

# THE CURRENT

*Sport:  
Littler makes a big impression*

*Advent Doors:  
Sleigh or Neigh?*

*Film Fanatics:  
New favourites, or New Year flops*

*New Year New Styles:  
Fresh looks for '24*

*Local Heroes:  
North East musicians*

Time to sparkle and shine!

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# Unsolicited opinions...



*Me before people do these things*

Stupid questions – they exist, trust me.

Indirectness – if you want something, just ask for it. I'm much more likely to give you a pen if you ask for one than if you just state "I haven't got a pen."

Slow walkers – if you have nowhere to go, please get out of the way of those of us that do.

2d people – get personality. If you go to the gym, good for you, but do something else with your life too please.

Acting like your grammar is better than someone else's - you're not funny for asking "I don't know, CAN you?" when someone just wants to do something and asks so in a perfectly valid way.

People who pile into the toilets – if you really want somewhere private and inside to hang out, there are better places to go.

The misuse of "no offense but". Although this does have a place, it's not an excuse just to be mean.

Talking during movies – it's just rude. If I wanted to listen to you I wouldn't be watching other people.

For your entertainment, here is a list (that absolutely nobody asked for) of things I find annoying...

This is all covered under the heading of Being Wrong... something I never have an issue with.



*Me after people do these things*

## Incomplete sayings

The amount of times I've heard a saying left unfinished is ..... ridiculous (I'll let you fill in the blanks).

For educational purposes, here is a list of my favourites:

- "Curiosity killed the cat; satisfaction brought it back."
- "Early bird gets the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese."
- "Great minds think alike but fools rarely differ."
- "Jack of all trades, master of none, but oftentimes better than master of one."
- "The blood of the covenant is thicker than the water of the womb."
- "Rome wasn't built in a day, but it burned in one."
- "Birds of a feather flock together until the cat comes."

Double negatives (e.g. "I didn't do nothing.") - I don't understand nothing you mean.

People who complain about finger cracking, pen clicking, tapping – get over yourselves. It's not that bad.

Daniel Pine – enough said.

# NEW YEAR // NEW STYLES

FEBRUARY IS FOR FLAWLESS FASHION!

This month we are taking a look into our favourites when it comes to warm but wondrous outfits. Whilst my winter wardrobe often could be associated with a summer trip to Ibiza, I occasionally pick a logical option of a warm outfit suited to the ACTUAL season. With the fashion market being so broad, we sometimes find it difficult to find our perfect outfits for the season. Therefore, let's narrow it down to our winter essentials. Subsequently, why don't we all dive into outerwear for the season.

## The treasured trench coat (forever holding a special place in my heart)

This type of attire is suited to both the outdoors and the seemingly outdoor temperature of our establishment. With its long length not only your arms can be warm, but so can the rest of your body killing two birds with one stone if you ask me! The top 3 retailers in trench coats- Zara, New Look and ASOS.

## The cardigan: A comfortable but stylish piece waiting to be added to your basket

There is not a person a cardigan could not be satisfactory for, especially if you're one for taking your comfort outside (one way or another) to ensure you're warm and feeling homely all day. The top 3 retailers in cardigans-Boohoo, Pretty Little Thing and Bershka.

## The puffer coat

If your not one for pushing the boat out, a puffer jacket is a fundamental part to being warm in winter. Not only does it come in a variety of lengths and thickness, they're also waterproof! Rain, snow, the North-East of England, this has you covered, quite literally. The top 3 retailers in Puffer coats- Next, H&M and Urban Outfitters.

## The windbreaker jacket

This is another option if your one for staying warm, staying dry but also staying in style. This jacket is thinner than most yet gives you the optimum coverage from the treacherous weather we call rain. A bonus of this jacket is that it actually fits in your bag, meaning its adaptability and all-round characteristics are probably suited to you. The top 3 retailers for windbreakers- North Face, Nike and Montirex.

## The leather jacket: Yes, we all know of the leather jacket

Molly-Mae Hague has to influence us in one way or another, \*eye roll\*, but these garments always make their way back into fashion, being a timeless item of the winter wardrobe. Whilst black is the most common and versatile colour, this jacket comes in a selection of colours to suit any of your favourite outfits. The top 3 retailers for leather jackets: Ego, Zara and Styled up.



# NEW YEAR // NEW STYLIST

BY HARRY HEWITSON

An obvious item to buy for winter, there are so many options out there. Prices and quality vary across many brands. You can buy expensive and leave a gaping hole in your bank account, or look for reasonably priced alternatives.

## The North Face puffer

One of the most popular and fashionable coats to buy for winter. The issue is the hood which looks out of place due to its thinness on a puffer jacket. While the insulation of the puffer is excellent, the price of £315 is also *extortionate* considering the coat is not completely waterproof. Overall, it's aesthetically pleasing but not as effective as alternatives.

7/10



## Zara puffer

By far the best priced on the list costing £70, an excellent deal for a completely waterproof coat. It can also be adjusted due to the elastic around the hood and hem. A very good option

9/10



## Adidas trench coat

A different style compared to the traditional puffer style of winter coats but very effective in protecting you from the cold.

Probably a popular choice amongst football managers, the £130 price tag is reasonable and can even be reduced in Adidas outlets.

8/10



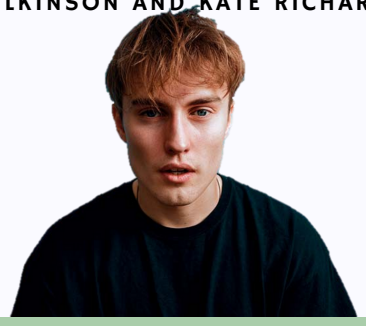


# TOP TOON TUNES

CELEBRATING MUSIC ARTISTS FROM THE NORTHEAST

BY LUCY WILKINSON AND KATE RICHARDSON

Lindisfarne, named after the tidal island off the coast off the northeast, is a folk-rock band formed in Newcastle-upon-Tyne. They released their first album 'Nicely out of tune' in 1970, which included songs such as 'Lady Eleanor' and 'Clear White Light', and soon after they started touring. In 1978 they released the album 'Back and Forth' which included hit song 'Run for Home' performed on Top of the Pops.



Geordie singer and songwriter Sam Fender swiftly grew in popularity since the release of his first album 'Hypersonic Missiles' in 2019, which entered the UK Albums Chart at number 1. His music, formed off indie rock and pop rock, earned him gigs at festivals such as Glastonbury and supporting artists such as Bob Dylan and Liam Gallagher. Fender grew up in North Shields, and he continues to take pride in his Northeast heritage by performing at Newcastle's St. James Park and presenting a BBC documentary on Alan Hull, from the Lindisfarne band.

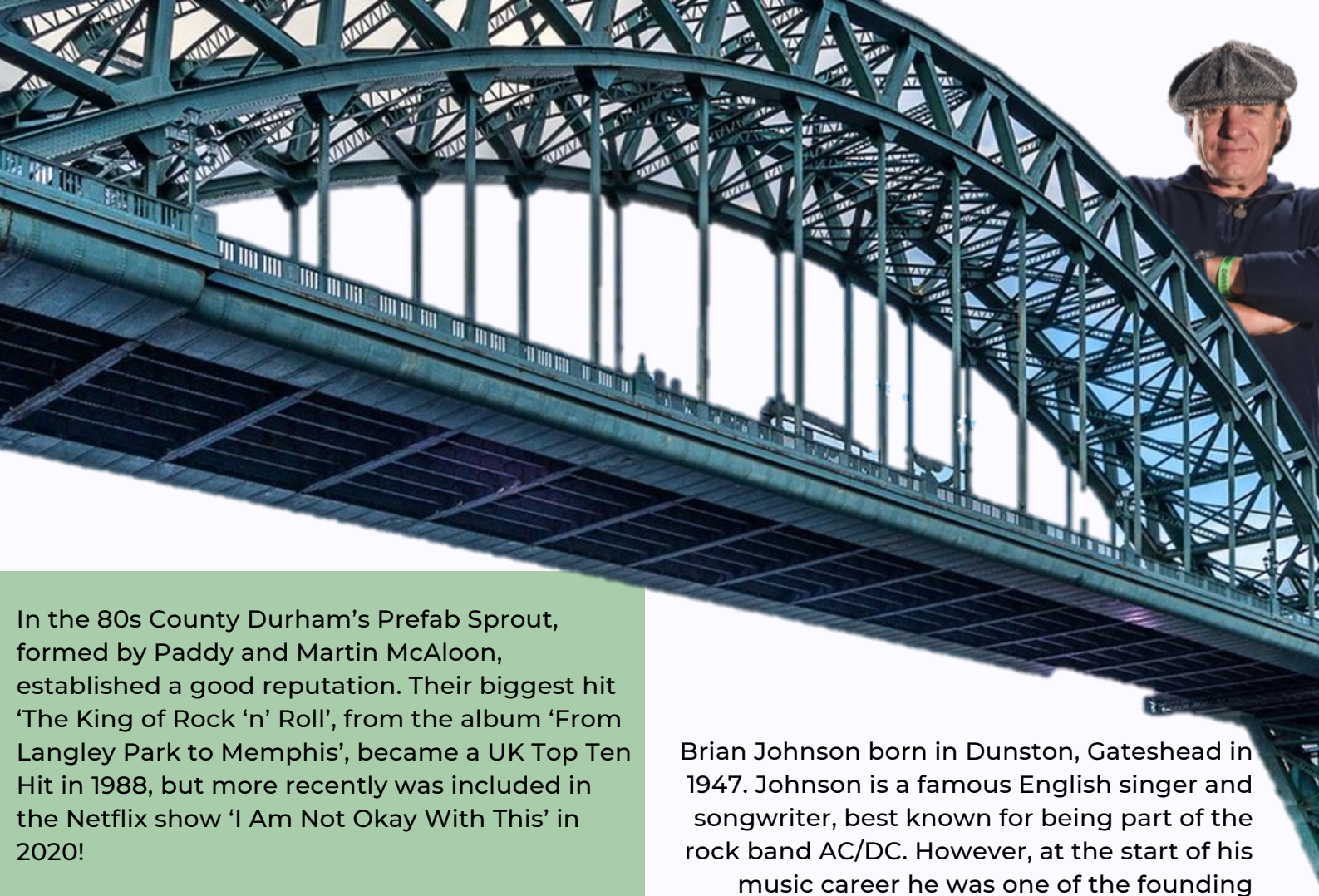
In the 60s world renowned band The Animals were formed in Newcastle-upon-Tyne! The psychedelia blue rocks vibe played an important part in the British Invasion cultural phenomena, when they took over the American music charts alongside The Beatles, The Who and, The Rolling Stones. Their transatlantic number one hit 'House of the Rising Sun' was released in the summer of 1964!

SCAN TO LISTEN!



The Knopfler brothers, Mark and David, were both born in in Glasgow, Scotland but grew up in Blyth near Newcastle. Even though they weren't born here both brothers still class themselves as Geordies to this day! These two brothers later went on to form the rock band who we know as Dire Straits who had number one hits such as 'Money for Nothing' and 'Sultans of Swing'





In the 80s County Durham's Prefab Sprout, formed by Paddy and Martin McAloon, established a good reputation. Their biggest hit 'The King of Rock 'n' Roll', from the album 'From Langley Park to Memphis', became a UK Top Ten Hit in 1988, but more recently was included in the Netflix show 'I Am Not Okay With This' in 2020!

Brian Johnson born in Dunston, Gateshead in 1947. Johnson is a famous English singer and songwriter, best known for being part of the rock band AC/DC. However, at the start of his music career he was one of the founding members of a rock band called 'Geordie', who were a British rock band from Newcastle-upon-Tyne. They didn't have that many well-known songs that got into the top 40 apart from one called 'All Because of You'.

Gordon Matthew Thomas Sumner, most known as Sting was born in Wallsend, Northumberland in 1951. Later on in life he moved to London to form the band called 'The Police' - a hit sensation who had 5 chart-topping albums, winning 6 Grammy awards and 2 Brit awards. Their most successful song, 'Every Breath You Take', was written by Sting himself.

Split Milk are an indie-rock group originally from Gateshead. This group first came into the spotlight in 2019 with their unique songs that reflect the young Northeast culture. The band is made up of a group of triplet brothers called Oscar (rhythm guitar/lead vocals), Issac (lead guitar), Theo (drummer), and finally Thomas who isn't a triplet (bass). Their most popular songs include 'Grey Street' and 'Moving Target'



SCAN TO LISTEN!



# LIVE, LAUGH, LENT

Daniel is giving up a passive attitude to his A levels.

Harry is giving up hope in Man United and chocolate.

Katie is giving up drinking an excessive amount of tea.

Miss Proudlock is giving up wearing great coats.

Hana is giving up needlessly hating.

Rosi is giving up procrastination.

Rick Astley is never gonna give you up.\*

Mr Springett is giving up patience.

Jemima is giving up apple juice (No more litres a day!).

Miss Henson may give up gossiping ... tbc.

**Jasmine is giving up**

**Disclaimer: All jokes aside guys, let's be better people  
this Lenten season.**



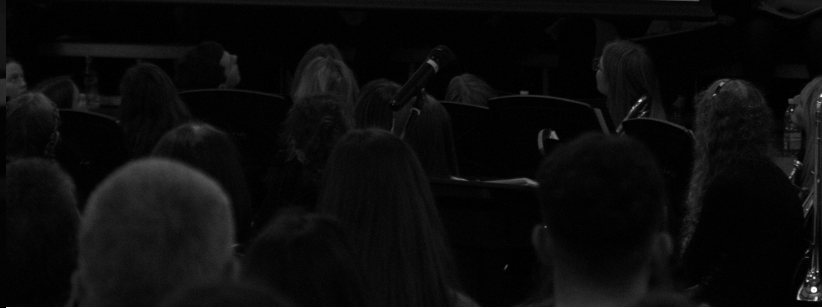
# CHRISTMAS CONCERT



On Wednesday 20th December, students, staff, friends and families were treated to a festive musical spectacular.

Performances included moving choral renditions of festive favourites, re-imaginings of Christmas Party pop and of course, the St Bede's classic, 12 Days of Christmas.







## Film Fanatics

By Katie Thompson and Hana Madeley

Behind the Scenes at the BBFC 2019

Parental Guidance. General viewing, but some scenes may be unsuitable for young children.

*Patricia Swaffar*  
President

*David Austin*  
Chief Executive

17/10/2019



### Argylle

Release date – 02/02/24

Director – Mathew Vaughn

Main cast – Henry Cavill,  
Bryce Dallas Howard

Argylle tells the story of a novelist who writes the thrilling tale of a secret agent named Argylle. However, the line between fiction and reality begins to blur when she is plunged into a series of events mirroring her own story. Will Elly Conway (Bryce Dalas Howard) be able to survive the thrilling tales of her own novel, facing off against a menacing underground syndicate?

### Bob Marley: One Love

Release date – 16/02/24

Directors – Reinaldo Marcus  
Green

Main Cast – Kingsley Ben-  
Adir, Lashana Lynch  
(starred as 007 in No Time  
to Die)

The inspiring story of how the celebrated reggae musician rose to fame, overcoming adversity and challenges. His motivations and messages of love, peace and unity shine through. “Get up, stand up” and go and see this film.

### Land of Bad

Release date – 16/02/24

Directors – William Eubank

Main Cast – Liam  
Hemsworth, Luke  
Hemsworth, Milo  
Ventimiglia, Russell Crowe

Russell Crowe must rescue Liam Hemsworth when his group runs into trouble. This action thriller centres around lots of American army air force things, drones, planes, fighting etc. Watching it should make more sense.  
Hopefully.



Dune Part Two  
Release date – 01/03/24  
Directors – Denis Villeneuve  
Main Cast – Timothée Chalamet, Austin Butler, Florence Pugh, Zendaya, Rebecca Ferguson, Christopher Walken

Three years since the 2021 remake, Dune Part 2 centres around Paul who has to choose between the fate of the universe and his girlfriend. Seems like a bit of a selfish choice because in that environment, it doesn't look like they'd last very long. But... then again, love is nice. I personally won't be spending 2 hours and 46 minutes on this, but you do you x

Kung Fu Panda 4  
Release date – 29/03/24  
Directors – Mike Mitchell and Stephanie Stine  
Main Cast – Jack Black, Awkwafina, Viola Davis

It's been 8 years since the fantastic trilogy of Kung Fu Panda has last made an appearance, since then, we've missed out on sinister villains, an excellent cast, and a storyline that exceeds even the most renowned actions films. This year, Po returns to the big screen in search of a new Dragon Warrior, who will be put to the test by a supernatural opponent. However, the question remains, will the fourth film live up to expectations?

Madame Web  
Release date – 16/02/24  
Director – S.J. Clarkson  
Main Cast – Dakota Johnson, Sydney Sweeney, Emma Roberts

Centring around the unfortunate city of New York, Madame Web tells the tale of a clairvoyant heroine who must face past, present and future hardships. Fighting against what is presumed set in stone, she must carve a new destiny for her and the allies she makes along the way.





By Daniel Pine

## *This month in history...*

### **LIBERATION, CORONATIONS, ASSASSINATIONS.**

January 6th, 1066 – Harold Godwinson was crowned King of England following the death of Edward the Confessor – a role he would hold for a mere 9 months before William the Conqueror's victory at the Battle of Hastings.

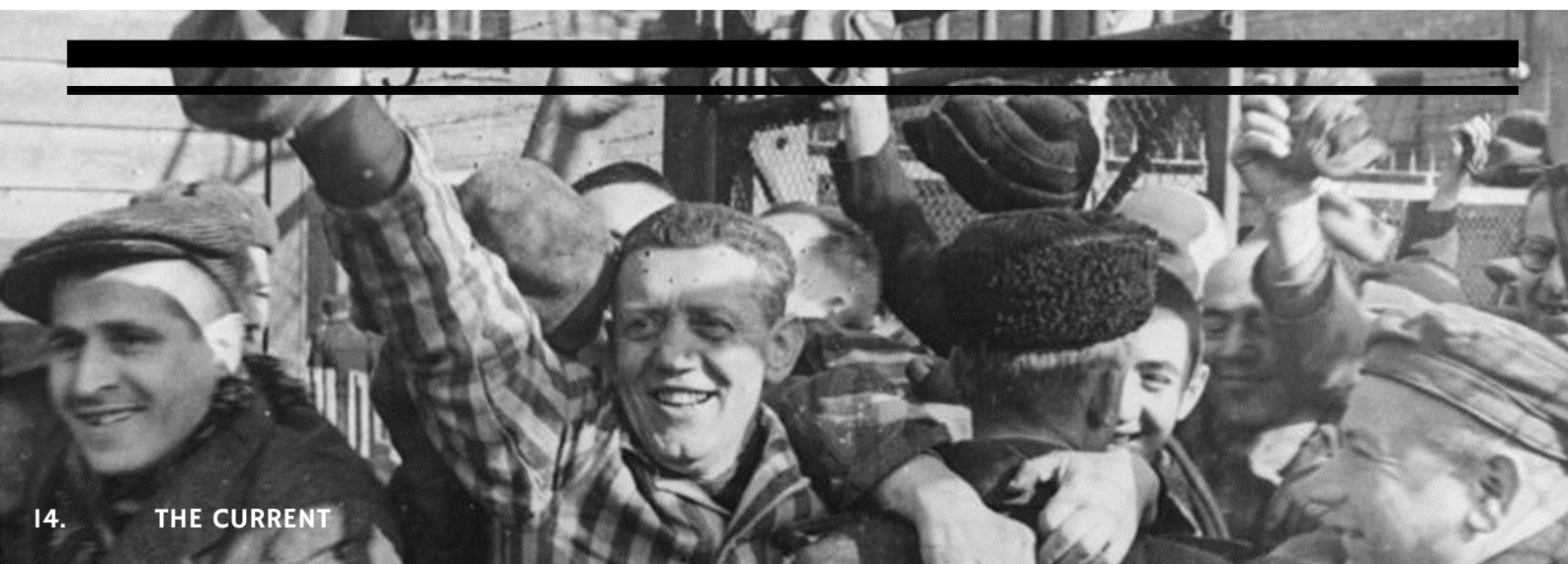
January 6th, 2020 – Four years ago on the 6th of January, the famous insurrection at the Capitol Building by Donald Trump supporters, who saw his election defeat as illegitimate and corrupt, took place.

January 22nd, 1901 – Queen Victoria, temporarily Britain's longest reigning monarch, died aged 81 at Osborne House on the Isle of Wight alongside her children and many grandchildren.

January 27th, 1945 – Auschwitz was liberated by the allied forces, marking the end of the most notorious death camp under Nazi rule. Nowadays, every 27th of January, Holocaust Memorial Day takes place in order to remember the lives lost during the Holocaust and many other genocides since. (see page 16 for more)

January 21st, 1924 – On this day in 1924, Vladimir Lenin died of a brain haemorrhage and was buried in the Red Square in Moscow. The figurehead of the Russian Revolution, Lenin's body remained there until the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991. Also on this day in 2006, Daniel Pine was born – perhaps a reincarnation of Lenin.

January 24th, 41 – The Roman Emperor Caligula was assassinated after a reign of only four years by members of his own guard as the result of a senate plot against him. His reign left him regarded as a murderous tyrant; however, his reputation was somewhat tarnished by contemporary historians within the senate.



## LUKE LITTLER: TAKING DARTS BY STORM

In the build up to the World's Darts Championship 2023 the likes of Michael van Gerwen, Michael Smith and Peter Wright were touted as possible winners, set to add to their success in winning world titles.

There were very few people who even knew who Luke Littler was before the tournament, let alone his insane talent.

As someone who had never really watched darts before the story of Luke Littler alone has engaged so many non darts fans. He has captured the hearts of the nation, gaining many supporters in a whirlwind few weeks.

Nicknamed 'the Nuke', the then 16-year-old reached the final after defeating opponents with ease, including Raymond Van Barneveld, a five-time winner. He also secured victories against Brendan Dolan and 2018 champion Rob Cross before suffering defeat in the final against Luke Humphries.

Despite the heartbreak, Littler bounced back less than 3 weeks later, beating Van Gerwen in the final of the Bahrain Masters. Clearly an incredible player, only just at the start of his career.



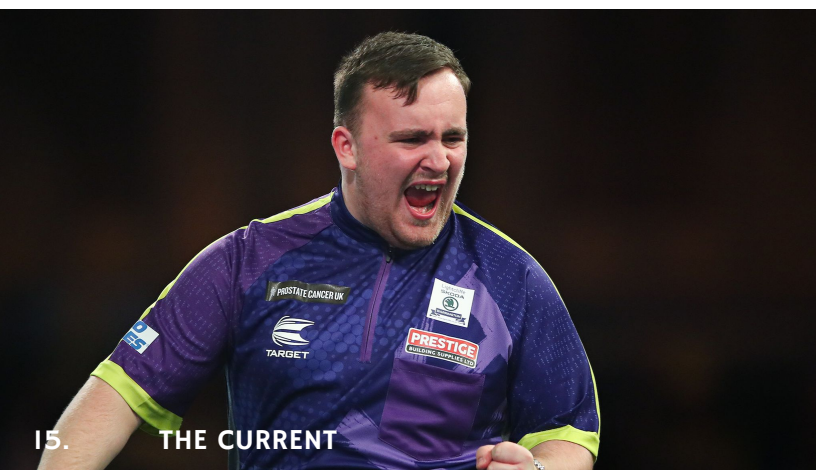
From the age of 4, Littler was already practicing, even before then he was listening to Rob Cross' music at 18 months. His success seemed inevitable. At youth level he dominated, playing at under 21 level at 13 and winning the 2022 JDC World Darts championship before stepping up to senior level and surprising everyone.

Littler has become a household name in a matter of weeks. He became the first darts player to reach over 1 million followers, went viral with a kebab and has met many of his sporting heroes.

He was at the Emirates for Arsenal vs West Ham and later at the Tottenham Hotspur Stadium where he met Spurs midfielder James Maddison. He even played darts with Harry Maguire and Christian Eriksen. The Manchester United fan was a guest of honour for their match against Spurs in January.

He has also reportedly earned £300,000 from the PDC World Championship.

Littler's story has been remarkable, bursting onto the scene at 16, beating experienced players and becoming a popular figure amongst darts fans, even engaging many casuals too. He will undoubtedly win many tournaments. As he continues to make his mark on the world stage, there is still much more to come from the extraordinary talent.



# HONOURING HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY: REFLECTING ON FIVE YEARS OF COMMEMORATION

BY DANIEL ALEGH AND KATIE THOMPSON

As the world marks another Holocaust Memorial Day on January 27th, communities worldwide come together to remember the millions of lives lost during one of the darkest chapters in human history. Over the past five years, poignant ceremonies, educational initiatives, and innovative projects have emerged to ensure that the memory of the Holocaust endures, and the lessons it imparts remain steadfast.

In 2019, on the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, nations united in solemn remembrance. The Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum organized a commemorative event attended by survivors, world leaders, and dignitaries. Their presence underscored the collective commitment to preserving the memory of the Holocaust. Meanwhile, in classrooms and lecture halls, educators worldwide engaged students in discussions about the Holocaust's causes, consequences, and enduring relevance, emphasizing the imperative of never forgetting.

In 2020, amidst the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, communities found innovative ways to honour Holocaust Memorial Day. Virtual commemorations flourished, with online ceremonies, webinars, and digital exhibitions reaching broader audiences than ever before. Through social media campaigns and virtual tours of Holocaust memorials, individuals worldwide participated in meaningful tributes from the safety of their homes, demonstrating resilience in the face of adversity.

The year 2021 witnessed a surge in grassroots initiatives aimed at preserving Holocaust memory and combating rising antisemitism. Across cities, towns, and villages, volunteers adorned public spaces with memorial candles, each flame representing a life extinguished during the Holocaust. In a poignant display of solidarity, people of all backgrounds came together to reaffirm their commitment to tolerance, understanding, and the rejection of hatred in all its forms.

In 2022, cultural institutions and artists embarked on collaborative projects to amplify Holocaust narratives and honour survivors' resilience. Museums curated immersive exhibitions exploring themes of survival, resistance, and the enduring human spirit. Through art installations, films, and literature, the stories of survivors were preserved and shared, ensuring that future generations would bear witness to the atrocities of the past and draw inspiration from the triumph of the human spirit.

In 2023, Holocaust Memorial Day took on added significance as survivors and their descendants continued to share their testimonies and ensure that the horrors of the Holocaust remain vivid in collective memory. The year marked the launch of several intergenerational dialogue programs, bringing survivors together with younger generations to facilitate meaningful exchanges and impart invaluable lessons of resilience and hope.

Additionally, communities around the world joined forces to confront the resurgence of antisemitism, organizing rallies, symposiums, and educational campaigns to combat hatred and prejudice in all its forms. Amidst these efforts, the spirit of remembrance and resistance prevailed, reaffirming the enduring legacy of those who survived and honouring the memory of those who perished.

Most recently, Holocaust Memorial Day was hosted by Durham Cathedral, inviting guests who each shared enlightening stories, conveying key messages about this year's theme – the 'Fragility of Freedom'. Promoting this was 'Judge' Rinder, who expressed the importance of standing up against persecution, rather than becoming a bystander and allow cruelty to flourish. In his moving speech he claims that in every genocide there are virtuous opposers who risk their own freedom to save others. Rinder also poses the idea that the younger generation are the future, and that is up to them to ensure that such atrocities never occur again.

Those who attended were also given the pleasure of watching locals support the community. For instance, Hermitage Academy depicted the stages of a genocide and the lives that are devastated through a stage play. Additionally, a violinist from St Leonards performed a touching melody and descendants of survivors shared their experiences to the audience. Witnessing this allowed all viewers to reflect and consider those lost in such brutal conditions.

As we reflect on the past five years of Holocaust Memorial Day commemorations, we are reminded of the importance of collective remembrance, education, and action in shaping a more just and compassionate world. From solemn ceremonies to innovative digital initiatives, each tribute honours the memory of those who perished in the Holocaust while reaffirming our shared commitment to building a future rooted in tolerance, understanding, and respect for all humanity.





# ADVENT DOORS: SLEIGH OR NEIGH?

Mrs Walker- This amazing door's dark colour scheme is definitely not the scariest part of this photo, featuring a 3D, real life Mrs Chapman- Jones!

Mr Watson- Despite Mr Watson's attempts to remove us from the Y block, we managed to capture this door in its full glory, very clearly demonstrating the effort from the pupils in 9 Ward!

Miss Proudlock- As there are many Star Wars fanatics in St Bede's, I have no doubt that this door will be popular, and although I can see the Santa hat on Chewbacca, it cannot be ignored that it has little to no relation to the topic of this competition, CHRISTMAS!

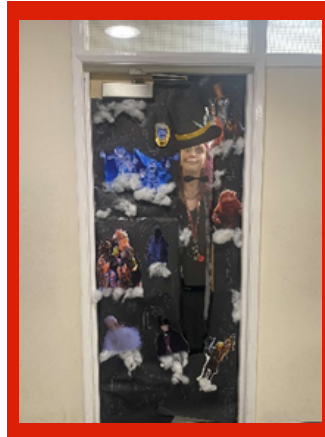
Mrs Brennan- Since practically the dawn of time, Santa has had nine reindeer; therefore, the likelihood that one is enough of an amateur to get tangled up in fluorescent lights is zero to none. Personally, I'd rate this door a 10/10 for creativity but a -3/10 for realism.

Miss McCaugherty?(unsure)- Has nobody ever taught you that Jesus is for life, not just for Christmas?!! Just because this is a Catholic school, does not mean that you can exploit the nativity in order to bribe the judges! Do better!

Mrs Dunbar- Ho Ho Ho?.. More like Ha Ha Ha! This door would look absolutely fantastic... that is if they had done it themselves! Personally, I don't agree with recruiting the art department to win a children's friendly door decorating competition but each to their own.

Wow Mr Muggeridge, your confidence is outstanding! I certainly wouldn't have been brave enough to stick self-portraits on my door, but I 100% applaud both your courage, and your self-awareness.

Nothing less can really be said about this door other than it is the pinnacle of creativity throughout the M block; not only does it demonstrate student participation \*cough cough Art Department\* but also sheds light through the corridor of one of the best subjects, maths!





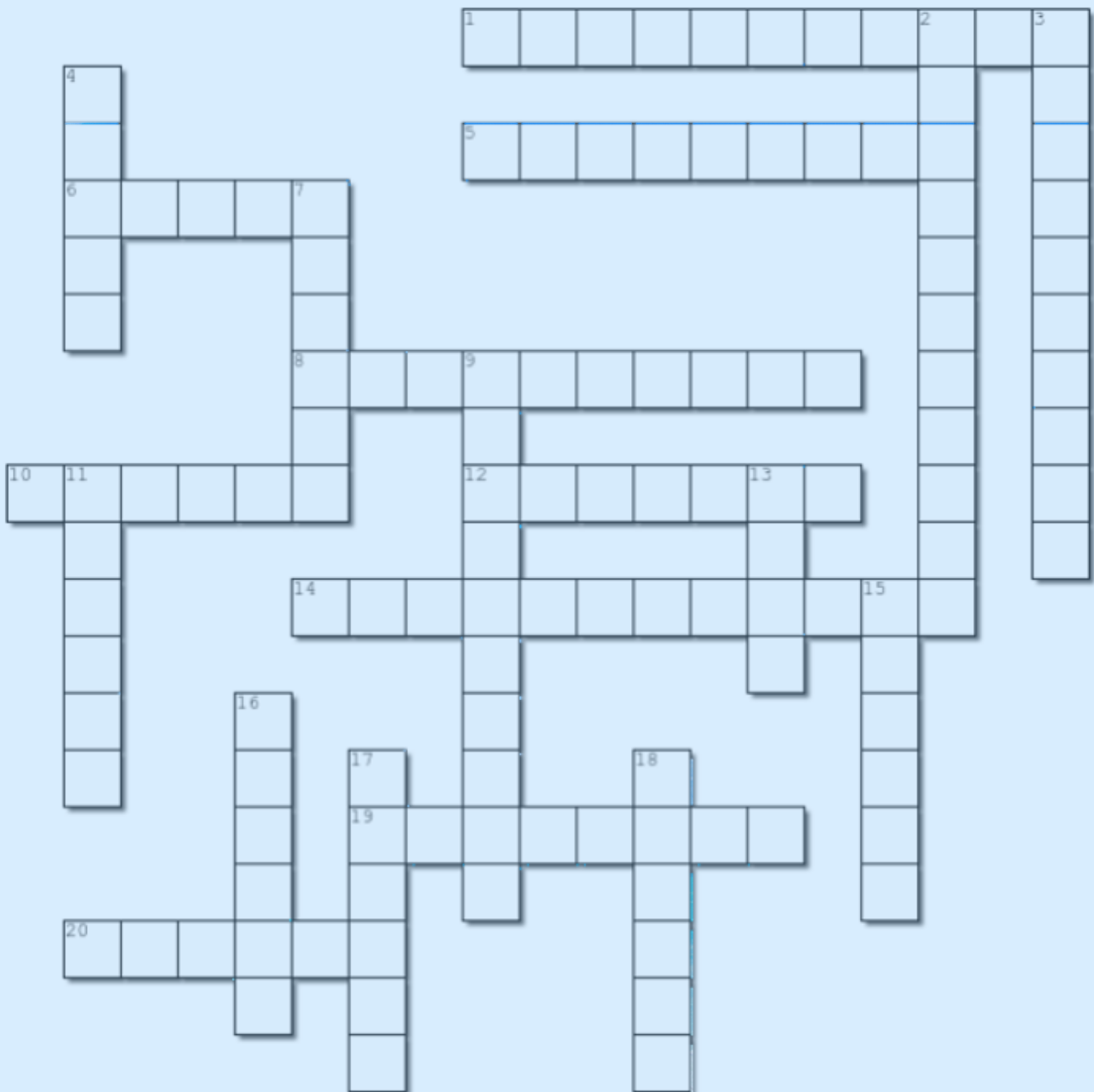
# Puzzler's Paradise

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

EPIPHANY  
GUEVARA  
DANIEL  
OPINIONS  
PIANO  
INFLUENCER  
REVOLUTION

ARGYLLE  
PREFAB  
PINE  
PROCRASTINATION  
WINDBREAKER  
LENT  
LUKE

CHE  
SPROUT  
UNSOLICITED  
CONCERT  
ADIDAS  
LINDISFARNE  
LITTLER



### Across

1. Teenage darts sensation
5. Traitors presenter, Claudia
6. Gordon Matthew Thomas Sumner (North East musician...)
8. Relaunched British athletic gameshow
10. River in London
12. Henry Cavill's new hit film
14. Harry's view on a £315 puffer coat
19. Largest land mammal
20. French city visited by St Bede's

### Down

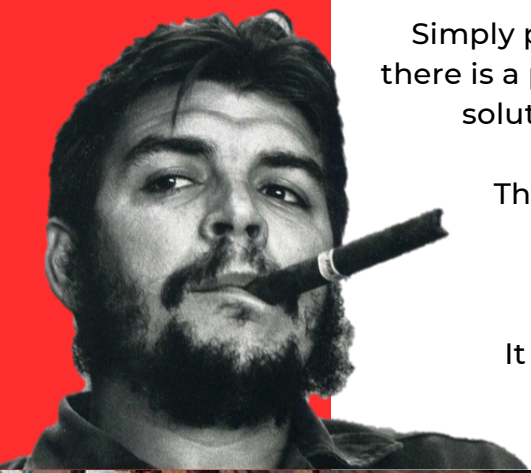
2. Holy Island
3. How to start a .....
4. Started a revolution from their bed
7. Home of the steak bake
9. British investment TV show
11. Sherlock
13. Time to give something up
15. Scary stage of a revolution
16. Scrooge's ghostly guide
17. Someone giving up gossiping
18. National dish - Chicken Tikka

# HOW TO START A REVOLUTION

FROM YOUR BED OR ANYWHERE...



If you still feel you need more information, feel free to check out the wikiHow article on the subject, "4 Ways to Start a Revolution."



For anyone curious, here are Crane Brinton's "Stages of a Revolution" (Read either the *Anatomy of a Revolution*, or *Run Rebel* by Manjeet Mann for more info).

- Restlessness
- Dissatisfaction
- Control
- Momentum
- Honeymoon
- Terror
- Overthrow
- Peace

The key to starting a revolution is probably not by asking people on Quora. However, when researching this, there were several answers to the question.

Summarised, they concluded that the best position to be in to take power is to already hold it.

Simply put, you'll need to persuade people that there is a problem, and then that you have the best solution. To do this you must be popular.

Then, just overthrow those in power.

It is helpful to have your own army.

Written by "Red" Rosi Biasi



Down:  
 2. Lindisfarne  
 3. Revolution  
 4. Orléans  
 5. Winkelman  
 6. Strang  
 8. Gladiators  
 10. Thames  
 11. Holmes  
 12. Argyll  
 13. Lent  
 14. Extonate  
 15. Terror  
 16. Marley  
 17. Hanson  
 18. Masala  
 19. Elephant  
 20. Athens

Crossword Answers: