

THE ILLUSTRATOR

ISSUE 12 – JULY 2022



Contents

3

Update from co-founders Jemma Sargeant and Katherine Chapman

Mr Alexander's message

10

12

Exploring the UK

Define feminism

15

18

How prepared is the international community to address the current environmental crisis?

Historical events this half term

24

26

James Webb Telescope

Did you ever hear the tragedy of Darth Plagueis the Wise?

28

31

Year 12 Geography Fieldwork

A Brief History of the London Underground

32

35

The Great Soup debate

Cambridge Trip, Sixth Form Taster Day and Sixth Form Trust Challenge photos

36

An Update from Jemma Sargeant, co-founder of the Illustrator

Hi, I'm back with Katherine to share a snippet of life beyond Sixth Form and how the Illustrator has helped shape this. I have just finished my first year at the University of Suffolk studying photography with a first overall (although first year doesn't technically count). I have developed a love for analog photography both the chemical processes to achieve a print and the way that you compose the photo in the first place. I've dabbled using medium format 120 colour and black and white film but 35mm, although not cheap, is just so much more accessible. Recently I was involved in an artist takeover on Empowering Arts Platform's Instagram with my latest project The Forgotten Community; shot on a Mamiya RZ67 using Kodak Portra 160 (which won't make sense if you don't know anything about photography).

My greatest achievement this year was almost by chance. I attended Santa Pod's Main

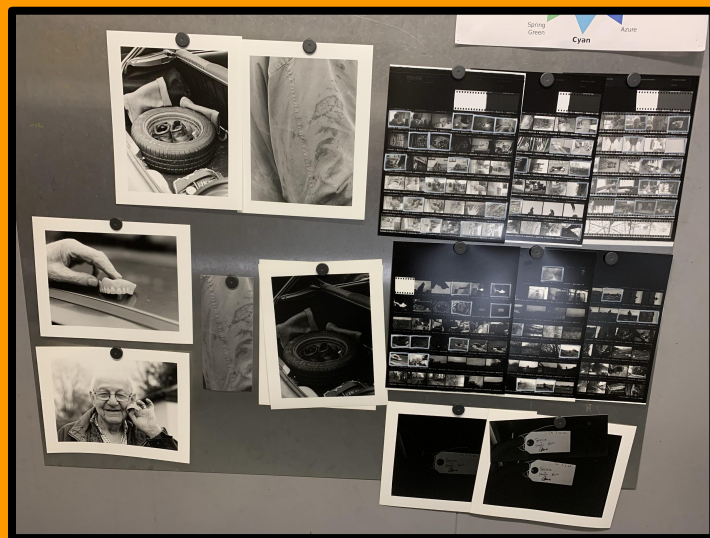
Event, drag racing for those that aren't familiar, and photographed from the sidelines, adjusting shutter speeds for optimum focus. Later in the day Kevin Chapman had a horrific Funny Car crash which resulted in the car bursting into flames (driver ok). Once uploaded to social media with support from my dad, both the Social Media Executive of Santa Pod and a representative of Bilspport Magazine (Swedish) contacted me to use one of the photos. It was used in a YouTube thumbnail for Santa Pod and printed in Bilspport 10 Magazine.



My dream at this point is to enter the medical field and pursue either clinical photography or forensic photography from a career perspective, although I'd love to be one of those people that can live off of making photobooks. Aside from a weekend job at Waitrose and photography job on the side, there's not much more to know about me.

Before I continue I have to thank a few people for supporting me throughout my time at TGS and getting me to the level I'm at now: Mr Alexander - an absolute legend, the funniest, most kind-hearted person you'll ever meet, Mrs Raleigh and Mr Clark - despite the lockdowns, you continued to encourage me and you got me to where I am now, Mr Bennett, Mr Ellis, Mr Watkins and Mrs Ashton - for generally just being awesome people.

The Illustrator came about during the first lockdown, with nothing much to do I jumped aboard Katherine's plan to create a student paper. With no journalistic skills, just Martha Kearny's inspiration, we developed a paper that brought the Sixth Form and

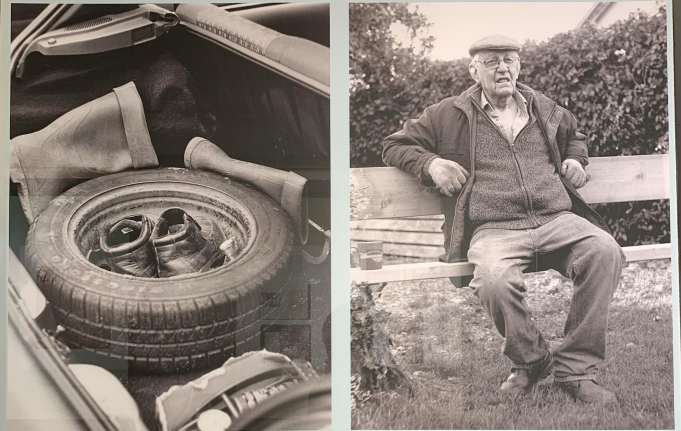


wider community together. A big part of it for me was the arts. This was the one thing that I wanted to make sure was represented in the right way, giving students a chance to showcase their work. Might I add that I attended the arts showcase this week and there is some really incredible work being produced by some of the students and they should be really proud of themselves! I think that what the Illustrator does best is provide mutual respect across disciplines which fuels their practice and creates that network of support among students.

The Illustrator has opened up so many opportunities for me. Every job interview I went to was impressed and intrigued by what we'd achieved. It was also something I could put in my personal statement when I applied to universities, which I was questioned about during the interviews. The few most

valuable things that I gained from this was an amazing friendship and confidence in myself that I could actually be proud of what we had achieved. Even to this day, I struggle with confidence in myself and in my work. I find it much easier to accept criticism than praise and I've let myself down more times than I can count. However, the *Illustrator* was a small step in a huge network that has allowed me to build that confidence incrementally, to acknowledge my achievements, and give myself somewhat of a voice. I think sometimes I hide behind my work as a photographer, I try to let the photos speak for themselves without applying context or reason.

Being a uni student I find that although it's only 6hrs a day, I have less time to myself and to do things that I enjoy. It will be no surprise to those that know me that I still leave everything to the last minute. This makes me frustrated with myself because I know that I am capable of so much more, there's just this mental block that puts out the passion and flame inside of me and the project that I'm working on becomes distant. The one thing that keeps me going is the constant pressure that I



Jemma Sargeant
Level 4 Module: Documentary as Contemporary Practice

Jemma's work at a university showcase

put on myself to be the best I can, to improvise, adapt and overcome. The *Illustrator* is a source of constant pressure. To be able to release issues alongside your studies is outstanding. More often than not, we would be late on releases and spend endless hours on FaceTime to finish them. We made mistakes, but we learnt from them. What the past team and current have managed to produce is nothing short of a miracle. I'm proud to have been a small part of this growing community and I hope it will continue on and develop with the rest of the world. Best of luck, Jemma.

An Update from Katherine Chapman, co-founder of the Illustrator

Hi, hello, how are you? Long time no see! That's what happens when uni life catches up to you apparently but I'm so happy to be welcomed back for a little update.

The last time I contributed to an issue I was talking about travelling home for Christmas. It's interesting to look back now having officially finished my first year at Durham where I'm studying a joint degree in English Literature and History. How time flies!

I suppose it's bittersweet looking back for a few reasons. Firstly, knowing what I do now, I can say that university is definitely hard. At the time I wrote that article I wasn't doing too well at uni but I suppose sometimes you don't know you're struggling until you can look back. Thankfully, I found some amazing support and each term got better and brighter!



This last term was certainly dominated by exam season (and an irritating and inconvenient bout of covid at the start of term, I was frankly not amused) but it was also over surprisingly quickly. My exams were online and held over 24 hours ... definitely something different to what I was used to. It meant being strict with myself and finding a schedule that worked for me. It also meant for the three weeks my exams were spread over, particularly the exam days themselves, I was a college-jumper-wearing hermit.



That's why the rest of term was probably so excellent! While I definitely missed the day to day structure, for the last month of term I didn't actually have any taught sessions. This was a brilliant brain break but also meant I could enjoy the time I had with my friends before coming home. It was filled with some sun, binge reading, TV and crochet and just making memories with my friends. We had our summer ball which, for me, lasted from 4pm one day till 6am the next. Yes, you read that correctly. I'm what DU calls a "survivor" as I stayed up all night. Now, while I did miss the survivor picture to wait in line for hog roast at 5 in the morning (if you know me you know how apt that is), I did make it back from the venue in time to climb Observation Hill (a Durham staple and, thankfully, just behind my college, St Marys) and watch the sun come up. A Durham tradition. For someone who always had something to say it was a pretty indescribable moment.

We also had our college's "college day" where people of all years come together for an end of year celebration. There was food, drinks, a bouncy castle. My competitive side reemerged for inflatable races and "Mary's does Wipeout" (I made it to the second round with my teammate and didn't, unlike some people, horrifically cheat. Yes, I am proud and still pumped up from it) and we danced into the night to Fleetwood Mac and ABBA tribute bands. Hopefully that conveys a little about an amazing day and wonderful Durham tradition.

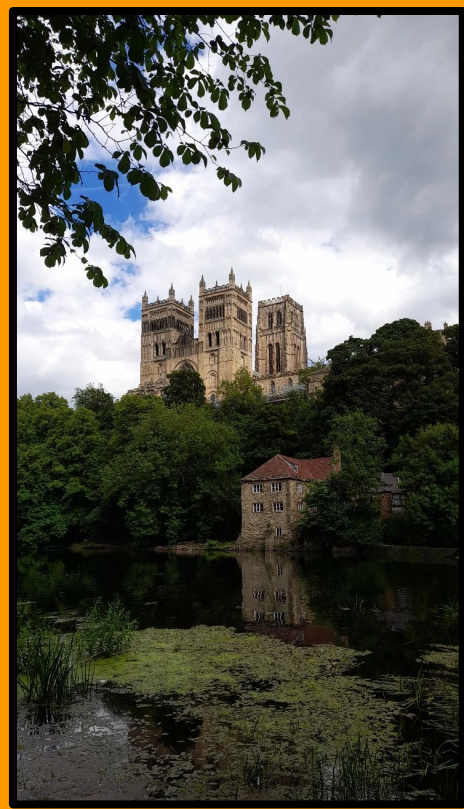
The library at this time was a ghost town and people were off exploring Durham, the UK and the world but I stayed in our beautiful city. Still finalising my accommodation for next year (all sorted now, thank goodness), I also found time to stage manage our amazing and hugely successful production of "High School Musical 2: a 24 hour production" with the "Foot of the Hill" theatre company. The one night only production was a hectic, mad and wonderful experience and all for charity! When the audience arrived we had to keep adding more and more seats until the room was packed like sardines.



Meanwhile, I was also keeping track of how many people were coming in, finishing up backstage prep and running the length of college through the basement for last minute props like a headless chicken! I'd like to emphasise here that it was "hectic" but I did walk away with the star dazzle award so who's the real winner?

I also applied for a Journalism internship for next year with my college that I was lucky enough to receive! Without the Illustrator I don't know if I'd have the skills or the experience to receive this internship. Using my editions as evidence certainly helped my case and I can't wait to get started! If it's anything like my time with the Illustrator it will be a dream come true. The skills I learned during my time as co-editor have also inspired me to apply for other more creative jobs and experiences I wouldn't have necessarily thought my cup of tea and are widely transferable in my job as a Durham University ambassador.

I know, I know. This is a very rambling yet not very detailed summary. It's just my nature and I'm sure any of the staff who I worked with at TGS will



tell you the same. That being said, I would like to leave you with some takeaways from my first year at university;

The independence that comes with living away from home will always come. It may take a while for some people but it will become your everyday reality before you know it.

You may not be lucky enough to meet all or even any of your friends during freshers week but that's okay. Everyone finds their people and it will enrich your university experience completely.

There will be tough moments but this is where your resilience and capability shine though. You will make it through them and learn from these moments. Everything is manageable and don't be afraid to ask for help.

And no matter how cheesy it is, one thing I have really learned from my last term at uni this year is say yes to everything. Every opportunity whether it's academic, extra curricular or just your friends asking if you're free. This is where the magic happens and where memories are made. It may seem scary at first but give everything a go.

The independence that comes with living away from home will always come. It may take a while for some people but it will become your everyday reality before you know it.

You may not be lucky enough to meet all or even any of your friends during freshers week but that's okay. Everyone finds their people and it will enrich your university experience completely.

If you have any questions about Durham then I am always more than happy to talk to you about it and answer any questions. More than anything I'd like to thank the latest team for welcoming myself and Jemma back to contribute to the paper.



It still blows me away that it's still going and makes me so proud (we always gush when it comes up). This new team is doing a beyond stellar job and I can't wait to see what you go on to achieve. I hope everyone has a wonderful summer (I myself am still looking for a job if you know of anything going, haha!). Stay safe and be happy and we'll catch up soon.

Mr Alexander's Message



It has been an extremely busy term, especially with Year 13 public examinations and our internal Year 12 completion exams. I feel that our students have worked tremendously hard throughout some difficult times and I believe that their hard work will be reflected on our A level results day in August.

Alongside those results, 80% of our Year 13 students will also be celebrating their 'next steps' into university.

I am delighted that so many of our students are getting, and taking offers from the top 20 universities. This is down to the hard work of the students, subject teachers and Dr Talbot! Our Year 13 EPQ students have completed their projects, and it was such a privilege observing their presentations.

We have appointed a fabulous team of six Head Students, who have already made an impact within the sixth form and also in the lower school with a variety of initiatives that they felt were important, including academic, well being, extra curricular, community, LGBTQ+ and eco committees.

Year 12 have recently experienced their completion examinations, which, although stressful, has facilitated a real insight into what it will be like in Year 13. The initial results have been very pleasing.

One of our Year 12 students has recently won a prestigious essay competition from the New College of Humanities (You can read Rosie's essay on page 10), which is truly inspiring and raises the TGS Sixth form profile again. Several students have also been proactive in finding work experience placements, (Moore Green, Law degree taster and at The Bridge), starting their UCAS journey, and 30 students have been successful with their EPQ applications in readiness for their Taught skills days in early July.

Year 12 have also recently experienced their TGS Higher Education events, visiting The University of Suffolk, with over 100 universities and Apprenticeship providers present, whilst I got to speak with the assistant director from UCAS and the vice chancellor of UOS to discuss the merits of such an event. In the evening we hosted Essex University, Suffolk Apprenticeships and welcomed back several of our alumni to share their TGS journeys, which was extremely interesting and inspiring.

Our recent Enrichment Day was spent in Cambridge, literally soaking up the culture punting and learning 'on the hoof', with a very informative cultural walking tour - the students and staff thoroughly enjoyed their day.

We have also just hosted our very successful Year 11 into Sixth Form Taster Day with over 100 students attending from 7 different schools. They experienced over 36 different subject tasters, our superb Careers facility, speed networking with our current Year 12's, super curricular opportunities, competitive quizzes, our Free Driving School, Q&A with the Head students, as well as experiencing our fabulous sixth form cafe and tasting some tasty TGS nibbles - great feedback from all and looking forward to working with them in September.

In July we hosted the Unity 6th Form Trust Challenge (sponsored by Wardale Williams and Anglian Sportswear), where five sixth forms competed in a series of challenges to win the Wardale Williams cup. TGS were the reigning champions, but despite a phenomenal performance in the university challenge, they were pipped to the post by one point by County Upper. Congratulations to everyone involved for a brilliant day! Finally, we recently started the Oppidan mentoring programme.

Overall, I am so pleased and proud of our Sixth Form students and I wish them the very best of luck with their forthcoming examination results and look forward to welcoming our potential new Year 12's in September.



Exploring the UK

As summer draws closer, and people may be thinking of somewhere to get away for a short break, I have two more suggestions for some idyllic places to visit. Both The Cotswolds and The Lake District display some of the most amazing natural scenery in the entire country. These are unmissable destinations for people who like to relax somewhere notable for its beauty and ability to inspire those who visit.

The Cotswolds, aptly named England's largest area of outstanding beauty, is comprised of 800 square miles of beautiful countryside and picturesque villages assembled out of distinctive honey coloured stone; a limestone naturally sourced from the hills. This extensive area covers 5 counties, each one as beautiful as the next, a particularly famous area being Bourton on the Water in Gloucestershire which has been nicknamed the 'Venice of the Cotswolds'.



Another notable area for its quaint appeal is Copse Hill Road in Lower Slaughter which is called the 'most romantic street in Britain'

The landscape over the whole region is predominantly rural, making for some lovely walks through woodlands and meadows, bordered with 4,000 miles of Cotswold stone. One of these walks include the Cotswold Way which is a national trail walk which exhibits panoramic views of the countryside. The arboretums are also unmissable for those who enjoy nature with some of the most incredible tree and flower varieties in England.



As well as the peaceful beauty of the natural landscape, the Cotswolds has some attractions to visit including the Mediaeval historic Warwick Castle, built by William the Conqueror in 1068. Cotswold Water Park has around 150 lakes in which you can partake in a series of water sport based activities, or if you prefer, is also the perfect place for birdwatching and wildlife spotting. A place to admire further wildlife is Cotswold Wildlife Park which is one of the UK's largest zoological collections where you can both explore the gardens and also have close encounters with a variety of different animals including two of the most endangered primate species of lemur in the world. There is also the Gloucestershire rail which is available to take you on a 26 mile trip around the landscape if you do not fancy making the journey on some of the trails around.

The Lake District

The Lake district, located in Cumbria, is another area which is popular and recognisable for its amazing natural beauty. The lakes, mountains, valleys and coastline have been known to be an inspiration for many with famous literary figures constructing their fictional worlds from what they saw around them. This includes Beatrix Potter who has a trail dedicated to her, displaying a time capsule of her life with her Hill Top house and gardens. The home of William Wordsworth is also available to visit, including the space where he composed his poems and his library collection. With so many amazing artists in many different forms having sought their inspiration from this area, it is understandable why some people see it as somewhere which can provoke the magic of creativity.



Some of the most popular regions of the Lake district have the most impressive natural scenery in England. This includes the area of Windermere which has England's largest lake where you can go on the water itself or walk around the mountain summits surrounding the lake with astounding views over it. The Langdale valley is a perfect camping destination which again has some walks with views over the mountains and around the lakes. Scafell pike, which stands at 978m, is the highest point in England and once you reach the summit, offers views over the expanse of the National Park, an undertaking for the more adventurous.



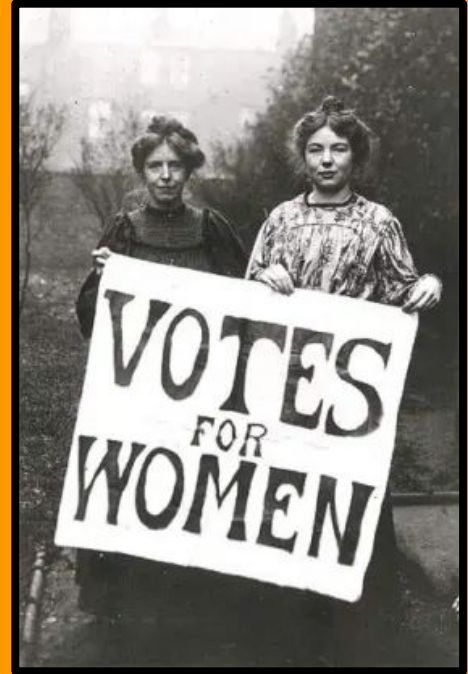
Both of the places discussed encompass some of the most beautiful and peaceful places in the UK and are well worth a visit if you want to admire what there is to offer without having to travel far.



By Amy Allitt

Define Feminism

The fight for women's suffrage has been ongoing for almost 100 years, so why today have we still not achieved the progress that we require to make society truly equal? The women that protested with all that they had for their right to equality would still question why individuals still do not have the right to control their own bodies in the society we live in today. There seem to be deep rooted prejudices within our society that mean that without serious reforms to our ideologies being made, nothing will change. The definition of feminism has blurred over time, with the mission in mind altering, but the principles of equality still remain. In all four waves of feminism, discrimination and violence have characterised the oppression faced and therefore these principles are at the very core of the feminist ideology. The movement has faced controversy ever since its beginning, and this still remains today even in a society where the majority see equality as a human right. This seems to be because of how the meaning of feminism has been warped in order to make it seem controversial and unnecessary, allowing people to lose sight of what it really means.



The first wave of feminism took place in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century with an aim to provide women with more opportunities focusing on suffrage. This then influenced the way that society looked at men and women's roles, which challenged the concept of a woman as a domestic housewife and a man as the provider.

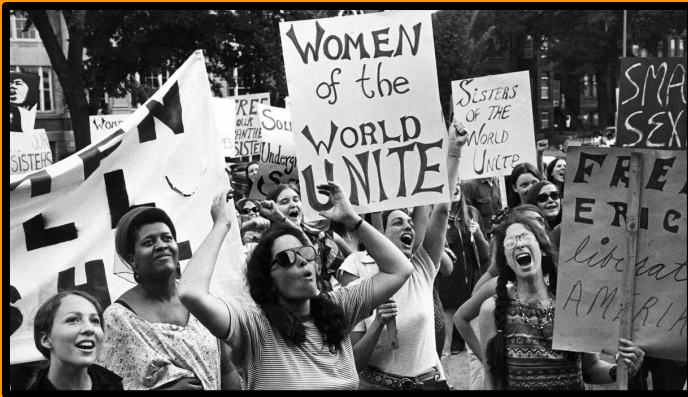


The second wave began in the 1960s until around the end of the 1980s and emerged after war as a reaction to women being forced to return to their traditional roles even after being involved in the war effort, and subsequently proving that they could be equally as capable as men if given the opportunity. It was also ongoing at the time of the anti-Vietnam war and Civil rights protests, highlighting that injustices underlined the very core of society. This second wave focused on both public and private injustices including issues of rape, reproductive rights and rights in the workplace. There was also an attempt to reform the way that women were presented in the media, either their complete absence or their appearance only as an archetype.

There was also a debate surrounding why women had to be characterised by their appearance, and have their life ruled by beauty standards, which is now an important issue for almost everyone in our modern society which has a lot of opportunities for not just women to feel as if there are physical standards that they are expected to uphold. This movement was however criticised for not being inclusive with it being dominated by white, middle class people, which led to the next movement being broader.

The third wave of feminism was in the 1990s and was where many restrictive social constructs were dismantled. This included starting conversations about autonomy over an individual's body, the concept of gender, sexuality and heteronormativity.





Some of these feminists were referred to as 'lipstick feminists' who tried to destroy the connection between the way women should be treated and their appearance. They did this through wearing clothes that women would have been shunned for in previous times, and that led to stereotypes about their intelligence like high heels and low cut tops. There was also the reclamation of words that would generally be used as derogatory terms against women, undermining the power of those who used language to push their sexist views.

Many of the protests that are ongoing today encompass concepts of sexual harassment and assault, equal pay and rights over an individual's own body. This wave attempts to hold people accountable for their actions and create a form of social cohesion in which everyone recognises that no one should have the right to hold power over someone else. This wave has mutated so much from its original form, and has become so much more inclusive, yet it still holds onto the fundamental beliefs of equality and freedom that were around in the very beginning. There is still much to be done with this movement even as it shifts in its specific intentions, as still today some of the goals that should be strived for, have not yet been met.



The fourth wave is the wave that we are currently living in and has been fuelled by the media to form a global movement.

By Amy Allitt

How prepared is the international community to address the current environmental crisis?

Considered to be one of the foremost threats to humanity, the current environmental crisis has profound consequences for the world and its inhabitants. There is consensus amongst the international community that changes must be made to our environmental practices in order to prevent irreparable damage to the planet. The considerable progress already made has given us not only the technological ability to address these problems, but also the concomitant societal acceptance of both our role in environmental issues and their rectification. Despite this apparent preparedness, little has actually been done globally.

This lack of progress can be traced directly to the capitalist politico-economic ideology that dominates international governance. The capitalist mindset exacerbates natural changes in the environment through destructive, profit-centred behaviours, whilst simultaneously obstructing attempts to ameliorate their impact. The potential of capitalist innovation for environmental good cannot be fully realised whilst profit is a guiding principle; preparation to fully address the crisis would therefore require a “rewiring of the entire global economy” (The Economist, 2021) and the political systems built upon it. Until the international community faces this reality, it will remain unprepared.





Science and technology are the most promising aspects of current development and implementation possibilities. Great strides have been made in our understanding of the causes and effects of climate change, which has aided the development of numerous solutions to deal with them. Renewable energy has received particular focus, improving vastly even in the last decade. Continual improvements in cost and efficiency have made widespread use of renewables a more realistic prospect than ever before, facilitating less destructive utilisation of countries' natural resources. Iceland, for instance, heats 90% of its homes using its abundant geothermal energy, whilst only harnessing 20% of this resource (Aldred, 2008). Kenya has also expanded its renewable capabilities, using a combination of geothermal, wind, solar and hydroelectricity to provide more than 90% of its energy (Reuters, 2019).

Even the UK is realising more of its renewable potential, accounting for 35.9% of its energy in 2021 (Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, 2021, p. 1). Globally, approximately 25% of energy is generated by renewables (Ritchie and Roser, 2017), which is an improvement on previous years.

Energy isn't the only field seeing innovation: a variety of technologies have experienced rapid progress, from track-side solar farms providing sustainable rail transport (Kenny, 2020), and satellites checking for damage on wind turbines and helping the Norwegian government track deforestation (Bates, 2021), to local initiatives in Kenya providing electricity and biofuel (Juma and Ibrahim, 2021; Juma, Lali and Kremerl, 2021). Furthermore, many of the issues that have prevented uptake of these advances until now are being ironed out; improvements in battery technology, for example, are allowing the supply from weather-dependent renewables to be supplemented, thus improving reliability (and profit).

From these few examples it is clear that our technological capacity for tackling the climate crisis is more than adequate, and in this sense at least the international community is well-prepared. However, this position is undermined by the capitalistic mechanisms that control governments and business, whose duty it is to finance and effectuate solutions, and who consistently sacrifice the good of the environment for the sake of profit. Seeing no short term gain (and being apparently oblivious to their moral and ethical obligations), these institutions continue to block new technology's entry into global markets and so bind us to damaging existing products and processes that directly benefit them, making extensive reform virtually impossible.

Another important facet of the international community's ability to address the environmental crisis is societal receptiveness to progress: in order for technologies to be implemented effectively, they must be accepted by the populations expected to use them otherwise roll-out (as seen with covid vaccines) is almost impossible.

Thankfully, global consensus on climate change is positive, and there is widespread acceptance of the need to protect the environment and adjust our behaviour; so-called 'climate deniers' who are not convinced by compelling evidence to the contrary (Masters and Nuccitelli, 2020; Jones, 2020) remain a minority, and do not present a great threat to the acceptance of climate responsibility. The will for reform is further evidenced by the "intense and continuous international negotiation" (Maslin, 2021) on environmental policy over the last thirty years, as illustrated at COP26. Even governments are starting to bend to popular will: election manifestos are plastered with 'green' promises.. ven the problematic greenwashing of companies to garner public support demonstrates a recognition of the public's desire for a sustainable society. Much of this environmental activism can be attributed to young people, amongst whom high levels of 'climate anxiety' (Hickman et al., 2021) are testament to their acute understanding of the need for change. Social media is awash with examples of small changes that facilitate more environmentally-friendly lives, from reusable straws to veganism.

Making such changes is seen as a social responsibility, hoping that the cumulative effect of individual actions will constitute more significant change, exemplifying an attitude of environmental concern.

Even this social readiness is not enough to effect change, however, as it contains a number of flaws that further impede progress. The political influence of the US and Europe means that global environmental efforts are tinged with cultural ignorance, as the superiority complex of western capitalism forgets that many populations (especially indigenous) were already using sustainable practices, and it is the decimation of these customs by the exploitative forces of capitalism and imperialism that perpetrated the ecological damage they now face - deforestation in the Solomon Islands is a case in point (Beck, 2020). This lack of cultural sensitivity hinders effective solutions, as the bottom-up approaches that are most appropriate for many areas are eschewed in favour of solutions which are difficult for local populations to maintain (due to cost and technological reliance) and rarely the most effective utilisation of local resources. Too often, solutions focus on maintaining profit for richer countries, ultimately not addressing the root of the environmental and social problems that abound.

Even in some of the world's richest countries, what are by now seen by white, middle-class populations as lifestyle standards remain out of reach for many: electric cars, veganism and zero waste shopping, for instance, can be cost prohibitive, and often geographically inaccessible for rural communities. Even the much maligned fast fashion industry is necessary for those who can only afford its inexpensive wares. The blame directed at these groups illustrates the culture of consumer responsibility constructed by governments and businesses to draw our attention away from their role in reform: as holders of the majority of the world's wealth and political power, it falls within the purview of these institutions to implement both the higher-level politico-economic changes that constitute the backbone of an ideal approach to the environmental crisis, as well as making lower-level changes viable for their populations to attain comprehensive reform. Reaching this point relies upon the dismantling of an ideology intrinsic to the most powerful individuals in our society: while they are not willing to change, the international community remains unprepared.

When presented with possible solutions to environmental problems, lack of funding is often cited as a hindrance to reform. This is not entirely unfounded; Turner (2020) suggests this figure may be around \$2 trillion annually for the next 30 years. Though this seems an intimidating statistic, when compared with current global spending on environmentally-damaging practices it appears far more achievable. If governments can shell out \$4-6 trillion a year on fossil fuel subsidies (Patrick, 2021) and US billionaires can add \$1.8 trillion to their net worth during a global pandemic (McCarthy, 2021), it is clear the issue lies not with the amount of funds, but rather their allocation - a direct result of capitalism.

Our current economic system concentrates 43.4% of the world's wealth in the hands of just 1% of the population (Shorrocks, Davies and Lluberas, 2020, p. 29), most of whom have a vested interest in heavily polluting industries.

Wielding such influence in global economics engenders an unwillingness amongst governments to tax these individuals heavily; the fact that many politicians benefit from these industries fosters more hostility towards 'green' legislation, effectively hobbling the international community. Profit also drives resistance to sustainability: despite falls in renewable energy prices, lower profitability than fossil fuels deters investors. The price of new technologies therefore remains high, and without intervention from global wealth holders cannot be adopted by the wider population. This leaves the international community in a catch-22 whereby they cannot invest in or introduce new technologies due to lack of 'sufficient' profit.

The capitalist preoccupation with profit has even percolated into international climate agreements (highlighted by the indulgence of India and China at COP26), adding another layer of greed that must be stripped away before real progress can be made: as Guerrero (2018, p. 34) suggests, "the corporate nature of UN climate processes and other policy arenas" allows the interests of profit to take precedence over the environment, reinforcing the lack of concern for life inherent to a capitalist system.



**UN CLIMATE
CHANGE
CONFERENCE
UK 2021**

The sense of ownership and territorial sovereignty promoted by capitalistic ideas, which in the minds of many governments “[constitutes] a blank check to plunder collective resources” (Patrick, 2021), is a further danger to the environment not present in a system that instead puts custodianship of the natural world at the forefront of international policy. It is imperative, but improbable, that those in power “acknowledge that the capitalist economic model they espouse and rely on is based on plunder, waste and pollution” (Guerrero, 2021, p. 31). Once these principles are overcome, the international community can begin to make meaningful changes. Until that point, it is fundamentally unprepared to address the environmental crisis.

Capitalism may have made our current situation feel hopeless, and imposed impediments to comprehensive reform, but we should not give up just yet: maintaining constant pressure on powerful bodies to effect change is a potent tool against institutions that would otherwise be disinclined to acquiesce to popular demands, and could, over time, force change from the inside out. Whether this could happen in a time frame that matches the urgency of the environmental crisis is another matter. Whilst the framework for systemic change has been created by technological strategies and positive societal attitudes, unless and until the international community is willing to change, the environmental crisis will remain unaddressed.

Earlier this year I took up an exciting opportunity to enter the New College of the Humanities' 2022 essay competition. My entry, for the Politics and IR section, explored the readiness of the international community to deal with the climate crisis. As a lifelong politics nerd with a keen interest in social and environmental justice, I jumped at the chance to research and write about this topic, and greatly enjoyed the freedom to broaden my academic horizons that this competition provided. Given the huge numbers of entrants from across the world (over 6,000 this year), I submitted my essay with little expectation of winning, but nonetheless a sense of pride in my work. Imagine my surprise when I received a call to tell me that I was the subject winner for Politics! The project has been immensely rewarding, in terms of both an amazing cash prize - which will be very helpful in supporting my future academic endeavours - and the scope of intellectual stimulation that these competitions foster. I would like to thank Mrs Bray and Mr Gibson for their encouragement and time taken to discuss my ideas, and Mr Lloyd, who introduced me to the delights of essay writing in Year 9. I would urge any prospective Year 12 students to seize similar opportunities when they present themselves, as you never know what might happen!

**By Rosie
Bray**

Historical events this half term

25 June, 1903 - George Orwell was born in Motihari, India, under his original name Eric Blair, though he would later change his name after the River Orwell in East Anglia. His first job was part of the Indian Imperial Police in Burma, then he considered himself first an anarchist, then a socialist, before he became a journalist and author, most notable for his dystopian novels *1984* and *Animal Farm*.



19 June, 1953 - Julius and Ethel Rosenberg are executed by electric chair at Sing Sing prison for allegedly spying for the USSR. They pleaded not guilty to 11 charges of espionage, leaving their two sons Michael and Robert orphans. To this day, the two boys believe their father was in fact a soviet spy, though are currently campaigning to have their mother exonerated.

28 June, 1914 - Archduke Franz Ferdinand and his wife Sophie were assassinated by the Serbian nationalist group the Black Hand in Sarajevo. This event would prove one of many that would lead to the first world war.

Just five years later, the Treaty of Versailles was signed after WW1, which stripped Germany of its land, military, and dignity. Many at the time remarked how the peace treaty would lead to a second world war



9 June 1898 - Britain signed a 99 year lease for Hong Kong. In 1984, Margaret Thatcher was present at negotiations to hand Hong Kong back to China, ensuring a "One country, two systems" policy would be upheld there. On 1 June, 1997, Hong Kong was handed over to China.

16 June 1963 - Valentina Tereshkova was the first woman to travel to space when she launched the spacecraft Vostok 6. A soviet cosmonaut, she was twice awarded the Order of Lenin, and became involved in politics later in life.

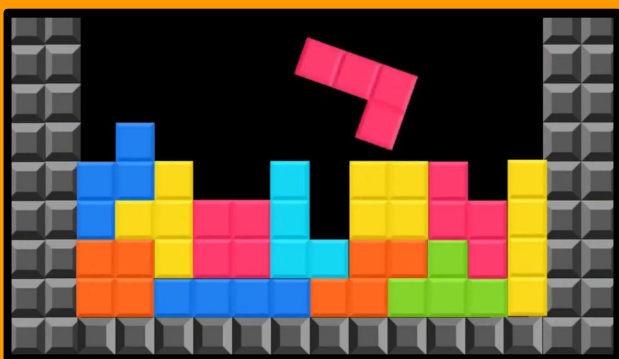


12 June 1929 - Anne Frank was born in Frankfurt in Germany, and due to her Jewish heritage, faced persecution from the Nazi regime in Germany, causing her family to move to Amsterdam when she was four. She went into hiding behind a bookcase in 1942, until she was denounced to the Gestapo, who arrested her and her family on 4 August 1944. She later died in early 1945 with her sister, Margot, probably of typhus, though her father, Otto, the only survivor, published her diary in 1947 posthumously.



7 June 1848 - Paul Gauguin was born in Paris. He was a Post-Impressionist painter and was also a good friend of Van Gogh.. He spent much of his early life in Peru and France, and before becoming an artist, he had many different careers in the military, as a stockbroker, before he dedicated himself to art.

6 June 1984 - Tetris is published by soviet software engineer Alexey Pajitnov. The falling pisces are called tetrominoes, and playing it for extended periods of time was found to have the "Tetris effect" of more efficient brain activity and boosting cognitive function.



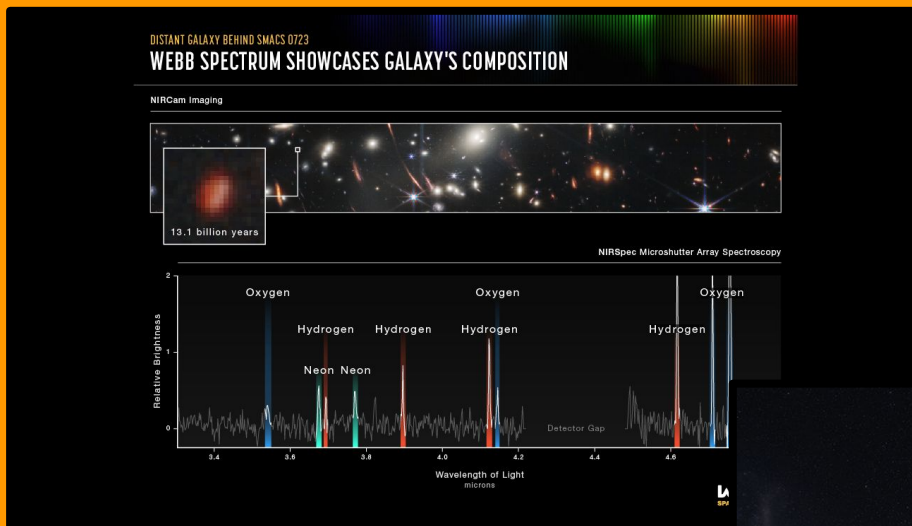
**By Megan
Turner**

James Webb telescope

The James Webb telescope is a \$10bn observatory which is the joint venture of US, Canadian and European space agencies, which is being led by NASA. It has been specially programmed to capture infrared radiation, which is of a longer wavelength of light than is visible to the naked eye. It is able to detect events that occurred more than 13.5 billion years ago.

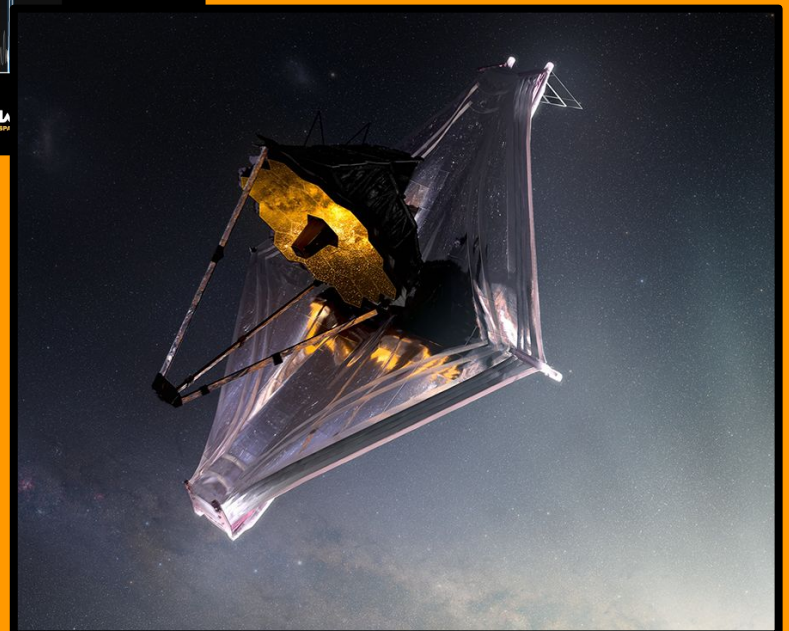
Webb will also perform spectroscopy by splitting the light which the Webb telescope picks up into its component colours. This is then translated into the elements present in the sample, and so the composition of the sample, which can be used as indicators of life present.

The telescope is hoped to be taking pictures for the next 20 years, where astronomers hope that they may be able to find habitable planets beyond our solar system, and the first stars than shone following the Big Bang.



Webb's First Deep Field (NIRSpec Emission Spectrum)

An Artist's impression of the James Webb Telescope





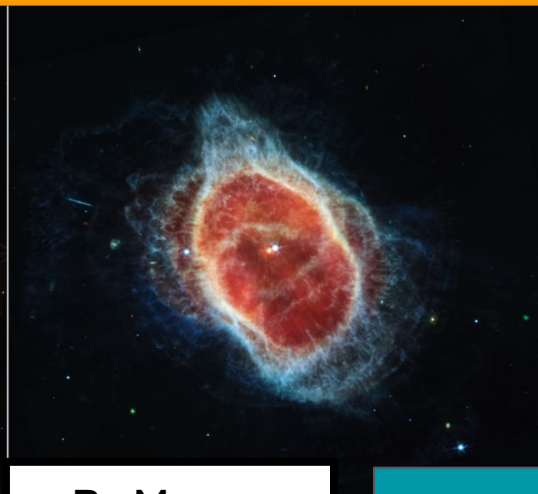
“Cosmic Cliffs” in the Carina Nebula (NIRCam Image)

Stephan’s Quintet (NIRCam and MIRI Composite Image)



Webb’s First Deep Field (NIRCam Image)

Southern Ring Nebula (NIRCam and MIRI Images Side by Side)



By Megan Turner

Did you ever hear the tragedy of Darth Plagueis the Wise?

"Did you ever hear the tragedy of Darth Plagueis the Wise?"

"No."

"I thought not. It's not a story the Jedi would tell you. It's a Sith legend. Darth Plagueis was a Dark Lord of the Sith so powerful and so wise, he could use the Force to influence the midi-chlorians to create life. He had such a knowledge of the dark side, he could even keep the ones he cared about from dying."

"He could actually save people from death?"

"The dark side of the Force is a pathway to many abilities some consider to be unnatural."

"Wh- What happened to him?"

"He became so powerful, the only thing he was afraid of was losing his power. Which eventually, of course, he did. Unfortunately, he taught his apprentice everything he knew. Then his apprentice killed him in his sleep. It's ironic. He could save others from death, but not himself."

"Is it possible to learn this power?"

"Not from a Jedi."

I suspect the Star Wars fans amongst you are already chuckling. But for those of you who are not familiar with the films, don't be put off, I assure you that this article will still make sense!

For although it's a fantasy setting with fictional characters and a fabricated plotline, this particular dialogue is culturally poignant. Because this story being told is essentially a reversal of the story of Jesus.

Of course, the key difference lies in the fact that while Darth Plagueis was evil, Jesus was good. However, if we substitute all the 'dark's and re-imagine Plagueis as a good character, a lot of parallels become apparent. Straight away we see that Plagueis is "powerful and wise", to such an extent that he can "create life". Jesus, too, is powerful and wise, and through this wisdom he created all things. The gospel of John starts by saying that "In the beginning ... the Word (Jesus) was with God, and the Word was God. ... All things were made through him". In his ministry on earth, Jesus



shows himself to be wise through his teachings and instructions, and powerful through his miracles - including bringing people back from the dead, which is another thing attributed to Plagueis. The key difference here though is that Plagueis uses this power in a selfish way, using it only for "the ones he cared about" for his own sustained pleasure and happiness. Jesus on the other hand ministers to all, and especially to those whom society does not care about. One time, when entering a town, he sees a funeral bier approaching; a widow's only son has died. He has never even met her before, and yet without a word he brings her son back to life, administering his power graciously and selflessly.

Next we see how Plagueis' powers seem to have been regarded by others with distrust and suspicion, as they are "consider[ed] to be unnatural". There were those in Jesus' day who also were wary of Jesus' miracles: one village even asked him to leave because they were afraid. But while Plagueis' powers are to be shunned, Jesus' come from God who is good, and are on the most part gladly received by the outcasts and broken.

But now comes the vital difference. Plagueis loved his power. He was obsessed with it. And losing it was the thing which he feared most; similarly, in the Lord of the Rings books, losing the One Ring is the thing which those who come to 'own' the Ring fear above all else and go to great lengths to try to avoid. Plagueis

craves the power, and is a slave to it. He lost his power and met his end by trying to cling to it with all his being. Jesus came into this world not to gain more power, but to lay it all aside in an act of selfless love, to free humanity from the very thing plaguing Plagueis. On the night of his arrest, he prayed that God's will would be upheld, even as the sweat poured from his forehead like blood because of the agony he knew he would have to face. Betrayed by a student, as Plagueis also was, he prepared to lay down his life so that all may find life in him.

And as he hung there on that cross, fighting for every painful breath, the crowd jeered the taunt of Plagueis' apprentice; "It's ironic. He could save others from death, but not himself."

Yet while this is the end of the story for Plagueis, it is far from the end for Jesus. Both were killed, despite their power and influence; betrayed, beaten, and humiliated. But the fact that the



disciples found the tomb where they had laid Jesus empty on that Easter morning almost 2,000 years ago shows that Jesus succeeded. Plagueis, in being “killed in his sleep”, failed, for his ambition was ultimate power and domination. He faded away into nothingness, merely a dark and unpleasant tale. Jesus, by rising from the dead, made it clear that he is who he says he is, and that being so he has won for humanity the chance to be reconciled with God. His selflessness brings hearts to life in God; Plagueis’ selfishness only bred more corruption and death.

And so, the story of Darth Plagueis the wise truly is a tragedy, a story of death and defeat. The story of Jesus however is far from a tragedy; it is a tale of triumph and victory over death and destruction!

By Davit Rickards



When my power bank runs out of battery while charging my phone

Ironic, he could save others from death, but not himself.

Year 12 Geography Field Trip

From the 21st to the 25th of June, 20 Year 12 geographers that were split into 4 groups undertook 4 days of fieldwork in the local area. We'd missed our GCSE fieldwork due to the COVID-19 pandemic, so this experience was highly valuable, and a prime opportunity to get out in the sun (which Mr Bennett had fortunately booked for us)

Day 1 took us through Great Cornard Country Park and up Kedington Hill to study rates of water infiltration in a variety of land uses, including farmland, woodland, and meadow.

On Day 2, we conducted surveys and interviews throughout Sudbury Town Centre. Key questions we explored included "is Sudbury a clone town?", "is Sudbury improving or declining?", and "how should areas like Belle Vue Park and the bus station be regenerated?".



On Day 3, we enjoyed a complete change in scenery as we journeyed to Thetford Forest. Our aim was to estimate the mass of carbon stored in different types of forest, using sites from Kings Forest (a coniferous woodland), and West Stow (a deciduous woodland).

Finally, on Day 4 we headed to the coast! We had a lot of data to collect along The Naze at Walton, including flood risk assessments, pebble sizes, and slope gradients, but we just about managed to squeeze in time for some refreshments!

With our fieldwork done, our attention now turns to our NEA (non-examined assessment), a piece of coursework of which the fieldwork can form the basis of.



By Callum Ryan

A Brief History of the London Underground

There is no feeling that quite matches the charm of criss-crossing London through its underground "Tubes". The London Underground holds the unique accolade of the world's first underground passenger railway, opening in 1863. Despite its age, continual upgrades have meant it remains the world's 11th longest, 11th busiest, and possibly the most famous metro in the world. In this article we will embark on a whistle-stop tour of its history to discover why nerds like myself are so fascinated with it.

The conception of the London Underground came about in the 1830s as a solution to London's growing traffic congestion, which in turn was a symptom of immense population growth. Charles Pearson, a Solicitor to the City of London, is regarded as having proposed linking the inner city business district to the major railway termini orbiting the city centre.



In 1854, the Metropolitan Railway was granted permission to build a line from Farringdon to Paddington, but struggled to raise the necessary £1 million due to the Crimean War. After 9 years of delays, construction was completed and it opened to the public. It became an instant success, carrying 38,000 passengers on its opening day, and 9.5 million in its first year. This popularity resulted in a race to operate competing routes and helped accelerate London into a new era of its history. The Metropolitan District Railway began operating services on the other side of the city centre in 1868, from Mansion House to Kensington via Victoria and Westminster, in an attempt to complete an "inner circle" around London. While they may have looked like rivals, the Metropolitan and Metropolitan District were closely associated and hoped to merge.

Riding the Underground in its infancy was a vastly different experience to the 21st century. Back then, services operated with steam locomotives and wooden carriages, meaning stations would be unpleasantly filled with smoke. It would take until 1905 for the process of electrification to begin.

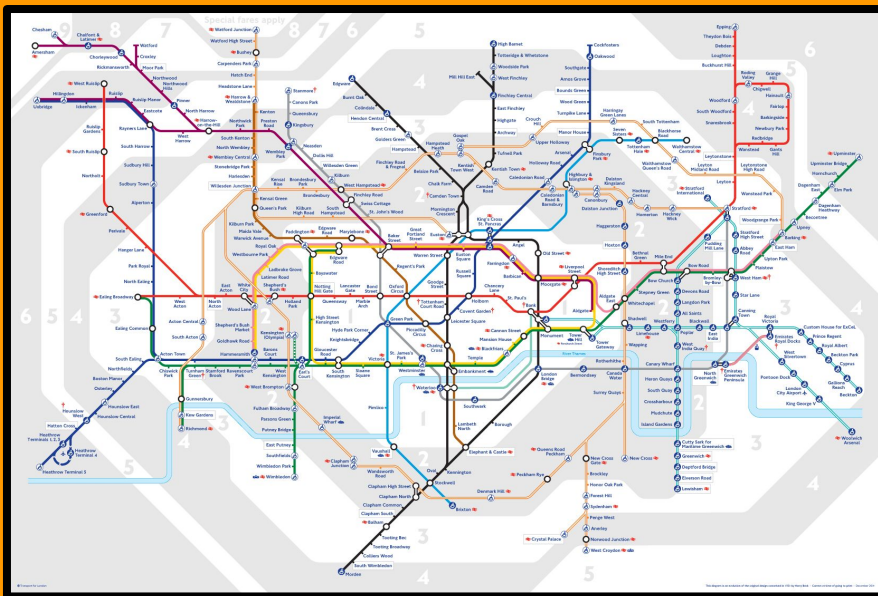
Furthermore, newer Underground lines, such as the Central, Northern, and Jubilee, use tunnel boring machines that excavate tubes straight through soil and rock at depths of up to 60m. In the 19th century, lack of funds and limited technology made “cut and cover” the preferred method, where a large open trench is dug just below the surface, and then covered up by a concrete deck. Most of London’s older lines, such as the Metropolitan and District, use this method and therefore poke out into open air more frequently.

Services continued to gradually expand and by 1898 there were 550 trains operating daily. The inner circle (now the Circle Line) was finally completed in 1884 allowing the Metropolitan and District railways to focus on expanding into the suburbs. The Metropolitan grew to the northwest, stretching 80km out of London towards Buckinghamshire, and much further than its modern terminus, while the District grew southwards towards Wimbledon (crossing the Thames for the first time) and westwards towards Ealing.

Deep-level lines, utilising the aforementioned tunnel boring, began to appear in the early 20th century. Predecessors to the Central, Northern, Piccadilly, Bakerloo, and Waterloo & City lines emerged in the 1900s, but were all essentially operated by independent companies.

Expansion was slowed by the First World War, but demand continued to grow, so women were recruited into traditionally male roles like guards and cleaners. Meanwhile, modernisation of stations began to take place, with the implementation of escalators and sliding doors onto trains.





The process of “integration” would begin with the publishing of the first “Tube Map” in 1908. Although this map bears little resemblance to the iconic diagrammatic design we are now familiar with, using different colours and a geographically accurate layout, the purpose (to promote travel and provide easily legible information) remains the same. The modern design was created by Harry Beck (see inset) in 1933 as part of the merging of public transport into the London Passenger Transport Board, the predecessor to Transport for London.

In Both World Wars, the Underground played a unique role, famously serving as bomb air raid shelters, housing 175,000 people during the peak of the Blitz.

Following the nationalisation of Britain’s railways in 1948, many improvement plans were scrapped, and those that weren’t tended to be delayed. The Victoria Line would open in 1968, followed by the Piccadilly expansion to Heathrow Airport in 1977, and the Jubilee Line (named in honour of the Queen’s Silver Jubilee) in 1979. Advancements have also been made in other areas like buying tickets, thanks to the introduction of the contactless Oyster card in 2003. In its recent history, the Tube has had to endure multiple crises, including the terrorist attack of July 7th 2005 that killed 52 people, and the decimation of passenger numbers during COVID lockdowns. Nevertheless, in 2019 the Underground hosted 1.3 billion journeys each year, and operated 270 stations, which doesn’t include the Overground, Docklands Light Railway, and the recently-opened Elizabeth Line which are all separate metros in their own right. With all this in mind I have no doubt that the Tube will continue to define the London experience for residents and visitors for a long time.

The Great Soup Debate

Is Soup a Food or a Drink? - A Post-Match Report by Callum Ryan

At lunchtime on the 14th July, a momentous debate occurred to settle a long-running argument amongst the Sixth Form populous; is soup a food or a drink? The debate was chaired by Mr Warburton, and the two teams consisted of Harriet Sayers, Mrs Wood, and Rhiannan Beal-Collins arguing it's a food, while Millie Hurlock, Davit Rickards, and Olli Race argued it's a drink. Both teams valiantly laid out their arguments and rebuttals, before opening up to questions from the floor. In the end, democracy had the final word and Team Food narrowly triumphed, to an admission of defeat from Team Drink. Below are summaries of the two arguments. Which side are you on? And which controversy should we tackle next?

TEAM FOOD

- The Purpose of Soup is to be a *meal*, the purpose of drink is to hydrate.
- Soup has immense nutritional value, vitamins, minerals, and proteins that drinks tend to lack.
- You consume soup with a spoon
- Other liquids, such as baby formula, are also food, the liquid definition is meaningless.

TEAM DRINK

- The only characteristic that matters is the item's state of matter: solids are food, and liquids (like soup) are drinks.
- If you pour Coca-Cola into a bowl and slurp it with a spoon, you wouldn't call *that* food!
- The nutritional value argument is meaningless, as it could be argued that e.g fast food has no nutritional value.



But what about yoghurts?...



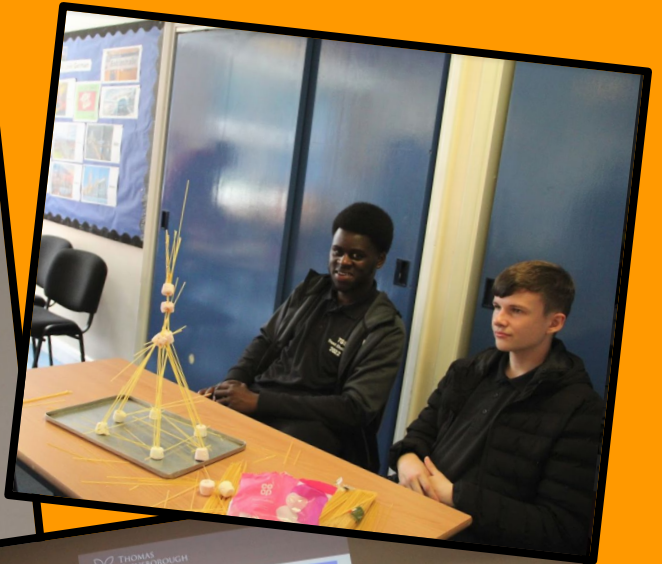
Cambridge trip



Sixth Form Taster Day



Sixth Form Trust Challenge



Thank you to all who contributed to Issue 12!

Amy Allitt
Callum Ryan
Davit Rickards
Megan Turner
Rosie Bray
Mr Alexander

Eleanor Darley, Maddy Howard
and Alanah Reeve (for
Cambridge photos)

Ethan Hall, Russell Lewin,
and Mr Eady (for Taster Day and
Trust Challenge
Photos)

And special thanks to the
founders of the Illustrator
Katherine Chapman and Jemma
Sargeant

Wishing you an enjoyable Summer!

We are Recruiting!

We are hoping to find new people to write articles for the Autumn Term, so if you are coming up to Year 12, and have been inspired by the Illustrator, why not give it a go?

Whether you want to be a regular contributor and designer or would prefer to write a one-off piece, we would highly appreciate your effort! You could write about your hobbies, a story or biography, interview someone, review a film, recommend a recipe, share artwork or photography...

For more information or to express your interest please email theillustrator@tgschool.net,

Thank you!

Email: theillustrator@tgschool.net

Thomas Gainsborough School,
Wells Hall Road,
Great Cornard,
Suffolk
CO10 0NH



Instagram: theillustratortgs
Telephone: 01787 375232
enquiries@tgschool.net
www.tgschool.net