



RETURN OF THE BLEATER

ACADEMY



Editor's Note

Dear Readers,

Thank You for reading the first issue of the 2018 school magazine, it's been a long time coming and the school magazine team have been working really hard on writing their articles and getting them out to you, hope you enjoy!

The editorial team,

Kate Heggie, Rosie Maguire, Douglas Simpson and Dylan Brotherston.

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The Rugby Season

Knox u18s have had a rather easy start to the season, with two development games which were automatic wins due to other teams not having enough players. We turned up to play competitive and so did our components, Linlithgow Academy and Lasswade High School. Although we had won before the game had begun by the end of the games our team were the deserved winners.

Linlithgow Academy (Match one)

We travelled about an hour to get to Linlithgow, the “hype” tunes were blaring and someone put George Ezra on, on in Bruce’s famous clio. We arrived at the ground with “Take Me Home Country Road” blaring out the speaker with the window down trying to be intimidating but this did absolutely not work.

In the changing room everyone was trying to get into a serious match mindset but this was delayed by everyone joking around and having fun. However as soon as our team got out of the changing rooms and onto the field it was time to get switched on because we were there to win.

We got the warm up done and kick off was in 5 minutes. We all got in a circle where Freddie, our captain tried to get us all motivated. Then it was kick off. We played three twenty minutes as it was development game. The first twenty was our weakest half because we were being dominated in the rucks and struggled to hold the ball for more than two phases. Even though we were playing poor at this point we still were winning. In the second twenty we got into the swing of things and we started playing the ball out wide, winning our rucks and scoring tries. And the last twenty we played similarly but made a few more mistakes as by this point we were fatigued and struggling to run.

It was a high scoring game with Linlithgow only getting 2 tries and Knox scoring 12 tries. Callum Pate scored 7 tries running through holes that weren't even there, Andrew Syme scoring 2 (instead of running through holes he ran through the other team) and I scored two tries running down the wing and Freddie spotting a break in line. With such a strong start to the season it gave us confidence going into our next game against Lasswade.

Lasswade High School (Match two)

Lasswade travelled to play at Knox but with only 11 players so we gave them two of our players and played 13 on 13. Once again the game was in was 3 twenties but for it to be a competitive match Linlithgow would have needed to show up with at least 13 players. As a team we would rather not play a development game but we dealt with what we got.

Once again we started slow which seems to be a recurring issue. Knox clearly struggle to be switched on from the get go. Overall we were sloppy defensively and were always second to the

rucks. After a while we started getting back into the swing of things, realising were the holes were and actually winning rucks.

However I think we were a lot less motivated in this game against Lasswade since it was cold and wet. The game got cut short by 20 minutes because the Lasswade coach could see his players were getting frustrated. I could see that they were very short tempered and violent, with late tackles, kicking players in the head and hurting people in the ruck. He was worried they would start fighting other players/teammates. Despite this our team pulled through and won the game.

Written by Matthew Black (Haddington Rugby U18s)

World Record Attempt at Haddington Rugby Club

Last month Haddington Rugby club attempted to beat the world record of the most players in a game of touch rugby on Sunday 12th August. It wasn't the brightest of days in Haddington with nonstop pouring rain however there were plenty of enthusiastic players of all ages, shapes and sizes. Haddington Players were keen and prepared to go against players such as Scottish internationalists Stuart McNally and WP Nel who were also at the club as part of Rugby Force Day. In order for the club to beat the world record each participating player had to play for a minimum of ten minutes and touch the ball at least once. It was a continuous game which lasted for a long five hours and forty minutes until HRFC unofficially became World Record Holders after 458 players clocked out at least ten minutes of passionate rugby on a day where the conditions for playing were at an extreme

Written by Harry Cunningham, Haddington Rugby U18s



Girls fitness and breakfast club

In recent weeks girls from all year groups have been given the opportunity to take part in a new Wednesday morning fitness session and breakfast in HE. All this is thanks to Miss Borwick and Suzanne Laing who have put in an incredible effort to ensure that equal opportunities in sport are offered to students and that a stronger sports community for the girls here at Knox is built.

Our first week showed a great turn out of both juniors and seniors and this has been well maintained as the sessions have gone on. Sessions are varied from week to week which has kept everyone motivated despite the extra early alarm wake up. We have taken part in workouts consisting of circuits, partner or group work, yoga, and have been given the chance to learn how to properly utilise the equipment in the school gym to make sure we are lifting weights safely. Although the exercise takes place over a time period of around half an hour it makes a real difference and I'm sure the other girls will agree in saying that it has been a great kick start and has opened the door to a whole new aspect of exercise.

After sweating it out in the PE department a quick move to the HE classroom is well appreciated by everyone. Mrs Cochrane has played a huge part in this operation as she kindly allows us to invade her classroom before school hours and makes sure there is enough breakfast supplies for the whole group. There is a wide range of options from cereal and toast, to eggs (for that all important protein #gainz), and of course fruit is crucial so we are always encouraged to help ourselves to the great selection available.

This new scheme really has made an impact to the health and confidence of many girls in the school. A huge THANK YOU to everyone involved in setting up and attending these events! **#ThisGirlCan** Written by Isabelle Bowen- senior netball



Horoscope - November

Aquarius -

Something special;)

<https://youtu.be/Ffh7cWRrqF4>

Pisces -

I can't believe you're actually reading this...
Seriously get a life.

Aries-

You have something this month that no else seems to possess: energy. "Boundless energy". Nobody can deal with it, use this boundless energy usefully ie redo all your homework cause it's really bad. Were you really going to hand in that essay? It was horrific.

Also reconsider all your life choices :)

Taurus-

Content unavailable

Gemini -

You'll feel the urge to travel this month. Don't come back...please. Mars is in retrograde, for those who aren't acclaimed horoscope experts this means you have nae pals.

Cancer -

Your month is going to be as positive as sign. Sit back, buckle up and enjoy the fireworks - Also you need new friends.

Leo -

You're going to have one of those months where you keep on almost getting arrested on the bus because people assume you're "playing with yourself" in public.

Virgo -

The next few months will be filled with joy, the big sad has cast a shadow over your meager existence for long enough. Fear not my youngling, times are a changing after experiencing copious amounts of rejection you will hit the jackpot. Look to your super supportive friends for guidance, they're there for you. Take time to explore yourself, beliefs, morals...your sexuality. Wagwan my dudes.

Scorpio -

There is a surprise in Uranus so the stars say. Jupiter in your sign's career sector is peacing out on August 11th and won't come back for 12 years, the jobcentre is your best friend. This may be because Uranus is getting around, but it also may just be because that's the way the solar system works. As for love, well...

Sagittarius -

Watch Jigsaw by Daniel Sloss it'll reveal all and set you on the path to true enlightenment.

Aquarius -

You make me sick.

Unfortunately for you I'm not in a good mood. I often express an urge to scream in a field but I can't. Therefore I'm just going to take it out on you lot. It's not looking good, with Jupiter and Mars kicking off in your belt, this month will be filled pain, so much pain. Furthermore, Saturn is hitting up Neptune so basically you're life is screwed. (Unlucky son)

Libra -

Saturn has been exploring Uranus in the stars this month. Subsequently, you have been blessed: business is booming but you're really bad at risk so stop playing.













Capricorn -

Right you.

I've gotten pretty bored doing these it was a good idea at first but I've come to loathe horoscopes so go away. You'll have a lovely life and all the shizzle.

Jjdjsndbjsnsjdnskineednewfriendsakdjskbddb.

SoRry fOr aLI thE UraNus JOkes.You're mum x

Capricorn  22 Dec - 20 Jan	Aquarius  21 Jan -19 Feb	Pisces  20 Feb - 20 Mar	Aries  21 Mar- 19 Apr
Taurus  20 Apr - 20 May	Gemini  21 May - 21 Jun	Cancer  22 Jun - 23 Jul	Leo  24 Jul - 23 Aug
Virgo  24 Aug - 22 Sept	Libra  23 Sept - 22 Oct	Scorpio  23 Oct - 22 Nov	Sagittarius  23 Nov - 20 Dec

Written by Dylan Brotherston (editorial team)

Music

MGK vs Eminem

After Eminem's newest album dropped on August 31st this year , beef between musicians Eminem and Machine Gun Kelly began to unfold...

Beefs aren't anything new in the Hip Hop scene, but Eminem's Kamikaze album really changed the game. His unannounced release surprised everyone, instead of dissing just one rapper he went after the whole Hip Hop/Rap scene dissing MGK, Migos, Tyler the creator and pretty much any other modern rapper you could name.

The response from the community was strongly pro Eminem, everyone supported him. Even the people he dissed but fellow rapper MGK really took Eminem's diss to heart. Although within a couple days MGK released the single "rap devil" and dissed Eminem right back. This was a seriously ballsy move. Eminem has a history of ruining well established rappers careers with his diss tracks and for a less well known artist like MGK this was essentially career suicide.

"Rap Devil" gained a lot of support and so did MGK until a couple weeks later when Eminem released the beef ending single "Killshot". Lyrically it was genius but some argue that MGK had the better song however it's hard to argue that he won the beef seeing as he himself admitted he couldn't step up to Em and had no response to "Killshot". Eminem ended this beef as we all knew he would. Not even taking it seriously, Eminem was toying with his food on his Kamikaze album and waiting for a response before finishing MGK for good like we all knew he would.

Say what you will about beefs in Hip Hop but they always result in good songs. This one brought us the amazing singles "Rap Devil" and "Killshot" which are some of Em and MGK's best work. Both of which are well worth a listen.



Written by Douglas Simpson (Editorial Team)

Joy As An Act of Resistance.

Exploding onto the scene with a series of EPs throughout the early 2010s, Bristol punks Idles (stylised as IDLES) build on their blistering 2017 debut, *Brutalism*, on their second full length release: *Joy As An Act of Resistance*.

Thematically the band stick to their style of sardonic and brutal social critique. However the targets here are clearer, the rage more focused and the humour more caustic. Indeed the performances, whilst as tight as to be expected with Idles, are again clearer. The production is crisper, squeezing the best out of the band, as the pounding drums and sleazy guitars pack an intensity to match that of the lyrics and vocals. Joe Talbot sounds, in the best way possible, like he lives on a diet of gravel, engine oil and cigarettes; the production sharpens his spitting delivery into a growling bark, and in this regard the album is an improvement on the near impeccable *Brutalism*.

Despite the frantic and violent performances, the album has a clear aim evident from its title that separates Idles from the multitude of socially aware punk bands before them. Rather than promote a fuck everything nihilism the band see spreading acceptance of one's self and others and a general joy to be more beneficial. However, this is not to suggest that the album is a lighthearted and campy affair, it is far from it. Dissecting subjects like masculinity, immigration, and unrealistic expectations raised by media, the band are unforgiving in their assessments. On the track 'Never Fight A Man With A Perm' Talbot attacks laddish machismo with sharp wit: ("you are a catalogue, plastic Sinatra/ A try hard, you should've tried harder...you look like a walking thyroid/ you're not a man you're a gland"). Indeed the track 'Samaritans' tackles a similar theme of masculinity and its difficulties, with the pre-chorus ("I'm a real boy, Boy/ And I cry/ I love myself, and I want to try") as a resistant up yours to the pre-concepted idea of manliness. Acceptance through the prism of immigration and cultural change is a recurring theme of the album. Talbot tackles this theme both with wit (on the track 'Great') and with sincerity (on the track 'Danny Nedelko'). The former tackles Brexit and the ridiculousness of the Baby-Boomer generation, with the stand out line ("Islam didn't eat your hamster"). The latter defends the idea of community and multiculturalism, taking back elements of Oi! Punk from the far-right with its chanting chorus.

Idles do not reinvent the wheel here, they stick to their sound and improve on it. Doing the basics incredibly well with a refreshing intensity lacking from modern punk. The lyrics are witty, furious and devastating with instrumentals that fit the tone perfectly. Besides Sleaford Mods, it is hard to think of a band this good who tackle social issues so well, and for this reason Idles are one of the most important acts in the UK today.

For Fans of: Hardcore punk, Sleaford Mods, Slaves, Fugazi, The Fall, Swans

Favourite Tracks: Never Fight A Man With A Perm, Danny Nedelko, Samaritans, Television, Love Song

Least Favourite Track (at a push): Rottweiler

9/10



Written by Adam Fairgrieve

Alex Jones Stopped?

Alex Jones the american radio show host and conspiracy theorist hosts his own show and runs a conspiracy theory website. A few months ago drama started to unfold for him...

In early August , this year another chapter in the madness that is Alex Jones' career began with his presence being removed from several online platforms.

This isn't even the first time this year Jones has landed in hot water. This April, parents of people killed in the 2012 Sandy Hook school shooting sued Jones for defamation. This is because Jones has repeatedly claimed on his show, Infowars, that it was a giant hoax. He believes child actors were used in the shooting to end private gun ownership rules. He has called the parents fakers several times, and for all this, he is facing \$1 million in damages.

To those new to Alex Jones, these views seem crazy, but they are in fact standard for Jones, so much so that he is now more often viewed as a joke. From his water filters to him claiming there are chemicals in the water turning frogs gay, many see Jones as a clown.

But recently, many big platforms are no longer seeing the funny side, removing his show. In early August, Apple and Spotify removed his podcasts, Facebook terminated his page and Youtube deleted his channel. They cited the same reason - hate speech. The only notable exception was Twitter, who decided not to take him down, claiming he hadn't violated their user policy. They later banned him for 1 week, allegedly due to a video of him telling his followers to "ready their rifles".

It seemed twitter would remain the exception, but in early September, twitter banned him, saying that tweets of his were reported that broke their terms of use. The tweets were not specified however. It is easy to just laugh at Alex Jones, and it is hard to take him seriously. However, a lot of what Jones says is actually harmful - like his comments on Sandy Hook. When it comes to him, social media companies are in a tough situation. There are numerous vocal supporters and people that don't even like him, who claim banning him goes against free speech. However, many people have been nagging platforms for his banning. It's a lose-lose situation, and eventually platforms like twitter have to choose which hill to die on. The fact that these bannings happened so close together created a lot of speculation within the conspiracy theory community, and will make Jones a martyr to them.

Most of the argument hinges on whether you believe what Jones spouts is covered by free speech. However, I'd argue that being banned on social media is not equivalent to a violation in free speech. Social media companies are private organisations, and have every right to ban whoever they like. The fact is, Jones is still on the internet - he still has his website - and his views will no doubt be discussed on social media in the future. So has Alex Jones been stopped? Not really.

Written By Alexander Hogg



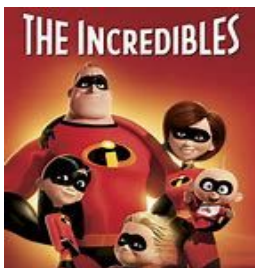
The Incredibles 2 Film Review

The Incredibles 2 is the long awaited sequel to the original Incredibles film, which was released 14 years ago on the 5th of Nov 2004. The primary target audience of this summer blockbuster are the teens which have grown up watching the original movie.

It has to be said that Incredibles 2 did not disappoint in appeasing teens nostalgic feelings. The film opens with the events immediately following the ending of the first movie, as the heroes face off against "The Underminer". However, this villain is quickly defeated and all seems settled until a mysterious new villain dubbed "The Screen Slaver" appears. It is at this point that the movie starts to get interesting. The villain is attempting to prevent the activity of superheroes ("supers") from being legalised. The Screen Slaver uses hypnosis to control whoever looks at the screens they hack, this is used as the main premise of the story, where some new supers are hypnotised and set out to make the public think of them as scary villains, in order for them to be banned again, however the film lacks on this part as it's never really explained as to why "The Screenslaver" wants supers to be made illegal however the use of modern technology allows the directors to weave in some modern issues which are apparent today.

Coming up to the grand finale of the film many of the "supers" are hypnotised using goggles. Then in a twist of events the real identity of The Screenslaver is revealed. In true Pixar fashion, this reveal was very predictable from the start of the film, it is during this reveal that Mr and Mrs Incredible are hypnotised, leaving only the kids left to try and save their parents and the rest of the hypnotised supers. Creating a new dynamic to the movie, as Dash, Violet and Jack Jack (who gains several abilities throughout the film) work together to stop The Screenslaver. Jack Jack, the baby of the family, still has very unpredictable abilities and somewhat random powers, this allows for many comedic, weird but funny scenes. Just like any Pixar movie the villain is defeated and all the "good guys" live happily ever after.

In my opinion this movie is well worth a watch for young children, teens and those who are fond of the original movie 'The Incredibles'.



Written By Ben Mckinell

The Princess Bride

The Princess bride is a movie based on a book of the same name by William Goldman. Which follows the adventure of Wesley as he goes from humble farm boy to the dread pirate Roberts.

The plot begins in a small farm where we meet our Heroes Westley and Buttercup. Westley is nothing but the farm hand in the beginning but with every “as you wish” Buttercup realised she loved him. Westley then goes to seek his fortune in America but is killed by the dread Pirate Roberts.

Years pass and Buttercup never loved again and grew very beautiful until she attracted the attention of the princes who wished to marry her. She agreed under the terms she never had to love him. Then one day Buttercup is kidnapped by three men – one strong, one skilled and one smart. Then they sail across the sea to frame a neighbouring country for her murder. This is prevented by a mysterious man in black who then kidnaps Buttercup but is saved by Buttercup who negotiated his release when they are cornered by the Prince Humperdinck who is an expert Hunter.

When Westley awakes however he is imprisoned and tortured nearly to death. But then with the help of two thirds of the kidnappers he storms the castle on the night of the wedding and saves buttercup from marrying the Prince Humperdinck, instead riding off with the new Dread Pirate Roberts and a Giant.

I think this film is worthy of our Golden Oldies Award for two reasons:

Characters

The characters in the Princess Bride are all believable characters who affect the plot in meaningful ways and fit within the era the film is set “this was after Paris” but before Sweden and Germany.

Humour

The jokes in the princess bride aren’t all necessarily slapstick but a lot of how it is delivered simply makes it humorous and a joy to watch again and again.

In conclusion the Princess Bride is one of the best family comedies around, and if you should ever catch one of its constant repeats on Film 4, you should definitely give it a watch! **Written**

By David Graham

SHAUN OF THE DEAD RETROSPECTIVE

Zombies. Zombies are everywhere today. For years they have been the cornerstone of horror on the big screen, the idea of our own society collapsing and tearing itself apart (ha ha get it) is a haunting one in its own right, however it would seem nearly every producer in Hollywood had that thought as well, resulting in a market *overwhelmed* by classics, cult hits all the way to pieces of shi.... Not very good films. With such a broad range of films on the market, it's safe to say zombie flicks are a dime a dozen so it's hard to find a decent quality watch. However, with halloween coming up let's dive into one zombie film that broke the mould and strayed away from a generic cash grab horror film, electing instead to give us a deeper insight to humanity and social conflict in a whole. This is Edgar Wright and Simon Pegg's first delve into their iconic trilogy, The Strawberry Cornetto: Shaun of the Dead.

So, Shaun of the Dead. What's it about? Well our more versed viewers will note the similarity in title to George Romero's absolute classic, Dawn of the Dead. But this is more than just a clever pun. Edgar Wright expertly weaves the themes and motif behind Romero's original "commentary" piece into a comedy romp that still conveys the feeling of a society that may have been dead even before any outbreak occurred.

The narrative of this film is absolutely fantastic, it tells the tale of a man unable to move on in life, stuck in comfort and gluttony and refusing to face the maturity of adulthood. However it also acts as a commentary to the slog of society. It frames Shaun as somewhat justified for sticking to what he loves, with friends he trusts and drinks he enjoys, the "real world" is awful! There's no colour, no life, everyone's on a cycle just like Shaun. So in reality, the true message is that society as a whole has to stray from it's comfort zone. This is perfectly instigated in the oncoming zombie apocalypse, which should be noted is subconsciously set up through Shaun's ignorant passing perception of day-to-day life, simple coughs and resting passengers become subtle hints, the world itself gives verbal and visual almost threatening hints that throw the viewer off. Making us question how much of a response we would give. Act on it or, like Shaun, would we nonchalantly disregard it as 'just like any other day'?

The zombie onslaught is representative of Shaun's conflict in reaching adulthood. Even the basis of his 'survival plan' is just hunkering down in a familiar place with familiar people and "Wait for this to all blow over" (this quote could almost be a nailed down biography of Shaun's character). Obviously this plan is a final symbol to Shaun that he needs to leave childhood behind and grow, evolve and change. This change is symbolised in the pursuit of his girlfriend/ex-girlfriend/it's complicated (we've all been there lads) who is an image of Shaun's ideal path to becoming a man, ironically still looking towards security; this time in a partner. This

perfectly acts a mirror between the similarity in Shaun's perception of ideal life and Liz/Society's ideal life, they are similar in ideologies, just separate in their material focus. Shaun doesn't enjoy things like Ed or Liz or the Winchester because it's favourable for his career, he does it because it makes his life... fun. The subjective lines of "What's the right side to pick" become blurred as we see Shaun's way (represented in his survival plan being rather well thought out) and Society's way (facing facts and dealing with the problem as a leader) become merged into one epic survival story that results in Shaun facing the sacrifices and coming out a man (who also gets the girl).

Shaun progressively gets singled as the leading role consecutively through the film, making tough choices and cutting off (sometimes literally) things he holds dear. Very on the nose with it's adulthood links (thanks Higher English :D), his character has to physically progress through his conflict to adulthood and sometimes it can really hit home in its portrayal of ideals that some of even us in the older years have had to consider (I personally do connect with this film a lot). In making Shaun the acting leader it comes to represent the truth of modern society, shifting blames and not taking responsibility. With Shaun being rather enveloped in his own, wholesome way of living, he's able to bridge ideals and come out on top with a rather bright future of him, even managing to keep a small piece of his childhood with him (if in a rather, re-animated sense). It's a really powerful message of carrying some of your aloofness with you to maturity, as sometimes all you need is a little grit, cheek, willpower and a cold pint to wait for all this to blow over.....

Obviously this piece has been blabbing on about certain key ideas and themes; and that's because I'd rather try and convey the kind of thoughts you end up considering while watching than just list off a summary of the film. Trust me this film is too jam-packed and well thought out to just summarise in a small article so the best I can do is try and show you just how special this film (and Edgar's work as a whole) is absolutely spectacle and classic worthy. I implore you to watch this film and the all "cornetto" films to come (check the next issue for more info on that *wink*). I'm seriously not doing this film justice with the little I tried to analyse, at the end of the day: Shaun of the Dead can at its least be considered a hilarious comedy/dramatic zombie film with a unique spin on the "group of clashing personalities survives against the horde" that is so prevalent today. At deeper level however, it becomes a delving view of the human need to adapt and change, our want for comfort and the innocent fun of childhood that is oh so relevant for every single year attending our school, whichever side of the "society" fence you're sitting on. For all you less experienced viewers, it's a great watch to come back to over and over and really get ingrained in the filmmaking beauty at work, great cinematography, expertly crafted world and dialogue that keeps you hooked onto the screen till the end credits, the first of a trilogy, the first of a generation.

Great for Halloween, great for Higher Media Studies classes, Great for Netflix and sitting alone...pick this one up sometime folks.

Written by Lucas Crabb

Liquid Water Discovered On Mars

This July the presence of liquid water was discovered on Mars...

The existence of water on Mars was confirmed about a decade ago but only in ice form. It has been found that the temperature of Mars' surface is too cold to host liquid water, this suggesting that liquid water being found on Mars is highly unlikely. However, the thick ice at Mars' poles traps the small amount of heat that Mars emits. Therefore, if the water is salty enough, it may exist below the ice due to its lower freezing point.

This is the case for the underground lake discovered by ESA's Mars Express probe. The probe used a MARSIS instrument (Mars Advanced Radar for Subsurface and Ionosphere Sounding) to investigate the layers below Mars' surface. Originally the MARSIS studied the whole surface in a standard resolution but it was reengineered to study more specific areas in a much higher resolution. It was this change in design that resulted in the recent find.

So obviously what we all want to know is whether alien life could be found in this lake? The answer is excitingly, yes! But this is probably not anything more than a few basic microbes. Getting down to the lake isn't an easy business either and with current drilling technology it could take several decades, which means we may never know what is in this lake.

Lake Vostok back on Earth, found 4 km below the Antarctic surface which could give a fair idea about what might be living on Mars.

The discovery of one underground lake means that there are probably many more. This provides a reason for the Mars Express probe to remain carrying out its mission despite being over 15 years old and new missions taking over Mars research. Hopefully more will be found and maybe in our lifetime we'll reach the lakes and find out exactly what our Martian neighbours look like.

Written by Ewan Hunter



A breakthrough for Gecko stem cells

Researchers have discovered and identified the presence of the type of stem cell that allows Leopard geckos to create new brain cells. The University of Guelph in Canada have breakthrough evidence that lizards may also be able to regenerate damaged parts of the brain after injury. This finding could help with replacing human brain cells lost or damaged due to injury, aging or disease and could act as a potential cure for brain disorders such as Alzheimer's Disease.

Alike most other lizards, the Leopard Gecko is able to shed its tail voluntarily as a tactic to escape predation. They develop a replacement tail that resembles the original tail finished with skeletal support, blood vessels and nerves. Although many reptiles and amphibians boast extraordinary tissue regeneration capabilities, only Leopard Geckos have the ability to grow new fully functioning neurons. Matthew Vickaryous, a professor at the Ontario Veterinary College said “The findings indicate that gecko brains are constantly renewing brain cells, something that humans are notoriously bad at doing.”

Scientists used a chemical label that was inserted into the DNA of gecko stem cells that granted the opportunity to track the stem cells, follow where they travelled and what types of cell they later became. Following this, scientists were able to follow the tags all the way to the lizards medical cortex - the lizard version of the human brain's hippocampus - where they witnessed the generation of new brain cells.

The brain is an extremely complex organ and there are very few good treatments for brain injuries and this is the area of research that has the potential to change the way doctors treat brain injuries. The next step is to determine why some species, like geckos, can replace damaged brain cells while other species, like humans, cannot.

Written by Georgia Greenan



I Love Rahul, But He Shouldn't Have Won



I loved Rahul, the borderline emotionless cuddly bear who captured the hearts of the nation. He had extravagant bakes, wonderful flavours and won star baker twice. He was a strong contender for the final and pegged to be this year's winner. Until we reached the final episodes where he was almost kicked off, and possibly should have been.



But this leads me to the newest controversy on British people's radar, was the final fixed? Well, Kim-Joy won 2/3 challenges. Rahul won 1/3 when he pulled it back to win after his 'beautiful' showstopper. Just like he scraped by in the final 2 weeks of the show. It's as if in those extra 15 minutes that was granted to him after a jar smashed (which may or may not have been on purpose depending on how deep the conspiracy goes), Prue and Paul have discovered a distaste for ginger. Could this be sabotage? Or just a happy accident.



Many viewers were outraged and took to Twitter to complain about this blatant favouritism. And many more thought the whole thing was sham, that they insured Rahul's victory.



Paul is trying to sabotage Kim-Joy so that Rahul wins even though Kim-Joy has clearly done better throughout the final 🙄 #gbbo #GBBOFinal

30/10/2018, 21:06

80 Retweets 952 Likes



The amount of backpedaling Paul and Prue did on Kim-Joy's showstopper because she was the runaway winner is ridiculous. What a fix - Rahul has been a mess these past few weeks. #GBBO

30/10/2018, 21:15

Now, Mary Berry wouldn't have stood for this!

But in memory of Rahul, here are some of my favourite quotes:

- "Oh, my god, look! Pheasants!"
- "Oh no"
- "No. no. no. no. no."
- "Doomed"
- "I need help! Am I doing it right?"
- "Feel free to stay and see me dooming"
- "Have a good night sleep, come in in the morning, have a glass of milk and then literally put my everything into it"
- "I'm just scared about what's coming next"



God's Not Dead film review

I popped "God's Not Dead" on the Netflix to have a laugh while I ate my dinner and scribbled in my private journal about how awesome I am. Now I can't look away. I'm a fairly vocal atheist and I hear my social role is to get up in arms about how this movie portrays atheists. I'm over it: there are only so many times you can be told you're going to Hell before it becomes background noise. I'm not going to criticize this movie on the grounds that I don't agree with its worldview. So this is a review of the film purely based on its merit as a film.

Opening. The music is catchy, and thirty seconds in, I can't distinguish it from the annual indie feel-good movies. Two minutes in, we're still listening to the same song. This situation should only arise when the song is breathtakingly beautiful and the supporting visuals are at once nuanced and compelling. As it is, it's an 80s romance montage but twice as long with way, way too many establishing shots. Mercifully, the music ends, after implying something about angels in three verses.

We meet the protagonist and he's wearing a cross. I won't get into the dialogue, because I was too distracted by the chime sound effects following every line of the opening exchange. Structurally, this scene is sound. Establish your protagonist and the main conflict as soon as possible; God's Not Dead does it in the first minute or so, if you forgive them for the overture, which I don't. But having somebody hit a xylophone after every (ding) single (ding) line (ding) is evidence that they ran out of good jobs. It takes the viewer out of the moment by beating them over the head with a sign reading: "PLEASE LIKE OUR BANTER"

Next, we have an interaction with a businessman withholding directions from his girlfriend because he's busy. I know this character is a chief villain, but give him something less unbelievably petty than him asking "What's in it for me?" in response to his significant other's request for directions. The entire exchange takes more time than it would take to give anybody directions from anywhere to anywhere. This poor characterization overplays his hand. A better movie and a better set of actors would have played the exact same situation as flirting. This movie's message is already getting in the way of its execution, and, sorry Dean Cain (Actor playing said villain), you're just not great at this job.

It's physically difficult not to take cheap shots at this movie. The only black character so far has made an incorrect statement for the benefit of the teacher's speech, and introduced himself as g-dog to the approving titters of the class. That was not a cheap shot. That's what happened.

After our Christian protagonist refuses to sign a document stating "God is dead," Hercules (the Lecturer) threatens him with a failing grade unless he can win a debate on the subject. There's an important throwaway line here: the protagonist argues that the class should judge the debate, instead of the teacher, and the teacher says, "Why would I want to empower them?" Well, because THAT'S YOUR JOB. YOUR ONLY JOB. YOU'RE A PHILOSOPHY TEACHER. Every other teacher of every other subject (except film theory) is giving them measurable life skills. You're supposed to empower them. Anyway, this is where the movie fails basic

fact-checking, and seems to have missed the last thirty years of legal precedent: Hercules would be fired immediately and the student would be well within his rights to sue the school into rubble after this exchange, especially with two hundred witnesses. There are plenty of protections for religious views. The picture of a public university being a bastion of secular intolerance could only be written by someone who's never been to one.

Okay. Atheist girlfriend of Dean Cain has just been diagnosed with cancer. The doctor says, "Look I know you're very important, and the world can't get along without you, but the world's getting ready to do exactly that." That's some quality bedside manner, right there. It so cleverly disguises accusations of hubris. "Stilted and transparently pedantic" seems too kind a description of this dialogue.

First debate. Atheist argument basically skipped, so we know this is not a thoughtful, exploratory film: it's a hero and villain play. I have no problem with this, but it does seem like the villain is hamstrung when he has no grounding argument, and is limited to antagonistic arguments. Strictly speaking, that's the antagonist's role, but we're dealing with some very pedestrian narrative design. Oh, and the teacher's harassing the protagonist again. How did this guy ever get a job?

Protagonist's girlfriend, in the process of breaking up with him, says, "I don't even have words to describe what I'm feeling right now!" This is what screenwriters refer to as a "Dude, I'm pretty hungover, just, I don't know, come up with a synonym for je ne sais quoi or whatever."line.

Dean Cain breaks up with his girlfriend after she tells him she has cancer. Admittedly, he's been built up as a sociopath from his first scene, which I think was his only other scene, but since he's only had two (maybe three, it's hard to pay attention), there's no emotional umph here. His entire character is 'Bad Person' so it's not surprising, disappointing or especially moving unless you were predisposed to hate Dean Cain. I watched the good seasons of *Lois & Clark*, so my takeaway is he just needed a paycheck. There needs to be some investment in a character before he or she betrays us.

And turning point! Exactly halfway through the movie, we discover the professor's girlfriend is Christian. That. Changes. Everything. I. Hope. It really doesn't, because the narrative is so divorced from the actual plot points. So the protagonist makes an excellent point; the professor is teaching anti-theism, not atheism. Hercules admits he hates God, student drops a logic bomb with "How can you hate something that doesn't exist," big buildup, music swells, the students go all Dead Poets Society, we have closure. Hercules, yet again, fails his final task.

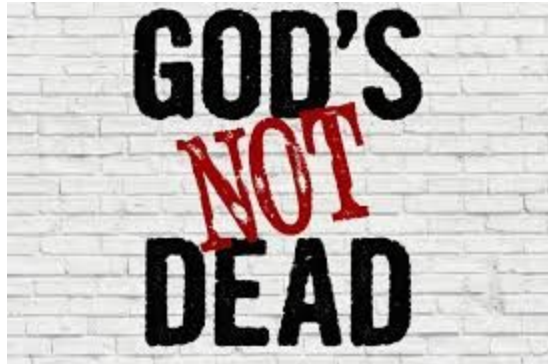
Back to Dean Cain. The odd thing about his character is it's so superfluous. His sole purpose is to make the atheist a hated thing, but we have that in the professor. I expect the difference is one is redeemable and the other is not. I buy that, even if it's no wushu drama. But if we have the unredeemable in a character drama where there is truth, we need to know more about the unredeemable character. What's their motivation to reject the truth? That's important not just

narratively, but ideologically: what psychological pitfalls do I need to watch out for as a young Christian to stop myself from cozying up to the devil?

The potentially redeemable Hercules gets hit by a car while trying to make peace with his Christian girlfriend (at least I think that's what he was doing). Cool Rev tells him God's giving him another chance, by hitting him with a car, putting him in enormous pain and making him afraid. He converts and dies. So that happened. Putting a character's primary personal revelation in the context of near-death is a copout.

The movie seems to want to have its cake and also run over its cake with a car. It sacrifices an enormous amount of screen time to supposedly reasonable arguments at the expense of exploring personal relationships, yet the big moments of conversion do not come from people being convinced by these arguments. Instead, they come from fear of death. So the movie is sort of about making a reasonable case for God in the form of poking holes in a strictly anti-theist argument, except it's actually about how everyone secretly believes in God, they're just hiding it because they're angry or greedy or Dean Cain.

All these failings get brushed aside because this movie isn't made for human viewers. This movie is made for God. The protagonist doesn't have to find closure with the antagonist, the Muslim girl doesn't have to reconcile with her father, the Chinese student doesn't have to deal with constant stereotypes. They only have to find God and trust that He is watching. Except Dean Cain. Dean Cain just has to keep forsaking God, so God can judge him appropriately, though he does it on camera, so it seems like we're supposed to pass judgement on him.



Written by Kyle Park

IN LOVING MEMORY



Name: Mrs Rodger

Years: 2017-2018

Quote:

"I am really proud to have been the Headteacher of Knox Academy in session 2017 - 2018. It has been a privilege to help shape our school values – AMBITION, RESPECT and COMMUNITY – and to set the vision for the school going forward. I have loved being part of such a vibrant school community. You made me feel welcome from my first day here and it has been a pleasure to work with so many wonderful pupils, colleagues and parents. I will miss you.

Here's my advice to you all: be proud of your school, and always strive to be the best that you can be!"

With very best wishes

Lauren Rodger

IN LOVING MEMORY



Name: Mrs McInnes

Years: 2001-2018

Quote: "Teaching so many fine young people has been a privilege. I cannot imagine having done anything else."

Mr Wren- "She loves her family, red lipstick, loves to be glam, always has to have a higher class, Skiing (the best), Mini, makes the best meringues.



Name: Ken Johnston

Years: 1988-2018

Quote: "Didn't I teach your parents?"



Name: Ms Orr

Years: 2006-2018

Quote: "If my departure has taught you anything it's that even at the ripe old age of 30-something it's still okay to follow your dreams"



Name: Ms McPhee

Years: 2006-2018

Quote: "The best thing about Knox is the people"

EAST LoTHIAN FOOD AND DRINK RECOMMENDATIONS

I.e. The school magazine team become food and drink critics...



We could sit here as experienced Knox Academy pupils and recommend that you go to for a classic Rosehall/Tesco lunch or snack but here are our top recommendations for the weekend when your out and about in East Lothian and want something which isn't your usual weekday roll or pasta.



1 Pancake Heaven, Haddington



Based in the 'Coffee Pot's' former location on Haddington high street - Pancake Heaven is the talk of the town at the moment. If the S6 pupils aren't in school during their free periods they are most likely out at Pancake Heaven for breakfast. They serve pancakes, crepes, waffles (which you can have either sweet or savoury due to the various topping choices!) smoothies, coffee and milkshakes.

2

Steampunk
— COFFEE ROASTERS —

Steampunk Coffee is based in North Berwick and is not only a café but is also a roastery. The Steampunk café in North Berwick is set in a cool steel framed warehouse, which gives the café an edgy vibe.

Coffee lovers this is where you want to be- the coffee is roasted in store on a vintage Probat roaster and then the coffee is used to make your cup of coffee by fully trained baristas. There are a variety of drinks to choose from including coffee, hot chocolate, juice or chai lattes. In addition they also offer breakfast and lunch options like local Bross bagels with cashew butter and jam or hot soup. The cakes are to die for with many vegan and gluten free options to. Everything is handmade in store. As an avid coffee drinker I would highly recommend!





The Big Blue Pizza Van, various locations across East Lothian and Edinburgh



The Big Blue Pizza van makes handmade wood fired pizza from there van every week from locations close to home. With destinations such as North Berwick on a Friday night, Dunbar harbour on Tuesday and Thursday nights as well as other destinations further a field in Edinburgh and St Andrews this pizza van is easily accessible for a dinner time treat. Their pizzas are honestly the best! The pizzas are made with super fresh and good quality ingredients I'd really recommend making an event of going to visit them.



This bakery is amazing for baked goods, bread and coffee, even if it is a little expensive....

Bostock Bakery has two locations- one takeaway bakery on North Berwick high street and a small sit in café and bakery in an old shipping container in East Linton.

If your willing to splash some pennies on your food once in while, I would highly recommend Bostock Bakery. I mean how can you resist a homemade donut...



Thanks for reading-

Rosie Maguire (editorial team)
and Lauren Thompson

*Thank
you!*

IN LOVING MEMORY



Name: Mr Barclay

Years: 1379-2018

Quotes:

I will miss:

- Teaching pupils of all abilities who work hard to achieve their full potential
- Working with my wonderful colleagues
- Spending time on developments which help pupils to improve

I will not miss:

- Trying to teach pupils who underachieve due to lack of effort and/or poor behaviour
- Having to spend time on developments which experience tells me are unlikely to help pupils improve.

