

The Gryphon

December
2020

INSIDE:

INSIDE:
Head to page 10
for photos of Mr
Oldham in a
stuck again!



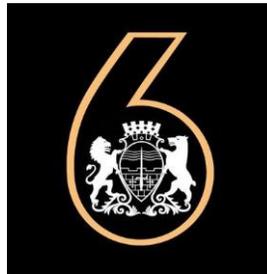
Made by your
Sixth Form!

A Magazine for the Students
... made by the Students





Beechen Cliff



Edited by Anton Phillips
and Harry Stevens

Contents Page

2-5. LGBT and the Media

6-7. Volunteering for the NHS

8-9. Six Nations 2021 so far...

10. Beechen News

11. Mr Oldham stuck... again!

12-13. Forward from Brexit

14-15. Is your blue the same as my blue?

16-17. Why go for an apprenticeship?

18-19. Walk around the world

20-23. Why should the UK donate vaccines to other countries?

24-25. How human values can transform economies and prevent climate disaster?

26-29. Games / Activities

30-31. Why Judicial diversity is integral to the UK legal system?

32-33. The Tipping Point- Malcolm Gladwell

34-35. The impact of the female voice- Alice Walker

36-37. Women's Rugby: its on the rise

38-39. Answers to Games/ Activities





LGBT and the Media

Despite the LGBT+ community having been around since at least the 25th century BCE, the task of accurately representing it and its members through film and TV continues to baffle western media; companies continue to reinforce harmful stereotypes as though they forget that most of the time, queer individuals are indistinguishable from their straight, cisgender counterparts. Why do we still defend offensive caricatures as though they're not inherently derogatory? Why are these 'jokes' allowed to thrive under the guise of dark or "edgy" humour, and not seen plainly as homophobia or transphobia? Firstly, I'd like to address that we live in a heteronormative society - this means that being heterosexual is considered the norm/default and that anything else is less "natural". While variations in sexuality and gender identity are generally more accepted nowadays, they are not yet "normal" (as shown by the need for LGBT+ individuals to come out) and are often misrepresented or sensationalised in the media. Television and film writers seldom do LGBT+ characters justice.



The gay males are always effeminate (and often promiscuous), with high pitched, nasal voices and a slew of shady remarks for any situation; gay women are portrayed as aggressive in their pursuit of women and will only present hyper masculinely (butch) or hyper-femininely (lipstick).



Gay characters in television are usually just a display of performative inclusivity - they offer little more to plots than comic relief, while simultaneously instilling damaging stereotypes in the audiences. Since the media tends to categorize all LGBT+ individuals into just lesbian and gay characters, there are fewer tropes regarding bisexual, transgender, asexual, or non-binary people – but the erasure of them speaks volumes.



For the most part, queer characters are viewed as the butt of a joke: the uncle who wears dresses, the AMAB aunt that is continually deadnamed. Furthermore, they almost always die— so much so that ‘Bury your Gays’ (AKA. Dead Lesbian Syndrome) is considered a common trope in straight storytelling. In a study by Autostraddle, only 193 of 1,779 US TV shows featured lesbian or bisexual female characters, and of these 68 saw the character die – and only 12 of those shows had a male character of equal narrative importance die. The message sent to LGBT+ audiences through the media is quite simple: you are abnormal, unimportant, and invalid unless you perform to the standards we set. While more representation of sexuality and gender expression is needed, I believe misrepresentation poses a worse threat than an absence of queer characters; audiences form an incorrect set of beliefs based on little fact, and struggle to grasp how normal it is not to be heterosexual and cisgender. We must become aware of our own perceptions of LGBT+ individuals and consider whether they are realistic views or ideas based on caricatures and fiction.



A small glossary of terms:

AFAB: Assigned female at birth

AMAB: Assigned male at birth

Asexual: Experiences little to no sexual attraction to people

Aromantic: Experiences little to no romantic attraction to people

Bisexual: Attraction to people of the same gender and other genders

Cisgender: Identifying with the same gender identity than was assigned

Cishet: An abbreviation for cisgender heterosexual

Deadname: A trans individuals given name at birth – DON'T ASK FOR IT.

Genderfluid: Gender identity varies over time

Homosexual: Gay; attracted to the same gender

Heterosexual: Straight; attracted to the opposite gender

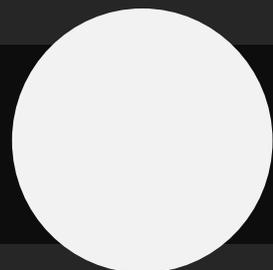
Non-binary: An umbrella term; doesn't align with the binary of male or female

Pansexual: Attraction to people regardless of gender

Queer: An umbrella term; anything other than straight

Transgender: Identifying with a different gender identity than was assigned

Ella Fairhurst





Volunteering for the NHS

In this extremely difficult time everyone around us is wandering what they can do to help not only the people around them, but the wider community. If its helping a neighbour with shopping, cooking a few meals a week at home or even just giving a relative or friend a call to see how they are, there are many ways in which we can play our part and help each other out. Henry Price in Upper Sixth has volunteered to help out as marshalling at the Bath racecourse Covid-19 vaccination centre. His role is to guide people to where they need to go, make sure everyone is keeping Covid safe and keeping all areas appropriately sanitised.

This is something in which the NHS is in great demand of and I personally as I'm sure many others can not thank people like Henry along with all the NHS staff and other volunteers enough for all the work they have been doing throughout this tough period. Anyone over the age of 18 can sign up to help out as well using the link at the bottom of the page.



THE NHS NEEDS YOUR HELP

NHS

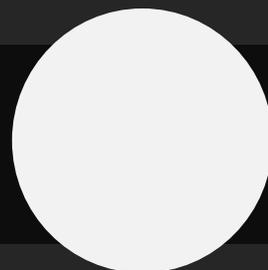
We're currently recruiting to a variety of roles to help deliver the **Covid-19 vaccination programme**, in the Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin NHS.

#BEAPARTOFHISTORY



It is such a difficult time for us all and you are all playing a massive part in helping get things back to normal so fingers crossed we might get Summer 2021.

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/coronavirus/join-the-nhs-covid-19-vaccine-team/>





Six Nations 2021 so far...

Round one has seen England's shocking performance and Scotland's emphatic win, along with France's demolishing victory over Italy and Wales's success over Ireland. After this weekend, the six nations might turn out to be one of the most interesting in recent years.

Before the first round England were the favourites to win the tournament with Ireland in close second but it is now looking less likely this will be the outcome. A not so surprising win for France in Rome (with Dupont scoring 91 points in the Fantasy Six Nations) means Franco Smith's Italy who haven't won a game in the tournament since their 22-19 victory over Scotland in 2015 and it may be the Wooden Spoon for them again.

This was not the case for Scotland at Twickenham pulling out a historic win against The Roses with a 6-11 victory.

Bath Rugby's Cameron Redpath excelled on his Scotland debut with close friend and former fellow England academy player, Ollie Lawrence, playing for the opposing side.





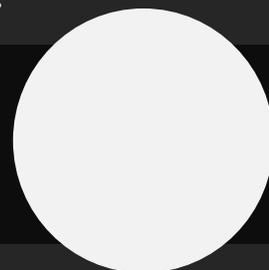
England's head coach Eddie Jones said "I accept responsibility for the Scotland defeat" but with increasing pressure on the main man to succeed, it may be time for him to drop older members of the squad and bring in the likes of Premiership Champion Sam Simmons. The young player from Exeter, alongside many others, will help diversify the squad and could bring about new tactics for Jones as well as put their names forward ahead of Lion's Squad selection this year.

Wales managed to land a much deserved victory over Ireland with two tries from Rees-Zammit and North. This came about after ex Beechen Cliff Pupil Billy Burns pushed his luck too far in the final few seconds of the game, kicking a penalty and missing touch and eradicating Ireland's last moments to snatch the win back from Wales. This result was greatly influential on Welsh Coach Pivac's future with the team after previously having a 28% win rate since Gatland's departure in 2019.

Though after round one, France are at the top of the table, Wales second with Scotland in third, it is very early in the tournament and is still up for grabs. Could Scotland make history and get their first ever Six Nations Win? Or will France take the title leading up to their own World Cup? With England and Ireland still in with a chance its all to play for.

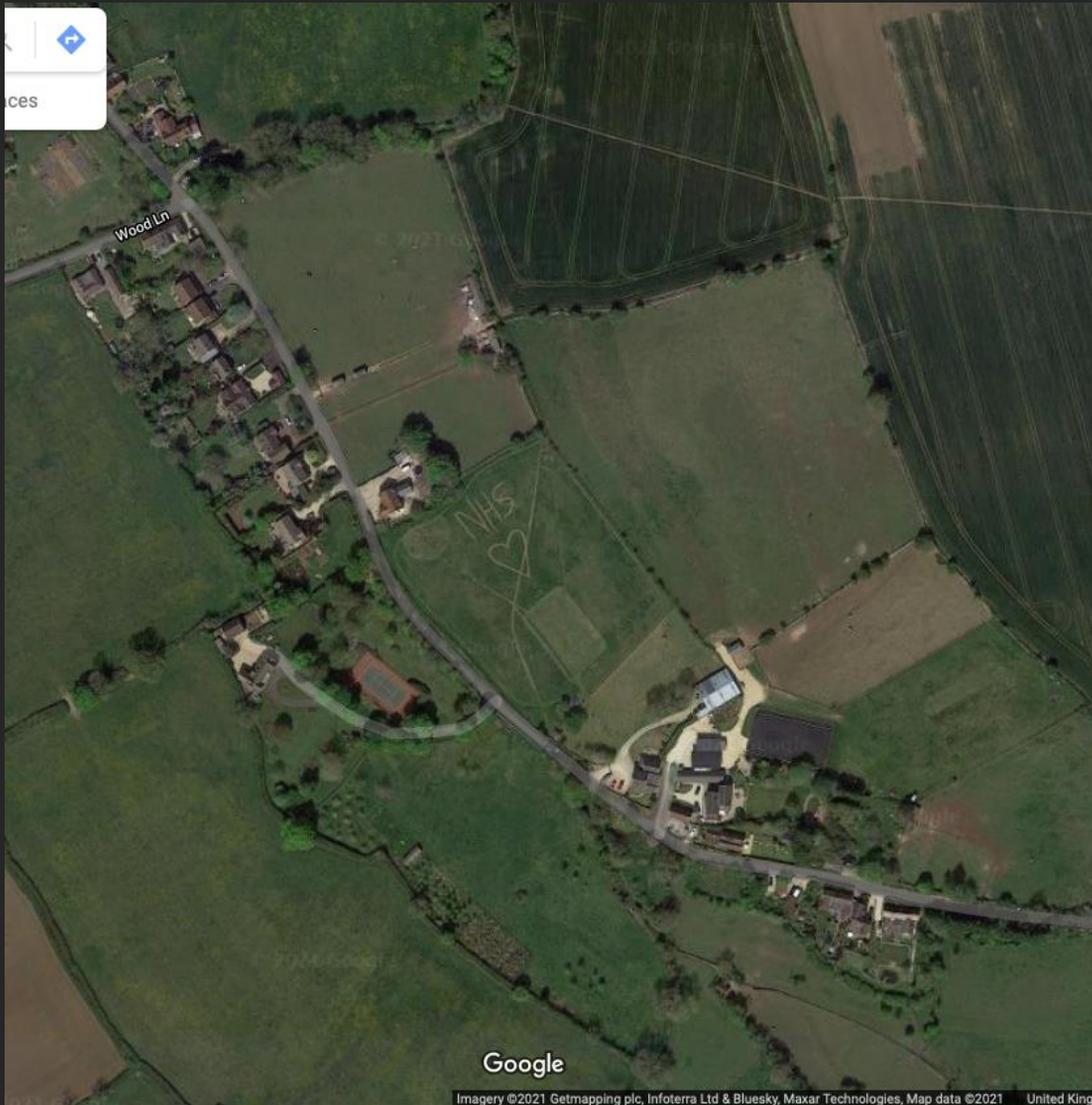
I think its safe to say it's over for Italy once again!

Harry Stevens





Beechen News



Harry Stevens strikes again with his field art! - nicer message than before



Where is Mr Oldham this time??

Once again the school has decided to have a bit of fun with Mr Oldham and he is trapped again.



You might not believe me but he is still in there at this very moment!

He sent me a photo and not gonna lie need some help locating him... any ideas?

Every person who guesses right will be entered into a draw to win a Bath Rugby shirt.

Send me an E-mail at
4stevens.harry@beechencliff.org.uk



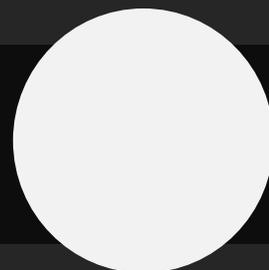
Forward from Brexit

Brexit is fundamentally a bad idea. An idea based on lies, corruption and resentment. It's created catastrophic levels of division, anger and blame, yet there seems to be very little reward, with 'Happy British Fish' apparently being the main one. Despite this, Brexit has happened and, with an increasingly right wing, nationalist government in power for presumably the next three years, that's unlikely to be reverted any time soon. As a result, we need to look forward and realise there is a better future ahead. The arguments against moving on are undeniably clear. Britain is better in Europe. It would be better for jobs, businesses and worker's rights. It would be better for our environment, our trade and even our defense. Above that, it would be better for Britain's place in the world, as it would allow us to create the global changes that are so desperately needed on issues such as poverty and climate change. Changes that can only be achieved through nations working together towards a common goal. As a result of these arguments, the case for rejoining immediately is understandable but now is not the time to be fighting that fight. The country needs proof that Brexit is bad for Britain, that those who voted for it were largely misled and that the orchestrators of Brexit were nothing more than corrupt, petulant frauds, craving attention. For that to happen, time is needed. If we were to have the referendum on rejoining now, the risk is that, again, Britain in Europe would lose. We are not yet ready to have that fight. The parties most likely to support rejoining are, at the moment, divided and distracted.



Pro Brexit parties and interests are still largely dominant in government, parliament and the media and the full effects of Brexit have not yet been witnessed. If any attempt at re-joining is to be made, it needs to have almost guaranteed success. Failure will cause the confidence of the Brexit ringleaders to become overwhelming, right wing media organisations to become all-consuming and belief in nationalism, exceptionalism and xenophobia to consolidate and grow. All of this is why we need time. Time for the disadvantages of Brexit to become explicit, for citizens to realise the perpetrators were lying and for a new movement of internationalist, cooperative and determined people to rise and unite. However, this movement can't just be the majority. On account of the kind of government and mainstream media we currently have, it must be the overwhelming majority if we're to have any chance at defeating the forces of nationalism and re-joining our European partners. We need time to unite. Make no mistake, though, this is possible and one day, we will re-join. Back on the world stage and working with our allies, partners and friends, we could have a period of opportunity for Britain. We could work towards new, stronger climate commitments, reduce poverty and improve the quality of life for millions across the globe, create treaties and alliances to strengthen the security and defence of our nation with goal of a more peaceful world. We could change the world for good but only if we lead by example. That is a Britain we can unite behind.

Toby Hawkins



Is your blue the same as my blue?

Synesthesia is a neurological condition caused by enhanced interconnectedness within the nervous system: areas that respond to different sensory stimuli are provoked simultaneously by one single stimulus, triggering a range of experiences from being able to taste sounds and hear colours. In the same way everyone has varying personalities, (with the exclusion of some traits remaining homogenous between synesthetes) generally- the experiences are distinct to the specific person.



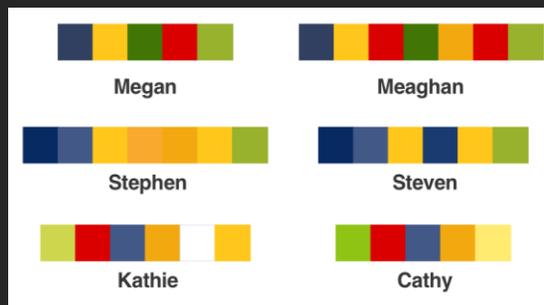
Examples of the phenomenon include *Grapheme-colour Synesthesia* - this involves a synesthete's ability to interlink specific letters or words with designated colours. Alternatively, a person who experiences *Ordinal-linguistic Synesthesia* associates letters with different personalities - the letter 'N' may have a sneaky demeanor.

An insight into these experiences is not that far-fetched from typical daily experiences that non-synesthetes can identify. An Oxford University publication (Robertson and Sagiv, 2005) described these involuntary experiences as the same process of recognising a photograph- 'if you were handed an image showing the Queen (that had no text), your brain unconsciously responds to the image labelling it as *the Queen*' - this process happens unwillingly and without any prompts. This is the same cognitive process of recognition that is caused by Synesthesia- different stimuli cause a synesthete to generate the same response every time without conscious thought. A synesthete will not choose to associate a specific colour with a number, it is instead an automatic response that they cannot deny or decide.



While the different forms of Synesthesia can be (to some extent) categorised, it is important to note that this organisation of experiences is a very loosely grouped system- every experience is subjective to that person and these personal experiences are not likely to apply to anybody else who identifying with same form of Synesthesia. Gather two people who both identify as having Grapheme-colour Synesthesia and you can almost guarantee that they will not share the same ideologies about which numbers provoke which colours.

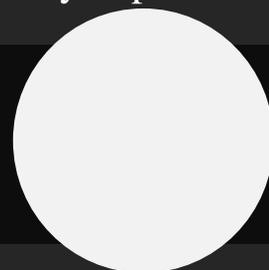
While the different forms of Synesthesia can be (to some extent) categorised, it is important to note that this organisation of experiences is a very loosely grouped system- every experience is subjective to that person and these personal



experiences are not likely to apply to anybody else who identifying with same form of Synesthesia. Gather two people who both identify as having Grapheme-colour Synesthesia and you can almost guarantee that they will not share the same ideologies about which numbers provoke which colours.

In referencing to the question - *Is your blue the same as my blue?* - Synesthesia can be considered when trying to differentiate between how we perceive colour. Though we may literally recognise colours in the same way as most people (excluding medical conditions such as colour-blindness), there is still variation between the experiences these colours invoke. To some- the colour blue may be strictly visual, while to synesthete- the colour is interlinked with many other sensory experiences.

Abby Reed





Why go for an apprenticeship?

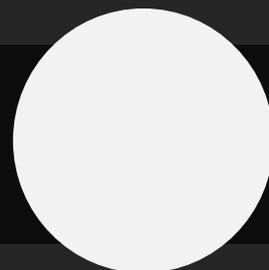
The first three things that come to my mind when I think of university are parties, relationships and freedom. I know, seems like the perfect utopia! But words that also linger in the back of my mind are debt, tedium and waste of money.

This may seem a tad harsh but the reality is unless you're ecstatic with excitement about your course, make the most of every work experience and university club and seminar there is, you'll just be another rat in the race for a post graduate job. Would an opportunity to work 4 days a week whilst earning a 9-5 salary and getting a degree all in one not seem slightly more appealing? I am quite frankly aware that the 'uni experience' isn't quite the same and you may believe that the social life may be bare minimum, despite these rumors not being true, but if you are seriously committed to starting your career on the right foot and surrounding yourself with like minded successful people from a blue chip organisation, an apprenticeship might be the one of you.



By the time you're 22, the same time your friends will be coming out of uni frightened to enter the job market with nothing but a degree and several thousand hangovers, you'd already have earned your degree, debt free, and be comfortable in a corporate company on an even larger wage than what you stared with a few years prior.

Apprenticeships come in all shapes and sizes, ranging from level 4 to 7 in multiple industries from hair and beauty to project management and mechanical engineering, so the opportunities are endless. I'm not saying place all your eggs in one basket and only apply for apprenticeships because not only are they very competitive but also may simply not feel right for you closer to the time. My point is to keep your options open; apply for uni, apply for apprenticeships and consider a gap year even! But don't feel like university is your only option simply because society makes it seem like the norm.



Walk Around the World

Beechen Cliff's Walk Around The World

If you fancy a challenge at home then this is an amazing challenge to stay active and mentally healthy, whilst having some friendly competition with your peers.



Starting: **Friday 22nd January**

Target Date: **Sunday 4th April**

Step One: Follow the link in the bio, description, or alternatively you can search for the club on Strava (search for 'Beechen Cliff's Walk Around The World')

Step Two: Create or login to a Strava account

Step Three: Request to join the club and admin will accept you as soon as possible

Step Four: Log your Runs, Walks or cycle rides on Strava



STRAVATM



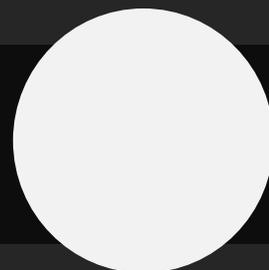
Walk, Run or cycle to help reach our goal of walking the **circumference of the world (40,000km)**. If 400 sixth formers attempted this challenge, then on average, one person will walk, cycle or run 100km. This will be a great challenge for you to do in your spare time at home and will keep you active whilst competing with friends in these challenging times. Good Luck! Up the beech!!



<https://www.strava.com/clubs/thebeechenwalkchallenge>

As a senior prefect team, we have noticed the importance of staying active during these challenging times, not only for your physical health, but your mental health also. This is the reason why the senior prefect team has produced an amazing idea to pull everyone together through some friendly competition, and walk, run or cycle the circumference of the world (40,000km). This may sound like an impossible challenge but if 400 sixth form students walked 100km, we will meet our goal by our target date of the 4th of April. Please please help us reach this goal by signing up to the Club on Strava called “Beechen Cliff’s Walk Around the World” or with the link beat the top! So far, we have reached just under 1,500 km so please join up and help us reach our goal!

Ellis Baker





Why should the UK donate vaccines to other countries?

Amidst the government omnishambles of Covid-19, a ray of light has emerged: vaccination and the eventual promise of immunisation. It is incredibly positive that we have shown ourselves to be ahead of the world in developing, purchasing and administering the vaccines available to us.

So much so, that we could have every UK adult vaccinated by September, potentially before some European countries have even vaccinated all of their vulnerable groups.

It may seem counter-intuitive, but it is in our interests to give these vaccines away.

What do I mean when I say, “in our interests”? Well, I mean that it will benefit us (the UK) and you and I individually if we vaccinate Europe (or even the whole world) before we vaccinate ourselves.

Hopefully, this article will outline three good reasons why.

Of course, I don't think that we should stop all vaccinations in the UK from tomorrow and donate our supplies elsewhere; there are still plenty who need their jabs here.

However, the target of vaccinating *every* adult by September seems unnecessary; I am an adult, but why vaccinate me, a young and healthy person in the UK, and not someone more vulnerable or more exposed to the virus in Europe, like a healthcare worker, instead?



John's article continued...

It is my view that we should vaccinate our priority groups so that it is safe for schools and workplaces to function, and then vaccinate these same priority groups in all of Europe before then vaccinating Britain's remaining adults.

After all, within the UK, vaccines are prioritised based on need, not on a first come first served basis. It seems only fair to apply that same principle to vaccinating the world, it should be those with the greatest need for protection who are vaccinated before everyone else.

That argument is a moral one. You might call it unrealistic too. You might say that we will only give jabs away to other countries if it will make us money: if it benefits us economically.

Well, it does

A more selfish reason for wanting Europe (at least) to be vaccinated before you is that it means a quicker return to normality. Life is not normal right now because of restrictions. Restrictions are in place because it is not safe for normal activities to happen.

Since all the normal things can only open up once society is safe (not after just you are safe), you should want others to be vaccinated!



Yep, sorry guys its still going! I asked for 300 words not 750...

This point hinges on the assumption that vaccinating the vulnerable people in all of Europe will make society safer than just vaccinating every Brit, leaving many vulnerable people unprotected elsewhere.

Think about it, if we are all vaccinated but not all of Europe is, some travel restrictions must stay in place, so your summer holiday abroad might not happen. Enabling international travel will boost the hospitality and tourism economy and means we can go on our jollies!

My final argument focuses more on the positive impact sharing vaccines would have on the international community, which would be a good platform to tackle other issues, beyond Covid-19.

In many ways, this pandemic has divided nations. Each has competed over who has dealt with it best, who has made the biggest mistakes, who is to blame. Borders have been shut, isolating each country from one another.

In a setting where international cooperation is so low, surely the best thing for us is to coordinate and end the pandemic together through international vaccination programmes.



This is a complex issue, one that could involve the need for re-vaccination or booster jabs. Who is to say which country will be first to find the right formula to combat new Covid-19 variants? Global problems require global collaboration to ensure long-term solutions.

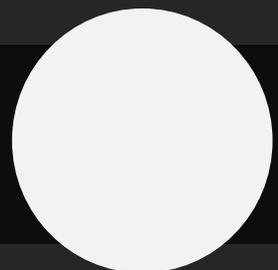
Working together in this way would only strengthen relations between countries; and, if we can organise and deal with the issue of a pandemic together, who's to say we would not do the same with other issues, like climate change?

In summary, sharing vaccines and boosters between countries will make the world safer, richer, and hopefully happier, alongside giving us a springboard for dealing with other urgent issues together with our neighbours.

International relations are complicated. It is probably better to think about it more simply.

So, if you want festivals and overseas holidays this summer (while still keeping granny safe), maybe you also want Matt and Boris to give away some vaccines, too.

John Hetherington



How Human Values Can Transform Economies and Prevent Climate Disaster.

There has been a misalignment between the moral values that humans hold and the monetary value that is put on services and objects - the 'market value'. This was the view taken by Mark Carney, former Bank of England governor, in his recent BBC Radio 4 Reith Lectures. Indeed, we, as humans, value the services provided by volunteers and the childcare given by parents yet. The market gives these services no value despite economies struggling without them. The Amazon Rainforest has no market value until it is cut down and destroyed, despite its intangible value in being a global carbon store and hydrological regulator being worth much more than the goods it can yield. If we, however, influence market values so they represent intangible, human and environmental values we can break this cycle, make it profitable to do the right thing and use the power of the global economy to improve the world, not destroy it.

By putting a price on carbon, a cost to release it and a payment or tax break to store it, there will suddenly be a market value given to carbon stores and a financial incentive to do the right thing. Companies that abuse the use of cheap carbon-intense fuels and destroy forests will have to innovate and adapt to avoid crippling costs while people all over the world can earn money by growing the carbon store.

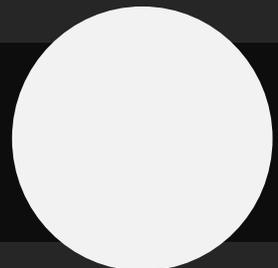


It will become profitable to be part of the solution, costly to become part of the problem and the power of global markets will shuffle money towards innovations and companies that are part of the solution.

The global financial industry is another place where we can use our moral values to drive market value and make corporations that are part of the problem unprofitable. The current financial industry, which is composed of banks issuing loans, wealth funds making investment decisions and many corporations in between, has been said to be currently funding a three degree rise in global temperatures. This is not what society wants and values. Yet, this year, at COP26 in Glasgow there will be calls to get banks and investment funds to fully disclose the environmental impact of their investments and their plan to get towards net-zero emissions. This would allow society to choose where to invest their money based on environmental factors not only economic ones. Banks and funds that are part of the problem will be largely boycotted by morally minded people and hurt by the high costs of carbon emissions talked about earlier and those who fund the solution will be rewarded.

By realigning market values to human moral values through these actions, making the right environmental choice becomes not only the moral choice but an economic one as well and that is what really can lead to global change.

Finlay Blair





Guess the Flag



Guess the Skyline





Thinkers

Anagrams:

- 1) RIONOSURUOC
- 2) HENTEPLA
- 3) GOYUTH
- 4) DEGRATY

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

Sudoku



Crossword

Across

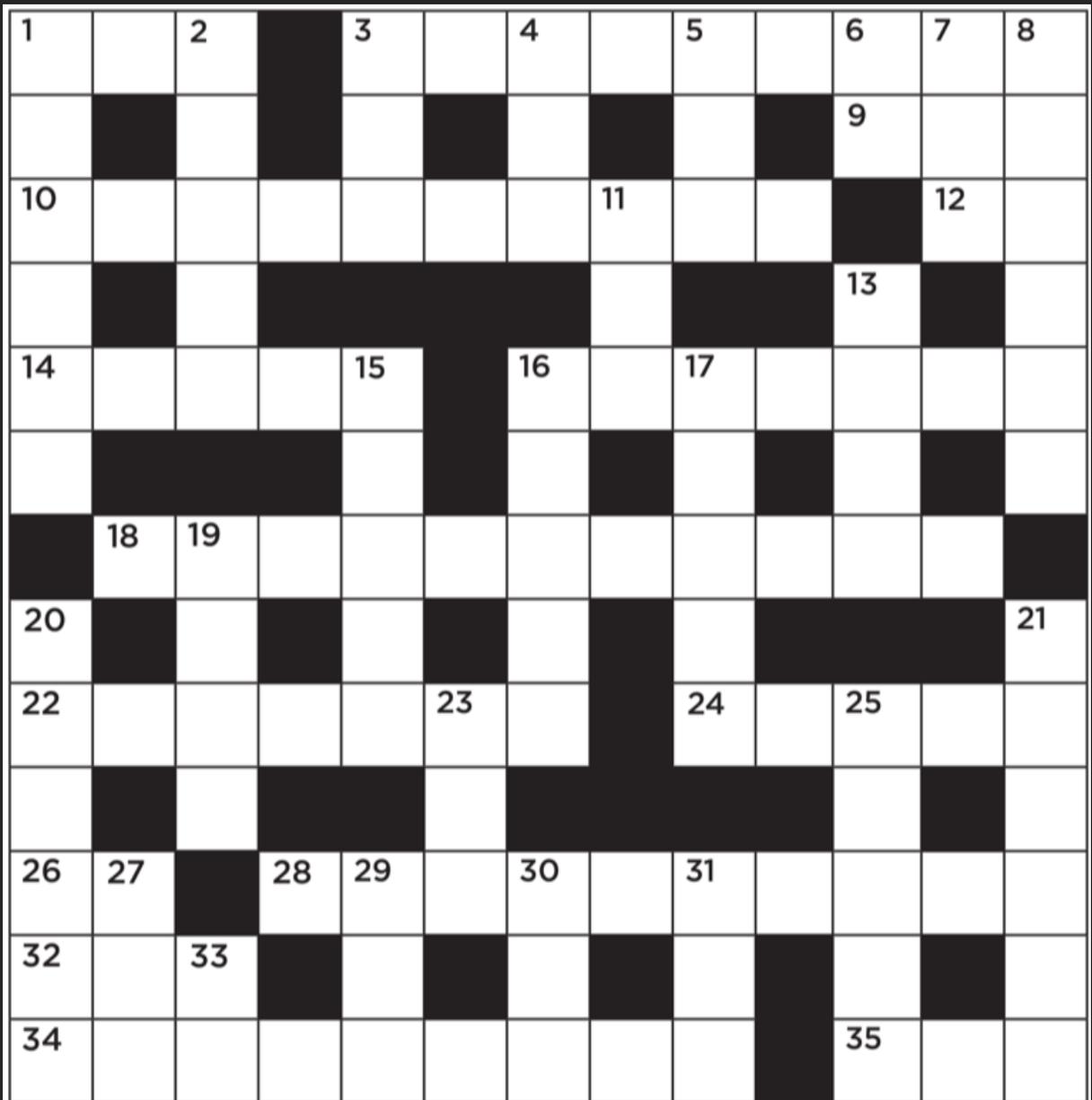
1. Half pint 3. Sleepy 9. Sean Lennon's Mum
10. Sneezey (phrase) 12. "____ apple a day..."
14. Bloom of the Netherlands 16. Dopey 18. Grumpy
24. Cheap and showy 26. Physician's request
28. Doc 32. ____ Mahal 34. Bashful 35. Suitable

Down

1. Unsullied 2. Flower part 3. August baby, probably
4. Tic-____-toe 5. Hubbub 6. Monopoly starting space
7. Barefoot Food Network star 8. Communicate
11. Santa syllables 13. Clean with a cloth
15. Concise 16. Don Draper, for example 17. Unfit
19. Compatriot 20. What a swindler does
21. Young swan 23. Unusual 25. Pause mark
27. "So there!" 29. Forever and a day
30. Shakespeare classic: Richard ____
31. Life of Pi director Lee 33. Dallas villain



Crossword



Why Judicial diversity is integral to the UK legal system

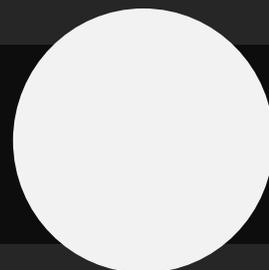
On the 17th of September 2020, the most recent statistics on the diversity of the Judiciary were released by the Ministry of Justice. The findings were disappointing, dispiriting yet unsurprising; the majority of the UK's Judiciary remain to be white, male and middle-class.

Although it has been 102 years since The Sex Disqualification Act (1919), authorising women to enter the legal profession, gender parity has still not been achieved, which when considering that the UK celebrates its 'world-renowned' democracy, is pretty incredible. Women represent less than a third of all judges and in the High Courts only 26% (despite making up 51% of the population.) Even more alarmingly, ethnic minorities still make up just 8% of the Judiciary, a finding that is quite frankly, dismal and emphasises the importance of the BLM movement that has been highlighting racial inequality both nationally and globally over the past year.



If the Judicial system does not reflect wider society then I would question whether it can truly represent all members of society fairly, a value imperative the function of our legal system. Should the legal system become more diverse it would act as a catalyst for fairness within the law, embodying the society it judges for, rather than possessing an elitist perspective. A 2017 report for JUSTICE emphasises this, calling judicial diversity a ‘vital constitutional issue’, stressing the importance of diversity in the Legal system that can be achieved as a result of systematic change.

Elen Wadsworth



Tipping Point – Malcolm Gladwell

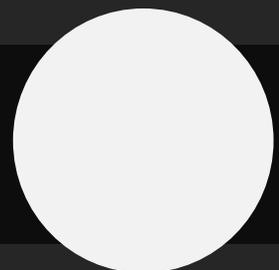
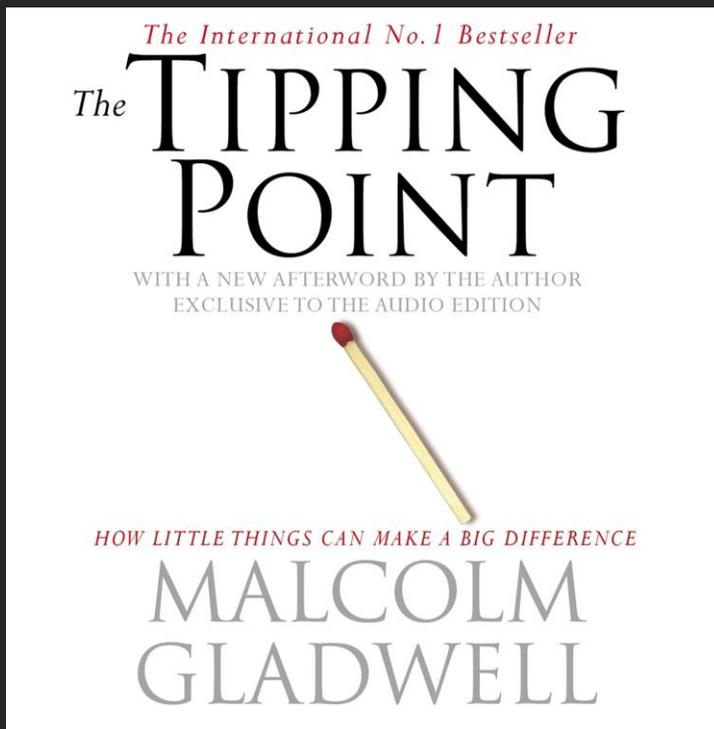
“The Tipping Point” by Malcolm Gladwell is the biography of an idea, and the idea is quite simple: that many of the problems and trends we face today behave like epidemics. Whilst this may sound odd, bear with me. All things are capable of sudden and dramatic changes in direction, when one moment causes everything to tip, and alter for better or worse. The tipping point represents that magic moment when an idea, trend, or social behaviour crosses a threshold, tips, and spreads like wildfire. Just as a single sick person can eat a bat and start an epidemic of say Covid-19, so too can a small but precisely targeted push cause a fashion trend, the popularity of a new product, or a drop in the crime rate. This book introduces you to the particular personality types who are natural pollinators of new ideas and trends and can help shift the balance of a trend through word of mouth alone. It analyses various fashion fads, smoking, children’s television, and the early days of the American Revolution for clues about making ideas infectious, for not only our society but others as well. The book helps both stress and explain the three rules of a social epidemic, that allow it to go from a passing fad, to a societal trend;

- 1) The Law of the Few – In a given process or system some people matter more than others
- 2) The Stickiness Factor – The specific ways of making a contagious message memorable
- 3) The Power of Context – The environmental triggers that make humans more susceptible to the social epidemic.



If you are looking for an interesting book, that will help you explore how ideas and behaviours cross this unseen threshold to become 'contagious' and shape society, or perhaps are intrigued by the idea of analysing everyday occurrences and seeing how they impact our choices. I would recommend this book for you.

Or perhaps if your being told to do some wider reading for your subjects or future degrees, this book draws on everything, from psychology to economics, from business to sociology, it has something for anyone even mildly intrigued in human behaviour.





The impact of the female voice- Alice Walker

From Sylvia Plath to Jane Austen and Virginia Woolf, there are many of author's that changed the world of literature. Their novels have been empowering, challenging our societies stereotypes and the patriarchy of misogyny, fracturing traditional values.

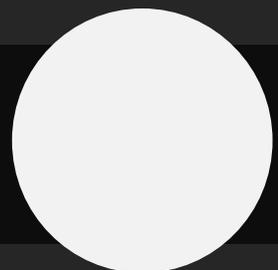
However, Alice Walker (an American feminist writer) has been hugely influential through her activism, poetry and writing as she challenges the complexity of the Black woman's experience in America (a difficult challenge to fulfil). Not only does she speak out against the patriarchy through her writing, but she also confronts the silencing of Black voices by white men and women.

While the world may know her mainly for creative writing, she is also the creator of "womanism"; which according to many female scholars, is to "restore the balance between people and the environment and reconcile human life with the spiritual dimension". To be a womanist meant that one encompassed some facets of feminism, but with more appreciation for the Black experience. In her own words: "Womanism is to feminist as purple is to lavender" (The Colour Purple)



Feminism - during the 60/70s - offered a type of privilege to white women, ignoring the many struggles of women of colour; therefore, womanism confronted both sexism and racism.

Walker claimed that 'womanist' is derived from the African-American term 'womanish', which describes courageous or wilful female behaviour - a person who wants to be regarded as 'grown-up' rather than 'girly', as generally expected by society. Her works - such as 'The Colour Purple' and short stories (like 'Everyday Use') - capture the experiences of these women and through her writings, articulate women that are able to reject oppression. Her characters leave their men, find useful work to support themselves - breaking the great traditions of American society. Her novels and writing alone was influential to American (and wider) societies as she demonstrates a remarkable grasp of the political realities of systematic oppression. Credited across the world, 'The Colour Purple' has been widely credited; Trudier Harris in Black American Literature Forum states that it has "become the classic novel by a black woman".





Women's Rugby: its on the rise

Stereotypically, when you think of rugby players, you think about the legends of the men's game – the likes of Jonah Lomu, Johnny Wilkinson, Shane Williams alongside the modern-day idols, Owen Farrell, Stuart Hogg and Alun Wyn Jones. However, maybe one day we will be thinking about the likes of Emily Scarratt, Sarah Hunter and Caryl Thomas; this is because women's rugby is very much on the rise and with increasing participation, it is becoming an important part of female sport.

It's one of the UK's fastest-growing female sports, with 30,000+ women and girls playing regularly at a club – twice as many as in 2014 – and the trend isn't just national, as World Rugby has seen a 60 per cent increase in participation globally since 2013, with females now making up a quarter of all players worldwide. These stats will hopefully continually rise as the game becomes more popular across the globe.

Prior to this year, head coach Simon Middleton awarded 28 England players with full-time professional deals. This became a huge movement in women's rugby, with the England girls having the opportunity to train full-time and play professionally. He understands “the introduction of full-time contracts will take time to embed but will unquestionably help us to accelerate the development process,”, and Middleton said: “this is a huge opportunity and we recognise the expectation that comes with the investment. It is now down to us as a management and playing group to meet those expectations”. From this, the girls went on to take the Six Nations title in 2020 after France narrowly lost to Scotland, establishing support for their professional contracts.

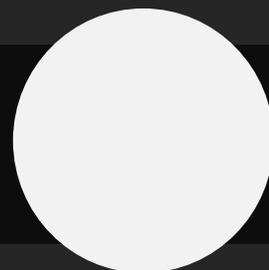


However, the other British nations are yet to see a professional contract in the game. This is because, although female rugby is very much on the rise, it is yet to reach a large enough audience for a great enough income. Likewise, unfortunately, there are still many stereotypes that need to be broken before we will notice a shift from armature to profession contracts. Welsh player Snowsill started the ‘#icare’ campaign earlier this year, following her tweet about abuse about women’s rugby. This became a wide-spread campaign, with many young female rugby players tweeting, posting and sharing their ‘#icare’ posts.



With a delay in the Women’s Six Nations tournament, many teams (including the England Roses) will be focusing on the upcoming matches in April, as well as the World Cup this summer. Ahead of the Women’s Rugby World Cup, we know The Black Ferns will attempt to defend their current title on home soil in 2021, with matches to be played in four venues across the North Island. This tournament will be pivotal to the progression of female rugby as it provides opportunities worldwide rugby fans to watch the game everyone loves. Let’s hope 2021 brings more to women’s rugby and a fantastic World Cup in the summer.

Yuji Westmacott





Answers

Guess the flag:

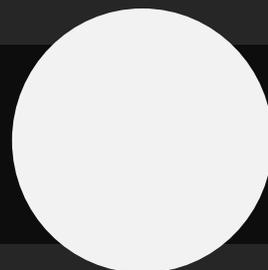
- 1) Netherlands
- 2) Iceland
- 3) Thailand
- 4) Bahrain
- 5) Guatemala
- 6) Barbados
- 7) Moldova
- 8) Tunisia
- 9) Tanzania

Guess the Skyline:

- 1) Singapore, Singapore City
- 2) USA, Seattle
- 3) China, Beijing
- 4) Canada, Toronto
- 5) Quatar, Doha
- 6) Russia, Mosco

Anagrams:

- 1) Coronavirus
- 2) Elephant
- 3) Yoghurt
- 4) Tragedy





Sudoku Answers

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

C	U	P		L	E	T	H	A	R	G	I	C
H		E		E		A		D		O	N	
A	P	T	T	O	A	C	H	O	O		A	N
S		A				O			W		V	
T	U	L	I	P		A	S	I	N	I	N	F
E			I		D		N		P		Y	
	B	A	D	T	E	M	P	E	R	E	D	
C		L		H		A		P				
H	A	L	C	Y	O	N		T	A	C	K	Y
E		Y			D				O		G	
A	H		M	E	D	I	C	A	L	M	A	N
T	A	J		O		I		N		M		E
S	H	R	I	N	K	I	N	G		A	P	T

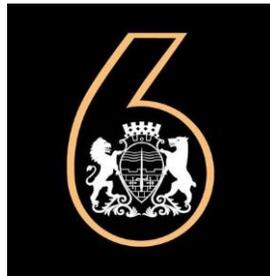
Answers

rd

CROSSWO



Beechen Cliff



A special thanks to everyone who contributed to the magazine in some form if it was donating a baby photo or writing an article, we are very grateful!

