

Current Affairs: understaffing of the NHS and hiring immigrants



Immigration has been a controversial topic in the UK for a while in law, politics, online and even on the news; the topic of immigration has been a controversial topic for a while now. However, in an interview on the infamous Sunday show, a famous politician argued that 'too many people overseas are being recruited' which received a lot of backlash, but even more agreements from the public.

Keir Starmer, the labour leader, claimed that under-staffing in the UK, in services like the NHS cannot be resolved by recruiting more people from overseas. In contrast, Humza Yousaf, the Scottish health minister, states that this winter will be a huge crisis for the NHS, therefore Scotland created plans to resort to spending £8m on hiring at least 700 nurses from overseas. New research suggests the NHS in England is short of 12,000 hospital doctors and more than 50,000 nurses and midwives so would it not be the best option to gather as many people from everywhere around the world to support this crisis? Many people, however, have mixed opinions.

The NHS is suffering from rising inflation, the high energy costs and is still recovering from the losses from the pandemic and that is just the tip of the iceberg. The lack of workers is caused by the low-pay, stress, lack of 'government accountability' and insufficient funding for the long years of training. Deteriorating buildings, long waiting lists, outdated technology are unwelcoming for people want-

ing to go into medicine. Keir Starmer says that he encourages hiring high-skilled people from overseas to set up factories however he still would like to hire more people from within the UK to support the factors of the NHS' crisis.

These dilemmas have resulted into many patients dying. For example, at the Queen Elizabeth University hospital 2 deaths occurred and several incidents causing illness and injury. The public health spokesman claimed that these figures will keep going up if the neglect of the NHS continues. This does not mean that the NHS is completely in ruins with the NHS being 13th overall in the World Index of Healthcare Innovation, it has given thousands of people a job opportunity and performs very well in treating long term conditions like diabetes and kidney diseases.

Sir Starmer's resolution to the problem of an increase in migrants is by undertaking the decision of taking on an extra 7500 medical students a year if the labour party wins the next general election and is insisting that he is prepared to reinforce a stricter migration plan for less migrants to enter the UK and be hired for the health services, but what is the labour party's plan for the crisis of the NHS' work environment conditions and insufficient funding?

By Zainab Azizi

COP27

By Isla Miles



COP27, which stands for the Conference of Parties, is the 27th international conference about climate change which happens on an annual basis.

This year, COP27 is currently being hosted in Sharm el-Sheikh in Egypt, from the 6 November to 18 November. These meetings occur every year and countries take it in turns to host the conference. In 2021, COP26 was hosted in Glasgow, Scotland.

On each day of the conference, a different factor about climate change will be discussed and considered by all present people.

Countries or parties will each have a representative and each country will submit a Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), these are plans from each country which outline how they can reduce their emissions. This will assist the government in making steps to limit the global temperature rises.

It has been 30 years since the world has begun fighting for climate change which enables humans to have a better understanding of our planet and how each and every negative contribution impacts our planet.

Following on from COP26 the outcomes discussed will be used to act on varied issues like reducing carbon emissions. COP27 is the first conference to be held in Africa since COP22. This means there is more hope that Africa, as a continent, will be looked at with greater optimism as it is classed as one of the most vulnerable regions in the world and unfortunately suffers some of the worst of climate change.

The three fundamental areas that COP27 will be addressing is reducing emissions, helping countries deal with climate change and ensuring technical and funding support for developing countries. Nevertheless, as energy and gas prices increase throughout the world; financial support for climate change will look different.

Around ninety heads of state have confirmed their invitation of COP27. Initially, Rishi Sunak, the new Prime minister of the United Kingdom, said he would not be attending but this decision was reversed following negative press. The government are allegedly going to continue working and following Egypt as the leaders of COP27 to ensure all commitments are fulfilled from previous years.

King Charles held a pre-conference reception at Buckingham Palace, two days before the main event, to show support towards COP27 in his absence as he is unable to attend this year's conference. At last year's COP26, King Charles and Queen Camilla travelled to Glasgow to display their support. King Charles is known for his appreciation and passion for the environment; he has been warning society about the damage of air and plastic pollution for more than five decades. He sympathises with young activists who are concerned about the environment. King Charles stated, "All these young people feel nothing has ever happened so of course they are going to get frustrated"

This year the youth are at the forefront of COP27. For the first time ever, young people will be allowed to voice their concerns regarding the planet's health, this means young people are allowed to take part in negotiations and discussions. The opportunity to express their concerns will be heard by the 140 countries that are taking part of COP27. The younger generation's thinking is generally more imaginative and holds a significant position due to the fact it is the future of the planet. Promoting discussion and debate among younger people could spark innovative ideas in which is helping the planet become greener and more sustainable.

The final decision of COP27 will affect eight billion people and their future.

Hopefully, regarding COP26's ideology, words will become actions that humanity will act on to make the world a better place.



Just Stop Oil Protests

The logo for 'Just Stop Oil' is displayed on an orange background. The words 'JUST STOP' are in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters. Below them, the word 'OIL' is in black, bold, sans-serif capital letters. To the right of 'OIL' is a black icon of a lightbulb with a drop of oil falling from it.

The Just Stop Oil activists have become quite famous over the past couple of months due to their acts in hope to bring change in the use of fossil fuels. From gluing themselves to roads and disrupting people's daily lives to ruining prominent paintings that could leave them with a lifetime of debt the activist's behaviour has caused many to despise them and they have faced vast amounts of criticism online. As the protesters have caused so much disturbance the actual cause of their protest has lost its significance and the protesters' actions are turning the public against them.

The Just Stop Oil activists are an environmental group in the UK who are trying to ensure that the British government refrain from new fossil fuel licensing and production. This activist group is currently being funded by Aileen Getty who has given money towards various other climate targeting activist groups. The Just Stop Oil campaign began on the 14th of February 2022 and the group has held 32 days of disruption which has been taking place from the end of September up until now where they continue to van-

dalise various items and properties to have their voices heard. In these 32 days 677 arrests have been issued and 111 people have been charged.

The activists are known for blocking many motorways during their protests which has caused a lot of anger with drivers who have been seen going as far as dragging the protesters off the roads. These protests are also affecting those who are trying to get to hospitals or deal with emergencies. Many distressed people have pleaded with the protesters to move so they can take people to hospital or follow behind an ambulance. The protests are putting lives in danger. The activists recently even blocked the M25 which caused a lot of unnecessary disruption. On November the 9th two lorries collided due to the activists' actions which additionally resulted in an officer getting injured. After all that has happened the protesters still take no responsibility and proceed to say it was their 'only option.' The protesters climbed onto the gantries of the M25 at 6:30 that morning and were joined by another activist group called Animal Rebellion.

Regardless of what the protesters are doing is right or wrong, their approach is not okay. Risking others' lives for the sake of a protest that could be done in a more civilised manner will never be alright.



By Soma Mohammad

Migrants at Manston

By Amelia Milne



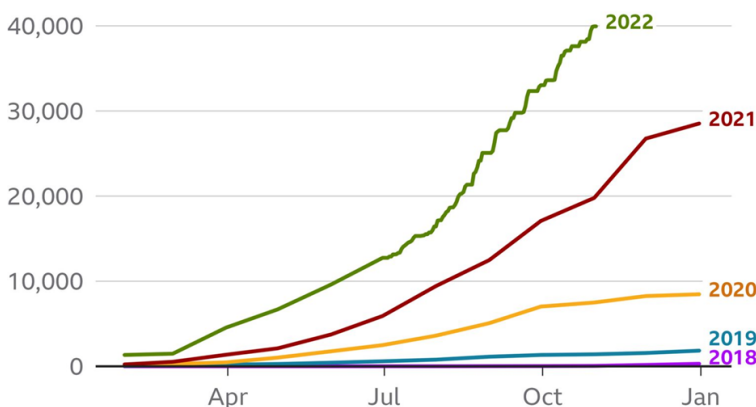
Due to recent events across the world, many migrants are having to transport into our country to ensure the safety and lifestyle they all have the right to. However, while some are in desperate need for this kind of help, others are shifting locations to gain the benefits from countries like the UK. Many queries are being acknowledged at this time, one of the main ones being how the government will go about continuing to welcome the people in need into the country, while trying to stop the individuals entering the UK purely for personal gain.

However, migration is not as simple as it sounds. It can occur as a result of various reasons, some more extreme than others. The first and most common factor is economic migration. This is when emigrants and their families re-locate into new regions to be able to ensure better work opportunities even if they have acknowledged that they could be confronted with a harder time, they take the chances with the intention to succeed. The majority of the time these people would return to their homeland after earning a sufficient amount of money;

typically, this is due to the big differences between cultures. Another valid reason to migrate is the social side of life. Social migration is when people leave their country to be closer to family or friends for a better quality of life, when someone leaves their motherland to start a family with someone of another race or someone who has chosen to start anew in another country. Political migration is another cause for migration which is motivated by political interests. It is different to other types of migration as it usually strives to change certain parts of a political system which are most likely done by adapting the demographics of a particular region. Lastly, push and pull factors can similarly be used to explain why people migrate. Push factors (influenced by the name) are when individuals decide to leave a specific area. Some people may have to leave their home due to poverty, lack of safety, high crime rate, lack of services, drought or flooding and war. In many of these cases the migrants do not have a choice and need to leave to secure themselves a safe living environment. An example of this type of migration is the current war in Ukraine where people are coming to the UK for safety. On the other hand pull factors are when people feel invited to migrate because of positive factors such as more wealth, political stability, higher employment, good climate, better services, less crime, more fertile land and lower risk of natural dangers. On the whole, migration generally happens because of a combination of all these factors.

People crossing the English Channel in boats

Lines represent individuals detected by year



Note: Data to June 2022 is monthly totals, more recent figures are updated daily and weekly. Some data from the latest week may be unavailable

Source: Home Office/Ministry of Defence, latest data 01 Nov

BBC

One of the most known migrant centres is in Manston and with the number of migrants increasing dramatically and quickly over the past few years (as seen in the image), this centre is becoming overwhelmed with the amount of people it is inhabiting. It is a facility designed to hold comfortably 1500 people while also moving them on within 24 hours, however with the recent events it had turned into a refugee camp housing 4000 people (some having been there for months) when it is simply not fit for that purpose. While this centre has only been open since February, as of 31 October 2022 its numbers have reached an unbearable amount for not only the facility itself, but the staff along with it. It has been said that the struggle is not due to the number of people arriving but the speed of the system as well as the shortage of available accommodation. Not only is the amount of people simply uncomfortable it is also beginning to cause health issues throughout. Many illnesses at the facility have been identified as MRSA and diphtheria which both can be caused by unsanitary conditions leading to life threatening infections. In addition, due to the recent petrol bomb attack in Dover, 700 new people were moved to Manston which included many children. Upon arriving at the Manston migrant centre, the children reportedly fought against the security guards whilst chanting "freedom" and "we need your help" all the while being ushered back to their families. From the information we have been given, this environment does not seem pleasant enough to live in for as long as months for anyone let alone families and children.

Overall, I believe it is terrible that the issue has only been highlighted in result of the recent petrol bombing attack in Dover and should have been confronted earlier to ensure the problem did not escalate to this level. It will be interesting to see how the Home Secretary, Suella Braverman, resolves the situation.

Insects

By Rosie Fenn



As autumn arrives and leaves start to fall, insects begin to make use of the fallen leaves or whatever natural debris they can find. They do this yearly ritual for survival. This is because as temperatures drop their fragile bodies cannot deal with the coldness of winter. Those who cannot fly, cannot escape the merciless winter, they hide away. Yet human intervention then destroys the natural order of this old and somewhat ancient process. Leaf blowers, peeling the bark off trees, pesticides and the general destruction of natural insect shelters all are cruel and in some measurement ignorant.

Over 40% of insect species are in decline, 33% are endangered and the rate of extinction is eight times as fast as that of mammals, lizards and birds. The total mass of insects is falling by a worrying 2.5% a year (according to scientific data). It has been predicted that insects will slowly become extinct within a century since 2019. This is worrying statistics because insects hold up the world's natural order. Without insects, slowly the larger animals such as us will find a large depletion in natural food source.

Without bees to pollenate the plants the plants will never open or flower, vegetables will never grow, without plants then the smaller herbivores cannot eat and will slowly die out, without the small herbivores then the larger carnivores will not be able to find and die out.

It is not just bees though a hated but useful insect is the spider. The spider is a helpful guest to have. It is estimated that in Britain alone spiders eat more than the weight of a human population in bugs. This means that they will eat the unwanted flies that buzz around and annoy us in summer. They also protect your flowers and vegetables from being eaten. There is no need for harmful pesticides.

Pesticides are not needed. There are less harmful methods that are better for you and your plants. Pesticides- if used- effect humans as well. Some of the acute health effects include- stinging eyes, rashes, blisters, blindness, nausea, dizziness and

diarrhoea. There are a few that are exposed to more chronic effects such as- cancers, birth defects, reproductive harm, immunotoxicity, neurological and developmental toxicity and disruption of the endocrine system. Is it worth it? Even when there is a more natural and better way that will not harm you ?



Three Cheers For Sweet Revenge

By Isabel Liffen

The story of a man, a woman and 1000 evil men

This album was released in 2004 and was very successful for both the band and the record label. It was given a certified platinum award within a year after its release and had more than 3 million copies in the US. It definitely deserved it.

It is a concept album about two lovers- they are shot in a gunfight and are both killed. He is sent to hell without his lover but the devil gives him the opportunity to see her again. He is given a gun and sent back down to Earth and has to collect the souls of 1000 evil men.

The previous album "I Brought You My Bullets, You Brought Me Your Love" had elements of hardcore, emo and even metal, 'Three Cheers for Sweet Revenge' moved away from the screamo parts and had elements of pop-punk and it was edgy. The lead singer Gerard Way had a wide range of vocals; in the song "I never told you what I do for a living" he goes from singing high notes to screaming all in the same verse.

What I find interesting about this album is it doesn't have a happy ending whereas most stories do. The nameless man gets tricked by the devil therefore ends up being the last evil man and get sent straight back to hell. He never got reunited with his lover again and ends up spending the rest of eternity miserable and all by himself. As much as I would have loved to have a happy ending, I like that it doesn't as it is unlike most other stories.

Although there is no happy ending, I love it. It's different and in a special way. I would definitely recommend it and it certainly deserved all the attention it got.



Suffragettes use violence to get their voice heard

By Isla Spurle



Votes for women

A suffragette was a member of an activist group of women in the early 20th century who fought for the votes of women in public elections in the United Kingdom. This article includes facts of why and how the suffragettes used violence to get their votes after decades of protesting for them.

Tactics

From 1905 onwards the suffragettes' campaign became more violent. Their motto was "deeds not words" this meant that they used more physical and aggressive tactics instead of their voice to get people to listen. This included breaking windows, planting bombs, handcuffing themselves to railings and ongoing hunger strikes in prison. Using their voices wasn't enough so they had to use these terrifying tactics to make a change. People weren't going to listen so they had to see.

Crimes

The campaign led by key WSPU (Women's Social and Political Union) figures such as Emmeline Pankhurst saw the use of improvised explosive devices, arson, letter bombs, assassination attempts and other forms of direct action and violence to be noticed.

Founders

The founders of the suffragettes' movement were Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony, and Lucretia Mott. They made such a difference for the women in this society we live in today while risking their lives to do so.

Crimes

Susan B. Anthony devoted more than 50 years of her life to the cause of woman suffrage. After illegally casting her ballot in the 1872 Presidential election in her hometown of Rochester, New York, she was arrested, indicted, tried, and convicted for just voting.

Now everyone across the country above 18 have the right to vote for many important things and it's thanks to these women and so many more that everyone has this opportunity.

Debate society



Should we be entitled to time off on our periods?

The Hillview Debate Society is a brand new club this year. Run by Miss Hebborn and Mr Downing for KS3 on Tuesday lunchtimes in 505, it already has a group of excellent thinkers on board.

Their most recent debate, 'we should be entitled to time off on our periods', was thought up by Freya Mitchell in A36. The group split into two and had to argue either 'for' or 'against' - some of their top points are detailed below:

For:

According to some sources, upwards of 44% of teens are prescribed the contraceptive pill to help with period pain - this could be unnecessary if we took period pain seriously in the first place

People are known to be physically sick as a symptom of menstrual pain

Cramps are actually a form of contraction - this can be seriously painful!

According to UCL, period pains can be comparable to the pain felt during a heart attack - clearly they are not taken seriously enough!

You cannot learn properly if you are distracted by pain anyway

Against:

It could be detrimental if someone in a leadership position was to have regular time off

Many people struggle with period pains for up to 7 days, which could mean missing large chunks of work/school

What would happen if you had an exam or important work engagement?

If key workers were regularly absent, it could cause serious problems - even death!

In the long run, it could lead to greater inequality as a large chunk of the population are missing out on academic/career advancement

Both teams did a fantastic job of researching and trying to see things from alternate perspectives. However, after an enthusiastically fought debate, the 'for' team were announced the winners.

Credit to our excellent debaters: Maisey Coleman, Isabella Farrar, Danielle Ellis, Ava Weingaertner, Charlotte Mills, Jeryll Baylon, Gen Scott-Skiner, Olivia Norris, Freya Mitchell, Ellie Faulkner, Scarlett Chew, Mia Costello and Alice Wheeler

Null

It started with the government's computers. Then it went on to haunt others. One word, a rumour. Null. This word. What does it mean? Why is it so important? That was the question in everyone's mind. Null. People began to wonder. They began to experiment. They typed it into every search engine, app and website. Null.

If you want to see or write more stories like this one, join Fanfiction Club!

A child, intrigued by the message, opened an app. Google maps. They typed in null. They hoped. They were taken to the edge of the Atlantic Ocean. The child noticed a cave. So, like anyone with a taste for adventure, they decided to investigate...

The art section

Angered activists thrown soup at Van Gogh

By Caitlin Fairhurst

On the Friday at the national gallery in London two activists there to protest the oil crisis currently going on. At arrival the two seemed perfectly harmless people there to view the paintings but on later occasion removed their jackets to reveal "just stop oil spill tops". The daring pair, took place under the painting and glued their hands strictly to the wall. A quote from one of the climate act group was "The cost of living crisis is part of the cost of oil crisis, fuel is unaffordable to millions of cold, hungry families. They can't even



afford to heat a tin of soup." Then it happened as guard cleared the room, the painting was covered in soup! To the luck of the gallery there was a protective glass cover in case of damage therefore the painting was alright.. The painting was left damage free but what if this hadn't been the case! If the soup had ended up ruining the painting the fine would have been around "100 million" as well as charges in property damage for the two of them. So... was there cause worth the risk. That is up for debate but we can all agree the cause is important. To help the cause of help families in poverty and stopping things like climate and oil spills into our oceans you can donate at "DONATE TO A CRISIS THIS CHRISTMAS" and "BRITISH RED CROSS". Both are working towards the future of our society and planet. There is no need for anything crazy.

New Clubs

History Club

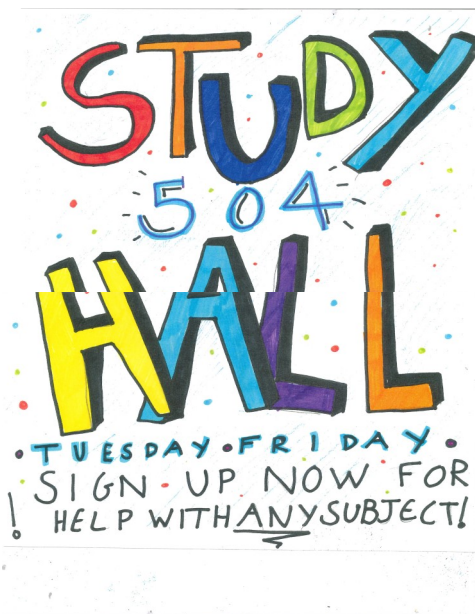
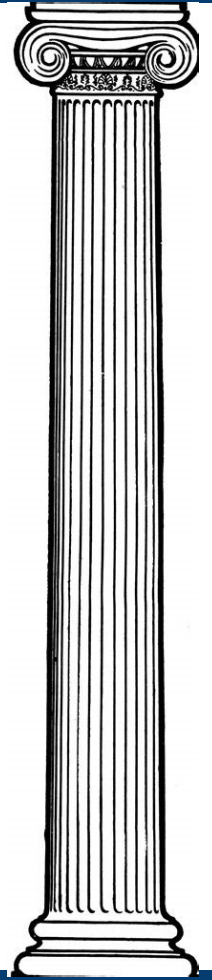
By Sophia Harhalos

History Club is back this year for all year groups! In the past, the club has explored topics like World War 2, Tudors and even spies. However, this year, we have chosen to focus on identity through history.

Identity is a universal, timeless concept that will be interesting to compare in both past and present civilisations. It is a very personal topic, which means there is room for a wide range of responses and ideas. As an introductory activity, we researched heraldry: making coats of arms that represent both our own family's identity and our collective Hillview identity. The allegorical symbols and colours selected for each coat of arms initiated our insight into how identity is expressed in an alternative era to our own thus this was our inspiration for developing our understanding of identity further.

We will continue to explore the theme of identity in different ways according to each individual's interests, whether this is in ancient Greece, Rome or the Tudor period. To show the extent of our knowledge, we will be creating a project which represents identity in the area of interest chosen. A few ideas so far are exploring fashion through time, architecture through time and LGBTQ+ through time.

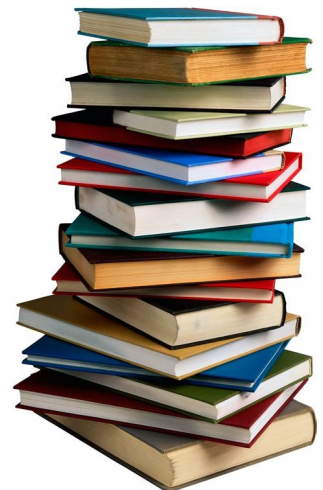
We are looking to get even more students involved in order to have as many exciting projects as possible; so if you are interested, come to 413 after school on Wednesday.



If you are in year 10 or 11 and are feeling stressed by exams that are fast approaching or even need help with your homework, Study Hall is the club for you.

Study Hall is a club run by Sixth Formers in different subject fields who are keen to help younger students. There will be someone to help out in any subject required in 504 on a Friday and Tuesday afterschool. There are only 15 spaces per session so be quick to sign up on the sheet outside 504 and the PDL office!

Study Hall



An additional thank you to the following people for contributing to the newspaper by writing articles: Zainab Azizi, Isla Miles, Soma Mohammad, Amelia Milne, Rosie Fenn, Isabel Liffen, Isla Spurle, Maisey Coleman, Isabella Farrar, Danielle Ellis, Ava Weingaertner, Charlotte Mills, Jeryll Baylon, Gen Scott-Skinner, Olivia Norris, Freya Mitchell, Ellie Faulkner, Scarlett Chew, Mia Costello, Alice Wheeler, Caitlin Fairhurst, and Sophia Harhalos.