

APRIL  
EDITION

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2023



Number One

# INTRODUCING THE TEAM...



## **ALYSSIA EVANS** *Editor*

My name is Alyssia Evans, and I am passionate about the History of Art. You may have seen me around school leading various clubs and activities! I love movies, gardening, spring and dogs.

My role is to identify what we would like to include, finalise articles given to me and format the paper. I hope you enjoy what we've put together!

(She/Her)



## **NANCY ROBERTS** *Arts and Culture Editor*

I'm Nancy Roberts and I'm Arts and Culture editor for What the Heck. I'm enthusiastic about making arts and culture accessible to everyone, especially in museums and galleries. When I'm not in a museum, you can usually find me in the library having strong opinions on film, literature, heritage and University Challenge.

(They/Them)



## **SAM WALSHAW** *News and Current Affairs Editor*

I'm Sam Walshaw, a Huddersfield Town fan, Geographer, cyclist, rail enthusiast, Test cricket advocate, gardener, devout Yorkshireman and occasional visitor of large suspension bridges.

I'm also News and Current Affairs editor of What the Heck. My section covers all sorts of things going on in the world today, including general news, politics, science and sport. Featured topics this month include stem cells and Bardsey Island (if you've never heard of it, read on!)

I hope you enjoy the paper.

(He/Him)

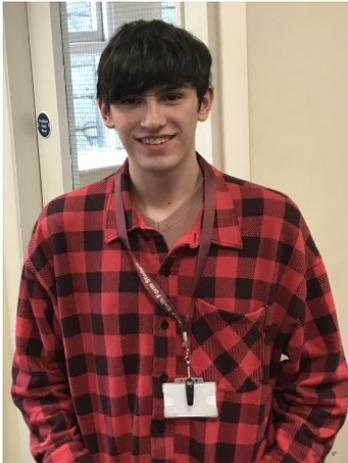


## **JAMES WILDING** *Student Life Editor*

Brought to the newspaper by fate and a need to do a Wednesday enrichment, I'm James Wilding and I'm Student Life editor for What the Heck. I spend most of my free time at school either helping at clubs, in younger years' lessons or prefect duties.

Most of my articles will be on events or clubs going on within the school, as well as many other school related things one could write in a month.

(He/Him)



## **JACK WHARTON** *Illustrator*

I'm Jack Wharton, the illustrator for What The Heck?, providing accompanying drawing for the various articles covered by our editors. I enjoy painting, specifically landscapes, and exploring new genres of music that push conventions to the extremes. I also keep birds, taming and hand training them as pets.

(He/Him)



## **ELLIOT HOYLAND** *Contributing Writer*

Hi, I'm a contributing writer for What The Heck? I enjoy learning about Mongolia, walking my dogs and following Leeds United. I write across all sections of the newspaper on whatever I am interested in, often heavily linked to biology!

I hope you find the newspaper interesting and fun!

(He/Him)

## **Editorial Note**

Hello All! I wanted to take this space to introduce you to the first edition of 'What the Heck?' - your official student-led newspaper. As a collective, so much effort and time to collect and write material has gone into this so I hope that you enjoy what we've created

The aim is to publish this monthly to keep you updated on school life, current world events and the arts.

If you would like to take part the next edition editions, email us on:

**[WhattheHeck@heckgrammar.co.uk](mailto:WhattheHeck@heckgrammar.co.uk)**

This could be to write us a story, book review, illustrate or keep let us know about a local event. We want to expand the team further and have a range of ideas and interests so that we can accurately represent our school.

Thanks,

Alyssia Evans



**BIG IN  
THE NEWS...**

## THERE'S A STAR, MAN!

### Welsh island earns rare international status

*By Sam Walshaw - News and Current Affairs Editor*

**Less than two miles off the coast of Wales' Llŷn Peninsula, in the county of Gwynedd, lies a small piece of land known as Bardsey Island. Steeped in mystery and folklore, it is rumoured to house the graves of twenty thousand saints. Due to its varied wildlife, it is classed as a National Nature Reserve and a Site of Special Scientific Interest.**

According to the Bardsey Island Trust, Ynys Enlli (the name of the island in Welsh) has welcomed pilgrims "since the early years of Christianity". There is evidence that the island may've been inhabited as early as the Bronze Age. In the early middle ages, three visits to Bardsey were equal to one pilgrimage to Rome, which could explain the legend mentioned earlier. The ruins of St Mary's Abbey, most of which was demolished in 1537 as part of the Dissolution of the Monasteries, are still visible to visitors today. Between the sixteenth and eighteenth centuries, Bardsey became a common haunt of pirates, before a community of farmers and fishermen was established. In 1821, the construction of Bardsey Lighthouse in southern Ynys Enlli was finished. At thirty metres high, it is the UK's tallest square-towered lighthouse. Later, in the 1870s, the island's owner, Lord Newborough, oversaw the building of new houses on the island, as well as a Methodist chapel. Today, Enlli is owned by the Bardsey Island Trust, which bought the island in 1979 after a successful public campaign. Visitors are welcomed between March and October each year.

In February, after a process lasting 11 years, the island made headlines after being awarded the prestigious status of International Dark Sky Sanctuary (IDSS), joining sixteen other sites recognised as the world's darkest places by the International Dark Skies Association (IDA). Even more impressively, Bardsey is the first site in Europe to be awarded the status. Although Wales already has three "Dark Sky Places", being named an IDSS is much rarer, and involves a much more difficult certification process. Over the coming years, the IDA will continue to monitor the quality of the dark skies on the island.



*Views of the night sky possible from Bardsey Island*



*Location of Bardsey Island*

According to the IDA, an IDSS is:

*"public or private land that has an exceptional or distinguished quality of starry nights and a nocturnal environment that is protected for its scientific, natural, or educational value, its cultural heritage and/or public enjoyment. A sanctuary differs from a Dark Sky Park or Reserve in that it is typically situated in a very remote location with few (if any) nearby threats to the quality of its dark night...a sanctuary designation is specifically designed to increase awareness of these fragile sites and promote their long-term conservation."*

Mari Huws, an Ynys Enlli warden, commented:

*"Living here I am always in awe of the island's beauty – and the night sky is very much a part of that. We look forward to welcoming visitors here over the coming months and years and sharing with them our unique story... In a world that's increasingly being polluted, it's a privilege to be able to work towards protecting something that is pristine for future generations."*

Bardsey Island's achievement draws important attention to the growing threat of light pollution. In areas where, eighteen years ago, two hundred and fifty stars could have been seen, less than a hundred may be visible now. This is due to a process known as "skyglow", caused by lights used by humans at night. This increases the brightness of the night sky, making it harder to see the stars. It is a particular problem in urban areas. Since 2011, the night sky has become almost ten per cent brighter every single year. The impacts of skyglow are much wider than just astronomy: it decreases our quality of sleep and can confuse nocturnal wildlife. There is particular concern about the effect on sea creatures, which are exposed to harmful levels of artificial light near coastal cities. To guard against skyglow, lights in urban areas should be more carefully planned, so that they shine downwards, rather than up into space. In the USA, it is estimated that around thirty per cent of outdoor lighting is wasted for this reason.

Furthermore, not only does switching off lights when they are not being used save energy, it can also help to improve the quality of our night skies.

Bardsey is fortunate to be in a very remote location, with a small mountain that blocks any light from the mainland. The nearest source of any considerable light is Dublin, which is over seventy miles away. Due to its new status, media coverage of the island has increased recently, meaning it is likely that the number of people visiting the island will rise. Specifically, more amateur astronomers are expected to make their own pilgrimage to the site. Bardsey's wardens hope that this will bring benefits to the local economy.

## COMPETITION

If you are interested in the night sky, you are invited to join the Astronomy Photography Competition on Microsoft Teams, using the code **37b9vfm**. Once you are in, you can submit your own photos, or just look at the other entries as they come in.



*The glows of city lights, captured by the International Space Station.*

## FAST FACTS

Area: **0.69 square miles** (179 hectares, 440 acres)

Population: **11**

Number of cars: **0**

Community: **Aberdaron**

Postcode district: **LL53**

UK Parliament constituency: **Dwyfor Meirionnydd** (MP: *Liz Saville Roberts, Plaid Cymru*)

Meaning of *Ynys Enlli*: **“The island in the currents”**

Number of International Dark Sky Sanctuary certified sites: **17**

## FURTHER READING

Bardsey – Christine Evans and Wolf Marloch (Gomer Press, 2008)

Bardsey Island – Encyclopaedia Britannica: <https://www.britannica.com/place/Bardsey-Island>

Bardsey Island Trust – <https://www.bardsey.org/>

Dark Skies: Welsh island is first sanctuary in Europe – BBC News: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-64731286>

International Dark Sky Sanctuaries – IDA: <https://www.darksky.org/our-work/conservation/idsp/sanctuaries/>

Light pollution: Huge fall in stars that can be seen with naked eye – BBC News: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-64321824>

Put That Light Out – The Times, Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2023, p. 31

Ynys Enlli off Welsh coast designated as a dark sky sanctuary – The Guardian: <https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2023/feb/23/ynys-enlli-bardsey-island-off-welsh-coast-designated-dark-sky-sanctuary>



LET'S  
CONSIDER...

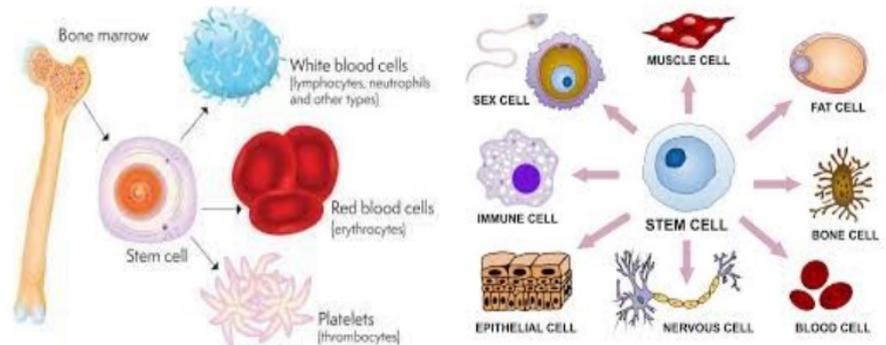
# Stem Cells: Medicine's Golden Bullet or Ethically Unviable?

By E. Hoyland - contributing writer.

In this column, we will assess the latest developments in science and technology and seek to consider their potential uses, efficacy and also their disadvantages, in order to try and answer challenging questions where the conclusions are not simply black and white. We will aim to tackle complex ideas and hopefully learn something new, as well as provoke intriguing thought. This first edition looks at the potential applications of stem cells in the world of medicine.

Stem cells could provide a near miraculous solution to an enormous range of medical conditions, from cancer to cardiovascular disease, but many oppose their use on moral grounds, saying that the cells used are extracted unethically.

Let us begin by outlining what exactly a stem cell is: when humans, and indeed all eukaryotes (plants and animals), grow, their cells divide, splitting in half and producing identical copies through a process called mitosis. This is very beneficial as it means that damaged cells can be replaced like-for-like, and that when we grow our organs remain functional, doing their job just as they did before. However, sometimes it would be very useful if cells didn't produce identical copies and we could instead make a different type of cell from another, for example making a white blood cell out of a liver cell. This is especially useful in cancer treatments, where chemotherapy destroys both cancerous and healthy cells, meaning that there are no healthy cells left to divide and replace the ones lost to chemotherapy. Of course, low numbers of any cell can be hugely detrimental; replacing these cells cannot be done via mitosis as there are no healthy cells to replicate, and so this is where stem cells can be utilised.



The cells that mitose in humans are already differentiated, meaning they have already been assigned an unalterable cell type – a kidney cell can only ever grow into another kidney cell for example, or a muscle cell can only ever grow into another muscle cell. What this means is that unfortunately, if we destroy all of one type of a human's cells, they cannot be replaced... unless we use stem cells. Stem cells are crucially undifferentiated and so can specialise into or become **any** type of cell. This means we could replace any cell we wanted to with these stem cells, but where would we get them from?

The only part of human development that demands these as yet undefined cells is foetal development in the uterus, where an entire adult human must grow from just one cell, and so the need for cells that can then differentiate into any cell at all is evident, as this one cell must divide and grow into your stomach, your bones, your eyes, everything. This means that these pluripotent stem cells are found exclusively in embryos and in the umbilical cord in humans. Now, we can source what are known as multipotent stem cells from areas such as bone marrow or fat that can differentiate into other cells but only into a limited number of very similar cells – we want pluripotency where all types are possible. This then is where the debate lies: is it ethically correct to use foetuses for scientific research and for treating patients?

*The above diagrams illustrate multipotency compared to pluripotency*

Currently, the main types of stem cell used are in fact multipotent bone marrow cells that can differentiate into blood cells, helping treatment of blood cancers such as lymphoma, but the use of pluripotent stem cells could potentially open the door to an array of life saving treatments... but is it worth it? Many would argue that we should not be using a foetus that could become a human life as a sort of medicine and that it should be left respectfully, not exploited for scientific research – it is the beginnings of a human life and should thusly be treated as an adult human would. On the other side of the coin is the idea that an aborted foetus or one that is unviable would very sadly not be able to grow into an adult human anyway, and so it is in the interest of so many others to utilise it for the advancement of medicine. Personally, I believe that the key may lie in umbilical cord stem cells, as these are pluripotent and can be extracted without posing any health risk to the newborn baby or its parent, but with the same end result as extracting them from a foetus.

Both sides of this debate are certainly valid and must be respected, and it is clear that there are both very large medical advantages and ethical objections to a conflict that I believe will only grow more and more prevalent in the future.



NEW ON YOUR  
SCREENS...

## Wild Smiles

### Attenborough's latest series surpasses expectations

By Sam Walshaw - News and Current Affairs Editor

It was with some trepidation and more than a hint of sadness that I faithfully tuned in to watch the first instalment of *Wild Isles*, the latest television series presented by Sir David Attenborough. Why? Well, this was no criticism of the host himself (indeed, in my view, national treasure does not befit his standing: surely, global icon is more suitable), but rather a reaction to two things I had learnt the week before. First of all, it had been widely reported that *Wild Isles* will be the final time we see Attenborough 'up-close and personal' with the real stars of the show, the animals and plants. This is significant because it can be seen as the end of an era, nay, a dynasty of television presenting led by the most recognisable and influential naturalist of our times. It was a surprise to hear that this five-part series will be his first that focuses solely on the British Isles.

The second thing brought to my attention was an article on the Guardian website, which claimed that a sixth *Wild Isles* episode (about the causes of biodiversity loss and what can be done to reverse it) had been created but would not be broadcast on television as originally planned. Instead, the programme would only be available on the BBC iPlayer; the Guardian suggested this was due to fears of a "right wing backlash". Whatever the truth about these allegations (which the BBC has strongly denied, saying the plan was always to broadcast a five-part documentary), they cast an additional and unwanted shadow over the series from its beginning.

So, when the first episode began, I was not expecting but perhaps fearing an effort below the BBC and Attenborough's usual exemplary standards. However, the first few shots – a rolling panorama of the Needles, just off the Isle of Wight, followed by a short introduction by a

binocular-wielding Sir David – put me at ease somewhat. From there, viewers were transported right to the other end of the country – to the Shetland Islands, where we were treated to stunning visuals of our country's largest marine predator: the orca. Outstanding camerawork was to become an overriding theme of the first episode, with so many different angles that, as they were introduced, seemed to reveal entirely new elements of the wonderful nature being portrayed. In fact, the footage seemed to surpass the BBC's usual lofty bar and was at times truly extraordinary.

I will try not to spoil the identities of the remainder of the wildlife featured, but I will say that each little feature seemed exactly the right length, never so long that it became uninteresting, but long enough to do justice to the nature on show. The music also was never overpowering but really added to my enjoyment of the programme. Attenborough's narrative contributions were insightful and, at times, comical with well-timed comments like "mission accomplished" and "the size of a portion [of fish] can be a bit of a problem for some", which really make his documentaries enjoyable. What is more, there were parallels with his previous programmes: an aerial flight scene reminded me of that infamous iguanas-versus-snakes tussle from *Planet Earth II*. There really is something for everyone; even the most seasoned nature lovers will learn new things.

To be hypercritical, there were odd things I would like to have known more about, such as the British Isles' varied geology and the badgers of East Sussex. The balance between the features on plants and animals and the hard science was mainly good, although I would possibly have wanted more of the latter. I do, however, appreciate the

difficulty of compressing hours and hours of material into just five episodes. By the way, when I say hard science, I do not mean unintelligible drivel: Attenborough's short explanations of, say, the importance of pollination, are easily understandable to all viewers (and yet never patronising – another part of the magic of his broadcasts).

Throughout the programme, there was a recurring theme of destruction – for example, in the last twenty years, sixty per cent of British flying insects have been lost, a truly scandalous figure. It was not until the conclusion that we had an explanation of the overpowering reason behind this: climate change. There will hopefully be a greater focus on this in later episodes. It is my great hope that, through globally recognised figures such as Attenborough, more people can be persuaded to protect our (in his words) "once-wild isles", and restore our incredible nature to its past glory.

It seems, then, that my initial apprehensions were largely unnecessary, which I think shows that, despite everything the BBC has gone through recently, it remains the world's premier broadcaster, capable of permeating the hearts and minds of so many through its brilliantly varied outputs. The first episode re-affirmed my love for our great islands which, it is safe to say, have been through a troubling few years. By the time you read this, at least two more episodes will have aired, focusing on specific habitats such as grassland. I also highly recommend the accompanying *Wild Isles* poster, which is available in the post, for free, from the Open University.

*Wild Isles is available on the BBC iPlayer, with new episodes airing on BBC One every Sunday night..*

# DOORMOUSE

*By Jack Wharton - Illustrator*



## Comment

*By Mr J. Barnett - Assistant Headteacher*

This is what the BBC does best – showcasing the natural world through stunning photography and footage with Sir David Attenborough's insightful commentary. His descriptions of the varied wildlife of the British Isles showed the familiar and the not so familiar: a dormouse climbing to the top of a tree to find honeysuckle nectar to give her the strength to feed her family; a pod of orca hunting seals in the far north of the Shetland Islands; damselfly courtship in the chalk streams of southern England; snow geese in the Outer Hebrides being hunted by white-tailed eagles.

To think that this wealth of wildlife is on our doorstep is astounding.

Billed as Attenborough's last series, this would be a superb farewell. We have become used to the quality of this programming which gives us insight into the natural world. We are more familiar with some of the more exotic locations elsewhere in the world, but seeing the same level of documentary filming in the UK is humbling – not only because of the varied wildlife on show but also because of the unique climate and geology which gives rise to this wildlife. And all of it is on our doorstep.

There is a serious ecological message as well. Sir David highlights the loss and destruction of habitats and forests resulting in some species

becoming seriously threatened. The underlying message is clear. This destruction can be reversed if we act – and it is not too late – but we must change our behaviour.

This was just episode one – more stunning visuals are promised for future programmes, culminating in an additional episode dealing with the ecological and environmental choices we have as a society. This programme, which will only be available on iPlayer, will be Attenborough at his best: showcasing fabulous wildlife, but simultaneously highlighting the threats to its very existence. If anyone can galvanise the British public into coming together to save the planet, it's him.



# FOOTBALL

## Premier League review: season pauses to catch its breath

*Written by E. Hoyland - Contributing Writer*

1	Arsenal	28	22	3	3	40	69
2	Manchester City	27	19	4	4	42	61
3	Manchester United	26	15	5	6	6	50
4	Tottenham	28	15	4	9	12	49
5	Newcastle United	26	12	11	3	20	47
6	Liverpool	26	12	6	8	18	42
7	Brighton	25	12	6	7	15	42
8	Brentford	27	10	12	5	9	42
9	Fulham	27	11	6	10	1	39
10	Chelsea	27	10	8	9	1	38
11	Aston Villa	27	11	5	11	-4	38
12	Crystal Palace	28	6	9	13	-16	27
13	Wolves	28	7	6	15	-19	27
14	Leeds	27	6	8	13	-9	26
15	Everton	28	6	8	14	-18	26
16	Nottingham Forest	27	6	8	13	-27	26
17	Leicester	27	7	4	16	-9	25
18	West Ham	26	6	6	14	-10	24
19	Bournemouth	27	6	6	15	-29	24
20	Southampton	28	6	5	17	-23	23

*The Premier League Table as of Matchday 28*

As we approach the end of the international break, the countdown is on with just ten Premier League matchdays left this season. Arsenal are undoubtedly one of the surprises of the season – 50/1 to win the league in August, they are now sitting pretty (eight points clear at the top) and the bookies’ favourite to claim a first league title since their ‘Invincibles’ nineteen years ago. Manchester United have had an average season, currently third and well out of what was always a two-horse title race, though unthreatened by the underwhelming teams below them battling it out for the Champions League places. One of these teams is Newcastle, a team surrounded by positivity after the enormous economic backing brought about by their recent takeover, who will be hoping to capitalise upon a lack of quality from the usual ‘big six’. A lack of quality that is very applicable to Tottenham, who go into the international break in a cloud of controversy after their manager Antonio Conte’s comments: he described Spurs as “unacceptable”, saying that “this is the first time in my career to see a situation like this... [The players] don’t want to play under pressure, they don’t want to play under stress... Tottenham’s story is this. Twenty years there is the owner and they’ve never won something but why?” in a recent and quite spectacular press conference. In fact, since writing this Conte has been sacked, leaving Spurs searching for replacement

As for the bottom end of the table, it seems a mini league has emerged with nine teams separated by just four points. The likes of Leeds, Southampton and Everton are hoping new managers will help to change their fortunes in one of the closest relegation fights in years. Southampton continue to prop up the table, but with good results against Spurs, Chelsea and Manchester United in recent weeks their two point gap to safety could be very quickly overcome.

Currently, Liverpool and Brighton sit in sixth and seventh respectively, but will have very different feelings about their seasons so far: Liverpool haven’t been able to find any decent sort of form all season, were dumped unceremoniously out of the Champions League by Real Madrid and have an ageing squad desperate to re-find the form that has brought them recent success, including reaching last year’s Champions League final, that seems a far cry from current results. Brighton on the other hand have recovered fantastically from losing Graham Potter mid-season, as well as key players in the last couple of years such as Ben White, Dan Burn and Leandro Trossard, which could have led to the club slipping down the order. Keeping hold of Moisés Caicedo was crucial for them during the winter transfer window, but the management of the club and its preparedness for what could have been huge personnel losses highlights just how well-run Brighton are as a football club, something that could be rewarded with European football: a very real prospect for the Seagulls.

### Club Focus: Chelsea disappoint, plus Yorkshire teams in trouble



**Chelsea** - unlike Brighton, who Chelsea of course raided in order to acquire the services of Graham Potter - are showing all the traits of a very poorly run club. Sitting at tenth place in the league is a bad season for Chelsea full stop, but especially given the money they have spent (over £500m this season). Big money signings like Mykhailo Mudryk and João Félix haven’t been helping with goals anywhere near enough at one end, and at the other is a disappointing defence that, despite being bolstered by an ageing Thiago Silva, has struggled with Kalidou Koulibaly not living up to expectation and winter signing Benoît Badiashile failing to perform the required miracles. Or is the issue the manager, who is seemingly protected by the English

media? Thomas Tuchel averaged 1.7 points per league game this season before being sacked in early September. For comparison, Potter has averaged just 1.3

since. Tuchel won Chelsea a Champions League, followed by a Super Cup and Club World Cup, whilst Potter has stumbled his way into the Champions League quarter finals this year, where his team will surely be knocked out by Real Madrid. Was Tuchel the scapegoat for a poor transfer policy? Did he deserve more time? Or perhaps it is Potter who needs this period to implement his style. It seems hypocritical to suggest that one deserves more time and the other didn't and regardless, Chelsea have been incredibly poor at times this season: something needs to change and you have to feel it will be Potter – either his management, or his employment status.



*Silva, Badiashile and Enzo Fernández (left to right)*



**Leeds United-** After Jack Harrison's injury time goal in the final game of last season saved them from relegation, Leeds will have been hoping that this year they did not once again find themselves the wrong side of the red line. They made some strong summer signings, bringing in the likes of Willy Gnonto (one of the best teenagers in the league this season) and Tyler Adams for just £4m and £20m respectively, and began the season with seven points from three games, including a 3–0 win at home to Chelsea, ... but then the wheels rather fell off...



*Harrison scores in the 94<sup>th</sup> minute to keep Leeds in the Premier League*

atrocious – their only away win until March this year came against Liverpool – and very soon they were not only in the relegation fight, but the wrong side of the red line once more. Pressure grew on Jesse Marsch and after seven successive league games without a win, he was given his marching orders. New manager Javi Gracia has Premier League experience and Leeds's 4–2 win away at Wolves makes it seven points from four league games to kick off the Spaniard's tenure. Man-for-man, Leeds's squad is at least as good as those around them and certainly when compared to the likes of Bournemouth or Southampton, a team with nine international players should be doing better. Was Marsch to blame, achieving no improvement in league position despite signing several American and Salzburg players he himself wanted at the club? Or is the core of

players remaining from Leeds's Championship days simply not good enough? Only time will tell as we see what Gracia does with this Leeds side that is most definitely under-performing and under pressure to succeed, especially given the looming takeover.



**Huddersfield Town (By S. Walshaw) -** The season so far for Huddersfield Town has been, to say the least, turbulent. Pre-season began positively, after a quite remarkable season under the management of Spaniard Carlos Corberán in which they finished third and subsequently reached the play-off final, arguably only avoiding promotion to the Premier League through questionable use (or rather, lack of use) of the Video Assistant Referee. Preparation and heavily diminished supporter expectations, Huddersfield began the campaign with a disappointing defeat at home to Burnley. Five further losses then left the Terriers in 23rd place in the table by mid-September, leading to the dismissal of Schofield after only eight games in charge. After rumours about a

possible return for legendary former boss David Wagner, Town fans were again left disappointed by the appointment of the unknown Mark Fotheringham. The Fotheringham era never really got off the ground, and by its end became a disaster: Town were bottom of the league on Christmas Day and only two places better off by the time the Scotsman was relieved of his duties in February.



*Warnock was Huddersfield's shock appointment to replace Fotheringham in mid-February*

Not many teams survive after appointing three permanent managers in the same season, but Town were determined to buck the trend, appointing the 'retired' Neil Warnock, who, at the grand old age of 74, agreed to return to the club after a mere 28-year absence. The cult figure admitted that staying in the league would be a strenuous challenge, given the Terriers' highly unfavourable run-in.

Matters were recently made even worse when Huddersfield were placed under a transfer embargo for sending through their annual accounts late; their financial situation remains precarious, and Hoyle is actively looking to sell the club. It is truly a sad state of affairs, and equally bad for the town of Huddersfield itself, which only last year got so much joy from watching the Terriers. There may however be light at the end of the tunnel, with Town recently picking up a hard earned point against play-off contenders Norwich, followed by a brilliant away win against Millwall, leaving fans with just a glimmer of hope that they may do the unthinkable and maintain their place in the second tier.

## European football: Osimhen powers on and Germany provides surprises



*Victor Osimhen and Khvicha Kvaratskhelia have 53 goal involvements between them for Napoli so far this season*

With 21 goals and four assists to his name in 23 games, Victor Osimhen is spearheading Napoli's unexpected but unstoppable rampage to the Scudetto in Italy's top flight this year, as well as helping *I Ciucciarelli* to reach an all-Italian Champions League quarter-final. The Nigerian forward was signed for a club record €75 million in 2020 after scoring eighteen goals in all competitions for French club Lille in a Ligue 1 campaign that won him Player of the Season and highlighted him as one of Europe's hottest young prospects, aged just 21. He scored just ten goals in his first season in southern Italy, but has enjoyed an upward trajectory since, scoring eighteen last season and enjoying spectacular recent form. It is thought that the big Premier League clubs sniffing around will have to fork out upwards of £100m to acquire the 6'1" striker's services. But what is it about Osimhen that makes him such an alluring prospect? Well, he's skilful, confident with the ball at his feet, and

also big and athletic: he's been clocked at 36.6 km/h in Serie A this season, and he's scored 21 headed goals with Cristiano Ronaldo-esque leaps. He has all the physical attributes but more than anything, he knows where the back of the net is – right or left foot, he knows how to be in the right place at the right time. What's more, he has 24 career assists to his name, so he can make goals, not just score them. So, what does the future hold for one of Europe's most in-form players? In the short term, surely the league title and top scorer award, but beyond that, who knows? Plenty of top European clubs are thought to want him and he's thought to want a move to England if clubs are willing to splash the cash. He's a rare breed in the modern game – a strong, powerful striker with technical ability – and every club needs a striker who can put the ball in the back of net. As we've seen with the likes of Chelsea, Liverpool and even Bayern Munich this year, that's not an easy thing to come by, hence just how in demand Osimhen is. He's contracted at Napoli until 2025, but we could well see Vic on the move this summer; in the meantime though, he's still scoring goals for fun as Napoli dominate Serie A.



## BUNDESLIGA

Though the gap at the top may be starting to widen somewhat, the German top flight has undoubtedly provided the closest major European title race this season with, at one point, Union Berlin, Borussia Dortmund and Bayern Munich all having 43 points with Freiburg just three behind. This would have been a surprise to many at the start of the season given Bayern's typical domination in Germany, which has led to ten consecutive titles since 2013. Not only did they lose talisman and second-highest scorer in their history, Robert Lewandowski to Barça in the summer, legendary 'keeper Manuel Neuer has played just twelve league games this season after a skiing accident; all of which posed a threat to their usual title cruise. Nevertheless, Bayern seemed to have found suitable replacements in former Liverpool forward Sadio Mané and highly rated Swiss goalkeeper Yann Sommer. On top of this, they signed in the summer three of Europe's best young players from last season in Matthijs de Ligt, Mathys Tel and Ryan Gravenberch whom, when added to an enormously strong squad including the likes of

Alphonso Davies, Joshua Kimmich and Leroy Sané, made it seem like it was to be another dominant season for the Bavarian side. They have however drawn far too many games this season, dropping points to lowly Augsburg and Köln, and this opened the door to the most unexpected of challengers. Union Berlin were in the second tier until 2019 and finished twenty points behind the leaders last season in what was nonetheless an unprecedented finishing position for them, but they led the 2022/23 Bundesliga title charge for the months, until recently. This had the potential to be a fairy-tale comparable to that of Leicester in 2016 and indeed, the team remain in the fight for the Champions

League and are just five points behind current leaders Dortmund, who have often been Bayern's closest rivals but always seem to fall short, never quite having the quality of Germany's top team and repeatedly having their best players poached by Bayern. Now, however, a young and energetic team hopes to end the Bavarian dominance, led by new stars like Donyell Malen and Karim Adeyemi but with experienced players like Can and Reus proving level heads and the hottest young midfielder in Europe, Jude Bellingham, powering them on from midfield. And so, whilst it seems that it could become a two-horse race, there are still just eight points between Germany's top five with underperforming Goliaths and overperforming Davids providing the closest fight across Europe's top leagues.



*Bayern play out a 1-1 draw at home to 13<sup>th</sup> placed Köln*



# YOUR BOOK REVIEWS...

Collected by N. Roberts - Arts and Culture Editor

**1984** by George Orwell

*Book rating: 9.5/10*

*Review by Ayyan Ali, 8B2*

1984 is a classic dystopian novel that has remained relevant and powerful since its publication in 1949. The novel is set in a totalitarian society where the government, led by the figurehead Big Brother, controls every aspect of citizens' lives, including their thoughts, emotions, and actions.

The story follows the protagonist, Winston Smith, a low-ranking member of the ruling party who secretly rebels against the oppressive regime. He starts to question the government's policies and beliefs and seeks to join a secret resistance movement. However, he soon discovers that the government has an extensive surveillance system and that the slightest dissent can lead to severe consequences.

Orwell's writing is engaging and powerful, and his world-building is immersive. The novel presents a bleak and terrifying future where the government's control over its citizens is absolute, and individuality is outlawed. The novel is a warning against the dangers of totalitarianism and the importance of preserving individual freedom and autonomy. The characters are well-developed, and Winston's struggle against the oppressive regime is both relatable and heart-breaking. His journey towards rebellion and resistance is both inspiring and terrifying, and his ultimate fate is a haunting reminder of the powerlessness of individuals against a tyrannical regime.

Overall, this book is a masterful work of fiction that remains relevant today. Its themes of government control, surveillance, and individuality are still pertinent in our modern world, and the novel's message is as vital as ever. Anyone who values their freedom and autonomy should read this book and be reminded of the dangers of unchecked government power.

**MURDER MOST UNLADY-  
LIKE: ARSENIC FOR TEA**

by Robin Stevens

*Book rating: 10/10*

*Review by Ben-Felix Ani, 8P2*

Arsenic for Tea is the second book in the Murder Most Unladylike/ Wells and Wong series, impressively building upon the strengths of its predecessor. It follows our two main characters, Daisy Wells and Hazel Wong, as they decide to visit Daisy's home for the spring holidays. All seems well until Mr Curtis, one of the many guests that is also staying at the Wells mansion, is found dead, and tensions inside the household ramp up. Everyone seems to be hiding something and Daisy and Hazel don't know who to trust. With a murder on their hands, and the possibility of the killer striking a second time, Hazel and Daisy decide to investigate the situation as members of the Detective Society, and the truth they uncover was a truth they would have never expected to come true. With a complex plot line that twists and turns as the girls unravel the mystery of the murder at Fallingford, Arsenic for Tea never fails to grab your attention with its masterclass storytelling. I would recommend this book to anyone who loves detective fiction books like Sherlock Holmes.

**ALL QUIET ON THE WEST-  
ERN FRONT** by Erich Maria

Remarque

*Book rating: 8/10*

*Review by Tahmeed Bhuiyan, 8H2*

***Please note – this book may not be  
suitable for the younger years due  
to graphic depictions of war***

All Quiet on the Western Front, written by Erich Maria Remarque, is a story which follows the experiences of Paul Baumer, a young German soldier who enlists in the army with his classmates after being urged by their teacher. As they arrive at the front, Paul and his

friends are exposed to the harsh realities of trench warfare, including the constant threat of artillery fire, gas attacks, and sniper fire. Over time, Paul and his friends become desensitised to the violence and death around them, and they develop a strong sense of friendship as they rely on each other for survival. However, as the war drags on, Paul becomes disillusioned with the war and the ideology that has led him to fight. He begins to question the authority figures who sent him to war and the political ideals that motivated the conflict. The genre of this book is historical fiction because it is based on real events and historical context specifically the experiences of soldiers during the First World War. This novel is anti-war because it conveys the dehumanising nature of war and the psychological impact on soldiers. I recommend this book to anyone interested in historical fiction and about the experiences of soldiers during WW1 but I have to note that due to the topic of this book, there are some graphic descriptions of violence and death, and may not be suitable for all readers especially little children.

**THE YELLOW WALLPA-  
PER** by Charlotte Perkins Gilman

*Book rating: 10/10*

*Review by Rachel Gan, 10H1*

***Please note – this book is recom-  
mended for readers in Year 9 and  
up.***

This short book tells the story of a woman who is confined to her room by her husband, who is a doctor. Although the woman appears to be suffering from post-partum depression, her husband refuses to properly assess her and acknowledge her illness, instead insisting that she stay in bed and rest, isolating her from the outside world. As the book progresses, the woman's mental state slowly deteriorates, as she begins to think that the yellow wallpaper in her room is watching her. The story is written in a diary-style format,

written in first person accounts by the woman.

As well as being an interesting thriller story, the book contains a metaphor on the treatment of women during the 19th century, including attitudes to women's mental health and the gender roles that were expected of them at the time. The book also commented on the lack of freedom for women at that time, and how they lacked control over their own bodies. I personally enjoyed how the story was very short and told in very blunt extracts, as it further added to how haunting the book was. The writing was also very disturbing, with the voice of the narrator being very unsettling to read.

**ME** by Elton John

*Book rating: 9.5/10*

***Please note: this book contains a high amount of foul language and may not be appropriate for younger years.***

Review by Eric Ani, 9P2

Me is the official autobiography of Elton John. Starting from his childhood in the London suburb of Pinner, it covers his extraordinary life all the way up to the Farewell Yellow Brick Road tour. Dealing with issues such as his cocaine addiction, finding love and of course making music, every detail is here, told by the man who lived through it all.

This book was really gripping to read, as it takes you through the ups and downs of the life of one of the most successful pop artists of all time. There is never a dull moment on any page, and it feels like there was an abundance of brutal honesty in every detail. Seeing how Elton went from a naïve, young boy in Pinner to an outspoken global superstar was honestly fascinating. Furthermore, the way he deals with issues such as addiction, the tension in his family and his wild love life makes them feel just as defining as the many albums and songs that made him a star. Seeing the thought process behind those songs was also really interesting.

Overall, Me is amazing and I would recommend it to anyone who is interested about Elton John, or just fame in general. This is because it gives us an insight into how fame can be damaging, but also fulfilling at the same time. It illustrates the reality of celebrity life, and that they don't always have it easy. If someone remembers to look after themselves as much as they enjoy their success, fame can really work for them.

**WONDER** by R.J. Palacio

*Book Rating: 9.5/10*

*Review submitted anonymously*

Wonder, written by R.J. Palacio, is a heartwarming and powerful novel that explores the life of August Pullman, a young boy with a facial deformity who navigates the challenges of fitting in and making friends at a new school. The novel is told from multiple perspectives, allowing readers to gain a deeper understanding of August's experiences, as well as the struggles and growth of those around him.

Palacio's writing is beautifully crafted, and the story is both uplifting and emotional, without ever feeling saccharine or cloying. The characters are richly drawn and multifaceted, and their relationships are interactions are honest and nuanced.

Wonder is a must-read for readers of all ages, as it offers important lessons about empathy, acceptance, and the power of kindness. I would rate this book a 9.5 out of 10, as it is truly exceptional novel that leaves a lasting impression on its readers.



**WANT TO SEE YOUR REVIEW INCLUDED?  
Email [WhattheHeck@heckgrammar.co.uk](mailto:WhattheHeck@heckgrammar.co.uk) with  
the title 'Book Review'.**



THINGS TO  
SEE AND DO...

## MANCHESTER ART GALLERY CELEBRATES CULTURE IN STYLE WITH NEW EXHIBITION

By N. Roberts - Arts and Culture Editor



One year on from the opening of the V&A's landmark menswear exhibition 'Fashioning Masculinities', the art of British menswear is once again celebrated in the north of England with Manchester Art Gallery's 'Dandy Style'. The exhibition (which mainly focuses on items such as jackets) tracks the developments of menswear from the original 'dandy' Beau Brummell to the likes of 'ultimate British dandy' Harry Styles. Despite the seemingly binary nature of the subject matter, Manchester Art Gallery has done a fantastic job of acknowledging the many cultural factors at play in fashion, particularly focusing on the contribution of Black British designers and the subtle complexities of transmasculinity throughout.

'Dandy Style' is a great example of how community work can lead to longevity within the museum sector. Taking inspiration from works within the gallery and the recent Museum of Transology takeover, fashion students from the local university have created their own menswear designs, artistically blending patterns, textiles and structure from the 18<sup>th</sup> century into modern day clothing. Lined up outside the entrance, these are a spectacular welcome into the exhibition, with their intricate detailing and stunning construction. The gallery's work with curator and dress historian E-J Scott (alongside several other trans and gender non-conforming creatives) to complete a Trans Takeover shows a dedication to exploring queer perspectives in heritage spaces that is rarely considered outside of LGBT History Month. This is further shown by their work with local groups to create a video element of the exhibition, looking at how LGBT+ individuals express their identity through their clothing. Yet even in this there is still slightly more that could be done – there is a lack of permanent queer voice outside the video, with only brief references to how queerness has hugely influenced male fashion (including the rather inevitable, though touching, tribute to Oscar Wilde). Despite the acknowledgement of the immense contribution of Black British culture, the only voice offered is through artist quotes without

much community engagement. It's a crying shame, considering how 'Dandy Style' embraces one of the taboos of museum culture that I adore; conversation in galleries.

On the wall of their sensory-orientated space (a fantastic and comfortable access addition) is a sign that invites people to discuss what they are seeing and interact with the display around them. It's fantastic, especially for someone like me who considers silent galleries to be an enemy of the people. What is the point of an exhibition if you can't connect with the display while it's in front of you? Exciting objects induce excited noises, and the job of the gallery should be to accommodate this, not suppress it. Silent galleries are a sign of hostility to the

young children we should be encouraging into these spaces. In acknowledging and stopping this, Manchester Art Gallery seals its reputation as a youth-oriented space (and as one of my favourite places to visit!)

The actual objects within the exhibition are remarkable. 'Dandy Style' has given Manchester Art Gallery a chance to display items which have never made it out of their collections before, as well as incorporating pieces by private lenders and other galleries. This has led to a visually striking collection of incredibly detailed clothing, paintings spanning centuries and styles, and modern street photography exploring urban culture. Personal standouts for me included the Wes Anderson-esque portraits of

Dylan Don and Ranken's portrait of openly bisexual actor Ernest Thesiger (who bears a remarkable resemblance to a young Nigel Havers in *Chariots of Fire*). From Gainsborough to Westwood, 'Dandy Style' considers fashion across all art-forms, making it the perfect half-term trip for art, history and fashion lovers alike.

*'Dandy Style' is a free exhibition at Manchester Art Gallery running until 1 May 2023.*

*Photo credits: N. Roberts*

# SANCTUM SANCTORIUM

## The Picturedrome Holmfirth, Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> March

*By Jess Shaw - Contributing Writer*

The dark side of the 80s – a tribute to the early goth scene. They started in 2019 but due to Covid, they only performed one or two gigs. However, they persevered and now have gained a small following. I previously saw them in September at The Lending Room (a small independent venue and the band's first ever gig in Leeds).

The doors close, the smoke machine starts up, spotlights flare: they mimic the atmosphere and the heat, just like the gothic gigs of the era. The lights go down, the black clothing merges into one mass and the haunting introduction to 'Bela Lugosi Is Dead' rings out, the first tribute to Bauhaus. The unmistakable movements of Bauhaus singer Peter Murphy begin as the band's lead singer David Black perfectly imitates them, his cheekbones highlighted against the darkness of the room. After Bauhaus, covers are played of The Cure, The Cult, The Sisters Of Mercy, The Mission, Killing Joke, Fields Of The

Nephilim, Siouxsie And The Banshees - the list sadly not endless. Black gives a masterful performance of all the listed artists along with the tribute to Siouxsie; he briefly mentions during the night that there's so many goth bands to choose from and so many memorable songs for the audience. But naturally they can't play everything, so a carefully hand-selected few are chosen.

The age range at the gig is something to behold, as you observe people who were part of the 80s goth scene, the younger generation (including my friends and I) and a merge of the two in the middle. It's a collaboration of new and old, with the fashion reflecting the style and outlandishness shouldered for the two hours of music that connects us all together

throughout almost 40 years later.

When you're in the gig, everyone is there for the same reason – all differences between the crowd are shouldered for the two hours of music that connects us all together.

Sanctum Sanctorium also have the equipment reminiscent of each tribute. For instance, The Sisters Of Mercy had a drum machine lovingly known as Doktor Avalanche, which they have managed to procure a replica of. The 12-string guitar, which is instantly recognisable from Happy House and Dear Prudence from Siouxsie, made a brief appearance. The Mission, The Cult and The Sisters Of Mercy were the most well received tributes, with songs such as Wasteland, She Sells Sanctuary and Temple Of Love being the biggest hits. These were the songs that landed best with the audience as old-fashioned moshing began near the stage, with light bouncing further back. It was a night of heat, smoke, darkness and gothic echoes. Overall, an 8/10.

## AFTERSUN

### Wells hits home with tender holiday flick

*By N. Roberts - Arts and Culture Editor*

The thing that often makes a film is its soundtrack. What makes *Aftersun* is the lack of one. Charlotte Wells' feature-length debut film uses the few pieces of music it has to beautifully enhance the naturalism of the piece, allowing us to hear every sound as if we are right there in the scene. Combined with the incredibly accurate lighting in each shot, it becomes increasingly obvious that *Aftersun* is about to become one of the most stylistically gorgeous films of the year.

*Aftersun* follows a single dad (Calum) and his 11-year-old daughter (Sophie) as they holiday together in Turkey, sometime in the 1990s. As we watch back the clips recorded on Calum's video-camera, so does Adult Sophie, as she struggles to reconcile her memories of an emotionally distant father. This is effec-

tively done by merging scenes on top of each other, leading to a dream-like sequence of blended recollection. Paul Mescal and Frankie Corio give hauntingly realistic portraits of a father and daughter struggling to connect, leaving us wondering who is really taking care of who. While the film itself is hardly plot-driven, the laidback naturalism of the acting performances gently emphasises the emotions they grapple with.

Throughout, *Aftersun* expertly transitions between outsider perspective and intimacy. With this, Wells expertly weaves through themes of grief, love, isolation, identity, and the messy awkwardness of desire that accompanies existence on the cusp of something not quite reachable. I went into this film prepared to spend my evening crying. But one of the remarkable things about *Aftersun* is that there is no point of

catharsis – Wells leaves a quiet, uncomfortable kind of sadness that sits through the whole film and beyond. To capture such a specific feeling is an incredible achievement. To do it in a debut is masterful.

*Aftersun* is, in many ways, a film of farewell. But hopefully we are just saying hello to Wells and her obvious directorial talent on the big screen. Having been nominated for a stunning 121 awards, and winning 33 of them, it's clear I'm not the only one who feels like this (although I may be the only one who thinks the film deserves a stand-alone award for best ever use of Catatonia's 'Road Rage'). The film is on its way out of cinemas, but you can (and should) catch it on MUBI. I would rate *Aftersun* a 9/10.



CREATIVE  
WRITING...

## I NEVER WRITE TO MY GIRLFRIEND

*By Will Hodgson - Contributing Writer*

We say free the man.  
Free him for his innocence,  
Do not let him serve,  
As his frailty is,  
Second to none.

But imprison the sheep,  
You say,  
But imprison the cattle,  
You say,

Imprison the chicks,  
And the chickens.

Innocence to the largest degree,  
Yet lock them up,  
At their most vulnerable.

Hide the key and drop the trailer,  
And let the cow,  
Let the sheep rot in its collapsed breaths.

Confusion of,  
Confusion of its own thoughts,  
Never to see its family again.

For the end is permanent.  
And the end is near,  
My dear,  
If you do not stop lavishing in murder after all.



## KING CRUSTACEAN

*By Juliet Scott - Contributing Writer*

Underneath the deep blue sea,  
That is where you will find me.

Hidden in the rocks,  
you will be greeted with a CLOP!

Whilst the zebra fish slumber,  
I take the role of hunter.

Crabs, prawns, you have nothing on me,  
'I am the lobster, the king of sea'



*Illustrations by Juliet Scott*



NEW ON YOUR  
SCREENS...

## FRIDA KAHLO: DISABILITY, DEPRESSION AND DEVOTION

A review of BBC TWO's 'Becoming Frida Kahlo'.

By Alyssia Evans - Editor



Being different from her peers due to illness and style forced her to question her identity, but most of all how she would execute this, something that she continued to do till her death.

As a Mexican woman, she aligned herself with the revolution of 1910 and was devoted to the independence of her country, leading to her communist ideologies. In 1922, aged just 15, she began studying at the National Preparatory School in Mexico City, which nurtured her intellect, creativity and curiosity.

During this period, she was in a surely fatal accident. This left her with severe spinal and right leg pain throughout her life, meaning that she could no longer pursue a career in medicine because of the chronic pain that followed. This inspired her first self-portrait, created using an adjusted easel for her bed.

After meeting Diego Rivera and being inspired by him, as Mexico's leading artist, they connected and began a tumultuous relationship. After they married, she followed him around the world as he created murals. However, racial segregation and being in a foreign country saddened her. It also ignited her passion for Mexican culture. For many years, she was solely viewed as the

Frida Kahlo is a household name. She is best known for her self-portraits that explore how she is most tormented by her surroundings. Because of this, she is, at least for me, a key figurehead in identity and expression through art. This documentary aims to answer why we remember the life and work of Kahlo today.

The testimonies of close relatives, art historians, biographers and even some of her students, are relied on alongside archived footage and letters/diary entries in her own words to make up the timeline that examines the making of this great artist.

little wife' of the great artist, despite creating many of her famous works during this time. Her husband's many affairs and the several miscarriages she experienced during her time in America only added to her depression.

In her final years, as the pain increased, she was at her lowest but still maintained art as a vehicle to express her fear of death and pain. Her legacy represents the resilience of people affected by chronic illness, including both physical and mental health, and how art can be utilised to give power and respect. She was a revolutionary force that altered identity in art forever.

Even in a life full of torment and pain, this documentary manages to highlight her fondest times and the love that she feels for the (rather shocking) people she met as well as her country. This is a testament to the interviewees and the producers for offering an authentic tale that does not present a two-dimensional character but a person. She isn't presented as a sick, lonely woman but as a person that lived life by her own rules, making her extraordinary.

When watching, I enjoyed the way in which the camera focused on each piece of art shown, slowly

revealing the full image and zooming into the most dramatic areas and allowing the viewer to dissect her most surrealist pieces. Paired with the sound, this enhanced the viewing experience by making me empathise with her reason for painting. I found the personal testimonies well reflected that her life in a had significant impact – we see how she affected others and how the wider community viewed

I can conclude that it has earned a well-deserved 9/10. The way in which it was able to shed light onto her entire identity in just three hours is masterful. It manages to structure the three key phases of her life – pre, during and post-Diego Rivera. As a woman today, it initially seemed problematic to me that they chose to centre her story around her husband; however, this was her reality as a woman of her era. I think the documentary successfully highlights her key motivations in her artwork and explains well how she has reached the immensurable success that she has today, therefore meeting its criteria.

*All three episodes are available at the time of publishing on BBC iPlayer.*

*Photo credits to: "Frida Kahlo, 1939," Nickolas Muray, © Nickolas Muray Photo Archives*

# HUGE SUCCESS!

## Culture Day fundraiser at HGS

By James Wilding – Student Life Editor

On Thursday 9 March, the second annual culture day began at Heckmondwike Grammar School. Throughout the morning, people arrived in dress and outfits originating from all over the globe. Students across all years had strong showings, with so many different outfits. As well as seeing all the outfits around school, I also attended the Sixth Form Culture Day Catwalk, set up in the Swann Hall.

With music blaring throughout, the show started with a rousing speech from the Senior Prom Committee, before the catwalking got underway, starting with Pakistan. They, by my judgement, had the most people of all the different countries shown on the catwalk, taking pride in their culture. Lots of flags were waved as they walked down past the audience, as well as the boys having a short dance number in the middle of their walk. A group of year 13s clearly coordinated well, with all 7 of them sporting matching formal-wear, very much stealing the show for this category.

Pakistan was followed by Cameroon and Nigeria. Whilst it was only two people for two countries, it was easily enough to take up their own space on the catwalk due to their intricate outfits, hairstyles and energy that exuded down the catwalk. This was followed by Syria and Sudan, once again a small number, but certainly didn't lack spirit and pride. They were then followed by Morocco and Egypt, who were walking together, holding their flags and their heads high as they came past the audience.

The seventh pair to walk down the catwalk was Bangladesh who held the red and green flag between them. They coordinated in similar shades of green, perfectly matching each other and the flag they held between them. They were followed by St Kitts and Nevis, which was just one person, but strutted down the catwalk with enough confidence to fill twenty people.

The penultimate performance was from England, which included our very own head boy. They walked to a very British rendition of 'Sweet Caroline', that we associate most with football matches. The audience even began to join in as they reached the end. The final performance was from India, with the Head Girl, as well as many others, coming second in numbers. This group was just as high in spirit as every other country and culture shown on the catwalk.

After the final, it started all over again, with everyone standing on the stage, revelling in their final applause. This was a brilliant moment that showed the full array of culture that we have at HGS, which was visually quite stunning. At the very end, Mr Longridge finished the show with a nice sentiment about all the different cultures present in our school. I'd wholeheartedly say it was worth more than a pound for entry and that I thoroughly enjoyed the whole experience as an audience member. I found that the show perfectly drew attention to what makes us, as a school, unique and allowed us to fully celebrate everyone.



Photo credits to: @Heckmondwikesixthform on Instagram

# CLUB FOCUS

## Art History Society

By James Wilding – Student Life Editor

**F**or the first ‘Club Focus’ section of *What the Heck*, I went to Art History Society, a club run by our own Editor. I was intrigued, despite the fact that art is not usually something I have an interest in, but I had heard positive things about the clubs from others, so I decided to choose this one for my first one.

It’s a new club this year, but definitely one of the more organised and professional ones that I’ve seen in all my years. The week I visited was apparently week one of their 3 to 4 week creative cycles. For this week one of this process, they presented some findings and relevant information after they selected a movement to look at. The movement they were studying when I visited them was Still-life paintings and realism. The specific artist that they were looking at was Paul Cezanne, a French artist from the 1800s. In some of the later weeks in the cycle, they attempt to mimic the style of the artist, practising techniques or drawing the sort of pieces that the artists did historically. When they talked about it more, they mentioned that they chose to do him just because one of them saw an article on him that they disagreed with, they decided to take a look at him and the still-life movement, as well as finding an article that was the opposite of the one they’d seen, just so they could look at the different perspectives.

They started out looking through the presentation that had been put together by the heads of the society. They looked at basic facts about him, who he was inspired by, and other facts about him. They soon moved onto his art, which turned out to be around 270 paintings of apples, as well as others that were more landscapes. They then pulled up pieces and artists that might have inspired him, as well as other paintings done around the time period, just so they could study and compare the art.

I liked learning about all this information just relating to one artist, as



*Photo credits to the Heckler*

it is something that you’d might not do in the younger years in school. The club leader said a similar sort of thing when I asked her about it—it’s a way to explore art in a way that isn’t available in the school curriculum. It appeals to both Art students and History students – the club members I met there were mostly a combination of the two, with others coming along just because they were interested.

I asked one of the club members what they’d done so far this year, and was amazed by just how much they’d done! They’d done about the change from intense realism to abstract in the art world, and did some of the cycles around Rothko and Pollack, recreating their style of art. They did a similar scheme when looking at an artist called William Morris, who was an artist recommended in a video sent to them by the Deputy of Arts at Leeds University. Just before I went along, they’d also

analysed ‘Shock Art’ and the purpose of it. They’ve even had Zoom calls with a director of studies at Cambridge University, just talking about History of Art – that must have been amazing at helping them develop the skills relating to this.

*Art History Society is on every Monday in Mrs Bates’ room (B109) for those that want to go and have a try. Anyone is welcome, and is free to come!*

*Continue for the full interview!*

# INTERVIEW WITH 'ART HISTORY CLUB' FOUNDER

*By James Wilding – Student Life Editor*

*Interviewee—Alyssia Evans*

## **What do you do at Art History Club?**

“We usually follow a 3/4 week cycle where I will select a movement to look at. Week 1 I will present some findings and give all relevant information, which allows for time to discuss and make personal opinions. Then in weeks 2,3 and potentially 4 if the time is needed, we make our own studies inspired by the movement and its notable artists. This so far has involved painting and drawing. Of course there are exceptions to this, for example we have hosted Zoom talks with a director of studies at Cambridge university and I recently have delivered a presentation on ‘Shock Art’ which is important because it allows us to question the limits and bounds of art, if there are any at all.”

## **Does your club have any specific aims or objectives that you want to achieve at your club?**

“The reason that I decided to establish the club was to give others in the school the opportunity to explore art in a new way that isn’t available in our curriculum. This is because when it came to looking at university courses I had no idea about what Art History was or what it could lead to.”

## **When and Where does your club meet? Who can join your club?**

“We meet every Monday lunchtime in B109 (Mrs Bates’ room). It’s a great space for practical work because of the resources as well as space for presentations. Anyone is welcome to come to a session, no prior knowledge is necessary and especially no artistic ability - the priority is to have fun and explore! I highly recommend coming along to at least one session to get the taste for the subject, no commitment is expected so you always have the opportunity to leave if it’s not for you.”

## **What has Art History Club done so far this school year?**

“So far this year, we have looked at why art changed from intense realism through ‘Abstract Expressionism’ which focused on Rothko and Pollack. We also created individual studies of each artist. A similar scheme was followed when looking at ‘William Morris’ as we learnt from a video sent by the deputy of arts at Leeds University about his want to bring beauty to the working class. We’ve just finished analysing pieces of ‘Shock Art’ and discussing its purpose. In the future, I hope to partner with more universities and reach more students. It would be great to give students the opportunity to present some findings and interests themselves!”

## **Who runs the club?**

“The club is ran and founded by myself, Alyssia Evans, and help with organising outsourced volunteers is given by Nancy Roberts.”



# FIRST SNOWFALL OF THE YEAR!

On March 10th (most of us) were treated to a full day of snow

*By Alyssia Evans - Editor*

If you're an avid follower of our school Twitter page, @HeckGrammar, you may have already seen the tweet sent out the morning of, which reads: "In and amongst doing your school work, please share photos of the snowy conditions where you live - who's got the best snowman?". We loved this idea so much, that I have compiled some of the best replies.



*Photo credits to: Sam Walshaw*

**"Mr and Mrs Currie in the snow!" "This is for Ryan Stanley 7P2"**



*Photo credits to:  
@pradeepkumar\_ on  
Twitter*



*Photo credits to: @\_marthacurrie  
on Twitter  
"Liversedge"*



*Photo credits to: Jack  
Wharton*

*Photo credits to: @polbrownxo on  
Twitter*

**"Happy dog in now melting snow"**



*Photo credits to: @\_george\_hall\_  
on Twitter*



*Photo credits  
to: Alyssia  
Evans*



## HOROSCOPES...

*By Alyssia Evans – Editor*

*By Jack Wharton—Illustrator*



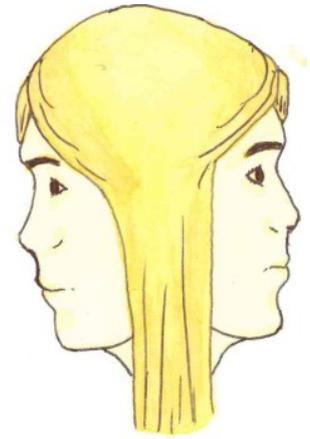
### **ARIES** *Mar 21<sup>st</sup> – Apr 19<sup>th</sup>*

You're represented by the ram, making you confident and assured. You may feel that you struggle to find the balance between being sociable and taking personal space. Make time for mindfulness. Throughout the month, you will find it easier to make important decisions as your desires become clearer. You should lean into this inspiration and explore the urge to be active.



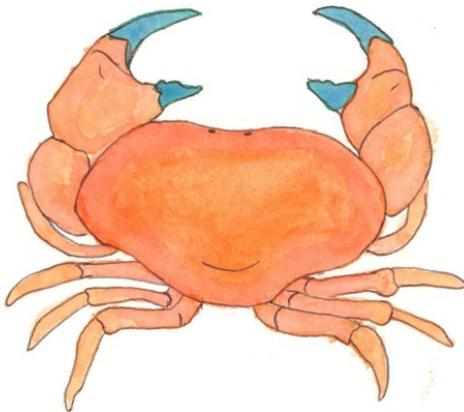
### **TAURUS** *Apr 20<sup>th</sup> – May 20<sup>th</sup>*

You're represented by the bull – powerful and strong. In the upcoming month, you may feel more secluded as you begin to look towards important decisions such as finance and self-esteem. You may feel more enlightened about these decisions and should work as part of a team to achieve your goals. A problem shared is a problem halved!



### **GEMINI** *May 21<sup>st</sup> – Jun 20<sup>th</sup>*

You're represented by the twins – adaptable and capable. You may feel overwhelmed by choice and change this month. The key is to connect with others, relax and celebrate your achievements. If you have any announcements to share, take advantage of this lunar transit and take the plunge!



### **CANCER** *Jun 21<sup>st</sup> – Jul 22<sup>nd</sup>*

You're represented by the crab – devoted and protective. You find it easier to decipher your emotions and connect this to your daily life than most! You should share your ability with others by expressing empathy and compassion to those who need it. This month, you may feel that you're toying with bold changes – remember to stay true to yourself and take a leap of faith.



### **LEO** *Jul 23<sup>rd</sup> – Aug 22<sup>nd</sup>*

You're represented by the lion – passionate and vivacious. You may be considering how you choose to express yourself as well as how others are perceiving you. This month will be encouraging you to rid your life of what no longer serves you. Remember to direct your attention to yourself and tap into your theatrical ways!



### **VIRGO** *Aug 23<sup>rd</sup> – Sep 22<sup>nd</sup>*

You're represented by the virgin – logical and systemic. This month, you may find yourself more open to different opinions and wanting to develop your belief system. It could be helpful to explore this with others to deepen your personal outlook. With your need for connection and communication enhancing this month, it is important to discuss with the people you love, or you risk inner feelings exploding.



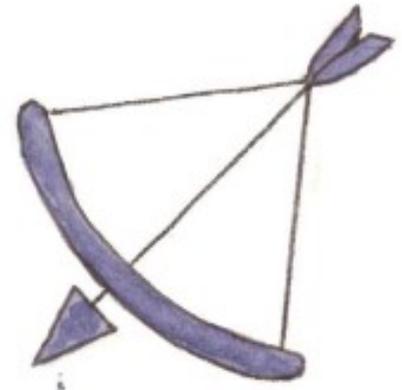
**LIBRA** Sep 23<sup>rd</sup> – Oct 22<sup>nd</sup>

You're represented by the scales – balanced and harmony. You may notice that others are experiencing turbulent emotions which may result in conflict. Try to offer your judgement, whilst ensuring that your peace is protected as you tend to put others before you. Trust other people can help you decode your problems also and be open to what they can offer you.



**SCORPIO** Oct 23<sup>rd</sup> – Nov 21<sup>st</sup>

You're represented by the scorpion – observant and mystic. You have previously been struggling after a period of adjustment but are feeling much more settled into a new environment. As you experience this lunar transit, communication is key. Allow your guard to lower and drop some of the mystery by engaging with friends. Think most about what you change to fully begin anew and remove what does not serve the reformed you. Instead, attempt to look to the future and see what the connections around you can offer as you yearn for inspiration!



**SAGITTARIUS** Nov 22<sup>nd</sup> – Dec 21<sup>st</sup>

You're represented by the archer – intelligent and grounded. This month you may feel more self-assured and ready to be productive. It is important that you continue to aim high whilst partying just as much. Remember to consider how your more selfish actions are affecting others.



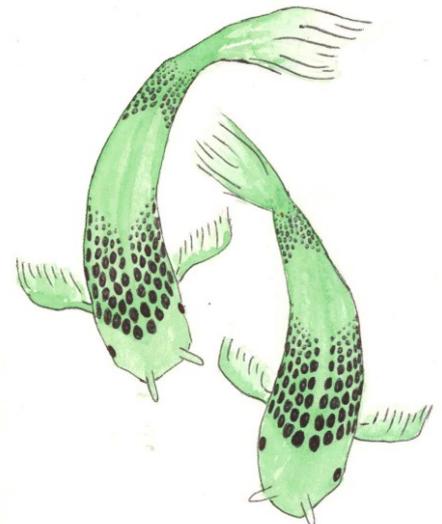
**CAPRICORN** Dec 22<sup>nd</sup> – Jan 19<sup>th</sup>

You're represented by the goat – stic and pragmatic. You've been struggling to deal with more complex emotions and general vulnerability. This month, you should stop avoiding the self-care that is needed and better communicate with your loved ones. Loosen up! If you value these connections, it is vital to make the effort to sustain them. Utilise this period of adaption by setting short-term goals to reach the dream.



**AQUARIUS** Jan 20<sup>th</sup> – Feb 18<sup>th</sup>

You're represented by the water bearer – original and independent. With Pluto returning to your sign, you will have feelings of transformation. It is important to utilise this by evaluating the usefulness of your current habits. Ask yourself: what needs a change?

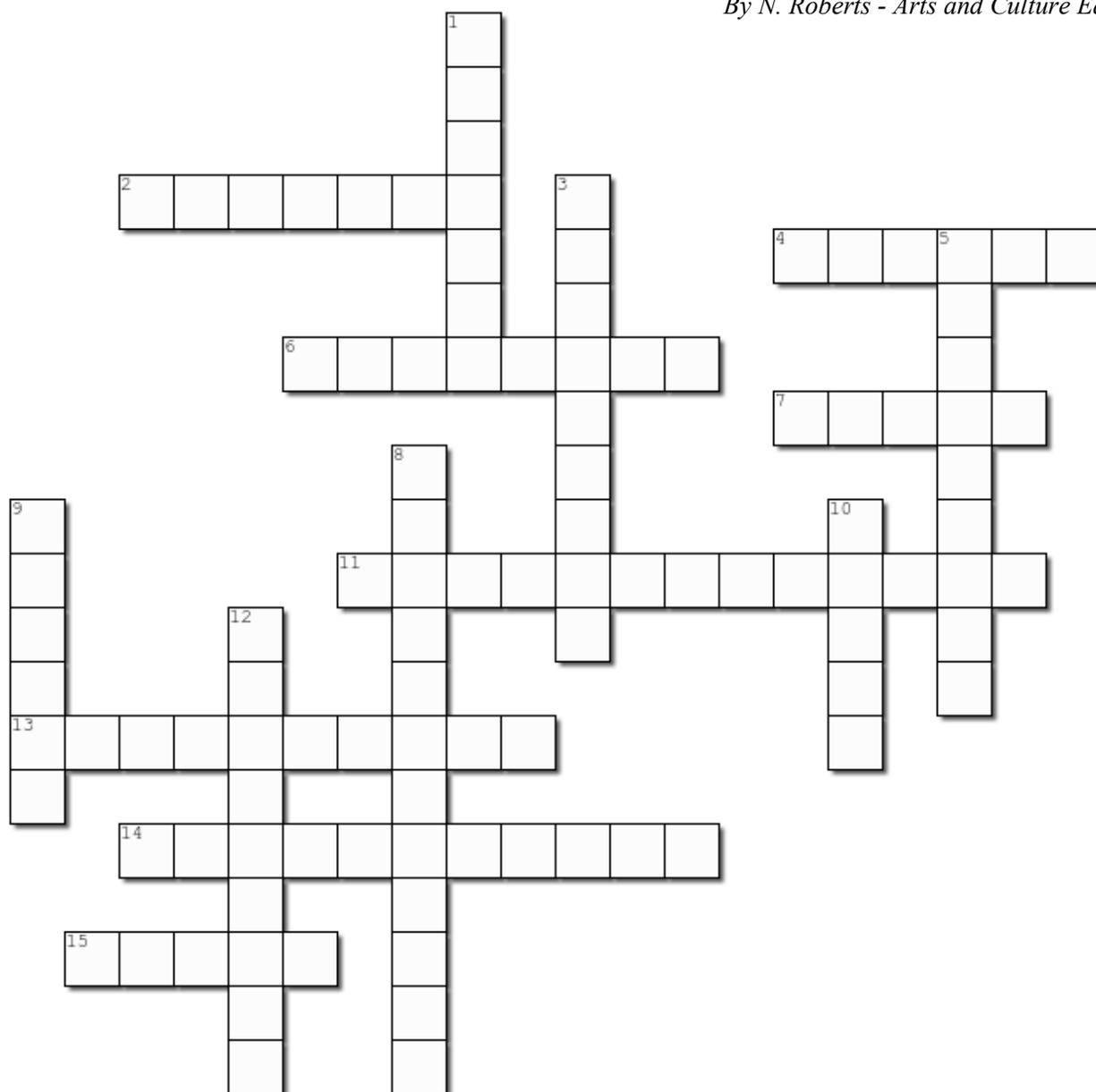


**PISCES** Feb 19<sup>th</sup> – Mar 20<sup>th</sup>

You're represented by the fish – sensitive and gracious. You may find yourself wanting adventure. It is important to nurture this sense of wonder and creativity. You should remember to explore invitations and start fresh.

# CROSSWORD

By N. Roberts - Arts and Culture Editor



Created using the Crossword Maker on TheTeachersCorner.net

## **Across**

2. Capital city of Kenya
4. Word meaning complete failure or collapse
6. Alfred Nobel invented this explosive substance
7. Film that won 4 BAFTAS this year, including Leading Actor for Austin Butler
11. 'Dial of Destiny' will be the long-awaited fifth film in this eponymous adventurer's series
13. International song contest soon to be held in Liverpool
14. Polish physicist and chemist; first woman to win Nobel prize
15. Artist famous for his work with Maggi Hambling; popular meat product

## **Down**

1. Song by Simon and Garfunkel, covered by The Vamps and Shawn Mendes
3. Song by former One Direction member that spent 15 weeks at number one
5. Author of *Of Mice and Men* and *Grapes of Wrath*
8. Famous Mongolian leader who had the largest continuous land empire in history
9. Ag is the chemical symbol for...
10. Surname of former NASA scientist and YouTuber famous for his science and DIY gadget videos
12. Anfield is the home stadium of this team

# CAREERS CHAOS

Can you connect the teacher with their past job?

*By James Wilding – Student Life Editor*

**Farm Labourer**

**Wetherspoons**

**Catering Assistant**

**Interior Designer**

**Wire and Cable  
Manufacturer**

**Window Cleaner**

**Mrs Ellis**

**Mr Jones**

**Mrs Robinson**

**Mr Mullaney**

**Mr Naylor**

**Mrs Whitelaw**

**Mr Roberts**

# What The Heck?

Contact us at:

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Next edition: May

