercising are key. A healthy diet and exercise boost NAD⁺. In yeast, caloric restriction activates NAD⁺ dependent sirtuins. Aerobic and resistance exercise restore age-dependent enzymes, and Moon showed a descriptive graph that showed that the more steps walked per day, the further you were from your grave.

Another way of preserving telomeres that Moon mentioned was taking metformin and berberine, which lower blood glucose levels by improving the way our bodies handle insulin. Berberine is a natural compound found in plants like the barberry shrub, and metformin is a synthetic compound found in French lilac, which works similarly to berberine. Both have been proven to work on flies and mice.

Moon then pointed out the benefits of resveratrol, fisetin and quercetin. Resveratrol is found in red grapes. Products made from red grapes, therefore, which are usually found in the Mediterranean diet, have the benefits of resveratrol, which are that it expands blood vessels and reduces blood clotting, both of which are great dangers to longevity. Fisetin is an antioxidant that rids damaged cells of free radicals. It also reduces senescent

cells, which are harmful to healthy cells and accelerate the aging process. It is found in fruits and vegetables, like strawberries. Quercetin is a plant pigment found in onions. It has antioxidant and anti-inflammatory effects, reducing swelling, killing cancer cells, controlling blood sugar and preventing heart disease. It's anti-inflammatory function showed potential in curing COVID-19, as COVID-19 is an inflammatory pneumonia. Moon then showed a list of adequate dosages for each supplement he mentioned.

Moon moved on to daily actions that affect lifespan, primarily focusing on prolonged sitting. It increases the risk of deep vein thrombosis, blood clots and edema, known as swelling, which is induced by blood clots. In oedema, one-way valves are damaged and clots are more easily formed.

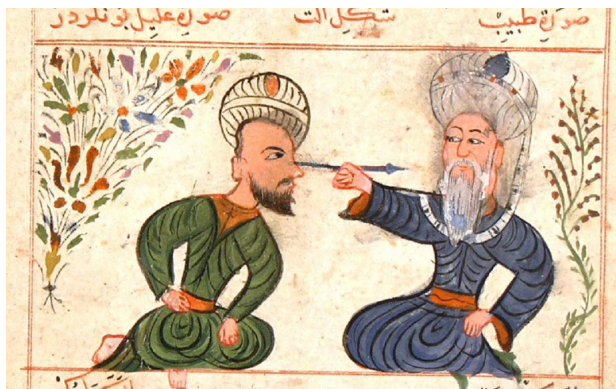
Another risk to longevity mentioned was high blood pressure, which raises the risks of heart attacks and strokes and damages the walls of arteries, causing them to weaken and narrow, making it easier for blood to accumulate and form blood clots.

Moon concluded by summarising all his points: the mechanisms of telomeres, the factors affecting telomeres, the daily actions that effect longevity, and stated that the most effective method in improving longevity is longevity treatment supplements. Everyone left the talk more educated on telomeres and eager to improve the length of their life.

MEDICAL SOCIETY

Tamim Downe, The Grove, 'The History of Middle Eastern Medicine', 7 March

Last Monday, the Medical Society was pleased to welcome Tamim Downe, *The Grove*, who gave an informative lecture on 'The history of Middle Eastern medicine'. Throughout the talk, Downe explored various Muslim figures who were influential in laying a foundation on which modern medicine could build upon, as well as going into ancient Middle Eastern methods which are still recognisable today.



Downe began the lecture by explaining horticulture, which is the art of cultivating plants in order to serve a medicine-related purpose. Things like herbs, fruits and vegetables were important in ancient Middle Eastern times. For example, cold vegetables would be used to treat hot ailments, such as a cucumber treating a fever, and hot vegetables would be used to treat cold ailments, so a hot pepper would be used to treat a difficult blockage in the throat.

Downe subsequently introduced the first significant individual, Ibn-Sina, or Avicenna as he was known in the West, around the 10th century. His revolutions include using forceps in difficult birth deliveries, the distinction between central and peripheral face paralysis, and the recognition of the guinea worm infection. Among his most important works was *The Book of Healing*. His medicine was regarded as the backbone of Middle Eastern medicine, which included volumes addressing various medical issues.

The second individual of importance Downe named was Al-Razi, a physician best known for his work in medicine and his writings on botany, zoology, physics and maths. Lauded by modern scholars, he remained one of the undisputed authorities in European medicine well into the 17th century.

The final early pioneers of medicine were Al-Nafis, whose contributions regarding the anatomy of the body, especially the passage of blood inside the heart, paved the way for future studies of the circulatory system, and Al-Haytham, who came to the conclusion that images were formed from the refraction of light, which he published in *The Book of Optics*.

Downe then explained certain procedures taken up by ancient Middle Eastern scientists, such as bloodletting (the surgical removal of blood from the body in order to remove bad "humours") and an early form of cauterization (the burning of a body part in order to mitigate bleeding and damage to the general area). Early bloodletting methods have now been adapted for relieving muscles and muscle pains, using a heated glass.

Finally, Downe introduced early Middle Eastern hospitals, some built all the way back in 707 in Damascus. These hospitals were given the name *Dar al Shifa* (Arabic for House of curing). These hospitals were secular and turned no one away, maintaining the sole purpose of healing and treating the wounded. Men and women were admitted to separate, equally equipped wards, and these wards were divided into mental disease, contagious disease, non-contagious disease, and surgery. Patients would be attended to by nurses and staff of the same sex. Curiously, each hospital contained a lecture hall, kitchen, pharmacy, library and even a chapel for Christian patients. Musicians were also employed to cheer patients up. The earliest forms of licensing exams came into being, when in 931, physician Caliph AlMuqtadir learned of the death of one of his patients due to an unforced error. From then on, he made sure that every physician who was allowed to work underwent close examination.

Many thanks to Downe for giving a lecture encompassing so many crucial aspects of early medicine, pioneered by the often overlooked Middle Eastern scientists. The audience emerged with a greater understanding of the origins of so many important medical ideas and procedures.

PIGOU SOCIETY

Timur Magomedov and Walid Nsouli, both The Knoll, 'The ultimate fighting championship: How a background brawl organisation became a multi-billion dollar mixed martial arts empire', 1 March

On Tuesday 1 March, the Pigou Society welcomed Timur Magomedov and Walid Nsouli, both *The Knoll*, for a fascinating talk on the UFC (Ultimate Fighting Championship). Forbes reported in 2020 that UFC is worth around the \$7 billion mark, which shows how impressive the job of Dana White has been in growing the business from the \$2 million company with loose rules and a bad reputation to one of the biggest brands in martial arts. Magomedov and Nsouli highlighted that the company was going bankrupt when White and the Fertitta brothers took the opportunity to put their vision into practice.

White began revamping the brand by addressing the loose rules and problems that had become associated with the UFC. He began to buy back all the rights of the company and address the sponsorship, advertising and venues. However, UFC was still in the red and had amassed a debt of \$40 million. The concept of pay-per-view, where viewers are required to pay a fee for each fight, is a successful one for big brands such as the UFC now but, at the time, it needed exposure and White came up with a very important TV show for the future of the

company. *The Ultimate Fighter* created exposure for UFC and each episode brought more followers of the martial art. White called the final of this fighting show the most important fight in the history of the UFC, which put UFC on the map. Following this, Nsouli emphasised that the takeover of competitors Strike Force and Pride Fighting was hugely important in securing monopolistic power in the industry and grew the size of the martial art brand further.

The business model of the UFC was also mentioned and the high profit margins per fight due to low fighter pay was debated by members of the audience. Fighters make only 7% of total revenue compared to nearly 50% for players in the NBA. This means that although profit margins are huge for the brand it does leave fighters unhappy, and this is an unhealthy relationship as the brand depends on the fighters as the most important part of the process. Some believe that UFC is attractive enough that fighters who complain and leave can easily be replaced, as it is a dream for many to fight in the octagon. On the other hand, if the big names such as McGregor, Poirier and Khabib start to stand up for the fighters, it could be a big business problem as well as the obvious ethical issues attached with poor pay for those that are taking beatings and creating all the revenue for the brand.

The UFC's parent company, Endeavour Group Holdings, kicked off its IPO at the NY stock exchange last year. The stock was priced at \$24 and has since risen to \$30. Although White threatened to leave if the company became public, this turned out to be a hugely positive move. A case study used to highlight the success of the company under White was the blockbuster event of UFC 229. McGregor v Khabib was the third-highest pay-per view event in the history of sports, netting a revenue of \$86.4 million. This is an incredible revenue for a single event and the fact that the disclosed salary for the two was \$3 million and \$2 million respectively highlights the emphatic profit margins of the UFC.

In conclusion, the business takeaway was that a vision can always be made into a success with hard work and perseverance in adversity. When others saw the impossible and probable failure, Dana White and the Fertitta brothers saw an opportunity through which they achieved incredible success. They created an organisation that has cemented itself into history and has become a household name in mixed martial arts. Thank you to Nsouli and Magomedov for delivering the talk with clear passion and interest in the sport, and conveying the key message that there are always opportunities to succeed in business even when the light at the end of the tunnel seems to be so faint.

MUN

LSE, 12 March

On the weekend of 12 March, the Model United Nations team attended an annual conference run by the London School of Economics and Political Science. Although they had a team largely consisting of debutants, there were high expectations of the Harrow team, with the School having proved the most successful at last year's iteration.

After weeks of anticipation and preparation, the conference began, with delegates anxious for their first conference and nervous about losing weeks of hard work. Although the captain-in-absence Dylan Winward, *Lyon's*, was able to encourage all delegates throughout the School's famous "intensive training programme", the team was left to their own devices as they went into the Zoom call. On UNSOCHUM, after a successful motion to set the topic agenda to drug trafficking, winning by just one vote, Jerry Qi, *The Park*, knew that he had a good early chance of dominating the committee. Blocs quickly started to

form, with Qi leading the major block. Despite attempts from the delegate of Egypt, he retained his majority, passed a resolution and was also very honoured to receive the Best Delegate award from his chairs at the end of the day.

On the United Nations Security Council, debutants Jamie Jevons, *Lyon's*, and Robert Young, *The Grove*, were put on the Security Council. Representing the DPRK on a committee recommending sanctions against the DPRK proved difficult, with a general expectation that more sanctions were to be put in place. However, in fact, the chairs were left flabbergasted as the DPRK delegates had persuaded the delegates of the USA, Raulph Lubbe, *The Grove*, and Nathan Karri, *Rendalls*, to remove all sanctions via straw-manning each of their purposes and posing the discussion to be a humanitarian one. Very early on, the USA agreed to get rid of all sanctions, but soon, due to a backstabbing Russia, the lack of China and a loud, sobby Albanian representative, the USA joined their agreement. The Chair's flabbers continued to be gasted as the final agreement removed sanctions rather than imposing them and continued to allow missile tests and development. As a result of their Harrovian pluck, Young and Jevons took the Best Delegation award on what is the most challenging of councils.

The UNHRC committee involved immensely interesting discussions from all delegates involved on the topic of decriminalisation of homosexuality. As the delegate from North Korea, Zak Low, *Bradlys*, allowed diplomacy to shine through as the more conservative nations joined up to form a bloc to block (intentional pun) any bills pushed forward by the Western capitalist powers. In the end, the free-choice bloc proposed and passed a resolution reaffirming a nation's sovereignty and independence to not be dictated to by international powers. In the spirit of co-operation, the North Korean-led bloc collaborated with the opposing bloc and welcomed their criticisms. This led to a loss of majority and the prevalence of democracy to pass a resolution against the North Korean interest. Nonetheless, it was a strong effort from Low who picked up an Honourable Mention award on his committee.

On the committee of the World Health Organisation, the conference weekend began with a series of informal discussions and lobbying, where ideas regarding the two topics were floated and the initial blocs of delegations were formed – one bloc led by the other Harrow delegation representing the United States and another led by the delegation for Saudi Arabia. The next day, both Harrow teams were surprised by a conclusive vote setting the agenda to Topic 1: Mental Health Awareness, and had rapidly to adapt our opening speech to suit the agenda. At this point, the Indonesian delegates of Daniel Asparandiurov, *The Grove*, and Rishaad Bhusan, *The Grove*, came up with the idea of a sub-committee for mental health and, introducing it into committee, participated in it as key members of both blocs and presented ourselves as a 'neutral country'. Meanwhile, the United States, represented by Ethan McCullagh, *The Park*, and Sudeep Miller, *Lyon's*, moved quickly to form a strong progressive bloc early in the conference with other Western nations such as Japan, South Korea, Canada, Australia and Spain joining the bloc. Unfortunately for the Shells, Indonesia then introduced a motion to merge the two working papers into a single draft resolution created by Indonesia and co-sponsored by the American and Saudi delegations. Ultimately, both the Indonesian and the American delegations received awards, with the former receiving Best Delegate/Delegation and the American delegation receiving an Honourable Mention.

Overall, the weekend marked another outstanding outing from the Model United Nations team, reconfirming the team's status as nationally leading, in spite of many of the strongest delegates being ruled out for mocks and the Ansell Bowl. All delegates must be congratulated on what represents fantastic achievements, often in committees with delegates up to four years older than them, and thanks must go to NDAK for making the weekend a possibility.

HOUSE ART COMPETITION 2022

Adjudicator Nic Fiddian-Green, Pasmore Gallery

The 2022 House Art Competition presented a refined and broad spectrum of artworks, photographs and sculptures from boys from all 12 House and year groups. It was adjudicated by the famous British sculptor Nic Fiddian-Green, who specialises in making lifelike models of horses' heads.

The Best Shell prize was shared by Nick Arnison, *Moretons*, and Jesse Eledan, *Newlands*. Arnison created mixed-media pieces, using charcoal, ink and pencil, of the human eye and human faces in their complete form. As he describes it: "I wanted to try and create a sense of paranoia and fear, which is especially common in today's society. I tried to encourage this by using exclusively black and white in stark contrast on human features." Eledan presented detailed pencil and pen drawings while delving into colour and abstract pieces. He merged these elements in the works that he displayed in the competition.

Tian Zhang, *The Knoll*, submitted two landscape artworks, which won him the Best Remove prize. One of the pieces was a tonal drawing, and another was a line art using fine liner pens. The tonal drawing was a reimagination of a picture of the moon in the morning with Speech Room and St Mary's below it. The line art was from another original photograph of his journey back to School at Wembley Park station. The obscurity of the artwork brought an excellent result.

A fascinating series experimenting with light, shadows and colour was displayed by Harry Burt, *Moretons*. Burt shaped a wire sculpture with different colours of light creating numerous shadows. Whereas the other piece, in Burt's words, "was a project on how to take things from your everyday life and make art from it". For this series, Mr Fiddian-Green awarded Harry the Best Fifth-Form prize.



Harry Morse, *West Acre*, won the Best Lower-Sixth prize with an imaginative aged videography piece. It displayed peculiar scenes of the glare on the water's surface, enhanced by the flow and roughness of the ripples. The darkness of water was contrasted by the periodic appearances of the bright blue sky and the white clouds. The video was projected on a large screen inside a dark room, with the original sounds playing loudly in the background.

George Leigh, *Elmfield*, created a monochrome self-portrait with ground charcoal powder on a square white canvas, which contrasted the colourful Elmfield display. Through the looseness of the artistic approach and precise application of the powder, Leigh was able to generate an accurate image without losing detail in the unique artwork. Mr Fiddian-Green described the piece as "Genius" and awarded George the Best Upper Sixth prize.

Mr Fiddian-Green awarded the prize for drawing to Omar Ait El Caid, *Bradlys*, who exhibited drawing completed during a workshop with Ian Murphy. Ait El Caid chose the skull as his focus, transcribing a photo he had previously taken. The piece was inspired by Murphy's methods, using graphite stick

and graphite powder over sandpapered newspaper and tissue-paper surface, generating roughness behind the refined artwork.

Max Ferreira, *The Grove*, crafted an unusual installation piece, which was awarded the prize for Innovation. A large-scale white box featured a hidden gem on the inside. The inner walls were marbled black and white with the effect of wet running paint, submerging the viewer into an aqueous world. At the centre was a monitor that displayed a video of a mix of underwater scenes and flashing black inks. The whole installation gave a sense of depth and submersion within a peculiar world of mystery, which was enhanced by the bass of the audio element of the installation.



Moving through the studio, Mr Fiddian-Green also focused on a few other pieces. Some of these were the sizeable monochrome chalk artwork of the clouds by Adam Chambers, *Rendalls*, and the burnt plaster sculpture by Anton Shashenkov, *The Knoll*. Mr Fiddian-Green was impressed by the broad use of mixed media in all the presented works and how Harrovians are not afraid to go bold, big and take a risk.

To complete his adjudication, he awarded Newlands with the prize for Best House. Newlands displayed excellent works featuring different scales, colours and media. Rafe Hogben, *Newlands*, showed his series of black and white photographs, complemented by the adjacent unique laser etchings. Colourful portrait paintings were displayed by Henry Pearce, *Newlands*, with intricate small-scale drawings and futuristic digital artworks nearby. The overall display gave a sense of unity and harmony while showing uniqueness and diversity within the creative field.

MARMOTS SOCIETY

Tim Emmett Masterclass

Tim Emmett gave a masterclass to the Marmots Society in which the boys received valuable lessons that will help them develop their climbing to new levels.

Tim Emmett is a British-born adventure climber and author who currently lives in Canada and practises many different climbing disciplines to a high level. These include ice climbing, rock climbing, deep-water soloing and alpine climbing. He is considered a pioneer in deep-water soloing and has established the hardest waterfall ice climbs. He was the first person to climb W10, 11, 12 and 13 waterfall grades. His W13 is called Mission to Mars and is located at Helmcken Falls. He climbed this in 2020 with Klemmen Premrl. He did attempt to climb Everest in 2019 but had to abandon the expedition after a high risk of avalanche on his chosen route. Tim has para-climbed, which is where you climb and then parachute back down, essentially combining big-wall climbing and base jumping; cleverly, he has retired from it. I strongly advise you to watch the *Top Gear* race where Jeremy Clarkson in an Audi RS4 races Leo Houlding and Tim up a 1200ft cliff face in the Gorge de

Verdon in Provence, France. They won the race and double or nothing to race down. This is where Houlding jumps off the cliff, deploys a parachute and lands, upon which he says; "1200ft in 20 seconds. Beat that Clarkson."

We did not get up to nearly anything as extreme in our session. We started off with something that is very often overlooked: how to warm up effectively. He taught us a warmup that starts with a resistance band and how to stretch with it, specifically working on antagonistic muscles, which again are often overlooked. We then went into a circuit warm-up, which involved press-ups, leg raises and pull-ups.

During our warmup, the topic of conversation moved onto hang boards and how to use them effectively, so naturally we were then taught about this. He told us how to use them safely without damaging fingers and tendons. We then spoke about exercises and workouts you can do whether you are going for strength or for power and endurance. For power and endurance, you would go for reps, seven seconds on, three seconds off and keep going. If you want to improve climbing grades, you want to work on your strength, especially in your fingers. For this, Tim adds weights to the point he can hang for only about ten seconds and then rest and then do this again. You only need to do this about six times twice a week to allow proper recovery. He also suggested a workout that involves core strength – another important part of climbing. This involves hanging on the hang board and doing leg raises, doing windscreen wipers and then getting your feet above your hands and then windscreen wiping these too. This hurt after a while and I am definitely feeling it the day after!



We then got down to some climbing, at which point Tim took us through some techniques that would effectively make long routes easier by making moves more efficient and dispelling the myth that it is your arms that drag you up the wall. It is using your legs to push your way up the wall. He also told us that you should use your opposite arm to leg and, when this isn't possible, you should do a reverse flag where you draw your leg through the inside and push your hips forward to help get the extra reach for your move efficiently.

I would like to thank Tim on behalf of the Marmots for an interesting and incredibly useful session that I hope will help us all with our climbing.

MATHS

Torpid's House Maths Competition

In the Torpid's House Maths Competition, Druries and current holders The Grove started strongly in the puzzle round before a storming performance by Bradbys in the individual round saw them take a comfortable lead.

The Head Master's, however, performed extraordinarily in the final team round while Bradbys made some unfortunate errors, paving the way for Druries and The Head Master's to overtake them.

Final results: 3rd: Bradbys (86 points), 2nd: The Head Master's (92 points), champions Druries (97 points).

Intermediate Maths Challenge

In the Intermediate Maths Challenge, Harrovians scored particularly well this year, with 84 gold, 58 silver and 44 bronze certificates. An astonishing 99 boys have qualified to sit the follow-on Olympiad and Kangaroo papers, aimed at stretching the top students in the country.

Andy Li, *Moretons*, and Kiefer Yeo, *The Head Master's*, deserve special mention for earning full marks.

Here are three questions from the challenge to test your problem-solving skills!

Q8: What is the difference between 40% of 50% of 60 and 50% of 60% of 70?

Q16: What is half of 42022?

Q25: Alvita is planning a garden patio to be made from identical square paving stones laid out in a rectangle measuring x stones by y stones. She finds that when she adds a border of width one stone around the patio, the area of the border is equal to the original area of the patio. How many possible values for x are there?

CHESS

Team Chess Challenge Regional Final

Shortly before the exeat, the School hosted the North London regional final of the Team Chess Challenge for the first time. After a last-minute dropout, we welcomed ten teams to the tournament, including three from Harrow (A, B and a junior team).

The A team started with a good 3-1 win against Mill Hill County High School's B team, and the Bs and juniors did well to secure one point against the A teams of University College School and Mill Hill. In the second round, the computer generously drew the As against the juniors, where they were able to secure a 4-0 victory. The Bs had a much tougher match against Mill Hill's B team, going down $3\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}$.

In the final two rounds, the As faced some tougher opposition in the form of the Highgate and Mill Hill A teams, and, despite some excellent individual results, lost both those matches, 3-1 and $2\frac{1}{2} - 1\frac{1}{2}$. Fortunes were reversed for the B and junior teams, however, who each managed a win and a draw (the juniors managing to beat the St John's, Enfield, A team).

In the overall standings, The As came equal third (half a point off second), the Bs sixth (half a point behind Highgate's B team – the only B team above them) and the juniors finished a creditable ninth in a very tight table. Overall, the tournament was won convincingly by a strong Highgate A side, who have qualified for the national final next term.

National Schools Chess Championship

The NSCC is the national knockout competition for school chess. Unlike most other school chess, this is a standard-play event, with the players getting an hour each for all their moves, with a ten-second increment per move.

Having made it to the regional semi-final, the School hosted University College School in what promised to be a close encounter. The match didn't get off to the best of starts when Aditya Asnani, *West Acre*, got himself in a muddle coming out of the opening on board 3 and, although he fought valiantly, it was clear that the game was only ever going to go one way. The teams then traded blows, with wins on boards 4 (Dylan Winward, *Lyon's*) and 5 (David Liu, *Bradbys*) and a loss on board 6 (Harry Winward, *Lyon's*), before Philip Truscott, *Elmfield*, agreed to a draw on board 2 in a complex endgame position.

The whole match hung, therefore, on the result from board 1, where Liron Chan, *The Grove*, who to the untrained eye had looked in trouble earlier on (even though a computer says he was fine), had a secure defensive setup that his opponent could not breach. At this point JPBH did some calculations and a draw, which would have tied the match at 3-3, was enough to send Harrow through to the final on the tiebreak rules. The position looked very drawn and, with his opponent in time trouble, it looked like Chan would be able to secure it. However, while trying to pressurise his opponent into an error, Chan blundered, leaving his a-pawn unguarded and letting a rook penetrate his defences. His experienced adversary made no mistake in capitalising and Harrow fell agonisingly short, losing 3½-2½.

Training has already started for next year! :)

GORE SOCIETY

Lucas Maia, Druries, 'Emile Durkheim and the sociological study of religion'

Maia's lecture began with him asking the question: could we produce conscious AI? At the audience's suggestion of no, he pointed out how rapidly technology has evolved recently, the most obvious examples being China's sudden growth from between the 1990s and 2010s and how things that seemed impossible just some time ago are now so integrated and normalised in our lives that for most of the younger generation it would be difficult to live life without them. Another member of the audience cleverly mentioned that it depended on how conscious was defined. Maia then used an example to define it, where the easiest way to measure an AI's conscious was to see whether they would be able to respond to external stimuli unpredictably, just like a human or, as another potential definition, where the robot could exhibit and rationalise self-awareness. This then set an important baseline for the rest of the discussion.

For the next part of the discussion, Maia brought in the religious aspect of this talk, starting it off with whether God's love for people would extend to artificial life, if ever it were possible. He reminded people of the definition of agape love: 'unconditional love'. Agape love is distinctly different to the Greek words "storge", meaning familial love, "philia", meaning love in friendship and companionship, and "eros", meaning erotic love. It is important to note that these types of love both exist in a social framework. However, agape love, love of divinity, does not, meaning it is shown to anyone whether or not they are in their pre-existing familial or religious framework. It is more akin to "aheb" love rather than "hesed" love. Aheb is expressed by Jesus to those who aren't Jewish or, as another example, the love the Good Samaritan showed in Leviticus 19:18. With this all in mind, the major question came up of whether or not God's agape love would extend to AI, despite it not being human or created by God himself. Under the assumption that that conscious AI were willing to follow God and love God as they would love anyone, by this definition, the answer would be yes. However, the issue would be whether or not a soul would be needed to experience God's love and be delivered to heaven, and whether or not they would need to have been created by God himself rather than being man-made.

Next, the topic of human exceptionalism was introduced with reference to Irenaeus' soul-making theory, which suggests that, since God made humans imperfect, it is partially God's fault that evil exists in the world. The point was made that the more suffering humans experience, the closer we will get to moral perfection. Therefore, we would be able to create an AI that was morally perfect and unable to upset God through immoral actions. If this was paired with an AI's actions of love for God, for example, prayer, surely the AI would be somewhat deserving of heaven if God so desired. This went on to the question that,

since robots would never be able to have souls, no matter how conscious they are, would they be able to get to heaven?

Another point made was that if AI is rational, would they be able to process something theoretically irrational, such as blind faith? Since AI only come to conclusions with concrete evidence, would they be able to believe in God? The agreement in the room was no and that the AI would have to be irrational enough to understand and experience emotions and feelings in order to have the faith to believe in God. Then, the audience was reminded that AI can learn through experience just like humans, for example through machine learning algorithms. Whether or not emotions could be experienced through machine learning was difficult, as it would come far easier to humans than it would to AI. If AI could experience emotions, which are the most irrational thing a human could experience, then they could absolutely experience blind faith in God. The only question was getting an AI to that level of irrationality, be it through programming or through machine learning.

Maia made the clever suggestion that theists don't have faith in God due to rational justification, they have to have faith first and then stay firm with it with justification. Judging by that premise, AI would have to have faith in God programmed into them. The audience then suggested that, with that, their faith would be extremely strong, due to their faith and their extreme rational being justifying their faith. However, the only issue with that would be programming a rational AI with faith, which is theoretically irrational.

Finally, Maia brought up Durkheim and his theory of collective effervescence and the classic idea that, without a religious community, one's faith in God would slowly dim. The question was asked if that would happen to an AI that had faith, or would that be an inherently human thing that wouldn't happen to an AI? It would all depend on whether the AI could experience emotions other than faith that would lead to a loss of faith, like lack of community, and whether or not AIs could experience a lack of community.

CRAWLEY SCHOLARSHIP

As Upper Sixth students looking to apply for the Crawley Gap Year Scholarship, we were fortunate to attend a lecture given by Mrs Crawley and her son Spencer Crawley.

Those who were going for the scholarship were given a chance to explain their gap-year project as well as outline what languages we want to study.

It was also very enjoyable to hear what Upper Sixth students are thinking of doing next year and how they expect to use their chosen languages to explore new parts of the world and experience different cultures. Furthermore, it was inspiring to hear about projects that had previously won, and all the various languages that past Harrovians had chosen to learn during their gap year.

Mrs Crawley explained that the scholarship had been created to help more Harrovians learn languages while travelling and discovering the world. She shared stories about the importance of languages and how they had helped her throughout her life, whether to get a job or to have more interesting interactions with people from across the world and from different walks of life. We also learned about the history of the Crawley family, one of the oldest families at Harrow, with no less than eight generations of students who have attended the school, all of whom played in the cricket 1st XI!

It was equally interesting to hear about what some of the beaks in attendance had done during their gap years and how much it had shaped their lives. Some discovered a new passion, others explored things that they had never done before. There were also beaks who expressed regret over not having had the opportunity to experience a gap year.

Their talk gave everyone the motivation needed to finalise projects and prepare for the interview with the Crawley family, especially given that we were told that sometimes no project will be selected if the application is not sufficiently compelling.

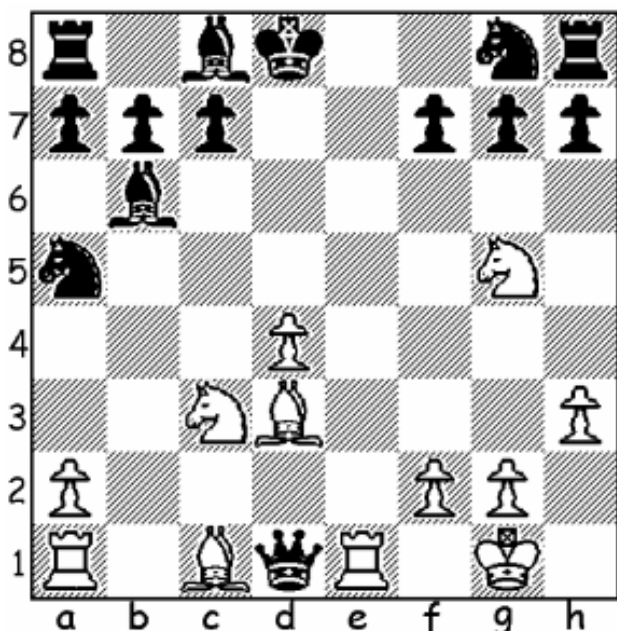
We hope this account will encourage more boys in the lower year groups to take a gap year in order to deepen their knowledge of a language learned at Harrow. As the British-Austrian philosopher Ludwig Wittgenstein said: "The limits of my language mean the limits of my world." The Crawley Award is a wonderful opportunity for those curious students who want to go beyond their comfort zone and explore the world by immersing themselves into more languages and cultures between school and university.

OPINION

CHESS PUZZLE

The weekly Chess puzzle set by JPBH (Master i/c Chess). Email him your answers (jpbh@...)- the best solver throughout the term wins a prize.

This edition's puzzle: White to play and mate in 4



Last week's answer: 1. g7+ Ke7 2. Qe5+ Kf7 3. gxh8=N#

GAFFE AND GOWN

Quips from around the Hill

"Of course it's nonsense! I teach English for a living."

"Regular or colossal?" "What, sir?" "I'm trying to figure out what flavour of moron you are."

(Beak giving acting feedback) "I want you to get as high as you can. Wait. That sounds wrong."

"Madame, in French McDonald's, can you eat McFrogs?"

CORRESPONDENCE

Letters from the editors

DEAR SIRs,

Our School has a proud history of military service. In the present war in Ukraine, our political leaders have decided, for better or for worse, that Britain cannot intervene militarily. We are, however, encouraged to do everything we can to help the Ukrainians on a humanitarian level. So what can Harrow do? It seems obvious to me that we should make use of our extraordinary infrastructure. We have catering, we have accommodation, we have wash facilities, we have unlimited wifi. We are insured, able to provide everything required to offer genuinely useful sanctuary to refugees fleeing the war. Of course there will be logistical difficulties, but nothing that cannot be overcome with a willing heart and a creative mind.

Yours hopefully,
OTTO MARRE, THE GROVE

DEAR SIRs,

The Harrovian serves as a document of the past, a paper of the present, and a premonition of the future. The most catastrophic event in Harrow School since the countless fire-related incidents in The Grove hath occurred. This shall send ripples across the running of the School. Not only is Firefly being phased out, but the Teams chat function has been entirely removed.

One would assume the "reasoning" behind this decision is, much like that of the Eastern Sphere of influence in the 1960s, to impede communications between the boys of the School. They shall not succeed.

This action is lowering the extra-curricular ability of boys around the Hill, as well as their ability to aid each other with advice, academia and the goings on of the Hill. A case study of this is my near missing of a concert in which I performed. Teams communication is not a bad thing; it helps people work together and build friendships – I can't begin to imagine what the poor people online must now do to even come close to humanity. I usually put my Harrovian articles past fellow Grovites to search for error and improvement – therefore the worse this article is, the more it shows the reliance of Teams as an academic forum.

One issue with the Teams chat could be its use in lessons; whether or not I commit such devious acts could not be commented on, but it is a little issue compared to the one created. At a school that thrives on a community of academia, breaking it down is hardly the right option for anyone.

Senior management have, in fact, won the battle over Teams communications in this action, and have made me clueless about the events around the Hill, scheduling, and organising meetings. An abstract effect of this was standing outside Lyon's for an hour, in the early morning cold, hoping that my MUN partner would read his emails and let me in. However, this shall not continue. They shall not be able to silence the masses. This is because there are more than one of such applications. The solution to this imposed issue is installing a common app; I do not know if this shall be WhatsApp, Telegram, or any other of the countless communication systems. Soon we shall see a prevailing method of communication that all Harrovians shall have, and if that is banned, another will come. 'It is the people who control the Government, not the Government the people.' – Winston Churchill. Communication is inevitable.

Having established that communication is inevitable, it is also important to note that this decision will harm the hold that SMT has on the every-day Harrovian. Teams was heavily monitored for laddish or vapour-spouting digressions against the regime; however, if forced to move off that wonderful, but safe, platform, there would be far less monitoring of behaviour, as there is certainly no flagging system to our dear House Masters on any other application. Removing the chat function

is, therefore, taking away SMT's watching eye. Much like with the criminalisation of the drugs trade, it only becomes less safe and less pure. I suggest that we move back to Teams before it is too late and 'Goin Cunch' (which I am assured by SMT is a common phrase) becomes the norm.

And so, as I swig back the VICTORY ICED TEA and smoke my VICTORY VAPE, I observe that Harrovians have lost education and our Single Party lost control in an attempt to do the opposite. I plead to our Supreme Leaders, bring back our imperfect system, before a new, darker line is built up.

Yours revolutionarily

COMRADE ROBERT YOUNG, THE GROVE

DIAMONDS

Arturo Saville Mascioni, Rendalls

In the beginning, diamonds were mined in India and Brazil. These were small mines and had limited supplies of diamonds since they were very close to the surface. Because of this, diamonds became and were perceived to be extremely expensive as they began to be reputed as the world's rarest gemstone.



However, in the mid-1860s, a company named DeBeers decided to mine, not in India or Brazil but in South Africa. Little did they know that underneath this African nation was the largest diamond supply in the world. As they began to mine, it started to become more and more apparent that diamonds were not as rare as was once thought. Mines were popping up all over Africa, making the stones so common that if one were to put all of them on the market, it would absolutely crash the price and the prestige of diamonds. In fact, diamonds can exist wherever there is carbon, which is basically anywhere in the world. So the economics of diamonds are looking pretty bleak. DeBeers realised that the industry needed to shift its business practices from trying to dig as many diamonds out of the ground, to doing everything in their power to control how many diamonds came out of the ground, while simultaneously trying to keep the public unaware of how worthless this mineral really is.

So the diamond industry now had to make sure these gems remain as a rare and valuable commodity. All their profits hung on the thread of preserving this illusion to the public.

DeBeers was now turning a modest diamond-mining business into the most wealthy and powerful monopoly cartel that the world had ever seen.

When you hear the word cartel, the thought that comes to your mind is a group of violent drug traders, but, in reality, all that a cartel really is is a group of companies coming together to fix the price of a product so that all of the members get their fair share of the profits. An example of this would be how all the major oil countries (Qatar, Iran, Ecuador, Venezuela, the UAE, Iraq, Libya, Kuwait, Algeria, Saudi Arabia, Nigeria, and Angola) come together to fix the price of crude oil.

That's what DeBeers decided to do. They needed to control the flow of diamonds to stores. The more diamonds on display shelves, the less people are going to pay for them – basic supply and demand.

The first step of their plan to control the supply was to start at the source and to buy up all the diamond mines in Africa. However, once locals realised how valuable the diamonds were, they began to rebel and bypass the company. DeBeers did whatever was necessary to crush them. Kidnapping, interrogation, starvation, vicious torture and beatings of local diamond dealers were commonplace. They destroyed any resistance to their monopolistic control. It worked and it decimated and impoverished communities.

The next stage of the plan was the merchants. Once the diamonds are dug from the ground, they are sold to merchants who actually cut them into the gems that are eventually sold to the public. Four things determine the price of a diamond: colour, cut, clarity and weight (measured in carats). Making sure the merchants were obedient to the intentions of the cartel was very important, but since, at this point, DeBeers controlled more than 90% of the world's diamond output, merchants who wanted to buy diamonds could only buy from the cartel, so they were completely complicit. The more obedient these merchants were, the better they were rewarded with a higher quality of diamond. Merchants who bought from other, smaller companies were punished with high prices and low-quality diamonds, but merchants couldn't do anything about it because their world was controlled by DeBeers.

Since DeBeers was a monopoly, they couldn't legally operate in the US, so they operated in London, where they could distribute their diamonds to merchants. They then created an exclusive club of 200 merchants, or "sightholders", who would be given diamonds directly in London. These 200 sightholders could only buy from the cartel, and the rest of the world could only buy from them. This maintained control. They also began to store their diamonds in a vault, at one point worth some £5 billion, and only releasing a few every month to artificially jack up the price. But instead of just releasing these diamonds randomly, they would release only the grades of diamond that were in short supply, keeping everything expensive. They would only give sightholders what was in short supply and withhold from them what was in good supply.

Remember, merchants have no one else to go to, so by determining what they get, DeBeers controlled the puppet strings that could make or break their business.

Part 2: Love.

Fast forward to the 1930s and DeBeers is making more money than ever. However, the US, its largest potential market, was just not that interested in buying the mineral (unlike today), so sales were pretty low. They needed to create demand in American consumers. They needed to convince Americans that diamonds are necessary. Unfortunately, the view at the time was that jewellery was a luxury that only the wealthy could afford. DeBeers wanted to make diamonds perceived as something more than just jewellery, something relevant to everyone, a symbol: something so important that no matter how the economy was doing, no matter your situation, no matter how rich or how poor, people would always need diamonds.

A symbol of love. If they could get diamonds to represent love in the eyes of the American population, everything would fall into place.

So here's what they did: they bribed Hollywood. DeBeers knew how easily influenced people were by the movie stars they looked up to; they were the trendsetters. DeBeers opened up an office in Hollywood and started to make some valuable friends. They gave out valuable diamonds to producers in exchange for a product placement in their films (this is why people at the Academy Awards wear extremely large diamonds, because of the tradition started by DeBeers' "gifts"). The diamonds were

only given on very strict grounds. The man in the movie had to surprise the love of his life with diamonds as the ultimate sign of commitment. This features in many movies such as *Men on Her Mind* in 1944 and *Gone with the Wind* in 1939. This also started subconsciously to portray diamonds as the symbol of love in the eyes of the general public. This is the essence of propaganda. And it worked: diamonds became the quintessential symbol of love. Americans began to buy them by storm.

However, there was one problem for DeBeers. People began to sell their diamonds on the second-hand market, threatening the cartel. So, much like the African mines, the merchants and the culture, they had to get that piece of the supply chain under control. They had already convinced people that diamonds are the ultimate symbol of love, but if they allowed people to keep reselling their diamonds, the business was going to hit a ceiling.

Enter the most successful marketing campaign in history. The infamous *Diamonds are Forever* campaign, with the hope that people will hold onto their diamonds forever, as if getting rid of your diamond is equivalent to throwing away your love, and to buy a used diamond is to buy the tainted, used love of the previous owners. It worked – diamonds started to sell for a fraction of the price on the used market.

Phrases like ‘diamonds are a girl’s best friend’ and ‘diamonds are forever’, and the notion that you can only truly propose to someone with a diamond ring are so engrained into our culture that people just assume that this is how it has always been; little do they know that their attraction to diamonds is completely artificial.

DeBeers had complete monopolistic control over diamonds. There were a few challenges in the 1950s in Siberia, and then again in the 1970s in Australia when diamonds were found in large quantities. But with some under-the-table cash and a PR campaign, the Siberian and Australian diamonds were flowing straight through London.

DeBeers is one of the most lucrative cartels history has ever seen. Today, however, DeBeers has largely fallen out of favour. They lost control of their supply chain, and more and more countries started discovering their own diamond reserves. After decades of suffering under the cartel, some countries like Russia, Canada and Australia finally refused to co-operate with them. Lab-grown, artificial diamonds also became a thing, and they were found to be nearly identical to naturally formed ones. All these things, and more, put an end to DeBeers’ control of the diamond market. Today, DeBeers still sells diamonds from the mines they own in South Africa, but it’s a far cry from what they once had, just a few decades ago.

SPORT

GOLF

The School v Radley, 1 March

The golf team are experiencing another superb season, but one blot on the parchment was the October fixture against Radley where we were well beaten on a proper “otter’s pocket” day at Moor Park. This was the chance for redemption...

The day did not start off well as, after a quick look online, it appeared that Moor Park was closed! EMERGENCY STOP! One lesson you learn early on as a beak is how to substitute expletives for more PG terms in the presence of the boys. After a swift set of “Fudge!”, “Sugar!” and “Butter the bread!”, some quick-thinking and sweet-talking from JRP would see us host

Radley at the glorious Sandy Lodge instead, although even this sand-based drainage king was struggling in the wet conditions. Too wet for cricket? Yes. Too wet for rugby? Yes. Too wet for golf, you say? Never!

First out down the opening short par 5 were Max Shirvell, *The Head Master’s*, and Jonty Williams, *Moretons*. The match got off to a fast start with the first being halved in birdies. Harrow then lost the next hole and would struggle to keep any grip on the match. On the 3rd Williams came up clutch, holing a 5-footer down the slope for the half. Shirvell then holed a stupendous chip shot on the par 3 for birdie on the 7th to go back to 1 down. On the deviously short par 3 8th, Shirvell hit a saucy little lob wedge to roughly an inch to make back-to-back birdies. However, this was halved by Radley after a super long-range putt. The opponents made another birdie on 9 to go back to 2 up. On hole ten, I hit a sexy high spinner from short of the green to make par and secure a half. Radley then eagled hole 11 by sinking a pitch shot, following a chipping lesson from Shirvell, after he was 15ft away in 2. Another loss. Radley proceeded to birdie the next, meaning Harrow were by now 4 down through 12. Shirvell would make his fifth birdie of their day on 15 but it was not going to be enough as Radley came out on top, 3&2.

The second group out saw an exciting new pairing of Toby Shirvell, *The Head Master’s*, and Toby Ferneyhough, *Elmfield*. They started off hot, going 1 up through 1, with Ferneyhough draining a 15-footer for birdie. All sorts of questions popped into his head after this long-awaited return – “what’s the course record here?”, “has anyone ever won 10&8?” were probably the pick of the bunch. The second was played well by both, just falling short of the Radley player’s birdie, all square through 2. Despite hooking the ball left off the tee, both were able to birdie the par 5 4th hole. Despite JRP’s finest warnings, Shirvell managed to hook his tee ball left on the SI 1 6th hole. Ferneyhough then stepped up to the tee, striped one down the fairway and subsequently fatted his approach shot, taking an absolute crater out of the manicured fairway. The 7th was a par 3, 193 yards, slightly downhill. Shirvell went first, striping a 7 iron, pin high left of the green. Despite sticking it to 10 feet, he kept asking, “Why can’t I play a golf shot today?” – 2 up through 7. The next hole was more of a pitch and putt, with Shirvell sending in an absolute dart, 6 feet. Sadly, he couldn’t convert the wobbly put, but his 3 was better than the Radley men – 3 up. Shirvell’s disgust at the pin locations was amusing, as he continued to lip out more putts than the specialist, Victor Grant, *Moretons*. Shirvell then par-ed out the next few holes, which led Harrow to the par 5 14th 4 up. A couple of striped shots from Ferneyhough led to a par which was good for a half. At this point, it seemed the clubhouse was near, and Shirvell was eyeing up an early trip to The Connoisseur. However, the Radley boys came back to bring it to 2 down with two to play (it was already dormie 4), and the Harrow duo became increasingly frustrated as it became darker. Both Ferneyhough and Shirvell nuked their tee shots on 17, a par-5. Shirvell was first to par out, which was good for the match 2&1. A well-fought match with some good golf all round.

Last out, once again, were the unbeaten duo of Fred Hewer, *The Park*, and Victor Grant, *Moretons*. After an interesting array of drives off the first, both boys ended up making par to take the lead. The boys exchanged pars on the next few holes, including an excellent par from Hewer on the stroke index 1 6th to put the boys 3 up. The boys continued to put their foot down and found themselves 4 up after 9 after a dart on the 8th from Grant (the putt won’t be mentioned!), followed up with an excellent scrambling par save on the 9th. The back 9 continued in a similar manner with some huge drives and tidy iron play from Hewer, and a par on the par 5 14th sealed a 5&4 victory to wrap up a 2-1 victory for Harrow.

The defence of the Micklem beckons next week... Stet Fortuna Domus!

SWIMMING

The Bath Cup and John Nalson Medley, 11 March Independent Schools Competition, Won

Harrow travelled the length of the Jubilee Line to the London Aquatics Centre in Stratford for The Bath Cup and John Nalson Medley, the independent schools sector's premier 4x100m freestyle and 4x50m individual medley relay competitions respectively.

After a brief warm-up, Harrow made short work of the freestyle heats, qualifying second behind Ardingly College. In the final, Henry Gray, *Lyon's*, opened up with a blistering 52.83, followed by Maxwell Brooks, *West Acre*, with a 56.48. James Rates, *Newlands*, took the third leg with a 54.68, leaving some work to be done by the anchor, Nick Finch, *Newlands*. Starting two body-lengths behind Ardingly, by 50 Nick was neck-and-neck with a lightening turn below the entrance. The return leg was nothing short of a dogfight, with Ardingly just pipping the School by a hair under half-a-second. Harrow's final time was 3:35.54, easily the School's fastest swim in the competition, and the third-fastest ever swum at the Bath Cup.



After a good feed in neighbouring Westfield, Harrow was back in for the John Nalson Medley. This time, Harrow took no prisoners in the heats, qualifying in pole position with Adam Wong, *The Park*, joining Finch, Gray and Brooks in 1:49.66, which, in retrospect, would have been enough to win the event. Having earned a rest, Brooks was substituted for Rates for the freestyle leg of the final. Again, Gray took the start, this time in the water – an impressive 27.70 split making him one of the fastest backstrokers of his cohort nationally. Wong, making his John Nalson debut in the Removes, was a pillar of consistency, setting a 30.64 split. A reliable Finch was next, with a 25.62 sending Harrow well into the lead, and Rates took the School home with a 24.45 50m freestyle. The squad easily set a Harrow individual medley relay record with 1:48.41, and again were the third-fastest ever in the event. Harrow took home the well-deserved John Nalson trophy for the first time in 12 years.

RACKETS

1st Pair v Winchester College, Lost

The 1st Pair of Tarquin Sotir, *Druries*, and Federico Ghersi, *The Head Master's*, were involved in a topsy-turvy match full of thrilling rackets. Having dominated the second game to draw level at 1-1, they lost a tight third game in the set and despite great efforts were unable to recover in the match to lose 1-3.

The 2nd Pair of Sam Owston, *Moretons*, and Henry Oelhafen, *Lyon's*, produced a fine display to dominate their opponents and win 3-0. Both boys played with skill and determination.

The Junior Colts Tom Campbell-Johnson, *Druries*, and Henry Porter, *Moretons*, lost 0-3 to a strong pair but both boys played with enthusiasm and effort.

At Yearlings level, we played four best-of-three matches with boys rotating. Jack Nelson, *Bradby's*, Ben Hufford-Hall, *Moretons*, Filip Wiszniewski, *Druries*, and Charlie Chambers, *Rendalls*, all underlined their progress by winning three of the four matches. This is a strong group of players who have every chance of being successful on the school circuit in years to come.

HARROW FOOTBALL

The School XI v Guy Yarrow's XI, School won 5-1

The XI produced an assured performance in their penultimate game of the season against an experienced and tenacious OH side who included in their ranks former members of the School



XI. Going up the hill for both halves, the XI's strong defence, guile, and superior fitness were too much for the old boys. Highlights of the performance included a number of strong runs from Nick Martin, *The Knoll*, and Jack Hedley, *The Head Master's*. Baba Obatoyinbo, *The Knoll*, and Charlie Digges, *West Acre*, deserve special mention for playing for the OHs for a half each.

Man of the match: Charlie Digges, *West Acre*,

The Princes v de Broe Ferguson XI, lost 1-5

A relatively mature but nevertheless determined James de Broe Ferguson XI provided an excellent afternoon of competition for the Princes XI. Despite giving our guests the much-welcomed advantage of playing down the hill in both halves... the Princes were soon in control and established a well-worked base scored by George Witheridge, *Durries*. It's fair to say that, after a period of about ten minutes' acclimatisation, the OHs were looking much more determined, but a succession of well-taken yards in front of the Princes' base, failed to yield any bases. Charlie de Labilliere, *The Grove*, managed to double the Princes' lead and so it remained at half-time: 2-0. The second half stated to test the stamina of the old boys and break-away bases by Chris Jolker, *The Grove*, (2) and another one to de Labilliere seemed to out the result to bed, albeit the visitors managed a consolation base to finish the match 5-1. This was an excellent game played in the true spirit of footer and the Princes should be congratulated on providing their opposition with an afternoon of happy memories.

The Outcasts v The Peter Marsh XI, School Lost 1-3

In perfect Harrow football conditions, the Outcasts took on an experienced and tenacious Peter Marsh XI. Playing down hill, the OHs soon showed their guile with two bases in quick succession, one from Hillary Ford and the second from a boy guest player Archie Tait, *The Head Master's*. In the second half, the Outcasts fought back. There was a base from Jimmy Turner, *Elmfield*. For the remainder of the half, the Outcasts camped in the OHs' half, but their was resolute defence. At the end, the OHs broke away and scored a third base from Ed Stuart

GOLF

The Micklem, 9–10 March

Round 1 – Loss 3-2 v Wellington

The saying goes, “Fail to prepare, prepare to fail”. Harrow were not going to be undone on this front! The boys hit the range at Silvermere on the Wednesday morning after a practice round on the Tuesday afternoon. Jonty Williams, *Moretons*, always likes to hit some absolute rubbish at the range before a competition, but he was stroking his trusty 3-iron really quite nicely, no doubt listening to the dulcet tones of Ben Ashley, *Moretons* and the Aftercare through his headphones. Aidan Wong, *The Park*, (to be known as Aidan Right from now on) was finding the centre of the 3-wood and Toby Ferneyhough, *Elmfield* was crunching his stealth driver down the middle while chanting “Stet, Fortuna, Domus... Stet, Fortuna, Domus...”



Facing Wellington was always going to be a tough ask in the first round but, just like The Connoisseur, the boys have produced the goods time and again over the last season and had every confidence in each other.

Anyone who has had the pleasure of teeing off on the first at Woking will know it is an enticing hole, encouraging you to rip a driver down to the drivable par 4, but also that there is significant danger long.

First out, in his final appearance at the Micklem four years after his debut, was Max Shirvell, *The Head Master's*, sadly nursing sudden deafness in his left ear. He started off slowly, going 1 down through 2 with his putting letting him down. After letting his opponent off a couple of times, Shirvell was punished on the seventh. He did manage to get one back at the 8th but losses at 9 and 10 put a significant distance between the two of them. By this point, Shirvell was struggling. The golf course can be a lonely place, as anyone who has found themselves deep in Melville's Forest can attest to, and Shirvell just couldn't find the rhythm he can so often rely on. He lost another hole on 11, and a birdie on 13 was only enough for a half. He was by now 4 down with 5 to play. After chipping out of the trees on 14, he hit a rip-roaring driver off the deck from 260 yards into the wind and pitched it on middle of the green, giving himself the faintest sliver of hope. Like a sudden rejection on a Remove social, all hope faded with the shaking of hands on the next green. A tough loss 4&3.

Second out, and also making his final appearance at the Micklem, was Toby Shirvell, *The Head Master's*. After stiffing his tee-shot to 3 feet and sinking the putt to make eagle on the driveable par 4 first, Shirvell was looking confident. However, a few weak bogeys kept the match close. The breakthrough would come at 9 with a fantastic birdie on the hardest hole on the course (JRP lost three balls on this hole alone on Tuesday). This lead was then extended by birdies on 12 and 13 and Shirvell was producing the best golf of his season to date, now comfortable at 4 up. On 15, he hit a lovely drive left him with a tough 230-yard shot into wind – the kind of shot that would give WJC sleepless nights (probably hybrid, hybrid

for you, Sir). A good strike put the ball to 3 feet for an eagle and the match. The putt dropped leading to a -5 round and a very dominant 5&4 win. Captain Shirvell steadies the ship...

Out at three was Wong (Right). Right (Wong) started off well with a tough up and down to win the opening hole. They then halved the second in birdies and good golf from both boys was produced throughout the front nine. Wong, now playing in his fourth Micklem, knows the greens at Woking almost as well as his trig identities. His putting proved to be crucial as he went 3 up at the turn. He refused to take his foot off the gas and capitalised on Wellington's mistakes – he was not going to make a Wong turn! Making another birdie to go dormie 6 up and flushing a driver and 3-wood on the par 5 14th would be enough for another emphatic win 7&5. Things were looking promising, but there were two very strong opponents to overcome in the final pairings.

Williams was fourth out against talented Wellington player who was four shots better on handicap. The first five holes were very even, with the Wellington chap making a birdie on 4 to gain a 1 up advantage through 5. The Wellington player then birdied the 8th to increase his lead by 2 up before a par on the tough par 4 9th from Williams pulled it back to 1 followed by a tap in birdie on the 10th after a sensational approach to get the match back to level. However, despite Williams looking in a better position off the 11th the Wellington player hit a superb second from the heather into the heart of the green and then made the putt to go back to 1. A poor second from Williams meant that a par was good enough for the Wellington player to go back to 2. Williams then brought the match back to 1 down heading to the par 5 for 14th in which the Wellington player hit two superb shots to make a rare eagle on 14, resulting in Williams being 2 down. Williams lipped out on the 15th green, which would have brought the match back to just 1 down. This was the start of a string of bad luck for Williams – finding the water on 16 while his opponent just made the bank, and then burying his ball in the heather while his opponent hit an even wilder tee shot that got a decent lie in the woods. Like the warrior he is, Williams never gave up, but sadly the match was won on the 17th and Harrow were back at 2-2.

The final pairing saw Ferneyhough make his debut in the Micklem, much to the disdain of tyrannical rugby leader JLM. Stet, Fortuna, Dominate! He got off to a fast start, winning the first hole with a par. The front 9 was up and down, with holes being won and lost, and the score was all square after 9. However, some average golf from Ferneyhough, and some good golf from his Wellington opponent, saw him lose the next four holes! He won the par-5 15th and was 3 down with 5 to play. He pulled his drive into the heather (with an awful lie) on the 16th (par-5) and, after a long think, took two shots to punch out from the heather. From there, he was able to get up and down from 190 yards for par to halve the hole to keep the Harrow hopes alive. He halved the next 2 holes for the loss 3&2. Some good golf in the mix but a lack of precision off the tee in places.

A devastating start for the reigning champions but a brilliant performance, nonetheless. Hopes remained high on the journey back to the Hill that a Plate success could still bring some silverware back to JRP's flat.

Plate Semi-Final v Winchester, Won 5-0

After a good night's sleep and some smashing bacon, sausage and egg rolls at Woking, the mighty five were ready for battle against Winchester in the Plate semi-final.

Max Shirvell started off strongly, winning the first three holes. His opponent won the 5th to get back to 2 but Shirvell birdied the next hole to bounce back. The Winchester golfer then made a couple of long putts to put the match back to 1, but Shirvell would not back down, again bouncing back with a birdie to gain a bit of breathing room. He then went on one of

his Rory-esque runs to win the next four holes and annihilate his opponent 6&4. The Harrow lion was purring...

Toby Shirvell had eventful first hole, deciding to explore the Woking woodland at the sacrifice of the first hole. However, his driving and iron play made him soon warmed up and he had a huge advantage over his opponent. A few well-worked birdies on the back nine quickly finished the match with a 6&5 victory. The Harrow lion was licking his lips.

Right (Wong) lost the opening hole against Winchester after a disgusting low hook left into the trees, but he bounced back winning three holes straight. With two further birdies, he looked very comfortable as he was 3 up at the turn. Winchester managed to pull one back but Wong closed the match out with a solid iron shot to 10 feet to win 4&3. The Harrow lion had sunk his teeth into the Winchester wildebeest's neck.



Williams was out against Winchester's fourth player in the morning and it was clear he was still annoyed with yesterday's results against Wellington in which he believed he should have won. He hammered his first drive down the middle and set the tone for this match. However, he struggled to get the putter going in the morning with some sloppy 3-putts and missing some crucial putts to win easy holes. Tee to green was all good for Williams but, with the putter stone cold, he was having to dig deep. He battled through and won his match on 18 with a birdie after hitting two big shots into the par 5.

The fifth seed out on Thursday was again Toby Ferneyhough. He started off well, winning the first two holes. He had an up and down match, with some good golf being played by both. He birdied the par 4 9th to go 3 up, applying more pressure to his opponent. A couple more halved holes and then a par on 11 was good for the match 4&3 (started on 15). The Harrow lion was preparing for his second course.

Plate Final v Bradfield, Lost 3-2

After a light sandwich lunch (Wong only ever eats (For)tuna sandwiches on game day) the squad were ready to dom(us)inate Bradfield.

Much like in the morning, Max Shirvell won the first three holes of the match and once again his opponent won the 5th. He also won the 7th to bring the score back to 1 up. Then Shirvell found his best golf of the week to win the next four holes and stretch his lead to 5 up. A slip in concentration let his opponent back into the game and he won the following 2 holes to bring it back to 3 up with four to play. He won 15 and it was beginning to get tight. On 16, Shirvell calmly stroked in a 6-footer for the half to go dormy 2 up. On 17 Shirvell found a monster drive and striped it down the middle. He made a solid par to secure the point after a high quality tussle. 2&1 win.

Sadly, the match did not get off to the best start for Toby Shirvell and he found himself 4 down through 6. Shirvell and his opponent were trading blows throughout the middle of the round. A comeback looked on after being 2 down on 16 with a 3-footer for the hole. However, a misread putt resulted in the

match staying 2 down with two to play and Shirvell ultimately lost the match 2&1.

Wong started superbly going 2 up after five after making some fine up and downs. He birdied the seventh hole and was 3 up at the turn. However, Bradfield stepped up his game and made two birdies. The match was quickly back to 1 up and the momentum swung. Wong missed a short putt on 17th to force a halve and a birdie on 18th from Bradfield was the killer blow to win the match.

Williams was playing a strong Bradfield opponent but nonetheless looked ready. However this first three holes did not go to plan, with a missed drive on the 1st into the heather while his opponent started par, birdie, birdie resulting in a 3 up advantage. Williams played some superb golf bringing the match back to 1 down after making 3 birdies in 5 holes. The Bradfield player, however, chipped in for an eagle to halt Williams' momentum and swing the match back in his favour. Williams could not have done too much more against this Bradfield opponent and was simply missing out to very good golf. Bradfield went dormie 3 up but a neat up and down from the bunker from Williams saw his opponent make his first mistake of the day, bringing the match to dormie 2, sparking some hope for Harrow. A bomb of a drive down 16 meant Williams playing second with a 6 iron into the long par 4. However a slight push proved to cost him the match as his ball had somehow ended up between two massive trees lying down in the rough. Williams couldn't believe it as the Bradfield player made a rare 6 with Williams not being able to make his 5. A very disappointing finish to an extremely tight match with some top golf being played between both players.

Last out and hoping to finish with a win was debutant Ferneyhough. He started off well again in this match, 2 up through 2 again, playing some clean golf. A strong exchange of pars and birdies saw him 3 up through 9. Ferneyhough then stepped up to the 10th hole, a par 3, 155 yards, slightly downhill. He hit his pitching wedge over the flag, spinning it back to a foot, and got the formidable thumbs up from JRP. He then lost the 11th with his opponent birdying, but winning 12 was good for the game 3&2. Some strong golf across the day with second round birdies on 17, 14 and 10, which led to a strong final score of 2 over par.

Another superb week at the glorious Woking Golf Club. Until next year...

SOCCER

The School v St John's Leatherhead, 1 March

Junior Colts A v St John's School, Leatherhead, Won 6-4

The JCAs came back from 4-1 down – thrillingly – to win, with Sam Winters', *Elmfild*, hat-trick, a poacher's brace from Freddie Harrison, *Moretons*, and rocket from Leo Polese, *The Head Master's*, deciding a remarkable game!

Junior Colts B v St John's School, Leatherhead, Won 3-1

Limited preparation and far from ideal conditions made for a scrappy fixture with neither team able to dominate possession or territory. Nevertheless, Harrow's technical ability showed through and a goal straight from the top drawer by Eddie Cooke, *The Park*, sealed the win.

1st XI v St John's School, Leatherhead, Won 3-1

Scorers: Elliott Taylor, *West Acre*; Charlie Young, *Newlands*; Archie Chatwin, *West Acre*

The 1st XI produced a strong performance to see off a spirited St John's side. Harrow dominated possession throughout and Charlie Young, *Newlands*, scored an excellent solo goal.

2nd XI Won 6-3

Scorers: Dami Olugbodi, *The Park*, x3, Kurran Calvert-Davies, *Druries*, x2, Ehiad Garuba, *Newlands*,

Harrow fought off some tough conditions underfoot to secure a well-earned and decisive victory.

3rd XI, Lost 3-4

The 3rd XI somehow contrived to snatch defeat from the jaws of victory against a fiercely competitive and physical St John's side. For most of the game, Harrow gave their opponents a footballing lesson but, while leading 3-1 after goals from Patrick Elliott, *Druries*, Adam Zakhir, *Lyon's*, and Florian Hull, *Druries*, they missed a hatful of chances to make the game safe. St John's continued to battle and their long ball game paid dividends in the final 20 minutes with three quick-fire goals to take the match away from Harrow.

Colts A, Won 4-1

St John's went ahead on a counterattack, scoring a goal from an untracked midfielder. Up till that point Harrow had been on top and had created a number of chances. It was only a matter of minutes before Edstrom, *Bradlys*, pulled Harrow back with a powerful header. Moments later, birthday boy Amusan, *Moretons*, got the party started with a deliciously taken goal. Getting out the balloons and comical party hats, he announced to the St John's defence that they would be coming to his party and they probably wouldn't enjoy it.

A dominant second half saw Harrow control the game, with the impressive defensive unit (Stockmeier, Tuipulotu, both *Druries*, Childs, *Newlands*, and Akbar Khan, *Moretons*) building attack after attack. It was only a matter of time before the birthday boy, Aumsan, had finished his main course and wanted dessert. After calmly taking the ball in the box, he passed it home for his second. Wrapping up events, Akindele, *Newlands*, broke free with 10 minutes remaining, to make the game 4 -1.

Another impressive win for the Colts!

*The School v Dr Challoner's Grammar School,
8 March*

Colts A Draw 1-1

Junior Colts A Lost 2-3

It was a brisk Tuesday afternoon, and the JCAs set out against a tough opposition in Dr Challoner's Grammar School. The boys straight away started under the gun, after pressure on the back line their number 9 managed to force a goal while one of our players tried to clear it. Almost instantly another followed. The worst possible start being 2-0 down in minutes.

The JCAs started playing better football and revived the chance of a comeback through Josh Ashley, *Moretons*, wining the ball well in midfield and driving forward placing a perfectly weighted outside of the boot pass through the line straight to Sam Winters, *Elmfield*, who slotted it under the keep with elegance. Minutes later the ball fell to Freddie Harrison, *Moretons*, who whipped in an absolute peach of a ball over the defence straight to Winter's feet once again. Harrow were instantly back into the game and looked the more dominant side by the end of the half.

The second half came. Harrow created some good chances and were unlucky to not go up, but constant pressure from the opposition, especially in midfield, caused problems at the back and saw a well-worked goal make it 2-3. Harrow didn't give up for the last 15 minutes. There were many chances and commendations for the perseverance of the boys trying to find an equaliser, notably, hitting the post from a corner in the last play of the game.

Notable mention: Ollie Campbell, *Newlands*, supposedly a defender. decides to whip out from his deep locker a continuous

set of roulettes, fooling the opposition in midfield and then skilling himself up in the process and falling rather heavily onto the Julian 2 playing fields.

Junior Colts B Lost 2-3

Yearlings A Won 5-0

The Yearlings started a busy week of fixtures at breakneck speed versus Dr Challoner's. Their midfield diamond of Talal Nsouli, *The Knoll*, Teddy Tarbotton and Aris Aldrich-Blake, both *West Acre*, and Elliot Macleod, *Newlands*, worked to move the ball quickly and into space, resulting in a flurry of openings, especially down the left-hand side of the pitch. After going close several times, Harrow finally made the breakthrough on the ten-minute mark with a fine strike from distance by Tarbotton.

The beauty of Harrow's play was in its simplicity, moving the ball quickly in the centre of the pitch into wide areas and switching the play effectively to disrupt the opposition backline. The second Harrow goal was a perfect example of this, with a quick exchange of passing helping to find Jesse Eledan, *Newlands*, in space down the right channel. Eledan played a neat cross into the centre and Aldrich-Blake was on hand to slot away his first goal of the football term. Harrow could have gone further ahead when they won a penalty but they managed to hit the cross bar with the resulting effort.

As the half went on, Dr Challoner's found their way into the tie and created opportunities of their own. Harrow were grateful to Seb Pesel, *Moretons*, in goal for a strong of fine saves to keep the clean sheet before half-time.

In the second half Harrow changed their shape slightly to bring in an extra striker, and the extra pressure further up the pitch allowed them to take complete control of the game. Lase Akindele, *Newlands*, was on hand to get his first goal with a quick finish in the box and this was followed shortly after with a wonderful team goal that culminated in Diego Castellanos, *Rendalls*, whipping a beautiful cross in from the left which was finished first time at the back-post by Akindele. Akindele then completed his hat-trick with a breakaway goal after being slotted through by the superb Macleod in the centre of the pitch.

This was an impeccable team performance with each of the boys working hard to play quality possession football. The boys should be proud of their efforts and of how much they have evidently improved over the course of the term.

Yearlings B Draw 2-2

The School v Marlborough College, 10 March

2nd XI Lost 0-4

Despite some good play, Harrow fell to a well-organised and clinical Marlborough 1st XI. Harrow were perhaps unlucky to score with both James Gibbens, *West Acre*, and Kurran Calvert-Davies, *Druries*, hitting the woodwork.

3rd XI Lost 1-3

Harrow showed tremendous courage in taking on the Marlborough College 2nd XI on Thursday afternoon. Three boys failed to turn up to the coach after 2d, which meant that Harrow were reduced to a flat XI. The absence of substitutes was certainly a factor in this defeat as Harrow tired towards the end, conceding the crucial third goal in the dying minutes.

Harrow started positively and were the better team for the first ten minutes. The visitors were good value for their lead, secured via a superb solo strike from 3rd XI stalwart, Sam Lussier, *The Knoll*. However, Harrow switched off straight after this and allowed Marlborough back into the game almost immediately from the kick-off. A second soon followed to put the home side 2-1 in the lead at half-time.

Harrow huffed and puffed in the second half, with Bradley Morrison, *Lyon's*, trying desperately to drive the team forward,

but an equaliser was not forthcoming and Harrow succumbed to another defeat. The work-rate and commitment from the 11boys who played in this fixture was phenomenal and with more luck a draw might easily have been secured.

4th XI Draw 0-0

After a very difficult loss in the previous match and conceding more goals in one game than in the rest of the season combined, it was important that Harrow improved defensively. Thanks to a brilliant performance by the back four – Morse, Parry-George, Mclean and Ishikawa, they did just that. After a slow start, Harrow settled into the game despite Marlborough having the majority of the possession. With Awolesi up front, we remained dangerous on the counterattack. Despite a few late chances, the match ended in an entertaining but deserved 0-0 draw. Mclean and Parry-George were both outstanding and were joint man of the match on this occasion.

5th XI Won 2-1

End-to-end action gave Harrow a decisive victory in a well-spirited and exciting game.

6th XI Draw 1-1

A combination of illness and worthy commitments elsewhere left the 6th XI squad looking, potentially at least on matchday morning, somewhat sparse. Some impressive and email-intense horse trading by CDB, CMC, NEP, GJBC, various House Masters and even air-sea rescue at one point, however, over lunch eventually managed to secure a squad of 15! Huge credit goes to those boys, especially, who answered our emergency call at very short notice and tipped up to Ducker 5 to make up the numbers. They were rewarded by taking part in a really excellent match: a most competitive, entertaining and hard-fought 1-1 draw with a Harrow College side boasting some very good players.

The moments before kick-off were filled with trepidation as the School's new-look side introduced themselves to one another. The opposition looked the part, and it was clear that we would have to compete with great determination and enterprise right from the outset if we were to prevail.

The first significant action of the match came after just a couple of minutes when the excellent Data Photpipat, who had rather reluctantly, and incredibly selflessly, volunteered to be goalkeeper, produced an outstanding point-blank double-save from the Harrow College striker who had been put clean through and looked certain to score. Moments later, a long looping shot looked to be creeping under the bar, but Photpipat was there again to tip over. The corner was cleared and immediately one could sense a surge of belief and resolve in our players who felt this might not be the rout some of them had feared before kick-off!

The back five was looking very solid and resolute. Captain Tiarnan O'Brien, reading the game so well, was a model of composure, nicking tackles and playing simple passes forward, rarely giving the ball away. Jack Artis and Josh Thompson were obstinate accomplices, blocking shots and making crucial interceptions. New recruit Fergus McKie was having a terrific game at left back, staying on his feet to frustrate their busy right winger and driving forward at every opportunity, whilst Benji Xu was as industrious as ever on the opposite flank. This defensive unit seemed capable of dealing with anything the opposition were throwing at them and, increasingly as the first half progressed, we started to look more and more dangerous going forward. There was a heart-stopping moment when Harrow College were awarded a penalty after a somewhat rash challenge, but the daunting figure of Photpipat filling the goal was enough to put off the penalty-talker and he dragged it wide. So, the half ended with the score 0-0 and, though we had played some nice football and worked the ball into dangerous areas on numerous occasions, we had so far failed to test the

opposition keeper.

A bright start to the second half saw us take the lead within a few minutes of the restart – a strange goal following an error when the opposition keeper picked up a back pass. The ever-bustling Dylan Winward took the free kick, about five yards from the goal, nudging it to David Liu who stabbed it into the corner. It was a bit of a lucky break, but no more than our endeavour deserved. Thereafter, the game was end to end, with plenty of chances from both sides. Jojo Kunimoto was proving a fearsome adversary, never flinching from a 50-50 challenge. Ezekiel Akinsanya, Maahir Puri, Joe Gethin, Alexander Banfield and Seyon Santhamoorthy, all recruited just before kick-off, made excellent contributions in various positions, but a special mention needs to be made of the outstanding David Liu who quite simply never stops running: one moment leading the attack, the next moment making a crucial interception back in his own box. Amazing! Definitely man-of-the-match. So, it was bit of a cruel blow to concede a goal late on – a rather tame shot bounced horribly on the bobbly surface, looping over the keeper and into the net.

A great game overall, though, and probably a fair result on balance. All players are to be congratulated – playing the game in exactly the right way and earning a very creditable draw against a side clearly full of talent.

Colts B Draw 2-2

Colts C Won 5-2

Colts C show complete dominance in the middle of the pitch to secure a well-deserved 5-2 victory over Marlborough B team. The Harrow boys barely allowed Marlborough out of their own half in the first 20 minutes of the match, but struggled to make the breakthrough, blazing several shots over the posts from a bumpy turf. Othman, *Newlands*, finally broke the resolve of the opposition with a long-distance strike before Fulford, *The Knoll*, doubled Harrow's advantage. The second half saw an even further improved Harrow team, who put together some prolonged passages of incisive attacking play to score three more well-worked goals through Paton-Smith, *Elmfield*, Mills, *Newlands*, and Mulqueen, *Bradlys*. Othman, Mills, and Amihyia-Marsden, *West Acre*, share man-of-the-match honours for a second half of flowing attacking play.

The School v St Paul's School, Away, 10 March

Junior Colts A Lost 1-3

The JCAs were a little under par against a strong opponent. Freddie Harrison's consolation goal was the highlight of a frustrating afternoon.

Junior Colts B Lost 0-3

Junior Colts C Lost 2-3

Junior Colts D Lost 0-6

Yearlings A Lost 0-1

After a late arrival by the Marlborough team, Harrow were quick to get into their passing football and enjoyed some exciting passages of play in the opening 20 minutes. Michael Lourie, *Newlands*, who was playing slightly further forward due to the absence of midfield lynchpin Talal Nsouli, *The Knoll*, was a driving force and was unlucky not to find an opening. Elliot Macleod, *Newlands*, was again at his tricky best and also carved out an opening which he perhaps should have scored from in the first half.

In the second half, Harrow weren't able to dominate the game as well as their energy dropped and the greater physicality of the older opposition started to play a part. Marlborough managed

to score on a quick transition after Harrow's back three got out of sync with each other. Unfortunately, Harrow didn't have any answers to this and ran out with another loss. The boys should be proud of their efforts though – there was plenty of effort and grit on display even if the end result wasn't that positive.

Yearlings B Lost 0-1

The School XI v Berkhamsted School, Won 2-1

Scorers: Blesk Ekpenyong, *Druries*, Josh Marcon, *The Head Master's*,

Harrow were at full strength going into this tough clash against a strong Berkhamsted side. George Cutler, *The Knoll*, returned after an injury sustained in the House pogostick competition and Josh Marcon, *The Head Master's*, decided to make himself available after winning the Champions League 16 times with Blyth Spartans on Football Manager. Some achievement.

There was a blustery wind blowing across The Sunley, making conditions slightly tricky but presenting no real advantage to either side. Berkhamsted started brightly, trying to capitalise on uncharacteristic mistakes from the Harrow back line, but the 1st XI soon found their groove, playing slick passing football and moving the opposition around the field well.

Several half-chances fell Harrow's way but they did not really test the Berkhamsted keeper until mid-way through the half. Good pressing from Blesk Ekpenyong, *Druries*, saw him steal the ball from a Berkhamsted defender, before a quick one-two with Kyan Simpson, *The Knoll*, dinked a lovely ball over the top for Ekpenyong to run on to. Ekpenyong chested the ball down and controlled his volley beautifully to beat the onrushing goalkeeper and into the back of the net.

At half-time, Harrow spoke of the need to get that crucial second goal to kill the game off, but Berkhamsted were very strong in the second half. They put Harrow under more pressure and were exploiting space out wide. Several key interventions at the back from Archie Chatwin, *West Acre*, kept the opposition at bay, but Harrow needed to find their feet quickly or risk conceding.

Harrow established a football and used the pace and strength of Felix Majumdar, *The Knoll*, and Hugo Anderson, *Newlands*, to get in behind the Berkhamsted defence. Both players created good opportunities but the ball did not fall to them at the crucial moments.

Harrow then grabbed the second goal they craved. After good build up play down the right-hand side, the ball worked its way across to Marcon, who hit a first-time screamer that flew above the keeper's reach, cannoned off the crossbar and bounced into the roof of the net.

With about eight minutes to go, Berkhamsted grabbed a lifeline with a goal after a defensive mix up from Harrow, but Harrow held firm in the final stages to repel their attacks and hold on for the win.

2nd XI Won 3-2

Harrow started the game well with crisp passing football. Harrow capitalised on this with Dami Olugbodi, *The Park*, scoring two in quick succession at the ten-minute mark. Sloppy play allowed Berkhamsted back into the game and the score remained locked at 2-1 with both teams squandering chances. Ehiada Garuba, *Newlands*, secured the win with five minutes to go, which was crucial as Berkhamsted were able to score a second with the final kick of the game. The result also ensures that Harrow are league champions with one game to spare, a fantastic result!

3rd XI Draw 1-1

Harrow's 3rd XI were held at home by a determined Berkhamsted side. Harrow open the scoring 30 minutes into

the match through Sam Pound, *Rendalls*, who gobbled up a rebound from close range before Berkhamsted equalised ten minutes into the second half. Again it was a tale of missed chances for Harrow as they really should have been out of sight at half-time.

4th XI Won 4-0

An excellent performance by Harrow. The last time the 4th XI played on Ducker 5 they suffered a difficult defeat, therefore it was brilliant to witness the team not let this get in the way of what was a very committed and hard-working performance. In the previous fixture, Harrow played very well but did not create enough chances. The team showed great improvement by opening up opportunities to score.

Brankin-Frisby scored the first with an excellent individual goal, but the best goal of the afternoon came after a sublime cross from Parry-George met by an excellent header by Awolesi. Parry-George and Mclean again deserve a notable mention for another excellent performance, with Lee again playing very well in goal. Awolesi was given man of the match for another brilliant performance.

5th XI v The Leys School Boys, Lost 2-4

The match against the Leys School was weird and wacky, and riddled injuries, offsides, back passing to the goalies and a few penalties. Leys was a strong side, but overall an equal match to Harrow. There were a few scrappy goals by Leys to put them a couple ahead before the half-time. Poor Archie Smith, *Rendalls*, was absolutely clobbered by the Leys goal in an unfortunate tackle; the Leys keeper walked away without a scratch, and poor Smith ended up covered in tinfoil while both sides awaited the medical team. A fractured collarbone is not something you can walk off. In an act more ruthless than Caesar's conquest of Gaul, both sides left Smith on the ground with the School doctor, and walked over to Ducker 3 where they could continue the match. They hoped Smith a swift recovery, but went straight back to the match. The second half was a bit more evenly played; an excellent goal by Barrett, wind assisted, and an excellent penalty taken by Hargreaves in the last minute of the match weren't quite enough to gain the victory. Leys departed with the victory that afternoon.

6th XI Won 2-1

After Thursday's excellent draw against Harrow College, the 6th were straight back in action against Berkhamsted's 5th XI. As usual, there was some uncertainty about precisely who would end up in the team, with various players out of action or playing for the 4ths or 5ths, but we just about managed to scramble 11 for the start, followed shortly afterwards by the still unexplained occurrence of about five subs arriving as the game started!

A bright but breezy day presented some real challenges to both sides, and especially with the pitch being so bobbly and sticky. It was great, therefore, to see both sides trying to do the right thing – keeping the ball on the ground, playing out from the back and spreading the ball into wide areas when possible – but the conditions made it difficult to pass the ball accurately and even more difficult to judge the first touch. The first-half especially, therefore, was characterised by a great deal of scuffed shots, passes into touch and mis-controls – in short, a scrappy affair.

There were, however, moments of quality and Henry Hancock provided one such after about 20 minutes, slotting a nice shot across the goalkeeper into the corner after a patient build-up. Berkhamsted were certainly up for a fight (in a good way) and replied with a period of sustained possession and pressure, eventually culminating in an equaliser with goalkeeper Data Photpipat given no chance from close range. It was no less than a plucky Berko deserved, really, so there could be few complaints.

Harrow, though, were not to be deterred and continued to create chances. David Liu, as on Thursday, was putting in a phenomenal shift in the heart of the midfield, and the defence (Captain Tiarnan O'Brien, along with Josh Thompson, Gabriel Lam, Inigo Sanchez Asiain-Domenech and Benji Xu) continued to look very solid and, for the most part, able to deal with the opposition attack. Monty Behar-Sheehan's pace was causing the Berkhamsted defence problems and was keeping them very much sitting deep, which was opening up space in the middle for our midfield to exploit. Will Howitt, Edred Clutton, Seyon Santhamoorthy and David Liu played some neat interchanges and Hancock, hugging the left touchline, was always a good option, with Dylan Winward (another player with a big engine!) providing similar options on the right, assisted by the busy debut-boy Maxim Van Aeken.

So it was no surprise that, when the effervescent Jojo Kunitomo powered down the right and hit a cross-shot that struck the crossbar, it was a Harrow player who was first to the rebound: Henry Hancock tapping in from close range for his second just before half-time.

And so it stayed, with a rather uneventful second half, seeing no real clear chances, enabling Harrow to play the game out and take an excellent victory. All players (including the late subs!) played their part and can be proud of their efforts.

Colts A Won 2-1

A brave fight back from 0-1 down at half-time, Harrow finished strong to snatch the victory with two goals in the last seven minutes.

Colts B Won 4-3

Colts C Draw 1-1

Junior Colts A Lost 2-3

The season finished with a defeat, disappointingly, though there was much in this performance to encourage. Against a strong opponent, the JCAs played with great spirit and had moments of quality. The tempo and accuracy of the passing in the early exchanges was better than previously and the team moved the ball effectively without fashioning clear cut chances. Jonah Esposito's energy between the lines helped win possession high up the field and there were some promising interchanges in wide positions between Josh Ashley and Akachi Anyanwu. The hosts were dangerous, though, particularly down the right-hand side and they opened the scoring with a close-range effort high into the net. Undeterred, Harrow pushed for the equaliser and the introduction of Freddie Harrison helped to occupy the Berkhamsted back line. Sam Winters added to his impressive tally of goals for the season before half-time, bursting through and firing strongly past the keeper.

In the second half, Harrow's play became a little less co-ordinated, with some frustrating ball losses leading to mounting pressure. The concession of a penalty for shirt pulling resulted in the hosts taking a 2-1 lead, which was compounded shortly after by a third. Harrow heads did not drop, though, and the boys battled on to the end, scoring an excellent second goal through Jack Young. His controlled back post finish was reward for a typically tidy and tenacious performance. Sadly, however, there was not enough time for the visitors to attempt to score the equaliser. Another defeat, then, but some excellent efforts from the boys. Eli Dewotor was, as ever, a colossus of skill and elegance at the back and Leo Polese's grit and intelligence in midfield drove the team on. It has been a pleasure to see the boys play this term and there is lots to come from this talented bunch in future seasons.

Junior Colts B Draw 2-2

Junior Colts C Draw 1-1

Junior Colts D Won 6-4

Junior Colts D v St John's School, Leatherhead Boys Draw 0-0

Yearlings A v Berkhamsted School Draw 0-0

The boys went into this game with fire in their bellies, coming off the back of an unfortunate loss against a physical Marlborough Under-15 side, which nonetheless prepared them to take on a strong and organised Berkhamsted side. The first half was kicked off by Harrow, who would see a lot of the ball, dominating possession throughout the half, getting early shots off through Rocco Addati, *The Knoll*, and crosses from the wide players, Jesse Eledan, *Newlands*, and Diego Castellano Burgera, *Rendalls*. However, despite having most of the possession, the ball didn't make its way into the strikers. This made it difficult for the Yearlings to penetrate Berkhamsted's robust defence and put themselves ahead. Berkhamsted managed to see the half through, keeping the score 0-0.

The game proved to be a tale of two halves as Berkhamsted bounced back from a spell of Harrow dominance. Berkhamsted grew into the game and really tested the well-drilled Harrow defence. Michael Lourie, *Newlands*, and Seb Pesel, *Moretons*, proved to be vital, keeping the defence organised and successful in the whole team's defensive efforts. Berkhamsted continued their press and had period where they came dangerously close to the goal at times, winning seven corners in succession. Talal Nsouli, *The Knoll*, defended bravely by winning many headers. During this period, Harrow were able to squeeze a few breaks but all were unsuccessful, coming inches close with shots and through balls. Berkhamsted started to become desperate and sent their big centre back up front to cause hassle. The Harrow defence did well to control him with Teddy Tarbotton, *West Acre*, screening him and Michael Lourie, *Newlands*, man-marking him. The game came to a close, with both teams thinking they deserved to have come out with a victory.

Overall a strong performance for a much-improved Yearlings A squad. Having plenty of positives to take out of the game.

Yearlings B Lost 2-3

Yearlings C Draw 2-2

Yearlings D Won 1-0

Yearlings E Draw 1-1

WATER POLO

ESSA National Water Polo Plate Semi-Final, 3 March

School v Eton College, Harrow lost 7-3

School v Emmanuel School, Harrow won 7-1

School v Ibstock Place School, Harrow won 6-3

School v KCS Wimbledon, Harrow lost 6-4

In its best-ever result in the ESSA water polo competition, Harrow came third in a competitive group of five. The School started with the particularly tricky derby fixture against Eton College, with the stakes only raised by the Chukwuemeka, *Druries*, v Chukwuemeka, Eton, matchup on Harrow's defensive line (and with the former making a rare ESSA debut in the Shells). Light blue fought (literally) tooth and nail to set Harrow back in the first half, but the School showed great resilience in mounting a comeback, led by Jake Phillips, *Newlands*, scoring two and Zak Banton, *Newlands*, lobbing the keeper from halfway.

Harrow then played back-to-back games, narrowly losing to KCS 6-4 before overcoming Emmanuel School 7-1. In the former, Phillips continued to add to his tally with a further three,

while Sias Bruinette, *Newlands*, scored a lovely penalty. Against Emmanuel, Harrow had a much easier time with hat-tricks from Sam McGougan, *Bradlys*, and Henry Emerson, *Newlands*, although it was a shame not to complete the clean sheet.

In the School's final fixture against Ibstock Place, Harrow was very much warmed up and fought well for a 6-3 victory. Goals were plentiful and shared evenly, with Jake Ramus, *Lyon's*, opening his account. Jake Phillips was nominated Player of the Tournament for his five competition goals and consistent performance across the day. Finally, a special mention, congratulations and thank you must go to Ramus, Tristan Bentsen, *Druries*, Maxwell Brooks, *West Acre*, Sam McGougan, *Bradlys*, Anton Shashenkov, *The Knoll*, and Max Wilson, *The Park*, for their immense contributions to School water polo and the ESSA competition over the years.

BADMINTON

Harrow Cup, 10 March

1st – Cooper's Coborn won 6 of 7 matches

2nd – Wellington won 5 of 7 matches

3rd – Harrow won 3 of 7 matches

Joint 5th – John Lyon and Charterhouse won 3 of 8 matches

6th – Eton won 2 of 7 matches

On Thursday 10 March, the 1st IV competed against five other schools at the annual Harrow Cup badminton tournament. This event has not run in full format for the past two years, and so it was excellent to welcome Charterhouse, Coopers' Coborn, Eton, John Lyon and Wellington for this year's competition. In the first round, first pair Alex Locke and Marcus Tung, both *West Acre*, faced Charterhouse, conceding 16-21, 16-21 before Tung retired due to illness. Fortunately, John Kwong, *Lyon's*, was waiting in the wings to step into the partnership for the remaining matches against Eton and Wellington, which unfortunately both went to the opponents. Chris Liu, *The Head Master's*, and Jarvis Lam, *The Park*, of pair 2 had an excellent day, securing a swift first-round victory over Charterhouse (21-7, 21-6), before putting Wellington to the sword in a lengthy three-game battle (17-21, 21-17, 30-28), after which they beat Eton (22-20). The Harrow team finished in third place overall, with a highly impressive Coopers' Coborn team taking the top spot. It was an excellent afternoon of badminton!

HOCKEY

1st Team v Haileybury, Lost 1-3, 8 March

Harrow played a well-drilled and talented team from Haileybury in their most exciting game yet. The 1st XI started the game aggressively, creating numerous chances in the first couple of minutes. However, the aggressive nature of Harrow's tackling led to a short corner being given against them, which Haileybury scored from. Harrow reset and managed to equalise almost immediately, after Joe McGuinness, *The Park*, finished off a well-worked team goal into the bottom corner. Although Harrow lacked the possession of their opponents, chances were being created through link up play on the wings and some exceptional long aerial balls from Captain Phoenix Ashworth, *The Head Master's*. Haileybury scored two goals late in the game from set pieces to finish 3-1 up. It was an encouraging performance from the 1st XI, and special mention must go to Charlie Ball, *The Grove*, who made some outstanding saves to keep Harrow in the game.

2nd Team v Haileybury, Won 6-0

The second team victory in a hard-working game from start to finish. There was a slow start, but the team quickly came to their senses with two goals in quick succession by George Hall, *Moretons*, to finish the first half. Harrow, keeping their hard-working mindset, managed to claim four more goals, completing Hall's hat-trick with help from George Ferguson, *Newlands*. Despite the final score, Haileybury had many good shots on target, but they were handled well by Hector Rogberg, *Druries*, ending the match with a score of 6-0. The final goal was scored by man of the match Ollie Proctor, *The Head Master's*.

Junior Colts A Lost 1-3

1st Team Away v St John's School, Leatherhead, Won 2-1

Harrow started strongly against an organised opposition. Despite going 1-0 down, Harrow always looked dominant in the midfield areas with some excellent passing from George Leigh, *Elmfield*, Jack Scott, *The Park*, and debutant James Gisborne, *Moretons*. When Shrey Rawal, *Rendalls*, equalled the score with a drag flick from a short corner, Harrow's forward play got better and better with Will Stabb, *The Head Master's*, scoring an exceptionally well-worked team goal to take the lead with around 15 minutes to go. Harrow never looked like losing this lead and secured the game, winning 2-1 at the end of time.

Junior Colts A v St John's School, Leatherhead, Won 4-0

RACKETS

The School v Haileybury, Won, 1 March

The First Pair of Federico Gherzi, *The Head Master's*, and Henry Oelhafen, *Lyon's*, played with accuracy and precision to win three tight games for a 3-0 score line.

The Second Pair of Christopher Gujhadur, *The Head Master's*, and Vadim Gurinov, *The Grove*, played with great determination but were edged out 0-3.

The Colts pair Gus Stanhope, *Moretons*, and Charlie Hope, *Rendalls*, were too consistent for a talented but erratic pair from Haileybury in a 3-0 win characterised by strong serving..

FIVES

The School v Eton, 10 March

Seniors Won – Another 3-0 win completing an undefeated season for the seniors.

Colts Won – Great cutting, in particular from Gus Stanhope, *Moretons*, produced a solid 3-0 win for Stanhope and his partner Algie Anderson, *Moretons*.

Yearlings Won – All three top pairs winning in close matches.

FIVES

Seniors v Cambridge University, Won 3-0, 1 March

A great day for the squad who continue their unbeaten run, winning all three matches with William Clutton and Edred Clutton, both *The Knoll*, winning 3-1. Johnny Barley, *The Grove*, teamed up with Caspar Bird, *Elmfield*, to win, and an interesting substitution by IJH helped Fred Prickett, *The Park*, win at first pair.

RUGBY 7S

Middlesex Cup 7s, 2 March

The 1st VII started the 7s season with an excellent performance at a reformatted version of the Middlesex 7s (due to the main competition being abandoned because of waterlogged pitches). Harrow beat St Benedict's and Mill Hill to advance into the top-tier knockout group. In that group, Harrow beat Beechen Cliff, the Bath rugby academy school and then, in their final game with two unbeaten sides playing, Harrow lost 19-17 to Bishop Wand, the London Irish academy school, as a try with the last play of the game ruled out Walid Nsouli's, *The Knoll*, go-ahead length of the field try. An excellent first run-out for the squad with lots of lessons learnt.

Surrey 7s, Group Match, 9-13 March

v The Cedars School Won 31-7
 v Brighton College Lost 17-28 Cup Knockout
 v St Benedict's School Won 47-5, Knockout Quarter
 v Hurstpierpoint College Won 48-5
 v Epsom College Won 17-14 Group Match
 v RGS, Guildford Won 19-12, Knockout Final 16

In the Surrey 7s, a nationwide tournament and one of the toughest in the country, the 1st VII put on a superb display across the day. In the group, Harrow won their match first v Cedars School 31-7, before putting on one of the performances of the day to beat Hurstpierpoint 48-5. This set up a must-win group game versus Epsom College; despite going 14-5 down, Harrow showed tremendous resilience to win 17-14 and advance to the last 16 where we met RGS Guildford. In our sloppiest performance of the day, we scraped a 19-12 win in extra time before putting on another masterclass in the quarter-final to beat St Benedict's 47-5. That brought up Brighton College in the semi-final and, despite taking a 5-0 lead early on, Brighton's clinical finishing proved the difference as they won 28-17. A superb effort from all the boys involved, and particularly strong performances throughout the day from Ehiada Garuba, *Newlands*, Hugo Anderson, *Newlands*. George Hamblin, *Moretons*, and Harvey Douglas, *Elmfield*.

SQUASH

The School v Radley College Won 4-1, 10 March

This was an excellent, gritty performance by the First team, winning 4-1, with Hanno Sie, *Newlands*, in particular showing particular resolve and determination to win his match. Jat Tse played Radley's squash professional, *Rendall's*, and the Radley master-in-charge emailed afterwards to say 'What a match that was – I've not seen a higher standard of squash played at Radley, or indeed anywhere on the school circuit.'

The Seconds lost 5-0, and the U15, made up mostly of U14 players, lost 4-1, with Henry Barker, *The Park*, taking his first victory for Harrow.

HOCKEY

School v Westminster School, 1st Won 7-0

This was a positive performance from the whole squad with some new faces debuting. Westminster were not able to keep up with the pace and accuracy of the consistent attacking play, which created space and time for the midfield to attack. Some lovely touches got the ball directly into the D and we were able to convert many of these opportunities into goals. The boys played with composure and determination, applying all of the key principles we have worked this season to perfect.

Man of the match report – Joe McGuinness, *The Park*,

Junior Colts A Won 8-0

This was a well-deserved victory against a development side from Westminster. Harrow managed to maintain pressure on the opposition defence and created many chances, converting five of them before half-time. Westminster brought on some stronger players in the second half, which created a more competitive game. Harrow responded to the challenge, fought hard for the ball and slotted in three more goals.

Scorers: Freddie Emery, *Moretons*, x3, Xander Jones, *West Acre*, x2, Hugh Mercer Wong, James McGuinness, both *The Park*, Aaron Patel, *The Knoll*

2nd v John Lyon School, Lost 2-3

A slow and lethargic start allowed the eager John Lyon players to score an early goal, followed quickly by another. This was the motivation needed to drive the Harrow boys into better form, where they found the space and linked some lovely passes together, finishing with a well-taken goal. Both teams then forgot about structure and worked frantically hard but were not stringing any consecutive plays together. Harrow then clicked and this resulted in a second goal for the team. However this was not to be the final score, as a rapid counter attack from John Lyon saw them score their third and seal the victory.

RUGBY UNION

Under-18 Development XV v Christ College, Lost 28-32

Julian 1 played host to a thrilling cross-border clash as the Development XV took on Christ College, Brecon. Brecon looked strong in the first half and scored four tries, converting two and kicking a penalty to reach 27 points. Harrow, however, stormed back with converted tries from Thayil, *Rendalls*, and Ferneyhough, *Elmfield*, along with two pick-and-go tries to take a 28-27 lead with four minutes remaining. Christ College, however, showed great composure in the final moments to retain the ball and, after a series of good offloads, got over the line for a 32-28 win. A brilliant game to wrap up the 15-a-side rugby season at Harrow.

*This is the last edition of
The Harrovian for this Term*

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