DOVERTIMES









dear Sixth Form,

Welcome to the 5th issue of the DOVERTIMES! We are delighted to share with you everything that's happened since our last edition, and a vast range of articles spanning topics from Movies to Mythology. Enjoy the spring season, where days are not too hot, nor too cold, and the slightest glimmer of sunshine brings happiness.

from, the team at DOVERTIMES



The school is beginning to come to life, as is nature with the arrival of spring. The downside of this is that exams are getting closer for the Upper Sixth, and so sadly I will no longer be running the newspaper. However, it is an immense pleasure to be passing on the role to Anna who has worked so hard on this edition alongside Rainie. I could not be passing it on to a better and more deserving individual. Please enjoy reading.

from, Chief Editor Zoe

First of all, it is such an honour to have been given the opportunity to run and edit this amazing student newspaper. I wouldn't have known where to start without the support and encouragement from Zoe, after her own incredible year of editorship. I hope everyone enjoys this edition and finds something of interest to read, which is the main aim of the newspaper, after all. And to Zoe, I cannot thank you enough for making DOVERTIMES the newspaper it is today. Wishing you all the best for the future!

from, Chief Editor Anna



Zoe Popescu Inna Deakin

CHIEF EDITORS

It's been an exciting term taking over a new role as Head Designer of the paper. In this edition I've included some experimental spreads such as the scrapbook-themed pages mixed with some modern designs as well; displaying the true colours of Anna and I's vision for the paper being composed of creativity and fun. Adding the new 'School News' section has definitely given me more creative freedom in terms of the youthful style of the magazine, alongside other student's articles with their own designs. It has been an amazing experience working with Anna to publish this new edition and I can't wait to try out different designs for upcoming editions.



from, Head Designer Rainie

Special Mentions

Collectively, we would like to thank Fintan for being our designated Photographer and Sports Correspondent! He has contributed many photos from numerous events and matches, many of which have been used across the articles in this edition. Thank you Fintan!





Everyone at DOVERTIMES would also like to extend their thanks to Angela for, as always, being an incredible part of DOVERTIMES from beginning to end. Thank you for all of the support, encouragement and advice!

from, the team at DOVERTIMES



Every Tuesday 14:15 - 15:15 Room 58 333 Banbury Road



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Ankie Lai



Pom Sirisupavich



Bridget Decker



Sam Wraith

School News
arranged by Anna Deakin
and Rainie Wong

See exclusive photos from the Music Winter Concert on page 12!

Take a look at a handful of the d'Overbroeck's events that have taken place over the last term. Enjoy seeing what students have been up to!

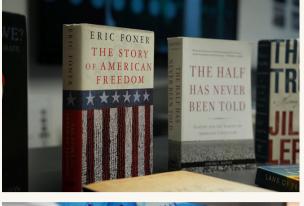




HALF-WAY THROUGH

SIXTH FORM IN REVIEW



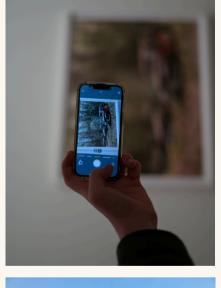




















PHOTOGRAPHS: FINTAN RECKLESS ARRANGED BY ANNA DEAKIN







A wet pitch at Oxford City hosted a tough match for the d'Overbroeck's Sixth Form boys team against Oxford Academy School in the Oxfordshire FA County Cup. Early on in the game, our team put a lot of pressure on OAS, which prevented a lot of shots. The first goal was a combination of Theo Patch's sharp skills, which Fedor Urin put away perfectly to position us at 1–0.



Hopes were high for d'Overbroeck's after winning a penalty, especially considering the confidence of the other team. Fifteen minutes before the break, Fedor Urin slotted the ball through the legs of the keeper after a ball through from Sam Wraith. At Half time, it was 2-0, however the job wasn't done. A rapid start allowed us to put pressure on Oxford Academy, forcing them to make mistakes. Urin then hat-tricked his way to making it 3-0. But d'Overbroeck's' motivation didn't stop there: Sam Wraith shot from the edge of the box and deflected it in to make it 4-0.

Even so, Fedor Urin's game wasn't done yet as he pinpointed the ball through from Seth Carlisle, which put the ball in a place so perfect that everyone knew Urin wasn't going to miss. The back line Tijn Camoenie, Xander De Jong, Bashir Baliyu and Daniil Kovalchuk worked as a great unit. The substitutes followed the same attitude and nothing got past them throughout the game, not even giving the opponent a peek at the goal. After pressure from the opponents, they scored a goal in the last five minutes to make it 5–1. Despite lots of hard work, some changes were made to the lineup to freshen the team, and the game ended at 5–1. It was a great team effort from every single made to the lineup to freshen the team, and the game ended at 5–1. It was a great team effort from every single made to the lineup to freshen the team, and the game ended at 5–1. It was a great team effort from every single player – with a special mention to Fedor Urin and his four goals. The first round of the county cup went to d'Overbroeck's and the opponents for the next round will be decided soon.







MUSIC WINTER CONCERTS

| The second second second | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Orchestra - | Sleigh Ride - Leroy Anderson |
| Gaudeamus ———— | Lully Lulla - Leighton |
| Youngmin Jung | Moments Musicaux No.4 - Rachmaninov |
| Justin Wu — Vi | olin Concerto, 4th Movement - Shostakovich |
| Isaac Davies ———— | Gnossienne No.3 - Satie |
| String Group — | Winter, 1st Movement - Vivaldi |
| Lisa Mayer | When will my life begin? - Moore |
| Eileen Bi and Anna Zhao- | Fearlessly - Xu and Su |
| Ollie Watkins | Best Part - Caesar |
| Maria Lysenko — | *Dance* |
| Folk Group — Drow | sy Maggie/Livin' on a Prayer - Trad./Bon Jovi |
| Patt Umyim and Youngmi | n Jung — Dive - Dean |
| | From the Start - Laufey |
| | *Dance* |
| Zoe Popescu, Anna Lucia, | |
| Rhys Cassidy, Lily Miller, | Seth — Bags - Clairo |
| Gillespie | |
| Briana Uzorka ———— | Ces Mots Simples - Paradis |
| Aurelia Fry | Strangers Like Me - Collins |
| Chrissie Zhang — | *Dance* |
| Valentina Ribeiro Cocenz | a Nobody's Soldier - Hozier |
| Csenge Gal ———— | Down your Spine - Gal |
| Dance Club — Espresso | and Beautiful Things - Carpenter and Boon |







AN OVERVIEW



Pom Sirisupavich From the Start - Laufey



Csenge Gal Down Your Spine - Gal



Chrissie Zhang Dance



Eileen Bi and Anna Zhao Fearlessly - Xu and Su



Alisa Arhharova Dance



Valentina Ribeiro Cocenza Nobody's Soldier - Hozier



Lisa Mayer When will my life begin? - Moore

For more of this...

- There are half-termly Spotlight concerts for students to perform in or watch.
- The Music department are also running a schoolwide concert at the Sheldonian on the 14th of March!

A Widsummer Night's Replace, I had the speaking to some

After A Midsummer Night's Dream took place, I had the honour of speaking to some of the cast members to gain an insight into their favourite parts of the process.

... the creative collaboration between cast and director

> Giacomo Ruffmán, Lysander







...the bonding of the cast throughout the whole process, start to finish

> Ned Walsh, **Bottom**

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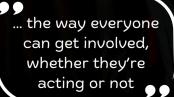


... the jokes shared between cast and director

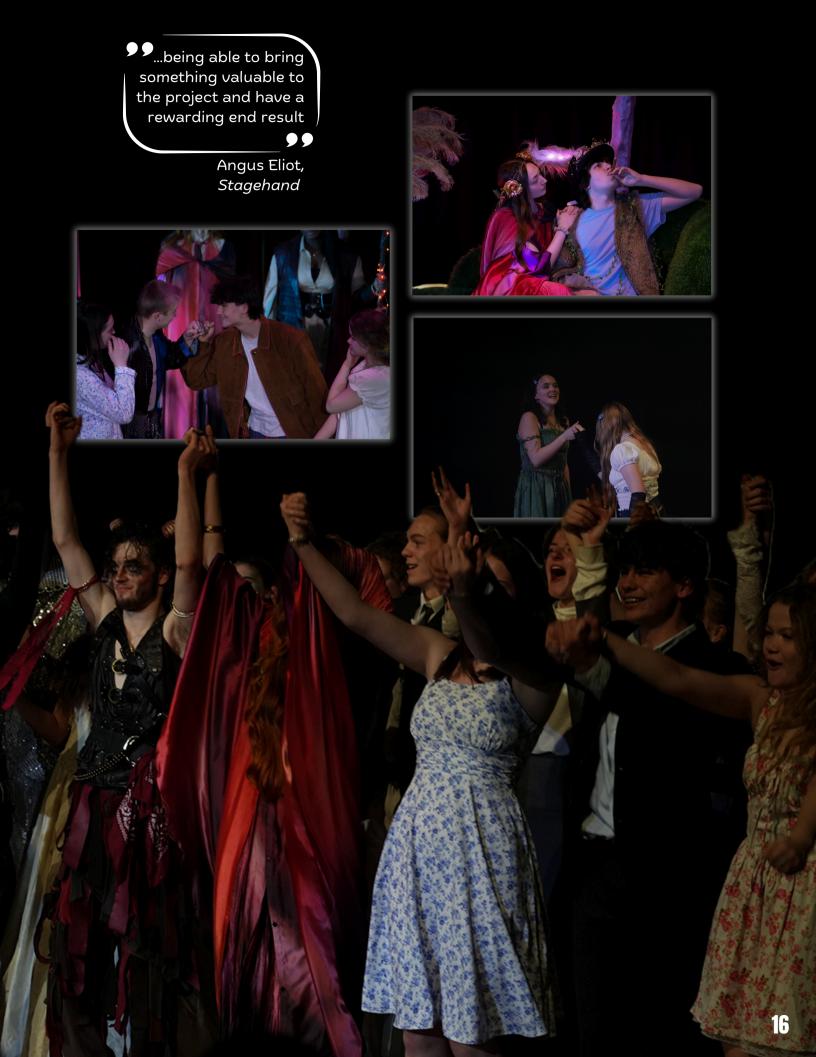
> Ed Hall, The Wall

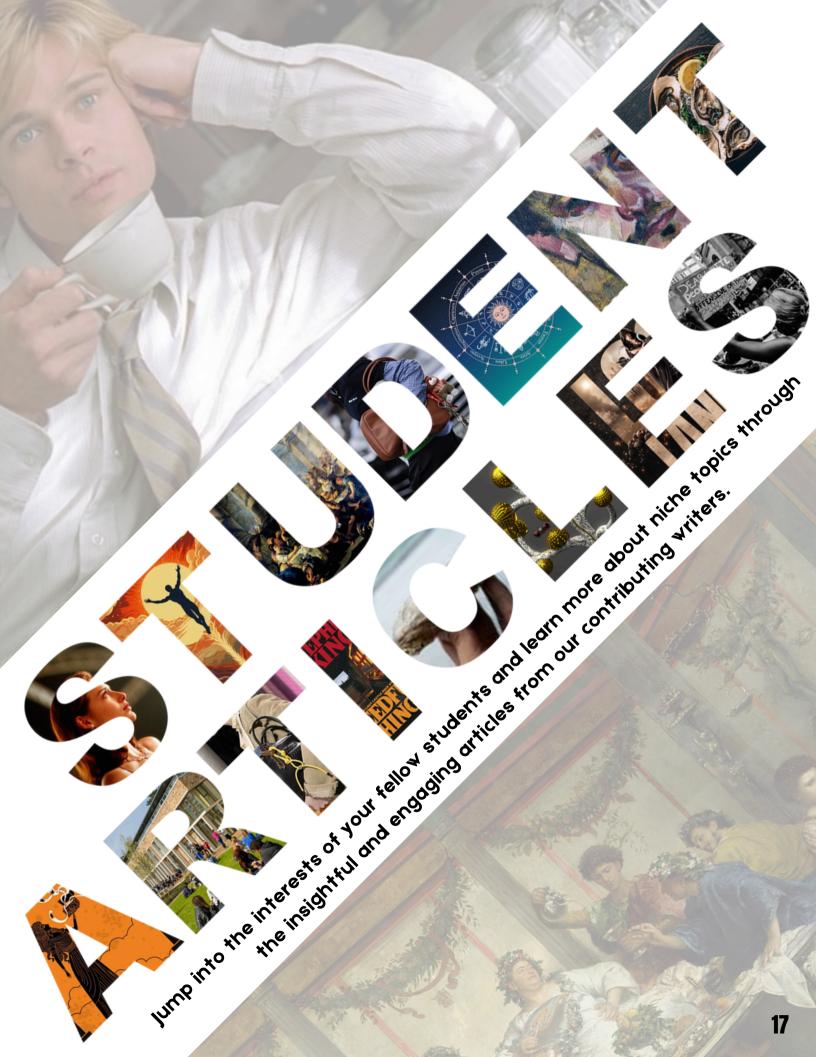
... getting to know Joe Swarbrick himself and his directing style

> Will Hall, The Wall



Zohar Greenwood, Stagehand







Book Recommendations



Demian by Hermann Hesse is a relatively short book, but it carries a lot of meaning hidden within its' pages; there is prevalence of the themes of becoming an adult, stepping out of a world surrounded by family and into the real world. It also explores the idea of trying to understand oneself, another incredibly relevant topic for many teenagers. Moreover, this book encourages you to think, analyse your life, and question the answers you thought were irrevocably right, whilst also allowing you to build your own opinions free from the prejudices in society. The author's ability to convey a sense of relatability through the pages, despite being written over 100 years, makes you want to talk about yourself and your feelings



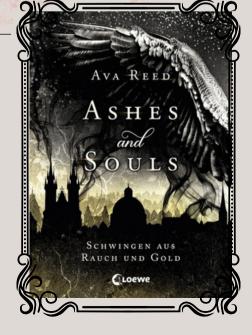


Needful Things by Stephen King is a book that reveals the darker sides of the human soul. In this story, readers can see how small actions can have a great impact on the future.

The story is full of mystery and darkness, a sense that gradually increases and leads the characters to the consequences of their actions. This book will appeal to readers who enjoy stories where the main source of fear is not supernatural creatures, but people themselves.



A fantasy novel full of mystery and adventure, Ashes and Souls is a great choice for escaping reality and diving into a world of angels and demons, where the author also does an excellent job of incorporating well-known myths into her unique, magical world. This story will appeal to readers who want to enjoy the beauty of Prague, as the author's vivid description of the city simultaneously makes you want to be there, and feel like you are.



By Anna Kushkian

Short story by Anna Kushkian Inspired by her experiences of culture day at d'Overbroecks

Sitting in the circle of his friends, Temin silently reflected on how fortunate he was to have found them. A soul once solitary since childhood, one that had only known the bitterness of friendship, had finally discovered what they call "life". He had found those who embraced him, and in turn, they revealed their true selves. He had met those with whom he could believe in eternity, those whose smiles lit the path each day, to heal his trembling heart and soul that used to weep every night, longing for such friendship.

And now, after so many years, after all the ups and downs in life, he sat by the fire with his friends. Salvador played his violin and Akiel sang while everyone listened intently, swaying and exchanging knowing glances. Sumina held Temin's hand, Temin held Manuel's, and so the circle continued. They all waved their hands in time with Salvador's melody as the crackling fire warmed their hearts.

Each of them felt the magic that flowed within their bodies, passed from one to another through their intertwined hands. Each felt the beauty and gratitude for this magical moment. In smiles and in laughter, they opened their most vulnerable, scarred hearts—hearts that had been rejected by the cruelty of others. And in this forest, ancient with the magic of life on this earth, they silently signed an unspoken pact, becoming extensions of one another.

For it was their heavy pasts that had taught them to cherish life's fleeting moments: the laughter of friends, the kindness in actions. They etched these memories into their hearts, for it was now, in this very moment, that their friendship blossomed into the most beautiful flowers.

Even though they were from different kingdoms and towns, from different cultures, and of different ages, they all learned how to say 'family' in each of their languages.

ANIMAL TESTING

IN THE COSMETICS INDUSTRY



What is Animal Testing

Animal testing is a huge topic in the cosmetic industry. It is common for brands to test on animals for product safety because some people take the view that it is okay for humans to take advantage of animals, as it prevents harm to humans. The aim is to eliminate the use of chemicals that have the possibility of damaging human skin. However, it raises ethical issues as it is morally wrong to make animals suffer for the sake of human's welfare.

Animal testing is inherently wrong as it can reduce the animal's quality of life and cause agonising pain to the vulnerable. Arguably, animal testing could even be an inaccurate method to test products, as humans don't react the same way to chemicals compared to animals. Therefore, this means consumer safety cannot be guaranteed.



Brands that test on animals

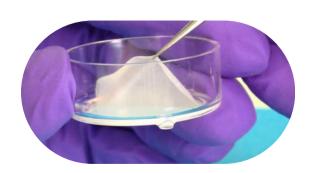
Big cosmetic brands like Benefit, Lòréal,
Clinique, Bobbi Brown and MAC conduct animal
testing on animals, particularly rabbits, mice
and rats. If you want your cosmetics to come
from brands that don't test on animals, look out
for any of these cruelty-free symbols on
packaging.





Alternatives to Animal Testing

One of the better alternatives to animal testing is using human cells in cultures: If the skin cells die once the chemicals are in contact, that means the chemical is harmful. Computer models are also a possibility for testing, as they provide more accurate predictions of human responses. Both of these alternatives are more efficient and cost effective as well.



Greek Mythology

PROMETHEUS AND THE THEFT OF FIRE

Prometheus was a Titan and a God of Fire, who created humanity and pitied their struggles. After Zeus forbid humans from having fire, Prometheus was forced to see the humans cold and helpless. So he defied Zeus, and stole a spark of fire from Mount Olympus, hiding it in a hollow fennel stalk, and gave it to humanity. Having access to fire allowed the human civilisation to advance; they learnt to cook, forge tools, and build their civilisation.

Zeus was enraged by this defiance, and punished Prometheus by chaining him to the top of the Caucasus Mountains.

Prometheus became subject to eternal torment as an eagle ate his liver everyday, and each night it would regrow to force Prometheus to endure his punishment for eternity. Zeus also punished humanity by sending Pandora, the first woman, with a jar that unleashed suffering and death upon the world.



However, one day Heracles passed by the Caucasus Mountains where Prometheus was chained. Taking pity on the suffering Titan, Heracles shoots the eagle that is tormenting Prometheus, and kills it. With Zeus' reluctant permission, Heracles breaks Prometheus' chains and frees him.

PANDORA'S BOX

Long ago, after Prometheus stole fire for humanity, Zeus ordered Hephaestus to create the first woman, Pandora, shaping her from clay. The gods each gave her unique gifts: beauty from Aphrodite, wisdom from Athena, charm from Hermes, and, from Zeus, an insatiable curiosity. Zeus also gave Pandora a jar, warning her never to open it.



Pandora was sent to Earth and married Epimetheus, Prometheus' brother, despite Prometheus' warnings not to accept anything from Zeus. For some time, Pandora lived happily, but her curiosity about the jar grew stronger. Unable to resist, she finally opened it.

The moment she lifted the lid, all the evils trapped inside—pain, disease, and death—escaped, spreading across the world and bringing suffering to humanity. Realising what she had done, Pandora quickly closed the jar, but it was too late to contain the evils. Only one thing remained inside: hope.

Although Pandora had unleashed hardships into the world, hope stayed behind as humanity's consolation, reminding people that even in the darkest times, there is always a glimmer of light.

By Ivy Che

THE SATURNALIA



The Saturnalia is thought of as one of the origin stories of Christmas. It was a Roman festival celebrated on the 17th of December and ran to the 19th. By the 1st century BC, it lasted from the 17th all the way to the 23rd. It was celebrated in December as it was a festival of light that led to the winter solstice.

Abundant candles were used to symbolise a quest for knowledge and truth. In the later Roman empire, the renewal of light and the coming of the new year was celebrated at the "Birthday of the Unconquerable Sun" on the 25th of December. The 17th of December itself was a public holiday and schools were closed, government suspended and no law courts were in session. Additionally, no declarations of war could be made on this day. The 18th and 19th of December were holidays from business and families conducted their own sacrifices and rituals in their houses. If the family were able, it was common to sacrifice a suckling pig to the god Saturn. Saturn was an agricultural deity who was thought to have ruled in a time called 'the Golden Age.' It was believed that this was when humans last lived peaceful, ordered, and law governed lives and with the ground fertile with crops. At this time, it was also thought that there was no difference between those who were enslaved and those who were free.

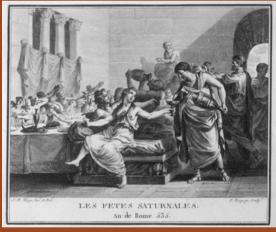


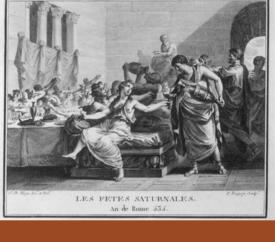
The atmosphere of the Saturnalia is meant to be reminiscent of the free, peaceful atmosphere of the Golden Age of Saturn and show that one day this age will return. During the festival, at the Temple of Saturn in the Roman Forum there was a public sacrifice and afterwards a public banquet. During the banquet, the statue of Saturn himself was moved from the temple and put on a couch at the public feast. This was so the god could also join the festivities! The atmosphere of the festival was meant to be carnivalesque and, although it was normally prohibited, gambling and dice playing were permitted, with slaves even allowed to participate.

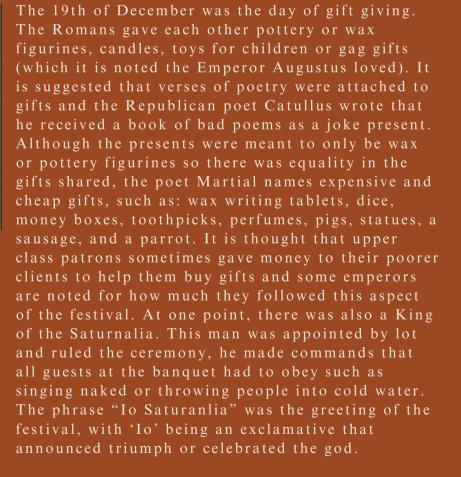


On the whole, the Saturnalia represented an overturning of social norms and slaves were treated very differently to normal circumstances. The slaves of households were often given a banquet. This could have meant that master and slave dined together or it could have meant the slaves dined first, or even that the masters themselves served the slaves a meal. The Saturnalian licence meant slaves were even able to disrespect their masters without being punished. The poet Horace coined this 'December Liberty'. On this holiday everyone wore a felt cap called a 'pileus'. This meant there was no distinction between slave and free. Roman citizens even wore colourful Greek 'dinner clothes' instead of a toga (which was a marker of Roman citizenship).











JANE BIRKIN TREND

The rise of the new trend of Jane 'Birkining':

hat does it mean to 'Jane Birkinfy' a bag?

Currently there's a rising trend on TikTok where influencers and celebrities customise their bags with personal trinkets such as charms, ribbons, stickers and badges. Searches for the 'Jane Birkin aesthetic' jumped by 150% in the last three months. This is due to the nature of the fashion trend being so relatable as it is an outlet of personalisation and a way of showing your identity; for example, you might have a volleyball charm if you are into volleyball or even a souvenir charm that holds a special memory of yours.

The name of the trend itself is a wordplay on the British-French actress and singer Jane Birkin, the designer of the iconic Birkin bag itself from Hermes. Jane Birkin has set many other previous trends with her famous bag, she was not one to expect a bag to stick to a simple, clean-cut design with a lack of personality. A bag that hasn't been 'Jane Birkin-ed'. Overall, the playfulness and personalised nature of the trend echos

her own free spirit and unique personality.





It hit mainstream fashion in the latest Spring/Summer runway of 2024, which featured chunky oversized bags decked out with charms and trinkets. In the Miu Miu show, leather tote bags had shoes and clothes spilling out of the bag, along with rope, charms and beads attached to it. This was done as a means to convey chaotic and messy self-expression, which in doing so promoted the trend as they have 'Jane Birkin-ed' their most iconic bags. Similarly in Balenciaga's show, bags were accessorised with padlocks, heavy keys and tags hanging out of the bags, whilst the bags themselves also had a worn-out look as the leather was creased and discoloured. In both shows, this new inspiration of the Jane Birkining trend is a stark contrast to the conventional 'perfect', well-kept appearance of bags on the runway; inviting a new wave of embracing imperfections and personality that defies the tradition of preserved and perfected designer handbags. Outside of the runway, the trend also had an impact on street style in the resurgence in vintage bags and thrifting as it relates to the second-hand nature of the trend itself.



This new trend of maximalist decorating is a juxtaposition to the exclusiveness and luxuriousness of Birkin bags; the very expensive Hermes bag contrasts with its decoration of trinkets and charms that could be found at a stall at your local handmade market. As people have now started to accessorise their own personal belongings, it shows how personalisation is now marketable in the industry. There has been a change where a bag's significance and ownership aren't tied to the brand of the bag, but rather to the accessories and meaning an individual assigns to it through personalisation and customisation. This new wave of accessorising completely changes the fashion limelight, demonstrated by its appearance on the runways. Brands are now encouraging selfexpression and defying the traditional trend of quiet luxury that previous runways allude to. In an era where minimalism and cookie-cutter micro trends have previously shaped the fashion landscape, this new trend breaks away from fashion's homogenisation, in that now 'chaotic customisation' is marketable, which encourages consumers to push personalisation to the extreme and empowers people to embrace self-expression and uniqueness - which the fashion industry has not previously conformed to. This also shows the importance of individuality for Gen Z in a market saturated by micro trends. Fashion has once again become an extension of their identity and brands are slowly recognising the importance of consumer choice, customisation and self-expression as a marketing strategy. This trend also breaks away from the backlash the fast fashion industry has experienced, in that brands themselves can start experimenting more and drift away from the creative block that these mainstream trends perpetuate.

To achieve this look, in no way would you need a Birkin bag – in fact almost the opposite is true. This trend wants to embody the aesthetic of everydayness and causal life rather than quiet luxury that the Hermes Birkin bag hegemonically represents as a bag costing £300,000+. Here we are only exploring how to achieve the 'Jane Birkin' bag look; to start, you may want to select a used or worn tote shoulder bag that is preferably leather. This will achieve that vintage, Y2K everyday aesthetic. These could be found at your local and online second-hand stores - such as Depop, Vinted and charity shops. You can then layer on keychains and accessories to make the bag playful and funky; some commonly used examples of these include scarfs, charms, trinkets, beaded chains, necklaces, keychains and hairclips. But most importantly, this whole trend is based on expressing personal style to embrace personal character and fun: it abandons strict fashion rules and prioritises maximalism and experimentation. So, the accessories you choose for your bag should represent some part of you as a person, such as keychain of your favourite holiday destination or a special memory.



Death meets life, in a passionate kiss

"Meet Joe Black" is a 1998 film that follows Death himself, taking a human form under the name Joe Black, who is played by the beloved Brad Pitt. Death takes a trip around Downtown Manhattan, and he falls in love with Susan, the daughter of the man he is threatening to murder - played by Claire Forlani. Yes, little mister Joe Black wants to murder his girlfriend's father, Bill; a man in his early 60's who suffers from heart issues, and whose time to welcome the afterlife has come. At the beginning of the film, Bill (Anthony Hopkins), gives a speech to his daughter about the life-giving principle: love. In hearing this speech, death decides he too wants to experience what "life is all about", so he steals the body of the man who coincidently had a meet-cute with Susan in the opening scene, and harasses Bill into letting him tag along with him and his family, in exchange for giving him more time to be alive.

Regardless of the slightly unsettling and bizarre plotline. the film explores the relationship between life and death, and how intertwined they are; it argues that the most essential things in life are love and peanut butter. The film blurs the line between life and death and shows the viewer that in both of these, sometimes drastically different, scenarios, the presence of love and connection is what gives any meaning and purpose to our lives. I loved how the film depicted Bill's and Susan's father-daughter relationship. When Joe, bizarre, naive and awkward Joe, decides to be difficult and threatens to take Susan with him to the afterlife because he's fallen in love with her, Bill, who dedicates himself to his family and work, defies Death and defends his daughter, proudly, with a show of love and bravery, regardless of the possible life-threatening consequences. However, it is important to clarify that Joe Black isn't portrayed as a bad guy, and that the notice of Death isn't really either, but rather as an unavoidable and natural fact. The film aims to show the real unimportance of what would seem a grave predicament, instead putting the real value in the content of our lives.



When Bill's time comes to an end, he asks Joe if he should be scared and Joe says, "Not a man like you". These comforting words lead me to conclude, then, that if we don't have to be scared of death, that means we must live for the day.

For Mister Joe Black, life is colourful in its small pleasures; peanut butter, ties, cookies, and people passing him the buns at the dinner table. But it is also based on the important things, such as love. His immediate enchantment with Susan, and her equally passionate feelings towards him seem almost like an allusion to a harmonious relationship between Life and Death. There's Susan, a doctor who works to bring people's lifeline back, and Joe, Death himself, and they are united in a love so passionate that eternal rest himself decides life is wonderful, and struggles to give up his Susan at the end of his journey. The story also follows the idea of making peace with Death, as we see Bill adjust his life around the knowledge of his near ending, and particularly when he is forcefully retired from his own company. But, we also see that even in old age, even at the prospect of Death, love can be a life giving force that defies all. Bill not only stands up to Joe, but he dedicates his last few days surrounded by his family, and making sure he makes things right around him. It seems quite obvious, really, that you would do that when told you are soon not to be, but it also shows that even with the knowledge of death, people still choose love. Susan, who is passionately in love with Joe, at her father's intent denying of their relationship, decides her complete love and commitment to her father is more important than this new-found companion.

This film is a slow dance of death and life and the uniting of love. It has funny scenes, and also annoying characters like Drew (of whom i do not want to speak on). The film shows that the only tragedy of death is the feeling of loosing love, but it also shows that in deeply wishing for our love back, we only show how much of it we have left. Death - Joe - maniacally at times, though mostly softly and naively, is in love with life, reminding us that although unexpected, death can be a picture of our truest feelings. The appearance of death, although bitter, is only seen as a new step - a comfortingly simple fact.

It is true that, in the end, we only remain the people that love us and the things that we love; And so, I urge you to watch this film and fall in love with every single character.

EMBRACING DIVERSITY

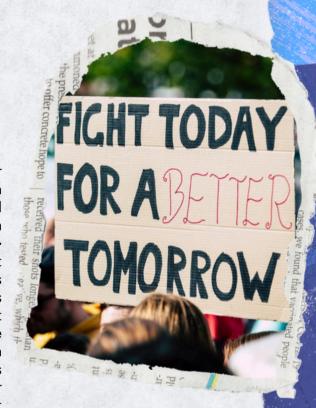
27th February, 2026

DIVIDED IN DIFFERENCES...

When you think about the problems of today's society, many often think of discrimination.

Class divide is a deeply ingrained problem in our society. The richest in society live in communities with high quality of life, a nice neighbourhood and good schools and healthcare. All whilst the poorest live in ghettos, shantytowns, and gentrified homes with everrising rent figures and lack of access to a decent education or healthcare system, meaning the class divide is further widened. Our capitalistic system has enforced this divide upon us, to the extent that it affects our daily lives through the inability to escape from this vicious circle that is capitalism. The rich discriminate against the poor for not having the means to do the same things they could, whilst the poor discriminate against the rich by saying that they don't have enough will to stop their greed.

bettering our community



Acknowledging the differences in our society is a crucial first step.

Looking closer to ourselves, the subjects we take at school, the clubs we join and the people we become friends with can really tell a lot about ourselves. Despite our different interests, our different opinions, our different goals in life, we can all use our one common interest, if not more, to get along: we are all alive in the world today, and are in the same place at the same time. So we may as well get along whilst we're here.





UNITED IN UNIQUENESS!

The fact that d'Overbroeck's is a very diverse school...

brings about the **various natures** of people and their backgrounds. The fact that our school has students and teachers from all over the world, but brings them together in Oxford - an international city in itself - shows the ability of students and staff to cooperate and collaborate with our peers, with the aim of learning about different international cultures and societies. As a school, we can **stand up to discrimination** through education, understanding and awareness. Learning about another's cultural stories, has always excited me; because people are different, and their stories are unique to them.

Speaking a **common language** is an example of a very thoughtful thing you could be doing to **include others**, and it is a similar idea to trying to learn another's language with the aim of collaboration. It is also very considerate to be **aware** of **opinions** that **contrast** your own and be **respectful** of other people, whether you agree or not.

Seeking discomfort by making new friends...

has been a very fulfilling experience for me, personally. Friends that come from many different backgrounds give you **new perspectives**.

As the saying goes "two brains are better than one," friends with whom you can share your experiences with, understand each other's background and share new memories with. All of this can enrich your personal knowledge and view of the world around you.

So, be open to hearing new thoughts and ideas because you may never know what you will discover about the world next!:)

by Pom Sirisupavich:)



An Interview with Patrick

About Patrick



by Anna Deakin

For those of you who don't know, Patrick is a Maths teacher - following in the footsteps of his parents. After resisting the teaching career for some time, Patrick decided on this pathway in his 20s - and it was clearly a successful path to take. When I asked Patrick what the most rewarding thing about being a teacher was, he named too many to write here but a few include seeing success amongst the staff and students, having new teachers join the school and how small changes we can make to the school can have such a big impact on the people in and around it.

When asked about his favourite book or author, Patrick - like many other avid readers - struggled to choose. He landed on Mick Herron, an author of spy and thriller books such as the Slough House series. Patrick also told me he recently went to see a British rock band called 'The Wonder Stuff'. In terms of films, Patrick would recommend 'Field of Dreams', which is about a farmer in Iowa who built a Baseball Diamond on his land. For TV series', he would recommend 'The Detectorists': a sitcom about the lives of two friends who use metal detectors to search for historical treasures. Patrick also plays golf, in fact, if he could go anywhere for a day he would go to a specific golf course in Abu Dhabi and play golf.

Patrick has lived all around the world, so I wasn't surprised to find it was hard for him to choose a favourite city or place that he'd lived in. He answered that it depended on the time in his life, which I can imagine is true of anyone who has lived in as many vastly different places as Patrick, but his shortlist would be Malawi, Brunei and Abu Dhabi; whilst his favourite holiday destination is Rome, Italy. Patrick's experiences stem from his numerous jobs around the globe, and have shaped him into the headteacher he is today. He has immersed himself in the culture of so many schools, cities and countries. Here he is in National Dress for **UAE** national day:

For Patrick, the biggest culture shock when he moved back to Britain was the 'British winter'. This has become somewhat of a feature for British society, that many people have talked about but are yet to work out why the winter here seems so much worse than other countries', when it usually doesn't fall much below 0 degrees Celsius in the daytime. Maybe it is the monochromy, the lack of daylight or perhaps British people bring it upon themselves by how much they talk about the weather. But that is beside the point, for someone like Patrick who has most recently lived in Abu Dhabi it is understandable that the British wintertime weather will become especially repetitious.



Patrick in National Dress

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words of wisdom

Be yourself, Be yourself with confidence

Patrick Horne, 2025

Patrick's words of wisdom to his younger self were to 'Be yourself, be yourself with confidence', which is very applicable to the students at d'Overbroeck's. Patrick emphasised the idea that - not only school - but life too, is all about pursuing little and big dreams and that those little dreams will all contribute to achieving those big dreams. He furthered this by talking about how if we're all a bit kinder, the world will become a better place and that the skills of being kind, tolerant and understanding are crucial for life.



Patrick outside t

I picked up on a few of Patrick's comments about how small things lead to bigger things (especially in the context of where d'Overbroeck's students are in their lives now) and related it to the Butterfly Effect, a term associated with mathematician Edward Norton Lorenz. I found this particularly coincidental considering Patrick is a Maths teacher and his favourite subject at school was always Maths. So, if we have learnt one thing, it is to never query Patrick's advice because he could very likely have some mathematical evidence to back it up.

Patrick outside the Nord Anglia school he worked at in Abu Dhabi

In the interview, Patrick also mentioned a quote from Shawshank Redemption, "Hope is a good thing, maybe the best of things". This interview encouraged just that. A sense of optimism and aspiration amongst d'Overbroeck's students, and we must remember that whilst the sun might not shine tomorrow – it is February in England after all – there will be many sunny days in the future. I came away from this interview filled with a sense of hopefulness and inspiration, so I hope I managed to pass that feeling onto you.

Key takeaways from this interview

- You don't have to know what you want to do right now.
- 'Be yourself, be yourself with confidence' *Patrick Horne*, 2025
- This one might only apply to me, but I need to improve my film knowledge

the happenings

The Happenings was created to inform d'Overbroeck's students about what is actually happening in the world; with regard to politics, economics, climate change and even culture. Enjoy learning about the happenings of the world!

including articles by Anna Deakin and Pom M. Sirisupavich

Learn about the how climate change affects Oysters on page 34...



or how Copper Nano-Flowers can photosynthesise clean energy on page 35!

Do you want to know what your luck is like? Turn to page 38 to see how the stars have aligned for you in the astrology section...

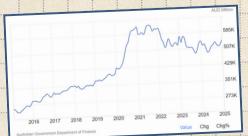
CINETA ON TOKE

Find out about the latest in the world of Cinema, Music and Books on pages 33, 40 and 41!





Dive into an economic analysis of the Australian Economy on page 36!





CINEMA

................



Release date: 14th March in **Cinemas**

In the Lost Lands

Genre: Fantasy/action

Disney



Release date: 11th April in **Cinemas**

Genre: Thriller/action <u> 20th Century Studios</u>







Snow White

Genre: Live-action musical

Disney

Release date: 21st March in **Cinemas**



FASCINATURE

26 February, 2025

DOVERTIMES

Pom N. Sirisupavich

Acidic Oceans Affect Oyster's Sex

Sex Ratio is Disturbed

limate change today garners attention from lots of people due to it worsening the extreme climatic events that affect us humans, but also ocean chemistry! Seawater becomes more acidic with increased levels of carbon dioxide. Oysters are marine creatures which rely on environmental factors to determine their sex, termed 'environmental sex determination,' instead of whether they have XX or XY sex chromosomes like humans.

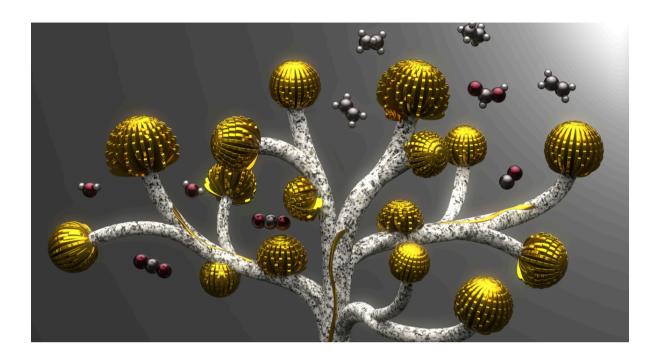
Researchers found that oysters will have a higher female-to-male ratio if exposed to acidic conditions. This phenomenon can persist throughout multiple generations, even if they were moved to a non-acidic environment. Genetic analysis revealed that acidic conditions activate genes for female development while suppressing male-related genes.





This is the first study to document a longterm shift in sex ratios due to ocean acidification, highlighting potential consequences for oyster populations and the ecosystems. marine Critically, oysters are filter feeders meaning they get nutrients from filtering water through their filtering excess nutrients gills, clarifying the water. If the oyster population continues to dwindle, the ocean will be at a nutrient imbalance. Future research will explore this phenomenon in other marine species and its implications for aquaculture.

Researched from the Environmental Science & Technology Journal American Chemical Society



Cambridge's Copper Nano-flowers Photosynthesise Clean Energy

No Additional CO₂ Emissions

esearchers from the University of Cambridge and University of California, **Berkeley** have developed a light-absorbing artificial leaf that can do photosynthesis! The leaf is made by utilising a tiny solar made from a material called 'perovskite' combined with a 'copper nano-flower' catalyst. It has been able to form complex hydrocarbon molecules, for example, ethane and ethylene, which are key to our everyday objects, including fuels and plastics.

This approach, unlike traditional methods which rely on non-renewables, create **hydrocarbons** from just water, carbon dioxide, and glycerol. It does not produce additional **carbon emissions** either.

Silicon nanowire electrodes were also integrated to improve efficiency, increasing effectiveness by 200 folds, compared to previous techniques.

Apart from generating a green source of fuels, the system can also produce chemicals of great value for the pharmaceuticals and cosmetics industry. The system currently is 10% efficient but the catalyst will be refined for greater selectivity by the researchers. This breakthrough could contribute to a circular, carbon-neutral economy and revolutionise sustainable chemical production.

Researched from the Nature Catalysis Journal University of Cambridge

Australia: A look at paradise

An economic analysis

But first, a bit of context...

- The Reserve Bank of Australia is the equivalent of the Bank of England, and similarly they manipulate interest rates to keep the inflation rate between 2-3%
- Australia's main exports are Iron ores,
 Coal and Natural Gas



What is the Growth rate like and why?

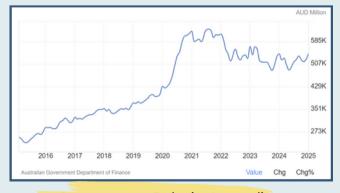


GDP Growth Rate in Australia over the last 5 years

As this graph conveys, Australia's rates of growth recently have been very low, particularly over the last 3 years where the growth hasn't been above 1%. This is partly attributed to high interest rates, which the RBA (Reserve Bank of Australia) have been steadily increasing since the start of the financial year in 2022. But it is also due to a lack of productivity and low global demand for their main exports; Iron Ores and coal. However, if you look closely at the last quarter represented on the graph you can see a fraction more growth. This is aligned with what Economic Forecasters argue will happen, so maybe Australians do have a glimpse of hope for an economically brighter future.

The recession of 2020

At this point, I would like to zoom in on the recession around 2020 (the 2 consecutive quarters of negative growth on the graph above). Considering the severity of the recession - less than -6% growth - and the fact that most countries took at least a year to recover to the rate of growth they were at before, one question comes to mind. How did the Australian economy recover so miraculously fast and to a rate of growth 2% higher than it was before? Well, the Australian economy is generally stable and a good example of an economy that puts their people first. This is shown by the total Government debt figures, and the huge peak on the already-increasing value of the government debt.

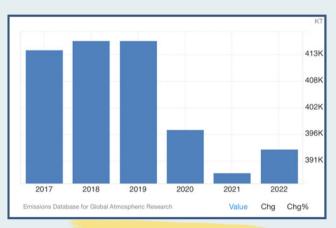


Government Debt in Australia over the last 10 years

This peak happened because the Australian government decided to go into more debt for a short period (a short term loss), knowing that at that point in time it was the best and most important thing they could do to benefit the people and economy of Australia in the midst of a recession caused by the pandemic. They took the short term loss of increasing their debt, knowing that they could rely on the stability of their economy to, with time, reduce their debt again - which is exactly what's been happening since 2022. This indicates truth behind the idea that Australia's economy is very people-focused and proactive in responding to issues within the economy, whether local, national or global.

What should Australia prioritise going forward?

I think a priority for the Australian Economy is future-proofing. Much of their economy relies on unsustainable commodities. The department of Foreign Affairs and Trade suggest the government invests in infrastructure and renewable energy production. This idea would work well for Australia considering their Factors of Production (vast amounts of unused land). On the right, there is a graph of the amount of CO2 Emissions from Australia between 2017 and 2022. The main point of interest here is the fact they were lowered to 396,000 after consistently being above 410,000 for years before. Despite still emitting significant amounts of CO2, the reduced amounts in the last few years could indicate a further drop in the near future - especially considering the vast effects Climate Change has on Australia through extreme weather events.



CO2 Emissions in Australia between 2017 and 2022

Sources

Graphs: Trading Economics

Australia prepares for a lonelier, harsher world, The Economist

The Reserve Bank of Australia

The Emissions Database for Global Atmospheric Research.

More than anything, I'd expect economists to be worried about the US-Australia relations and the implications on trade policy. Australia is reliant on the US for security, as well as on their reliance on China for trading. The fact there is risk for both of these relations means Australia must tread carefully. This is especially relevant considering the recent announcement from President Trump regarding the 25% tariffs on goods coming from Canada, what used to be it's closest ally. So what would the Trump Administration be prepared to do to a country on the other side of the world? We will soon find out.

VIRGO

Let your art guide you! Let all the art in the world become your map of exploration.

CAPRICORN

Fairy dust has blessed you and gifted you with a renowned confidence. Wear the boots!

PISCES

Feel it as deeply and express it as loudly as you want.



By Emma Ruiz Mata

SCORPIO

Hug your friends, let yourself love and be loved as Spring approaches.

CANCER

Little Mx. won't finish their assignments. Get on with it.

LEO

For as long as you wish, feel deeply and be true to yourself.

TAURUS

You find beauty and kindness in ordinary things; stay your glittery self.

SAGITTARIUS

Dear Sagittarius, true love from and for the world is right in front of you. Seize the day.

AQUARIUS

Life isn't about perfection, but about being passionate to the point people question your sanity.

messages

GEMINI

You are here and that is all that matters. Enjoy it. Try new things.

LIBRA

Your deeply hidden desire for something beyond the ordinary is your true next move.

ARIES

Your sentimentality is on the rise, and so you might find taking it easy the kindest answer.

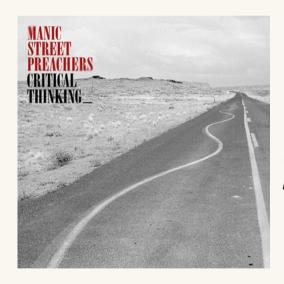








More, *Wallows* Release date: 28th March



Critical Thinking, *Manic Street Preachers* Release date: 14th February



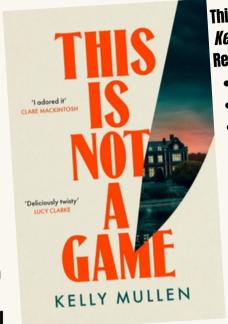






The Seven o'Clock Club Amelia Ireland Release date: 15th April

- Fiction
- Rom-com

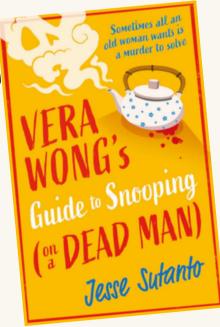


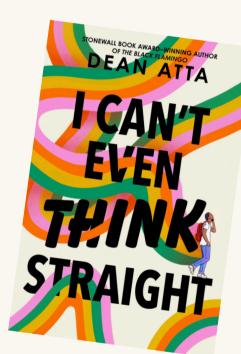
This is not a game Kelly Mullen Release date: 10th April

- Murder Mystery
- Witty
- Twisty

Vera Wong's Guide to Snooping (on a dead man) Jesse Sutanto Release date: 10th April

- Mystery
- Crime
- Comedy





I can't even think straight Dean Atta Release date: 6th May

- YΑ
- Verse
- LGBTQIA+



flower Wordsearch

| S | N | 0 | W | D | R | 0 | Р | G | Υ | 0 | M | R | Ε |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| N | 0 | Ι | L | Ε | D | N | Α | D | Ι | S | P | L | M |
| 0 | R | D | Ε | С | Α | M | Ε | L | I | Α | I | L | В |
| I | G | D | Α | F | F | 0 | D | I | L | M | L | Α | R |
| T | В | L | U | Ε | В | Ε | L | L | Υ | L | Υ | Α | D |
| Α | D | Υ | S | U | N | F | L | 0 | W | Ε | R | R | 0 |
| N | Υ | N | 0 | Ε | P | U | С | R | Ε | T | T | U | В |
| R | Α | С | 0 | R | N | F | L | 0 | W | Ε | R | U | Ε |
| Α | F | Α | T | U | L | Ι | P | R | N | R | 0 | S | Ε |
| С | W | Ε | Н | Υ | D | R | Α | N | G | Ε | Α | Ε | С |
| M | U | M | Ε | Н | T | N | Α | S | Υ | R | Н | С | N |
| L | I | L | Α | С | S | W | 0 | R | С | Н | I | D | I |
| G | Ε | R | В | Ε | R | Α | S | L | I | L | Y | 0 | P |
| P | 0 | P | P | Υ | R | Ε | D | N | Ε | ٧ | Α | L | D |

| Sunflower | Daffodil | Rose | Camelia |
|------------|-----------|-----------|---------------|
| Cornflower | Daisy | Lily | Chrysanthemum |
| Hydrangea | Buttercup | Рорру | Lavender |
| Orchid | Carnation | Bluebell | Snowdrop |
| Peonv | Lilac | Dandelion | Tulip |

Plus an extra flower's name if you can spot it! It begins with G...



The DOVERTIMES is the student-led newspaper of d'Overbroeck's Sixth Form. This is the fifth issue published in February of the 2024-2025 school year. The DOVERTIMES is a student publication and may contain controversial matter. Opinions expressed in the newspaper are not necessarily those of d'Overbroeck's faculty, staff, or administration. The newspaper does not have anything to do with Nord Anglia or Global Campus. Students are solely responsible for the content of this newspaper.

If you have any suggestions for the articles or design or have any enquiry related to a published article please email: dovertimes@doverbroecks.com

If you have spotted any mistakes, wish to make a correction or a clarification in this or future issues, please contact dovertimes@doverbroecks.com.

By Zoe Popescu, Anna Deakin, and Angela Kecojevic Hope is a good thing, maybe the best of things, and no good thing ever dies

Stephen King