

# WHAT THE HECK?

Summer Edition 2023 Number Four



# CONTRIBUTORS

## WRITERS

Fatima Babar  
Mr Barnett  
Brendon Hodgson  
Juliet Scott  
Jess Shaw

## EDITORS

Alyssia Evans  
Elliot Hoyland  
Nancy Roberts  
Sam Walshaw  
James Wilding

## ILLUSTRATORS

Jack Wharton

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome Elliot Hoyland as the editor of our latest section—sports!

## EDITORIAL LETTER

**Welcome** to the fourth edition of ‘What the Heck?’

This edition has been particularly interesting to work on as we’re wrapping up the end of the year. This means there were so many exciting things to report on, especially in student life!

I’d also like to acknowledge, and praise, our writers from outside the committee. We’re really proud of the work they’ve produced and the initiative they’ve shown by contributing. We hope to see more work from them, and others, next year.

We’ve had an amazing first year as an Editorial Committee developing our format and content with each edition. As we grow in numbers, we’re all looking forward to what the upcoming years have in store for us.

Unfortunately, this is the last edition where we’ve had support from Mr Barnett as he leaves HGS at the end of this term. He will be sorely missed by us all. We, as a collective, thank him for giving us this opportunity to showcase the pupil perspective and working alongside us.

Let us know what you’re interested in and how you can contribute at:

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

Thank you,

Alyssia Evans



LET'S  
CONSIDER...

## MEDIA: A DOUBLE-EDGED SWORD

By *Brendon Hodgson*

**In an era dominated by technology and online communication, politicians are increasingly turning to social media platforms to engage with the public.** However, the presence of politicians on social media has sparked debates about its impact on transparency, participation, and the potential risks associated with it.

Donald Trump's tenure as the 45th President of the United States highlighted the far-reaching influence social media can have on political discourse. Trump's unfiltered Twitter rants became infamous, drawing attention for their divisive nature and disregard for factual accuracy. While his online presence allowed him to connect directly with his supporters, it often perpetuated misinformation. Trump's tweets also demonstrated how social media can enable politicians to bypass traditional channels of communication, potentially undermining institutional checks and balances. Instead of engaging with the press through official channels, Trump opted to communicate directly with his followers on Twitter. This allowed him to control the narrative and disseminate his messages without the filter of journalistic scrutiny. Trump could then shape public opinion and reinforce his supporters' beliefs, regardless of the accuracy or fairness of his claims.

Another concerning example is that of Matt Hancock, the former British Health Secretary whose social media presence has been marred by controversy. Hancock faced severe criticism when pictures of him breaking COVID-19 social distancing guidelines were leaked on social media, and more recently for his TikTok account. His lack of judgment and hypocrisy damaged public trust, underscoring the risks of politicians using social media platforms without proper restraint and ethical conduct. There are also worries that TikTok's emphasis on trends, challenges, and viral content may encourage politicians to prioritize gaining popularity over substantive engagement with important issues, diverting focus from meaningful policy discussions and fostering a culture of populism.

However, not all politicians use social media in a negative manner. Zarah Sultana, a current member of Parliament, has effectively used social media to mobilise support and engage with her constituents. In this example, Zarah Sultana's tweet highlights her commitment to social justice causes, specifically addressing the issue of affordable housing. By participating in a rally and sharing her involvement on Twitter, Sultana showcases her dedication to advocating for equitable access to housing and emphasizes that housing is a basic human right. The use of hashtags such as #HousingForAll and #SocialJustice demonstrates her desire to engage with a broader audience and promote a discussion around these critical issues.

By amplifying marginalised voices, Sultana's Twitter feed may also include retweets or replies to individuals or organisations working on related social justice issues.



Zarah Sultana MP  
@zarahsultana

Everyone should have access to decent, genuinely affordable housing. That's a basic human right.

That's why it was so good to visit Bond's Lodge this week: newly completed, high quality sheltered housing in Coventry city centre. Thank you Matt and Victor for showing me around!

*Image Credits: Twitter*

For instance, she might retweet a post from a grassroots organisation advocating for the rights of marginalised communities or share resources and information to educate her followers about systemic inequalities.

Similarly, Mark Eastwood, another Member of Parliament, has employed social media as a tool for increased public participation. Eastwood's regular updates on local issues and engagement with constituents via platforms like Facebook and Instagram have strengthened community ties and fostered a sense of inclusivity. By leveraging social media's immediacy, Eastwood has been able to address concerns promptly and bridge the gap between elected representatives and the public.

"Received several messages from constituents concerned about the state of local infrastructure. I appreciate your feedback and understand the urgency. Met with local council officials today to discuss the issues and work towards solutions. Will keep you updated on progress! Together, we can make a difference. #CommunityEngagement #Accountability"

Here, he demonstrates his ability to address concerns promptly. By acknowledging the messages received from constituents about local infrastructure issues, Eastwood shows his attentiveness to their concerns and their importance to him as their elected representative. The tweet further illustrates Eastwood's proactive approach to problem-solving. He informs his followers that he has acted by meeting with local council officials to discuss the issues raised. This showcases his commitment to working collaboratively with relevant stakeholders to find viable solutions.

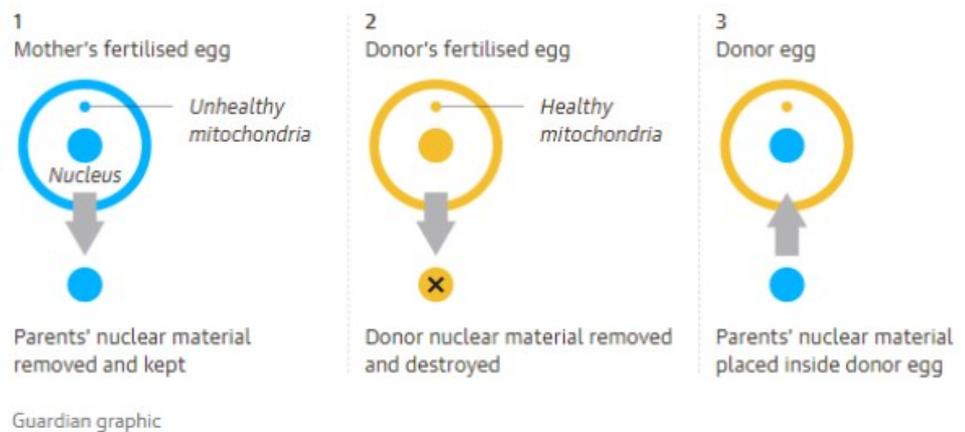
In conclusion, politicians' social media presence can serve as a valuable tool for increasing participation and transparency in politics, yet striking a delicate balance is necessary. To be effective, politicians must leverage social media to foster open dialogue while adhering to ethical guidelines and being mindful of the potential pitfalls.

# BABY BORN FROM THREE PARENTS

## Is This the Key to Treating Mitochondrial Disorders?

Caitlin Sykes—Guest Contributor

**A baby recently born with help from the Newcastle Fertility Centre contains 99.8% of its biological parents DNA. But how is this possible?** In a fast-paced world of new medical developments and treatments, could this have potentially unlocked new hopes in helping families with a high risk of these mitochondrial disorders in future children?



Firstly, mitochondria are organelles in most eukaryotic cells that generate ATP energy via aerobic respiration, providing chemical energy for important tissues. However, genetic mutations can cause mitochondrial disorders which have damaging effects on organs such as the brain, the heart, the liver as well as muscles which may deteriorate unforgivingly as the child develops.

This new IVF development has allowed births, here in the UK, with reduced risks of this incurable disease. A technique known as mitochondrial donation treatment (MDT) uses mitochondria from a healthy donor egg. This reduces the risk of a child inheriting the harmful disease from its mother.

How does this work? The nucleus of the mother's egg (which contains the unhealthy mitochondria) is removed and inserted into a donor's egg, containing the healthy mitochondria and some DNA. The donor's nuclear matter is removed and destroyed which could raise ethical concerns. The father's sperm, also containing its own mitochondrial DNA, is used to fertilise the egg in order to create a healthy embryo. Thus, creating a baby containing three people's DNA. It's estimated it contains around 37 genes from the donor egg.

Around 1 in 6000 children suffer these mitochondrial diseases but this new MDT raises hopes to help women who carry these harmful mutations. Potentially giving them the ability to have healthy children as it reduces the risk of a child inheriting the mutated mitochondria.

"So far, the clinical experience with [MDT] has been encouraging, but the number of reported cases is far too small to draw any definitive conclusions about the safety or efficacy," said Dagan Wells, a professor of reproductive genetics at the University of Oxford.

This treatment was initially experimented on mice and monkeys which suggested it would work to produce a healthy baby. However, as with many

scientific breakthroughs, what ethics must be considered? Often, it is unknown how high the level of damage of the mitochondrial DNA is in the mother's egg before the procedure. This key detail may indicate how likely and severely a child born could be affected. If said risk is high this MDT massively reduces the risk of the child suffering. On the other hand, if there was only a low risk of a child being born with severe damage, is this procedure with so many unknowns unnecessary?

MDT only reduces the risk of the mitochondrial disorder in children, it unfortunately does not completely remove the risk. As well as this has only been sampled on a small number of babies. The long-term effects are unknown and future follow-ups would be critical. "Academic publications of this research have been submitted" and are currently undergoing "scientific peer review", according to a spokesperson for Newcastle Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

Personally, I believe this discovery opens up many wonderful opportunities for people that carry such disorders to start a healthy family they've been longing for that may otherwise have been deemed impossible.

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Johanna Poulton - 28/09/2016

# THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'

A number of demographic milestones have been passed recently.

By Sam Walshaw – News and Current Affairs Editor

**In the world of demography – the statistical study of populations – Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2023 will forever be remembered as a key milestone, a marking post to symbolise a new chapter in recent human history.**

The reason? This was the day on which the United Nations (UN) estimated that India had surpassed China as the country with the largest population, an event described by the *Guardian* newspaper as “the most significant shift in global demographics since records began.” India, which removed China from the top of the population table after it had spent more than seventy years there, is now estimated to have roughly 1.426 billion residents.

In the 1980s, the Chinese government introduced a “one-child policy” in an attempt to control its high birth rate. Initially, it was successful in doing so, but has now resulted in an old, declining population, with consequent demand on healthcare infrastructure. Even though women are now encouraged to have *more* children, the number of people in China could fall by close to ten per cent in the coming twenty years. Though the country is now a major economic power, the extent to which it will continue to grow over the coming decades is up for debate.

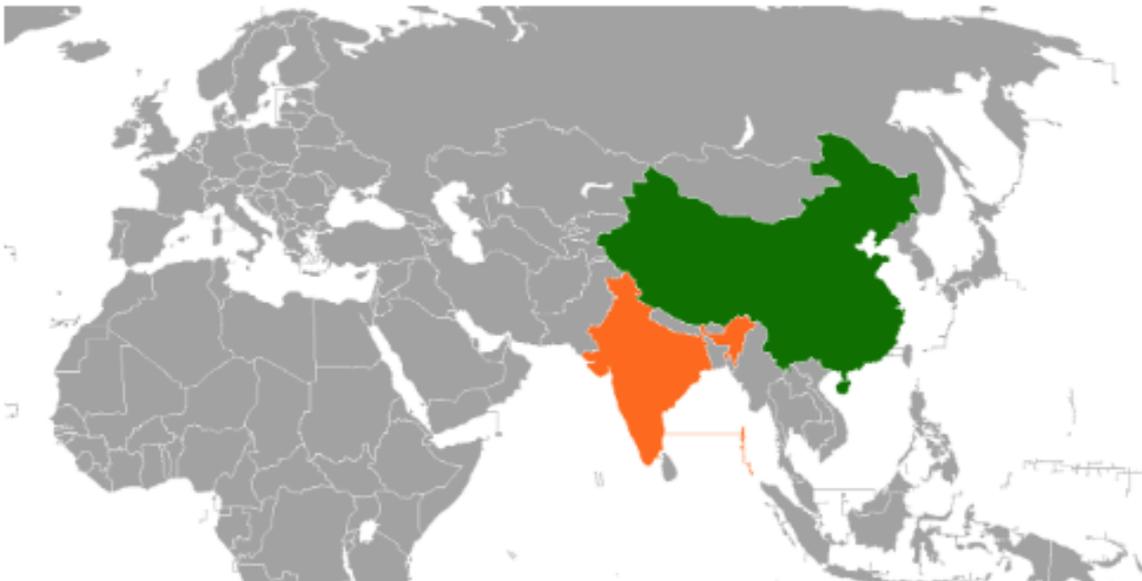
In contrast, in India, populations continue to grow; in fact, between 1950 and the present day, the number of people has grown by over one billion. However, it is no longer the ‘explosion’ it once was, with rates slowing and in some areas now stationary. More prosperous areas in the south of the country, such as Kerala and Tamil Nadu, have seen their population stabilise and start to decline. On the other hand, it is predicted that one third of India’s projected population growth by 2033 will come from the poorer northern states of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. Overall, India’s youthful population (average age 29) is set to continue in that manner, which will further improve the country’s workforce and encourage rapid development over the next twenty years.

A few months earlier, the UN made another significant projection: that the world population would surpass eight billion on the 15<sup>th</sup> November 2022. Although it is very difficult to pinpoint the exact day on which large populations reach certain milestones, because of the uncertainty involved in calculating the number of people without conducting a census, it is clear eight months later that the mark has indeed been passed. It may seem to us that this number will keep on rising forever, but in fact the global population is projected to peak somewhere between the 2060s and 2090s. Bear in mind that this is within us students’ lifetimes.

The current increase in population is in fact due to a small number of countries: the UN predicts that most population growth before 2050 will come from eight countries, mostly in Africa and South Asia. As these countries develop and industrialise, their populations grow, before slowing once they reach a certain level of development. This is essentially because more women have children later in life or have none at all. Conversely, it is also true that as countries become more developed, their standards of healthcare and medicine improve in turn, gradually increasing the life expectancy of the population.

Understanding the rough number of people on Earth, and how it might change in the future, is important for various reasons. One is that of climate change: the more people born in rapidly industrialising countries, the more carbon emissions produced. Therefore, if the global population is projected to eventually reach a limit, we can alter our projections for future climates accordingly.

In summary, demographics across the world are changing, and always will. It is vital that we monitor these changes and understand their causes, to allow us to plan for the future. Let us finish with a 2022 quote from the UN Secretary-General: that reaching eight billion people “is an occasion to celebrate diversity and advancements while considering humanity’s shared responsibility for the planet.”



# WATERLOO

By Mr J. Barnett – Assistant Headteacher

**This article's headline is a nod to the 1974 ABBA hit in some ways, but also refers to the 1815 battle of the same name which gave rise to the phrase in English where you 'meet your Waterloo', meaning you are defeated.**

Water is a hot topic when you consider its availability, how it gets to us, how much we pay for it, and what happens to it once it has been used. This is where the 'loo' part comes in.

In a country where it rains frequently, getting water to people's houses and for industry should not pose too serious a problem. However, water infrastructure in the UK, although undergoing modernisation, is a legacy of Victorian engineering, with many reservoirs, water pipes and sewerage systems being built well over 100 years ago.



We take for granted turning a tap on and getting water. We also don't give much thought to what happens after we've flushed the loo, as that's someone else's business, so to speak. Water and sewage treatment is also vulnerable to ageing infrastructure; recently, there have been increasing instances of leaks and discharges, with fines being imposed by Ofwat, the water regulator. Thames Water, the UK's largest water company by number of customers, was fined £3.3m after undiluted sewage was discharged into two rivers near Gatwick in 2019, which resulted in the deaths of thousands of fish.

There are times when water companies are allowed to discharge into water courses, especially after heavy rainfall if there is a likelihood that treatment plants may be overrun. In such cases, application must be made to the Environment Agency, the government department responsible for the environment, for permission to do so. Unfortunately, sewage discharge is becoming more common. Sky News reported in 2022 that following their research from analysis commissioned by the Labour Party, instances of raw sewage being pumped into rivers and the sea around the British coastline increased by 2553% between 2016 and 2022.

The question of responsibility for water and sewage is key. Fresh water and wastewater management in the UK is operated by several regional companies, including Yorkshire Water, United Utilities and Thames Water. Water and sewage management used to be the responsibility of Government and was, in effect, publicly owned. However, the 1989 Water Act provided

for the creation of a number of private companies in England and Wales who would be responsible for water and wastewater management. The new water companies paid £7.6 billion to the Government.



So, more than 30 years later, how are things looking?

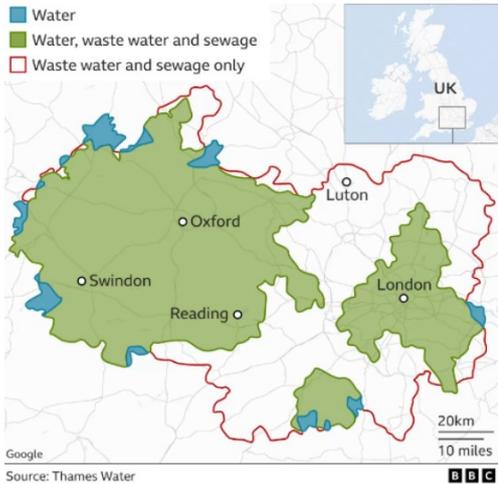
In 2019, Michael Roberts, then Water UK chief executive, told the Chartered Institute of Water and Environmental Management that when the water companies were taken into private ownership, the water industry had suffered from "decades of government underinvestment, water quality was poor, rivers were polluted, and our beaches were badly affected by sewage".

In the same publication, John McDonnell, who was Shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer at the time, took a different view. He mentioned the high levels of debt across the industry, the increase in leaks and sewage discharge. The then co-leader of the Green Party, Jonathan Bartley, said that water privatisation had turned a natural resource into 'a money-making machine for the few'.

Holding debt in large companies goes wider than just water companies. For example, football clubs such as Manchester United also hold substantial amounts of debt. Thames Water's financial woes have been made public due to debts in the company amounting to in excess of £10 billion. Mrs Jervis, teacher of Business and Economics and Progression Leader at Heckmondwike Grammar School told *What the Heck?* that companies amass debt for a variety of reasons, especially if their parent companies require additional funding. These businesses will borrow money from the water company, in this example, because it is cheaper and more straightforward to borrow from your portfolio of companies rather than from external sources, such as banks. The result is that the water company amasses debt which is secured against the value of the company. Mrs Jervis went on to explain that problems arise when the water companies need to invest to improve infrastructure as there is no capacity from within to finance this investment unless shareholders are asked to fund this.

Thames Water serves over one quarter of the UK's population and leaks more water than any other water company in the UK, according to the BBC. Leaks amount to the equivalent of "250 Olympic-sized swimming pools every day."

### Thames Water is UK's largest water company



It is clear that water company finances and their obligations to their customers and to the nation for the supply of fresh water and the treatment of wastewater must change. Ofwat has acknowledged its regulation errors since privatisation and that more controls on water companies must be put in place, to protect finances, investment and costs to the consumer.

Access to fresh water is a human right and we must recognise that we need to pay for the services provided. If structural problems resulting from 'spending a penny' puts strain on ageing infrastructure, then responsibility for investment must be taken by those who can make a difference before a water company such as Thames Water fails, and we all meet our Waterloo.

Image credits: [bbc.co.uk](http://bbc.co.uk)

## THE ALMIGHTY DOLLAR

### Is the dollar declining? The most important economic shift of our time.

By Fatima Babar

**Recently, many economists and experts have suggested that the global balance of power is shifting from a US or Western locus to a multipolar one.** This shift is headed by the 'BRICS' bloc of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa – although this alliance isn't limited, with "friends of the BRICS" such as Egypt, Iran and Saudi Arabia and – supposedly – more applications to join "everyday". Together, this alliance of countries represents 40% of the world's population and holds a greater share of global purchasing power parity, mostly due to the large Chinese economy, than the G7 group of highly developed countries. Needless to say, their economic influence is not to be dismissed casually. The most interesting development so far, however, is their intention to trade with their own currencies; creating a new global reserve currency that would challenge the dollar's dominance in trade and the growing prominence of the New Development Bank (NDB).

The NDB was established in July 2015 as a multilateral development bank by the BRICS with the intention of "mobilising resources for infrastructure and sustainable development projects in emerging markets and developing countries". The calls for a trading currency go back to Lula da Silva's first presidency in Brazil but the idea seems to have taken shape and gained further traction more recently, with countries' desire to avoid the crippling sanctions that dollar dominance has the potential to impose as well as the difficulties in trading faced by Global South countries hampered by inflation. This was expressed by South African foreign minister, Naledi Pandor, in saying that the members seek to "ensure that we do not become victims to sanctions that have secondary effects on countries that have no involvement in issues that have led to those unilateral sanctions" as well as Indian foreign minister S. Jaishankar, who suggested the current balance of power "leaves too many nations at the mercy of too few". Indeed, somewhat direct jabs at the G7 were also made by Chinese Vice Minister, Ma Zhaoxu, who said the alliance was "inclusive ... in sharp contrast to some countries' small circle, and so I believe

the enlargement of BRICS will be beneficial to the BRICS countries". Currently, NDB members include the BRICS bloc as well as Bangladesh, Egypt, the UAE and Uruguay.

The most recent commitments of the bank reaffirm a goal of eventual de-dollarisation and a short-term commitment to offer 30% of loans in local currencies by 2026 – an increase from the previous 22%. This is to prevent member countries from having to suffer painful, fluctuating exchange rates. As the global reserve currency, the dollar and the USA's monetary policy will inevitably affect the world economy, necessitating a more diverse system according to NDB president Dilma Rousseff. Since March 2022, the Federal Reserve (the US central bank) has raised interest rates. Consequently, the currencies of Global South countries have suffered and their ability to pay off debt accumulated in dollars and to import foreign goods has also taken a blow.

This suggestion of the emergence of a multipolar world has even been corroborated by mainstream Western media such as Gillian Tett, chair of the editorial board of the Financial Times, pleading with investors to "prepare for a multipolar world" and prominent economist Zoltan Pozar declaring that unipolarity is over and replaced with "one world, two systems". He also suggests de-dollarisation has increased in pace with a greater number of countries trading in their own currencies as of late such as the talks happening between China and Saudi Arabia to trade oil in the Chinese renminbi rather than the dollar. The enormity of these discussions is not to be underestimated as the petrodollar, the system due to which oil is only sold in the dollar globally, is crucial to keeping the dollar afloat. Not only is the dollar being challenged but so is the World Bank as a US-dominated institution with its capacity to shape the bank's policy and its veto power. Therefore, this would ease the pressures on developing countries suffering from lending practices that could be considered predatory. However, some experts suggest that China is preying on angered

and desperate countries suffering from the effects of the Russia-Ukraine war and debt, to create an “anti-West bloc formed of low- and middle-income countries” with others hoping “India [is] not too silly to ‘miss opportunities for fear of China’”. However, these arguments often seem to lack substance and do not reconcile with the equality of representation for members within the New Development Bank.

These ground-breaking developments continue to shake the geopolitical and economic landscape of our world. In many ways they contribute to a sense of optimism for a world no longer subjugated by a hegemonic power and the possibility of a landscape in which developing countries will not be beholden to the economic decisions made by one single power to such an extent.

## THE PLEASURE, THE PRIVILEGE IS MINE

### Smiths bassist Andy Rourke has died aged 59

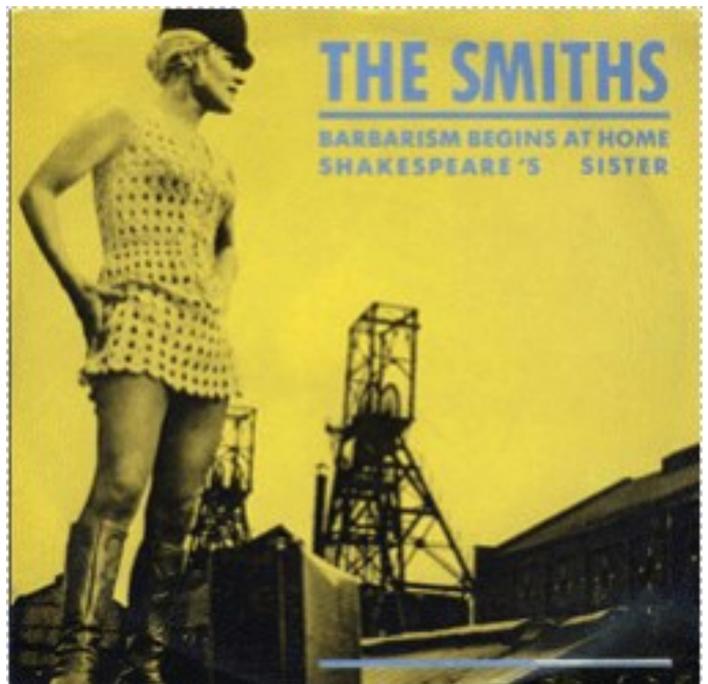
By Sam Walshaw



**Andy Rourke, most famous for his time playing bass guitar for rock band The Smiths, passed away in May aged just 59.** He played on many of the band’s most well-known songs, including *There Is a Light That Never Goes Out* and *This Charming Man*, as well as featuring on all four of their studio albums. After making friends with future Smiths guitarist Johnny Marr aged 13, Rourke joined the new band in 1982. In a tribute, Suede’s bassist Matt Osman described him as “a total one-off” whose “sound you could recognise straight away”. Marr said that “Andy will be remembered as a kind and beautiful soul by those who knew him, and as a supremely gifted musician by music fans”.

Arguably the most iconic bass performance from Rourke comes from the song ‘Barbarism Begins at Home’, a short rhythm driven by the undeniable groove behind it, so commanding in its role with its loud and distinct sound, and its simplicity even rivals, yet still compliments, the guitar playing of Marr. It’s a trait that Rourke carried into his bass playing for all songs he had performed on.

“I suppose, at the end of it all, we hope to feel that we were valued. Andy need not worry about that” was the final comment made by Morrissey about Rourke’s death. His musical talent, and better yet his traits as an individual and as a person, will forever keep him valued as a person, even while he is no longer here.



#### COMMENT – by Will Hodgson

What was so utterly special about Rourke was how fundamental he was to the Smiths. In a band commanded by both musicians Morrissey & Marr, one of the most influential songwriting duos of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, it can be hard for the other elements of a band to shine. This was not the case with Andy. On each and every Smiths track, Rourke’s bass is too distinct to ignore. Each groove laid down was unique; each chord characterised and matched the theme of any song Morrissey would create. One of the best features of Rourke’s talent was the ability to combine funk with whatever genre a song would come under.

## LOCAL HERO

Climate crisis brings new meaning to comedy forty years on

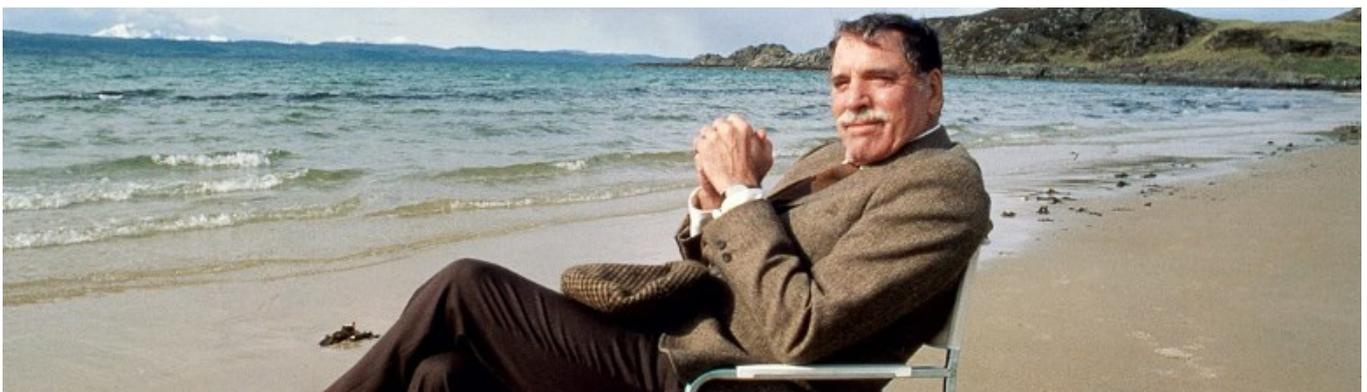
By N. Roberts, Arts and Culture Editor

**W**hen you first read a synopsis of *Local Hero*, it wouldn't be unreasonable to think it would be a heartwarming film about a small fishing community pulling together to save their village from a Texan oil company. This couldn't be further from the truth – instead, we are faced with a village desperate for money, faking resistance to rinse Peter Riegert's oblivious Macintyre for every penny he has to offer. It's the ideal antidote to the genre of 'British twee' and forms a truly hilarious comedy. Not to mention that in the age of bottom-numbing behemoths, the film is an ideal length for an easy weekend watch (clocking in at just under two hours).

The now legendary cult classic has been re-released in cinemas for its fortieth anniversary. Boasting an impressive 100% rating on review site Rotten Tomatoes and a stellar cast, it's hardly surprising that it's so popular. A fresh-faced, floppy-haired Peter Capaldi makes his film debut with tender, wistful hilarity, a perfect complement to Riegert's realistic, bluntly American role. Denis Lawson also shines as Gordon Urquhart, with his sage, sly advice and arguably terrible customer service. And the combination of Burt Lancaster and Jenny Seagrove's oddly touching characters add the perfect streak of whimsy to the comedy.

The main message of the film is as prevalent as ever. The community has a softening effect on Mac, leading him to realise that his work-driven life is perhaps not the ultimate form of happiness. Its encouragement to value the natural world around us, from its scenery to its people, is something we could all seek to remember in an ultra-productivity focused world. But after forty years, *Local Hero* has taken on a new meaning. The looming oil refinery may not seem like a climate threat in 1983, but nowadays gives a more sinister overtone to the plot. But it brings with it a new message of hope – that the actions of the individual will always have an impact.

*Local Hero* is playing in selected cinemas across the country and is currently available to watch on Channel 4.



# BLOOMING FABULOUS

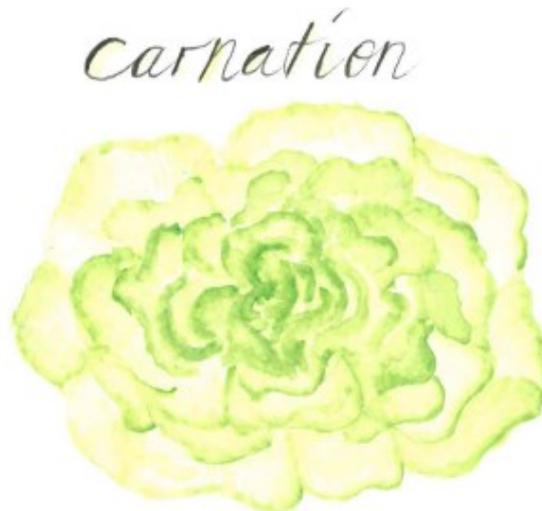
## A guide to LGBTQ+ botany

By N.Roberts and J.Shaw, *Illustrator and Contributing Writer*

**Whether it's biological or social, plants have always been a little bit queer.** And it's not just the team at 'What the Heck?' who think it – celebrated botanical gardens such as Chelsea Physics Garden and Kew are also embracing their plants with Pride, launching trails and festivals around diversity in plants and everything they influence. Projects such as Queering the Wye and Manchester Art Gallery's new botanical garden (inspired by the work of artist, activist and queer ecologist Derek Jarman) seek to bring a community together around the shared love of nature's pride, and to combat the isolation felt by the LGBTQ+ community post-lockdown, especially in rural areas. So, whether you're an 'evening botanist' or a 'horticultural lad', enjoy the 'What the Heck?' team's guide to 7 LGBTQ+ plants.

### Green Carnation

The green carnation is widely known to be a symbol of gay playwright Oscar Wilde, after he encouraged the wearing of them amongst his followers in 1892. Wilde was a part of the 'Decadent Movement' who believed nature should imitate art and not the other way around. Green carnations (which often had to be artificially dyed) were perceived as 'unnatural', much like homosexual love at the time, and were instead a declaration of artistic intent to remain in an 'unnatural state'. They soon became symbols of homosexuality, with people wearing them as subtle hints about their identity.



### Sapphic Violets

Sapphic is an umbrella term for attraction between women, derived from the name of Ancient Greek poet Sappho. In one of the few remaining fragments of her poetry, she describes her female lover as wearing "*Many crowns of violets, roses and crocuses*". As a result of this, violets have been used as a symbol of lesbianism for centuries. They were even used as a symbol for lesbian love in the 1926 play 'The Captive', sparking outrage when it premiered, causing sales of violets to plummet!



### Horse Chestnut

The flowers of the horse chestnut tree have both stamens (which produce pollen) and carpels (which produce seeds), meaning that they possess both male and female reproductive organs. As a result of this, botanists refer to them as bisexual (or perfect) flowers. Horse chestnuts are fantastic representations of natural diversity in the world around us.



### Lavender

Lavender is commonly known as a symbol of resistance and joy. It has lots of relevance in LGBTQ+ history: from the 'lavender scare', a 1950s witch hunt to remove any homosexual federal employees, to the activists who stormed the Second Congress to Unite Women after feminist author Betty Friedan called them 'lavender menaces' who would disrupt the movement for women's rights. The term 'lavender menace' has since been reclaimed from its original meaning as an insult. Many men suspected of being homosexuals were referred to as having a 'lavender streak'. It also formed part of 1920's German queer resistance song 'Das Lila Lied' which claims '*Lavender nights are our greatest treasure where we can be just who we want to be*'.



### Roses

There is probably no flower more stereotypically associated with love than roses. But in Japan, the flower is often associated specifically with romance between two men. They also have significance within the transgender community as a symbol of mourning. Given the transgender community experience significantly higher rates of murder and suicide, the phrase 'give us our roses while we are still here' is frequently used to celebrate the existence and resilience of transgender joy in a hostile society.



### Hyacinth

Hyacinths originally gained their LGBTQ+ connection from a celebrated tale in Ancient Greek mythology, the story of Apollo and Hyacinthus. In the myth, Hyacinthus was the lover of Apollo, who supposedly gave up his shrine, weapons and music just to spend time with him. Although there are variations in how it happened, Hyacinthus tragically died and a devastated Apollo created the hyacinth to remember him always. Alternatively, it has more modern links through Operation Hyacinth, where Polish police infiltrated the LGBTQ+ Polish community to interrogate, threaten and register them between 1985 and 1987.



### Pansy

'Pansy' originated as a term for gay men during the 'Pansy Craze' of the 1920s and 30s. Across New York, London and Paris, drag acts inspired by Harlem ballroom became sell-out successes and dominated the stage in the city's many queer-friendly bars. (New York bars were often supplied with alcohol by gangs during the American Prohibition). They had a major influence on international film and music, with famous 'pansies' including Noel Coward and Jean Malin. However, they were repeatedly harassed and eventually shut down by police for 'degeneracy'.



## BACK IN THE U.S.S.R.

### An Exploration of Genres of Music Created Within the Soviet Union

By J. Shaw – Contributing Writer

**The Soviet Union was a time of pain and sorrow for many.** Yet under the surface, a genre of music unseen to most of the world and lost in the Union's collapse – Soviet funk. The genre contained sounds not dissimilar to Western music of the era, combined with traditional Russian folk music. In the U.S.S.R., Western music was considered ambiguously legal, avoided by most common folk for fear of prosecution. However, this fear did not apply to those who pioneered the sounds of Soviet funk.

One of these pioneers is Pavel Sysoyev, composer of *'Soviet Funk – Volume 1'*. He was a Soviet government employee who lived in the desolate Russian outpost of Abakan, Siberia. Under the cover of night, he recorded his American-influenced, jazz fusion masterpieces – using state of the art (for the U.S.S.R.) government owned equipment to produce the records and financed by Secret Stash Records, Minneapolis. This record includes themes of political isolation in the song *'Look, Ma! No language barrier!'* The melody of the opening song *'Gostiny Dvor'* is a jaunty little flute number. The record was naturally printed on red vinyl and released globally in 2010. The album contains 10 songs composed by different Soviet funk artists, with the first and last songs written by Pavel Sysoyev. His work inspired others at the time - Pomogite and Da/N'et to name a few – whose songs feature on the record. Overall, the album was an underground hit (and a thoroughly enjoyable listen). This was followed by *Soviet Funk – Volume Two*, an equally appreciated underground hit.

The second pioneer band which stuck out to me is *'Ариэль'*, translated as VIA (pop/rock) Ariel. Formed in 1968 and still perform today, they first gained fame after the creation of *'Silence'*, an anti-war song written by Lev Gurov in 1971. This haunting song warned the loss that war brings, repeating *'We are in the arms of peaceful silence'*. This song can be found on an album called *'Ариэль Концерт 1983'*, a recorded concert of theirs. In that album also is *'в краю магнолий'* (In the land of Magnolias) which has similar themes to *'Silence'* with lines such as *'The melody is a familiar, even if it's an old one'* reflecting the atmosphere in 1970's Soviet Russia. Personally, their best song is *'порушка раня'* (Porushka Poranya), which begins with a solitary drum beat until a groovy electric riff joins in, closely followed by a synthesiser and a slap bass. This combination, along with a chorus of male voices, heightens the song. Combined with the surreal music video, it becomes a masterpiece.

Many years after the fall of the Iron Curtain and the collapse of the Soviet Union, there came another unexpected genre of music – Sovietwave. This has often been described as 'nostalgia for the Soviet Union' (relating more to Soviet aesthetics and culture rather than the government). Despite being around since the 1980s, 2010 saw the outbreak of Sovietwave globally, consisting of post-punk, synth-pop and new wave sounds. The style itself is a vague one, switching from



the dull reality of Soviet life to more Western-style beats.

One of the most famous songs of Sovietwave is *'НА ЗАРЕ'* (*At dawn*) by *'альянс'* (*Alliance*). A quintessential song of East-meeting-West, the song covers themes of loss and the hope of a new day. Originally composed in 1987, it was released as an unofficial cassette due to censorship restraints. In more recent years it was redis-

Formed in Leningrad in 1983 *'кофе'* (*coffee*) consists of two engineering students who were avid listeners to Depeche Mode and Echo & the Bunnymen. This led to the creation of gothic Sovietwave within their album *'баланс'* (*Balance*). The opening song *'монумент'* (*Monument*) begins with a news commentator speaking interspersed with Russian military chants, followed by synth beats. As an album opener, it is a fascinating piece, with themes of desolation, decay and darkness. Following *'монумент'* is *'принцесса'* (*Princess*), the most gothic of them all and a personal favourite in the album, like a Depeche Mode song with striking synth riffs, a constant drumbeat and themes of the satanic and gothic throughout the song *'кофе'* had many tracks which are associated with the beginnings of Sovietwave and for me are the best representation of the genre.

Many Sovietwave bands still perform today, *'молчат дома'* being the most recognisable but there are many more lost from the era.

### Recommendations For Soviet Funk

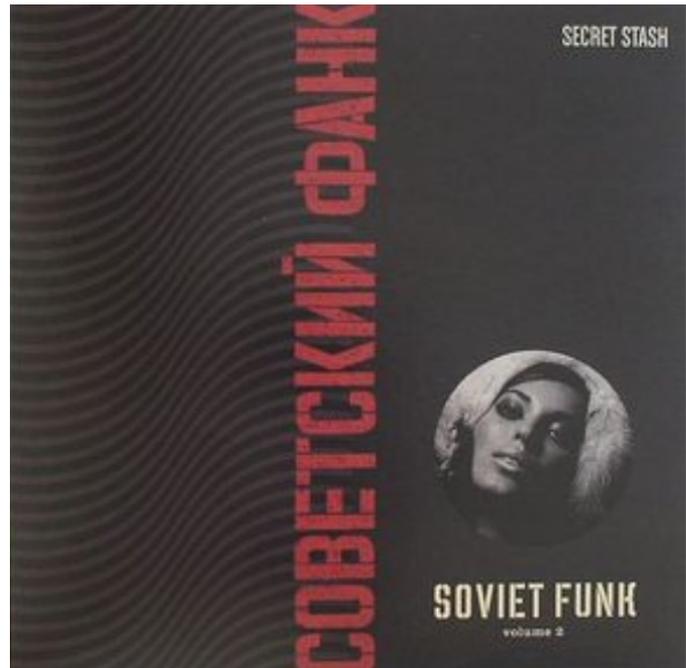
Groove of ESSR (album)

Soviet Funk – Volume 1 (album)

Porushka – Poranya (song by VIA Ariel)

On the Buyan Island (song by VIA Ariel)

Kesköö (song by Els Himma)



### Recommendations For Sovietwave

судно (борис рижий) (song by молчат дома)

баланс (album by кофе)

На Заре (song by альянс)

звезды (song by молчат дома)

этажи (album by молчат дома)



## NO PIECE, NO QUIET

### Summer of music sees Halifax become must-go destination

By N.Roberts

What do Sting, Queens of the Stone Age and Boygenius have in common? Rather unexpectedly, the answer is Halifax. All three are performing there over the coming months, taking to the stage in the magnificently restored Piece Hall as part of an impressive collection of artists who are including the venue in their summer season. Once forming the centre of Halifax's booming cloth trade, the Piece Hall has once again re-established itself as the town's economic and cultural centre, boasting a myriad of shops, events and exhibitions. And this year's musical line-up is an incredible declaration of intent: Halifax is not here to mess around.

But why the Piece Hall? To put it simply, it's unique. The building is the only remaining Georgian cloth hall in the world and is a rare gem that combines culture, heritage and leisure. Admired by those such as former Poet Laureate John Betjeman, it's no surprise that it's piquing the interest of major bands who want to put on a gig to remember. It presents the ideal setting for a large-scale concert with an intimate atmosphere, allowing crowds to enjoy their favourite bands in the open air while experiencing a picturesque setting. Plus, the balcony section and tiered steps for sitting or standing make it easy to view the stage from all angles. It's easy enough to get right to the centre of the action – no need to wait hours to reach the barrier! The Piece Hall is far from the largest venues these bands will play, but the atmosphere the crowd creates is intense and electrifying. There's a distinct community spirit inbuilt; perhaps formed from the combination of a shared love of music and the shared support for local business.

The economic and social impact this has for Calderdale cannot be underestimated. The Piece Hall has been



*The Piece Hall hosts 'The Big Sing' in 1890*

routinely bringing in millions of pounds since its reopening in 2017. The concerts attract thousands of people to the local area, encouraging a thriving local economy. 60,000 people attended the Live at the Piece Hall events last year. With this year's number increasing to 22 concerts, it wouldn't be surprising to see the number of visitors rising as well. For young people usually faced with expensive travel to Manchester or London to see international bands, it provides a cheaper and closer alternative, proving that culture has a place outside of major cities. The charity has also stated its dedication to promoting promising local musicians by booking them as support for the gigs, giving them a much wider platform for their music. Community is so clearly at the heart of the Piece Hall's mission, and it's wonderful to see how much it's paying off.

If you want to support the Piece Hall, you can still get tickets to some of the gigs on their website (or even just pop along for a visit!). Failing that, it isn't just big names in music that the venue is attracting – you can see it in Marvel's new release 'Secret Invasion' on Disney+. (pictured below)



*Manchester band 'James' played brilliant sunset shows at the Piece Hall over two sol-out dates last week*



## AN UNEXPECTED VISITOR

By Sam Walshaw

Wispy grey cloud soars above me,  
Punctuating the desolate evening sky  
Like an editor correcting mistakes.  
It is strangely captivating.

The man on the moon winks mysteriously,  
Beckoning me to follow him into his darkening abode.  
The clouds change,  
Becoming ever more like a plume of smoke  
That fills the air with its gases.

Suddenly, I hear a rustling  
In the undergrowth near to where I am sat.  
At once, I am up to investigate the source  
Of a noise that disturbs the tranquillity of stillness.

The search is not, this time, fruitful,  
Leaving it to my imagination  
To discern the culprit.

Mouse? Rat?  
Don't think it was that.  
My suspicions are amphibian:  
A common frog, or toad.

Nothing one in a million.

But wait!

The thing

(Whatever it is)

Is moving,

Making grunting noises

An amphibian wouldn't make.

I rise carefully,  
Cautiously,  
Hoping to catch a glimpse  
Of my curious visitor.

And then,

It appears

Fleetingly

And I know instantly what it is.

A small, spiky, wonderful friend,  
That's right! A hedgehog!

The first one  
I have ever spied  
In my own undergrowth.

And an unexpected triumph  
For back garden biodiversity.

Oh, how I love you, little hedgehog!

I will leave you in peace

With the moon.



## COMIC STRIP

By Jack Wharton



**FAREWELL MR CURRIE***By Sam Walshaw*

So farewell, then  
 Mr Currie.  
 You certainly didn't leave in a hurry:  
 Thirty-one years in Heckmondwike,  
 And countless students blessed by your enduring  
 wisdom and more than occasional tangents  
 about something interesting but only vaguely  
 related to the topic at hand...  
 Before the inevitable  
 "Shut up, Mr Currie!"  
 No, Sir!  
 Promise me  
 You will never shut up  
 For good.  
 It's hard to believe  
 That the time has come  
 To say goodbye  
 And thank you.  
 From 100-slide PowerPoints to Lagos,  
 And interlocking spurs to tornados...  
 It all went by in a blink.  
 One thing left to say – of course! How could I  
 forget?  
 You can lead a horse to water...  
 But you just can't make it drink.

**BUNTY***By Aleesha Kadarsha*

I own a plant.  
 It's more like the plant owns me.  
 It's a fittonia.  
 My seven-year-old sister calls it *Bunty*.  
 She declared it a *she*  
 because she has pink leaves  
 with chlorophyll arteries and veins.  
 I'm really not bothered.  
 It's just a plant.  
 Bunty acts like a child.  
 I guess that reluctantly makes me  
 her mother.  
 Oh, the poor thing.  
 She's so melodramatic sometimes.  
 She must've gotten that trait from me.  
 I wonder how she'll react  
 when I introduce her to my Aloe Vera.  
 I think she's in her teenage years.  
 She likes to faint like a Bollywood actress  
 when I don't water her on time.  
 I can feel her glare on the back of my neck  
 from where she stands on my window.  
 She's in a plant pot costing more than my laptop.  
 I have a feeling she'll live longer than me.  
 The spiteful ones always do.

**WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE HUMAN?***By Juliet Scott*

What does it mean to be human?  
 Is it our physical being?  
 The chemicals we are made up of  
 Or the biological processes that occur  
 Is it the clothes we wear?  
 Or is it the food we eat?

Is it our actions?  
 The pillaging of misery we cause,  
 Or the kindness we conflict  
 What about our nature?  
 The instinct to corrupt, conquer and exploit,  
 Or the urge to cherish the natural world.  
 What does it mean to be human?

## This year we say goodbye to...

### Miss Rattigan – Drama

Since being a drama teacher at HGS from 2018, Miss Rattigan is now pursuing a career new career in mental health as she relocates to Scarborough at the end of the term!

### Mr Mullaney – Maths

Mr Mullaney will be moving to a school located in Bradford to assume the position of Assistant Head. He became a staff member in 2018, he attended HGS as a student. Within his time, he was devoted to leading Houldsworth House.

He comments that his favourite moment was when “I challenged one of my year 11s at the time (Eleanor Lilley) to eat 4 of the school flapjacks whilst we all watched. She then spent the rest of the lesson trying not to be sick!”

### Mr Currie – Geography

Mr Currie has spent an astonishing 31 years at HGS as he moves onto a different grammar school. During his time, he has led Clarke House and founded our Eco-committee, whilst will prevail in his absence.

### Mrs Hancock – English

Alongside her teaching, Mrs Hancock has also been a school governor and head of the English department. She is moving on to pastures new to become an Assistant Head Teacher.

### Mr Barnett – French

Not only has Mr Barnett been a teacher of French and Assistant Head, but he also allowed us to begin our student newspaper which has proven very valuable experience to each of us!

He recalls one of his favourite moments when he and Miss Genneviève took a group of students to Spain and, after having rushed them all onto an underground tube train, they realised it was the wrong one and they were all headed in the wrong direction! Fortunately, they all managed to leave the train before it left....!

### Mrs Bates – Art

After many years of teaching here, as well as being a student, Mrs Bates is leaving us to dedicate more time to her own art.

Whilst we will miss each teacher who has devoted their time to our learning, we wish them luck in their futures!



# SPORTS DAY

## A Record Year

*By Alyssia Evans*

**On Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July, over 300 students gathered at Spenborough running track to take part in this year's Sports Day, a double point house event.** This consisted of track and field events. One of my favourite things each year is seeing the house pride shine through via colour coded face paint and accessories – the team spirit is wonderful to see as so many are involved, regardless of skill or prior training. These events are all about doing your bit for the house and putting yourself forwards. Despite the continuous rain, the atmosphere remained positive, and it was clear that the day was thoroughly enjoyed by all participants, especially those who succeeded in their events. Amongst these are several pupils who broke school records.

Mr Walker thanks “all teaching and support staff for their hard work before, during, and after the event” as well as our “Year 12 A-level PE students and sports leaders who helped marshal and officiate.”

We also had live broadcasting from Reuben Booth on HGS Radio! According to the host, “we had worldwide listeners with coverage from the UK, the USA the Faroe Islands, India and Pakistan!”

*Thank you to Mr Walker for the comprehensive reports of the event.*

### YEAR 8

**Poppy Nutman** (800m) at 2 minutes 38 seconds bet Ellie Dobson’s record from 2008.

### YEAR 9

**William McIntosh** (400m) at 56.28 seconds bet Jack Fisher’s record by 4 seconds from 2008.

### YEAR 12

**Aman Ali** (400m) at 53.82 seconds beat Thomas Ashen’s record by 8 seconds from 2017.

**Woody Walker** (shot put) at 13m bet the previous record of 10.57m from 2022.

# HOUSE MUSIC

*By Alyssia Evans*

**Our third, and final, double point event began Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July and continued throughout the following week.** This event expertly explores the range of musical talent that is at HGS and gives opportunity to all abilities to snag those last crucial points before the Lees Cup is claimed.

I was fortunate enough to see some Year 8 ensemble performances as well as Year 12 solo instrumentals. The sheer quality of performance in lower years highlights the dedication and passion amongst HGS students for the arts. Some standout performances for me include renditions of the song “Pompeii,” “Shallow” and “Dandelions” because of the coordination and talent which exuded.

The atmosphere overall was supportive and positive as performances of “Call Me Maybe” and “I Want It that Way” called for arm swaying and singing along.

Solos from Year 12 included incredible performances from Dominic Kenworthy, Morgan Duffy and Hannah Leadbeater in varying styles. The spirit of house music was certainly alive with the small ensemble performance of “Tequila” as our very own Elliot Hoyland and Juliet Scott sang and danced with the accompaniment of a kazoo.

*At the time of writing, performances are still taking place so stay tuned on your teams pages for the results!*



# THE TRAVELLING STUDENT'S GUIDE TO SAUDI ARABIA

By Fatima Babar – Contributing writer

**It's that time of year again. What time? Summer?**

**Exam season?** Not even close, the 7<sup>th</sup> of July marks the beginning of Hajj, the most important pilgrimage Muslims will undertake in their lives. This year, the estimated turnout for Hajj is returning to pre-pandemic levels – around 2.5 million people – with an estimated 25,000 people from the UK alone.

## BEFORE DEPARTING

To begin, what are some of the essentials you should have before embarking on this journey? Of course, the basic necessities such as toiletries however take care to bring only those that are unscented for while you are in the state of ihram. I suggest a pair of sturdy sandals as well because, trust me, you will be walking a lot and will not be wanting to wear socks in the Saudi heat. It's also important that you have your ihram with you upon departure because you will need it immediately.

When booking hotels online make sure you have screenshots of the price you paid because my family have had to pay more upon arrival. For hotels close to Masjid al-Haram, I suggest Ibrahim Khalil Road – right outside King Fahad Gate. Take care to check the rooms in multiple hotels – especially toilets! Unfortunately, due to COVID, businesses in the area are still in disarray. Cheap hotels will also not provide food so take account of that when budgeting.

It's essential that you acquire a sim and data package as soon as possible. I personally recommend Mobily as a relatively cheap and reliable network.

## MASJID AL-HARAM

The 'Sacred Mosque' also known as the Grand Mosque is the holiest place in the world for Muslims. The modern building is a product of centuries of development from the pre-Islamic era when it was a place of worship for Arab polytheists, to the Islamic caliphate, to the Ottoman Empire and now Saudi rule. The oldest parts of the current structure date back to the 16<sup>th</sup> century. The history and grandeur of it impresses itself upon every pilgrim.

While here, pilgrims will perform tawaf (circle the Qabah) and run or walk between the hills Safa and Marwa. Inside the Masjid, shoes will not be worn so if your feet are sensitive to the hard marble, I suggest socks with good grip. While performing tawaf it's important that you don't attempt to fight



*Rawdah Rasool, image credits to Fatima Ba-*

the crowd too much to get closer to the Qabah, it's far better to stay close to your group by holding on to each other. If you are asthmatic, you must take your inhaler with you.

After completing your tawaf make sure you take a moment to rest and drink water. When walking between Safa and Marwa, once again, make sure you stay with your group, avoid separation, and rest afterwards.

## AL-MASJID AN-NABAWI

The 'Prophet's Mosque' is the third mosque built in Islamic history. Due to its historical significance and close connection to Muhammad (PBUH), most pilgrims come to Medina to visit his tomb and pray. Once a simple structure, made of raw brick, consisting of a courtyard and a shelter supported by palm trunks, right next to the Prophet's (PBUH) house. Now, it's absolutely immense and, like Masjid al-Haram, was expanded massively under rulers following the Prophet (PBUH). Its characteristic dome, which covers the tomb of the Prophet (PBUH), was added in 1818 by Ottoman sultan Mahmud II and was later painted green in 1837. Indeed, most of the oldest aspects of the modern mosque date back to Ottoman rule, most notably Rawdah Rasool (the tomb interior).

If pilgrims wish to visit Rawdah Rasool, they must acquire a permit on the Nusuk app, you must book a week in advance and the dates available for the next week usually show up on Saturday. You should book these dates as soon as possible because they disappear fast especially during peak time.

# SPANISH TRIP TO GRANADA

By Sam Walshaw

From the 5<sup>th</sup> to the 8<sup>th</sup> of June, Year 9 and 12 Spanish students visited the Andalusian city of Granada, known across the world for its varied and brilliant architecture and monuments. The morning after arriving at our accommodation at about 10 o'clock at night, we visited the extraordinary Muslim fortress-palace of the Alhambra, surely the highlight of the four days, on our first day in Granada. Words cannot describe how perfect this monument is, but needless to say it should be on the bucket list of anyone who has not had the pleasure of going yet. In the evening, we chanced upon a public orchestral rendition of songs from the musical *Les Misérables*.

On the third day, we visited the city's science park – a great example of an interactive, hands-on museum – as well as the Parque Federico García Lorca, a park named in honour of the author, poet and playwright we Year 12s will be studying next year. The evening saw us treated to a stunning flamenco performance in Granada's Albaicín district, before an opportunity to see the Alhambra floodlit at night from afar.

All good things must come to an end and, all too quickly, the final day rolled around. Before leaving Granada at about 4 o'clock, we visited the Sacromonte cave museum and had lunch at the aptly-named 'Al-hambre' restaurant – 'hambre' meaning hunger. Then the rain came and we counted ourselves lucky it was nearly time to head to the coach. We headed back to Málaga airport – a roughly two-hour journey – before flying back to Birmingham. After a hugely enjoyable trip to Spain, we were all pretty tired and arrived back in Heckmondwike at about 4 o'clock in the morning.

A huge thank you from all the students to Miss Bowyer for organising and leading the trip, and to Mrs Bell, Mr Godoy and Mr Whittaker for accompanying us!

## COMMENT

By Praise Nduka-Obiora – Year 9 Student

I really enjoyed the Flamenco show we went to on Wednesday evening. When the show started, I was captivated by the singing (although it was all in Spanish). However, the tap dancing was amazing. I was fascinated at how well executed each performance was and even more impressed by their stamina. My highlight was when in the middle of the act, there was an exquisite guitar solo which was incredibly emotional.

That same evening, we also went to see night views of the Alhambra and the building looked so amazing with all the lights illuminating it.

It was such a good experience, and I would love to go again. Definitely recommend!



## Book Your University Exams!

Below are the tests you must sit to apply for certain courses at The University of Oxford including the relevant deadlines. Below this are all the tests that you can sit here, at Heckmondwike (these are not exclusively for Oxford), and finally a list of the key dates for UCAT, relevant to those applying for Medicine or Dentistry courses, though you should check all the courses you are applying for to see whether or not you need to sit a test.

TEST	Subjects	Registration Deadline	Sitting Date
AMELAT (was OLAT)	Combos with <u>Arabic</u> , <u>Turkish</u> , Persian, Hebrew	29-Sep	19-Oct
CAT	Classics, Classics JS	29-Sep	19-Oct
ELAT	English, EML	29-Sep	19-Oct
GAT	Geography	29-Sep	19-Oct
MAT	Maths and Maths JS CS and CS JS	29-Sep	19-Oct
HAT	History and JS	29-Sep	20-Oct
MLAT	<u>Mlangs</u> and JS PML takes MLAT Phil Section	29-Sep	20-Oct
PAT	Physics Engineering	29-Sep	20-Oct
Philosophy Test	<u>Phil Theol</u>	29-Sep	20-Oct
BMAT	Medicine BMS	29-Sep	18-Oct
TSA	PPE Hum Sci PPL/EXP	29-Sep	18-Oct
LNAT	Law and Law LSE	15-Sep	by 15th Oct

Computer-based	Computer-based
BioMedical Admissions Test (BMAT)	Test of Mathematics for University Admission Test (TMUA)
	Thinking Skills Assessment (TSA)
	Thinking Skills Assessment Section 1 (TSA S1)
Paper-based	Paper-based
Economics Admissions Assessment (ECAA)	English Literature Admissions Test (ELAT)
Engineering Admissions Assessment (ENGAA)	History Admissions Test (HAT)
Natural Sciences Admissions Assessment (NSAA)	Physics Aptitude Test (PAT)
Classics Admissions Test (CAT)	
Mathematics Admissions Test (MAT)	
Modern Languages Admissions Test (MLAT)	
Oriental Languages Aptitude Test (OLAT)	
Philosophy Test	

### KEY DATES FOR UCAT 2023

16 May	UCAT Account creation opens
	Bursary and Access Arrangement applications open
20 June	Booking opens
10 July	Testing begins
19 September midday (BST)	Access Arrangements deadline

21 September midday (BST)	Booking deadline
28 September	Last testing day
29 September	Bursary scheme deadline
16 October	UCAS application deadline
Early November	Results delivered to universities

### TEST FEES

Tests taken in the UK	£70
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**Law Society**  
@Heckmondwike Grammar School

- Established 2020
- Research cases
- Engage in riveting debates
- Enhance your personal statement
- Participate in mock trials
- UCAS advice
- LNAT support

**join now!**  
*the judge rinder team*

- Enrichment period - P.001
- Student led
- President
- Supervisor

17okaye@heckgrammar.co.uk  
scole@heckgrammar.co.uk

Sixth formers can join from the beginning of the next academic year!!

# BIOLOGY CLUB

- 🕒 Come and look at things under microscopes - make your own slides with whatever you want!
- 🕒 Do fun practicals and experiments - we are open to any requests
  - 🕒 All hands on with no books or written work
  - 🕒 Open to all year groups



12:40 on Thursday lunchtimes on the top floor of Crellin (room tbc)

Email or Teams message [17ehoyland@heckgrammar.co.uk](mailto:17ehoyland@heckgrammar.co.uk) or [22jscott@heckgrammar.co.uk](mailto:22jscott@heckgrammar.co.uk) to register your interest or ask any questions  
AND claim your **FREE EARLY LUNCH PASS**



# ART HISTORY SOCIETY

JOIN US FOR:

- Informative presentations
- Open discussion
- Creating studies inspired by our research
- Videos/live talks with special guest speakers in the field

Contact [17AEvans@heckgrammar.co.uk](mailto:17AEvans@heckgrammar.co.uk) for any questions

**B109—Monday  
Lunchtimes**





# HOROSCOPES...

By Alyssia Evans



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

**You're represented by the ram, making you confident and assured.**

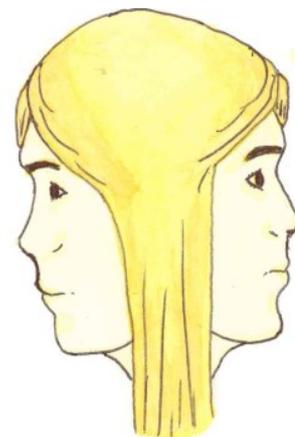
You are past the hard bit! It's been a hectic month so now its time to relax and enjoy the fruits of your labour. Balance is key!



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

**You're represented by the bull – powerful and strong.**

You've faced some tough decisions recently, but you're almost at the end! Don't shy away from your choices. You need to channel your strong energy into creating the future that you want!



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

**You're represented by the twins – adaptable and capable.**

Change can be scary! Don't resist all that is coming your way. You never know where it may lead you.



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

**You're represented by the crab – devoted and protective.**

Tests are coming your way. Whilst you may require some resilience, it's all in your hands. You're in control!



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

**You're represented by the lion – passionate and vivacious.**

It's time for you to really harness your strength. Channel your firey nature to make your dreams come true!



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

**You're represented by the virgin – logical and systemic.**

Take a deep breath. You are a leaf on the stream of creation. This month is all about relaxation. Take some time to recharge your batteries!



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

**You're represented by the scales – stoic and pragmatic.**

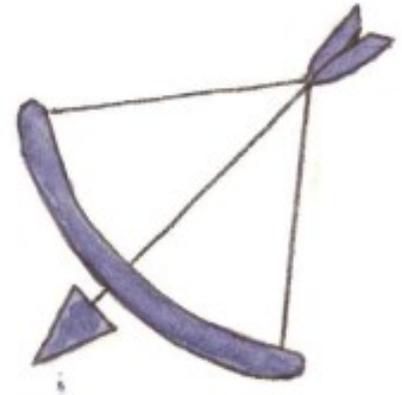
There's a decision to be made this month. Use your fair nature to ensure you've made the right choice for you.



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

**You're represented by the scorpion – observant and mystic.**

There's lots going on for you next month so take the time to rest. Make sure you take all the good from these experiences and work to postpone the stress.



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

**You're represented by the archer – intelligent and grounded.**

You need to become more in touch with how you're feeling before you can understand others. Use your grounded nature to ensure you stay true to you.



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

**You're represented by the goat – stoic and pragmatic.**

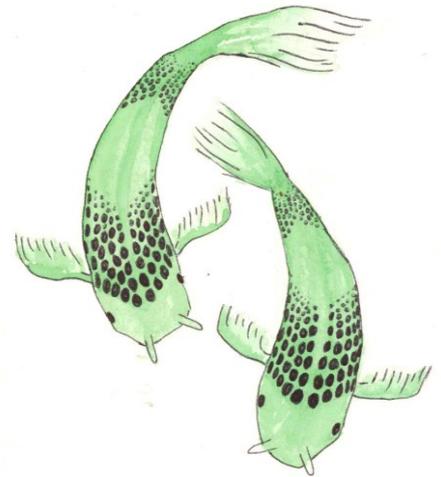
Remember to take the time to speak, and most importantly, listen to others. Seek to empathise with those around, they may surprise you...



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

**You're represented by the water bearer – original and independent.**

As you are independent by nature, sometimes it's hard to think of others before yourself. Make sure to prioritise the connections you're building in order to sustain their longevity.

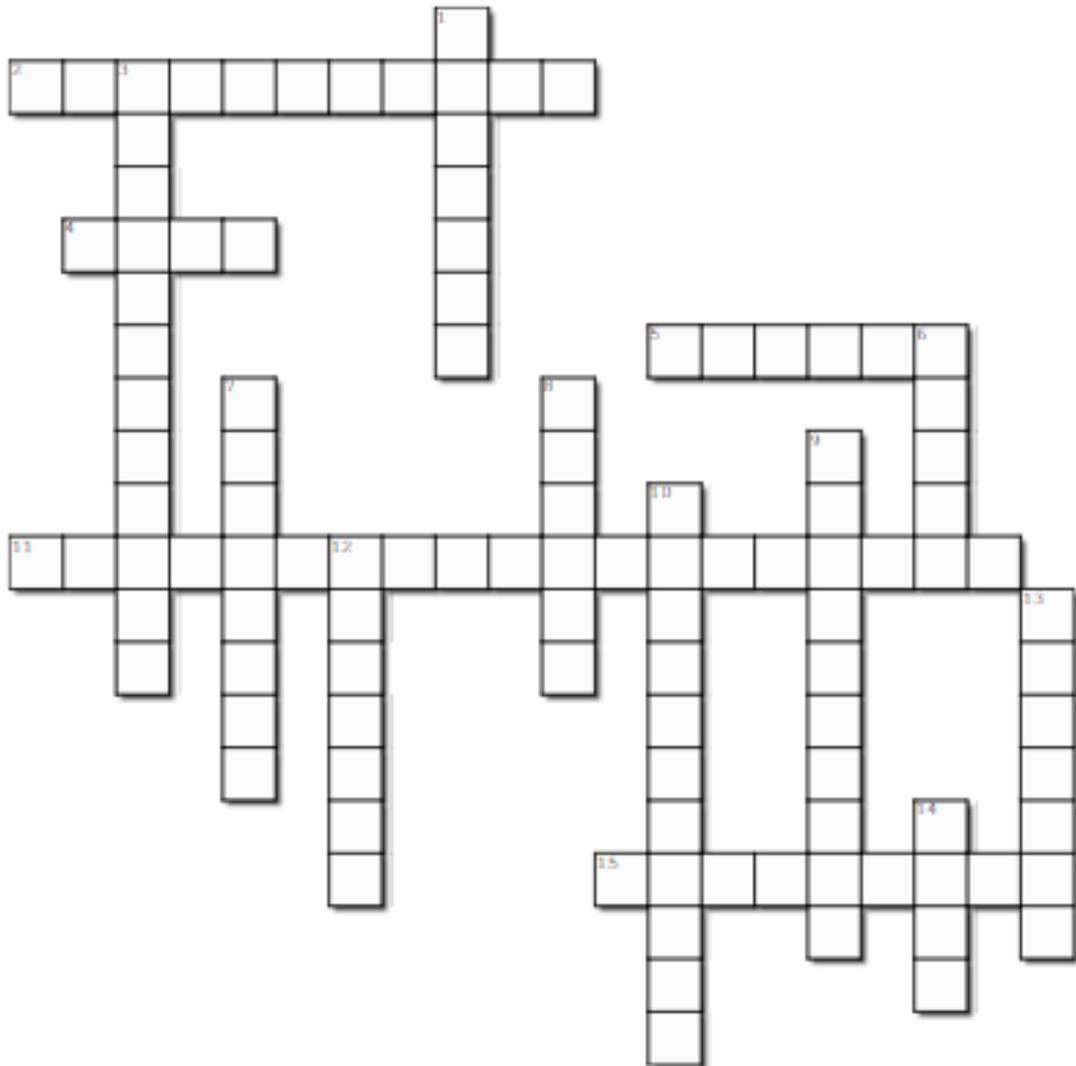


**PISCES** Feb 19<sup>th</sup> – Mar 20<sup>th</sup>

**You're represented by the fish – sensitive and gracious.**

This month is all about seeking the truth. Look to your circle and ensure they're the best representation of you.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**What the Heck Crossword 4**

Created using the Crossword Maker on TheTeachersCorner.net

**Across**

2. Major music festival held in Somerset each year
4. Pb is the chemical symbol for which element?
5. City in which JFK was assassinated
11. Popular quiz show formerly hosted by Jeremy Paxman
15. Band including Phoebe Bridgers, Lucy Dacus and Julien Baker

**Down**

1. Longest bone in the upper arm
3. New Wes Anderson film set in fictional desert town
6. Name of the dragon in The Hobbit
7. Lead heroine of Charlotte Brontë's first novel
8. Traditional Korean dish of fermented vegetables
9. Hits include Yellow Submarine, Penny Lane and Blackbird
10. Nonsense poem written by Lewis Carroll
12. Surname of Henry VIII's third wife
13. Artist famous for his cubism and blue period
14. Capital city of Peru

# SUDOKUS

To solve a sudoku, you need to fill in every missing box with a number between 1 and 9.  
Each row, column and 3x3 square should contain the numbers 1 to 9 once, and only once.

## Sudoku 7 (Medium)

5				6				
		6	1			9		
2		9	7	5			1	3
						7		5
			9		2			
9		1						
3	8			9	6	4		1
		2			4	5		
				1				2

## Sudoku 8 (Fiendish)

		9		4			3	
1			7			4		
	5			8				7
							4	
8		1		9		6		2
	3							
6				7			9	
		5			1			3
	9			6		2		

# VIVE LE TOUR

By Sam Walshaw



## Vingegaard goes for his second win in a row, while Pogačar seeks revenge.

Before I get to this year's Tour de France, let us first discuss the Giro d'Italia. Cycling's first Grand Tour of the year took place in May and, perhaps predictably, the opening time trial was taken by race favourite Remco Evenepoel. He held the pink leader's jersey for three stages, before Team DSM's Andreas Leknessund took it off him. Another two sprint stages followed, and then there was a rare breakaway win for local team EOLO-Kometa.

Before long, the first rest day beckoned, but not before Evenepoel re-took the race lead with another time trial victory. This time, it was much closer, with Geraint Thomas, Tao Geoghegan Hart and Stefan Küng all within five seconds of the Belgian. But then... disaster struck. Just hours later, he was forced to abandon the race after contracting Covid-19. The new *maglia rosa*? Britain's Thomas, by just two seconds from Slovenia's Primož Roglič.

The day after a first Grand Tour stage win for promising climber Einer Augusto Rubio, BORA-hansgrohe's Nico Denz took his second stage in three days, and Groupama-FDJ rider Bruno Armirail temporarily claimed the pink jersey. He managed to keep it on the mountainous stage 15, meaning the Giro was wide open going into its third week.

After the second rest day, João Almeida won atop the Monte Bondone, beating Thomas to the line; Roglič, who nearly won the 2020 Tour de France, lost 25 seconds to the Welshman, who took the *maglia rosa* with five stages to go. Stage 17 was a sprint stage and Thomas put no further time into Roglič on the following two mountain stages, leaving three men in contention for the overall victory: Thomas, Roglič, and Almeida. The race would be decided by a time trial, and this time it was Roglič's turn to undo the heartbreak of losing the 2020 Tour on the penultimate day by winning the stage, by 40 seconds from Thomas. The Slovenian broke the hearts of British fans, who were gunning for perhaps a last Grand Tour win for their effervescent hero.

There was to be one twist in the tale for British supporters, however: the incomparable Mark Cavendish won the final sprinters' stage into Rome, led out by none other than Thomas himself! Great preparation for the Tour de France, where the Manx Missile would be aiming for a record-breaking 35<sup>th</sup> stage victory.

July rolled around and cycling fans across the world speculated over the likely yellow jersey come Paris. Most suggested it was between Slovenian wonderkid Tadej Pogačar, winner in 2020 and 2021, and last year's champion Jonas Vingegaard of Denmark. While we enjoyed the HGS 125 celebrations here in West Yorkshire,

over in the Basque Country the race got off to a flying start with British climber Adam Yates taking the first stage into Bilbao, and hence also the coveted first yellow jersey of the Tour. An impressive ride from Cofidis' Victor Lafay saw the team take their first stage victory since 2008 (!) on the following day.

After that, all eyes turned to Cavendish, and to whether he could cement even further his place (which is already firmly secured) in the annals of Tour mythology. Alas, stages 3 and 4 were won by this year's fastest sprinter, Jasper Philipsen of Belgium, but Cav' was nevertheless improving by the day. The race's fifth day witnessed a superb first stage victory for 2022 Giro winner Jai Hindley, who snatched the yellow jersey from Yates, but arguably the bigger news was Vingegaard putting more than a minute into Pogačar.



Tadej Pogačar and Jonas Vingegaard at Le Tour de France

The Tour de France never ceases to amaze and, in trademark fashion, Pogačar came roaring back on stage 6 to secure a famous victory, attacking on the final climb to reduce the gap to the Dane (who claimed the *maillot jaune*) to just 25 seconds. Friday saw another agonising defeat for Cavendish, the 38-year-old going just too early and suffering from a late gear issue in the sprint into Bordeaux. Guess who, Philipsen, jumped him right at the last to take his third stage of the 2023 Tour.

It looked like Cavendish might get the chance to have another go a day later, but a crash with 60 km to go saw his withdrawal from the race. It later transpired that he had broken his collarbone, which, should he retire at the end of the season as planned, is bitterly, excruciatingly disappointing. Let us hope and pray, for the Tour's sake, that he takes up the offer of his trade team to give him one last chance next year.



## BAZBALL

### It's Making English Cricket Exciting, But Does It Actually Work?

Guest writer: E. Hoyland – Sport Editor

**England find themselves 2-0 down in this year's Ashes, losing again to the seemingly infallible Australia, but is it a case of what could have been for the hosts or are Australia simply better?**

England lost the first Test by two wickets with the Aussies succeeding in chasing down 280 to win, but only after a number of key turning points went the wrong way for the hosts. To start, a superb Harry Brook was dismissed on 32 from just 37 balls early in the first innings through what could only be described as a fluke after an unfortunate deflection led to Nathan Lyon's delivery spinning back onto his wickets. In spite of this though, Bazball was in full flow and soon England had racked up an imperious 393–8, with Joe Root flying on 118 before captain Ben Stokes bemusingly declared. Clearly the intention was to leave enough time to bowl the visitors out, but it was a decision that would come back to haunt England as prolonging the game by as few as five more overs would be long enough to see the Test end in a draw and see England avoid defeat; surely Root alone could have stayed at the crease for another 30 balls? And what about England's fielding?

Stoke's fielding set-up was again very clearly intentioned, but, certainly through Australia's first innings, the boundaries were free flowing. Evidently it did result in catches, but to what detriment on the scorecard? You can't help but feel that Stokes ought to have changed his fielders, especially as Australia scored 190 runs for just 1 loss in the middle of that first innings. Furthermore, one cannot dismiss the fumbles and missed catches: Cameron Green scored 38 but should have been stumped for a duck, two dropped catches allowed Alex Carey to score 66 and, arguably, the wicket keeper could have done better when Usman Khawaja edged past him in the second innings. Finally, England gave away 44 extras, an extraordinary number really, providing yet another example of simple and avoidable England mistakes that could well have cost them the test.

Yes, Bazball is brilliant, and it provided an enthralling



*Bairstow fumbles a catch in the 1<sup>st</sup> Test*

Test Match that England could absolutely have won, something ill-often said against the best Test-side in the world, but it was more a game that they *should* have won.

And so to the second test where Australia began with a typically strong opening innings, being bowled out in the end for 416, after having been at one point on a dazzling 351–6, but the talking points of this test do not lie in England's disappointing work with the ball: they had, clearly, an immense target, but reached an impressive milestone of 188–1 with bat-in-hand, only to be bowled out for 325 - 'batting collapse' feels like a more than apt description. This left them needing a significantly better second innings with the ball to stand any chance, and to be fair to the hosts, as soon as Khawaja fell for 77, Australia's batters made only modest scores, all out for 279 but still leaving an unlikely chase of 371 on the cards.

What England needed was a strong opening, like they had had in the first innings, to build up a score and give themselves a genuine chance... Crawley and Pope were dismissed for 3, Brook for 4 and Root, little better, scored just 18 – they were 45–4 and that is simply not good enough for top-level Test cricket. When was the last time England had a genuinely strong and reliable opening pair? Yes, Duckett hit 98 and 83 but he got a total of just 31 in the first test, hardly reliable. England cannot expect to beat the best until they establish an opening partnership that can be guaranteed to last several dozen runs at least. They have however got a world-class captain; Just as hope was fading up steps Ben Stokes. An immense 155 runs from a true leader gave England a glimmer of hope, but it was not to be enough. The remaining tailenders could not complete what was frankly always going to be too high of a target and so England fell, in the end, 43 runs short.

Now, it is unlikely that Bairstow could have completed a half-century to add the missing runs required for a home victory, but his dismissal was unusual: At the end of the over he was stumped after leaving a bouncer and walking off of his crease. England appealed an 'unsportsmanlike' display from the visitors and Stokes even fantastically claimed that England would not have appealed if this had been the other way around, but where I do agree with Stokes is that this was, by the laws of the game, out. If we can categorise England's first defeat as 'what could have been', then this anecdote rather summarises their second - not good enough. It was lackadaisical from the wicket keeper and, as was the case at Lord's for the duration of this test, Australia were simply sharper, better.

# WIMBLEDON 2023

## Britwatch

*E. Hoyland*

**Katie Boulter's heavy defeat to Elena Rybakina, the defending women's champion, saw an end to British interests in Wimbledon this year;** she had been looking to reach the round of sixteen at The All England Club for the first time in her career but had her serve broken five times in the match, and was herself unable to do anything against the Kazakhstani's imperious serve. The two are separated by 86 world ranking places and so, despite her confident victories against Daria Saville and Viktoriya Tomova in the previous rounds, this game was always going to be a difficult step up for Boulter who struggled against her opponent's fast, flat shots; in fact, when Rybakina sealed the first set with a second-serve ace, it seemed Boulter would never really have a chance, losing the game in little under an hour.



*Boulter lost heavily to the defending Wimbledon champion*

As Boulter sought a first place in the round of sixteen, former champion, Andy Murray, was also exciting the crowds - He began his tournament against fellow Brit, Ryan Penistone, whom he swept aside with ease, dropping just four games in total and moving across the court with much more ease than he has for a long time, setting up a match against the 5<sup>th</sup> seed, Stefanos Tsitsipas. Like Katie Boulter, this was a step up in quality for Murray and when the first set went to a tiebreak, he found himself on the wrong end of the 7-3 scoreline before the 23:00 curfew halted play. Day two, and Murray won the next two sets, capitalising in the second on a rare break of serve and this time holding his own when the third went to another tiebreak. He had only now to win one of the two remaining sets but, despite some fantastic shots that showed his years of guile and experience, it was not to be for the Scot. He can take great satisfaction from having given Tsitsipas a real run for his money, with the Greek saying, "You are dealing with Andy Murray at the other side of the net. He can make it a marathon and I had to work extra hard." but it is once more nearly an Andy Murray comeback. What's more, he is now likely be even more frustrated at that hugely disappointing defeat to Alex de Minaur at Queen's, a match that, if won, could have secured him the ranking points to avoid facing a top seed such as Tsitsipas in the first two rounds, and then who knows how far he could have got?

However, the Brit most likely to make any meaningful challenge on the famous Wimbledon trophy was always, it

seemed, going to be Cam Norrie, who of course reached the semi-finals in 2022 and was this year's 12<sup>th</sup> seed. He beat The Czech, Tomas Machac, in round one without massively dominating the match to set up a second-round meeting with the recently crowned Mallorca Open champion, Christopher Eubanks. The American therefore, was coming into the match with good grass-court form but certainly wasn't the favourite against the British number 1; this fact clearly did not faze Eubank though, who in fact dispatched Norrie with relative ease: he had thirteen break points, winning four, and won more of Norrie's second serves than the Brit himself did. Faced with some huge shots, Norrie admits he never got into the game as he would have liked, adding that he "got outplayed", by the 27 year old who does look to be on rather an upward trajectory at the moment.

Finally, is the tale of Liam Broady: he is ranked 142<sup>nd</sup> in the world and was lined up against the 4<sup>th</sup> seed and previous Grand Slam finalist, Casper Ruud, on Centre Court; it seemed that it would be a brilliant moment for the 29-year-old, but also that there would be an inevitable conclusion. Broady won the first set 6-4 however, before falling two sets to one down and Ruud had one foot in the third round. Broady though battled hard to win a mighty fourth set 6-3, before phenomenally claiming the last set, without dropping a game, to claim a famous victory in front of a thrilled crowd. He went on to lose in the third-round despite being very competitive against Denis Shapovalov but for Broady and his incredible underdog story, it's about his childhood dream coming true, and the £131,000 payday!



*"Not bad for a day's work," said Broady after beating Ruud, saying that he "wants to be able to support my family in any way I can. I want to not have to worry for the rest of my life."*

## **What you've had to say...**

“I just thought I should let you know that the student paper is so cool! I really see how much effort it must take to compile so much writing and drawing and news, and it's honestly a godsend because I really do enjoy reading through the articles. It's very informative and a lot of fun, especially since it covers so many different topics. The formatting is also well-polished and impressive.”

“After reading the April edition, specifically, Elliot's article on stem cells. I was inspired to write my own article on the new fascinating treatment of mitochondrial disorders.”

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