

# CIRCADIAN

# Bloogle

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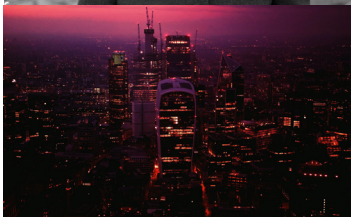
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NEWSLETTER

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## EDITORIAL

Greetings dear reader!

Long time no see and thank you for once again picking up your local student magazine.

This year seems to have been a rough ride for everyone, from uncertainties surrounding strikes, to the Barts and The London name once again being put under fire. Our first full academic year fully out of the pandemic was never going to be easy, but I don't think any of us anticipated the huge changes we would be seeing in our community and nationally. It's not all bad news though. Our move to the Garrod beginning in March will prove to be an exciting change and very well timed with our Bart's 900 year celebration.

While sometimes it is more difficult to find the joy and humour in the things hapening today, especially at the moment with so much uncertainty. We here at The

Circadian hope to continue our mission to cut through the noise and bring our readers all the up to date news and happening with a hint of humour. As Editor-In-Chief I cannot begin to thank all our Editors and Contributors enough. Without our dedicated writers, reveiwers, illustrators and moral supporters. Without these people the Circadian would not exist, and neither would my sanity most likely.

And finally thank you to you, dear reader. For your continued curiosity in picking up our magazine once again, and being apart of our Circadian family.

Thank you all, and happy reading!

Lucy Edgar  
Editor-In-Chief





# REVEALED

## Does my period app know too much?

By Anushika Dubey

In 1965, eight years before the landmark Roe v Wade ruling, University of Chicago student Heather Booth slowly became entrenched in world of underground abortion services. She started off by helping an acquaintance get access to a doctor to terminate her pregnancy – this incident snowballed into a secret referral service that later became known as The Jane Collective. Operating out of her college dorm under the pseudonym 'Jane', Heather referred women seeking abortions to a surgeon, who would discreetly help them manage their pregnancies, in a time when to do so was illegal in many states. Women were told to ask for 'Jane', leading them to a phone number that would connect them to a woman who could advocate for them and safely guide them through what was often a distressing experience. Heather later recruited ten other women to run the organisation, which was formally named Abortion Counselling Service of Women's Liberation. The members put

up posters and advertisements with messages to the following effect – "Pregnant? Don't want to be? Call Jane". The Collective was eventually disbanded after the Roe v Wade Supreme Court decision recognised the basic right of women to seek an abortion.

In the many years since, the ruling has come under repeated challenges, and on June 24th, 2022, it was overturned in a landmark moment –

***The decision dismantled over 50 years of protection and has made it possible for US states to place heavy restrictions on abortion rights.***

In the heyday of The Jane Collective, it was widely believed that law enforcement turned a blind eye to most underground abortion service providers, allowing them to operate in relative peace. However, in the decades since, privacy has become a precious guarded state. It is now nearly impossible

to exist without some form of our personal data being available for consumption online. Health-related information, while not as freely available as social media profiles, is now easy enough to obtain using the right resources.

The most prominent sources, now coming under intense scrutiny, are period and fertility tracking apps, which have seen an uptick in use over the past decade – the apps Flo and Clue currently have over 55 million users combined. The information stored on these apps primarily includes dates of menstrual cycles, pregnancies, and fertility and information, with the purpose of tracking menstrual cycle dates and conception of pregnancies.

***These apps act as digital journals of sorts, where one can even track sexual activity and birth control usage, as well as other health-related topics.***



In a paper published in 2020, Cynthia Conti-Cook, a technology fellow at the Ford Foundation, researched the use of digital paper trails to prosecute pregnant people who were accused of endangerment of their foetus. Ms Conti-Cook explores a range of cases in which evidence was pulled from internet searches for abortion-inducing pills and visits to websites providing information on pregnancy termination, as well as text messages to family and friends that mentioned the aforementioned subjects.

Even more insidious is the idea that location tracking services have the ability to identify whether a person is visiting an abortion clinic, or a sexual health service. It has also been proven time and time again to be astonishingly easy to obtain location data from data brokers – as part of journalistic investigations, publications including as Vice and The New York Times have been able to buy data revealing visits by women to organisations such as Planned Parenthood as well as the duration of time they spent there.

This is far from a foreign concept – in 1972, The Jane Collective was raided by Chicago police. One of the members later wrote about how the women arrested had sets of index cards with patients' names and addresses on them. They destroyed these cards in the police van, shredding them into small bits

and eating some to protect their clients. It was rightly presumed that if this information got into the wrong hands, there would be dire consequences for the women implicated. The question thus arises: is it too far-fetched to assume that modern equivalents of these index cards would similarly inculcate the women using them?

***Period tracking apps already have a dubious track record when it comes to data protection***

The app Flo was accused of misleading users and sharing sensitive data with Facebook among other companies, although Flo did not admit to any wrongdoing and eventually reached a settlement with the Federal Trade Commission. The app Stardust was caught sharing user phone numbers with a third party, and falsely claimed to have end-to-end encryption.

With the overturn of *Roe v Wade*, several companies have come forward to reassure users of their commitment to data protection. Google declared that, while they continue to collect location data, they will automatically delete location data from user visits to medical centres and abortion clinics. Flo recently came out with an 'anonymous' mode that would allow users to use the app without sharing any identifiable information. Meanwhile, the Berlin-based app Clue stated

that European laws are more protective of sensitive data and that information shared on their app cannot be used by US prosecutors.

Data protection is an issue most of us are unlikely to give deep consideration to in our daily lives, but with reproductive autonomy now being stripped away from millions of women one does question: just how far is law enforcement likely to go to implicate people seeking to end their pregnancy?

The answer remains unclear – the possibility of private companies buying personal data to track down women who have sought abortions is remote. However, by virtue of this data existing in the first place, law enforcement groups are more likely to get their hands on it. As Ms Conti-Cook stated,

***"It's hard to say what will happen where and how and when, but the possibilities are pretty perilous."***

With basic reproductive rights protection being actively stripped in the United States, it pays to be aware of the challenges made to similar protections elsewhere in the world – it certainly does not hurt to be more vigilant about how we share our personal data and where it goes.



Food.  
Rent.  
Bills.  
Relief.

In the past year, the costs of basic items and necessities, from groceries to gas and energy prices, have risen exponentially in what has now become known as the cost of living crisis.

In the UK, 9 in 10 adults reported an increased cost of living between August and September 2022. Rising costs of living have affected almost every aspect of life. Domestic gas prices have increased by 96%, and domestic electricity prices by 54%. Additionally, with the price of food in the UK increasing by 14.6% in just one year alone, many more people are suffering from lack of food.

A survey carried out by The Food Foundation showed that 7.3 million adults and 2.6 million children in the UK were food insecure in April 2022. Rising food costs have led not only to increased spending by food banks, but also decreased donations and food supply. On top of this, the number of people turning to food banks continues to increase. 93% of Independent Food Aid Network food banks, consisting of 550 independent food banks, surveyed in May 2022, reported an 'increased' or 'significant increase' in demand for their services since the start of the year.

According to a YouGov poll commissioned by the Royal College

# Cost of Living Crisis

*Paying the price in  
people's health*

by Rachel Bok Ying Lee

of Physicians in early 2022,

***over half of people in the UK feel that their health has been negatively affected by the rising cost of living.***

Millions more people have become food insecure, are struggling to pay their bills, or are unable to afford their rent; living paycheck to paycheck trying to make ends meet means that the price is often paid by people's physical health and mental health instead.

### ***Winter exacerbations***

As we near the end of the year and temperatures continue to drop, the issues brought about by the cost of living crisis will only become more severe. Families are finding themselves having to choose between "heating and eating", with the added costs of heating their homes creating a further burden on individuals who may have already been struggling. Sadly, people living in poverty are not only more likely to die from cardiovascular disease, lung cancer, and chronic respiratory illnesses, but they also have higher rates of suicide.

For patients with chronic conditions, such as asthma, cystic fibrosis, COPD, and sickle cell disease, having warm shelters and access to heating can prevent life-threatening exacerbations and hospital admissions. According to a survey by Asthma and Lung UK, one in five people with asthma reported that the rising cost of living has led to asthma attacks because they are increasingly cutting back on medicines, heating, and food. This unacceptable statistic represents the life-threatening consequences of rising costs of living and puts further strain on our already stretched NHS.

### ***Students***

For many university students, including students within our community at BL, the cost of living has had a clear effect on people's daily lives. Half of students report being forced to cut back on food expenditures. As of June 2022, one in ten students reported being forced to turn to food banks because they were unable to afford essential groceries. Many are also struggling to pay their student loans, afford rent, travel to campus, and have cut back on non-essential spending such as for social events or leisure.

In a BBC interview, Alice Tedds, vice-president of opportunities at Bath Spa University Students' Union (BSUSU), reported that students "can't afford to follow their hobbies and interests because of the costs". For many students, following their hobbies or joining sports clubs and societies are how they meet other students and form closer friendships, however the cost of living crisis means that many students are now unable to participate in these activities, which could also lead to further isolation, loneliness, and mental health issues.

### ***Mental health***

In addition to the tolls on physical health, the cost of living crisis has been having marked effects on people's mental health. Over half of young people say the cost of living is a major worry that causes disruptions to their daily life, diet, and sleep. Over 60% therapists report that increasing costs of living are resulting in worse mental health. For those with mental health support, the crisis means some are no longer seeking help. Almost 50% of therapists noted that their clients have been cancelling or pausing sessions because they are

no longer able to afford them. It is clear that the stress of daily living costs are taking a toll on people's wellbeing. If we don't act soon, the cost of living crisis will turn into a mental health pandemic.

### ***Conclusion***

There is no sufficient way to highlight the significance and urgency of the cost of living crisis. The rising cost of living is driving more people into poverty and forcing individuals and families to make difficult choices about how they spend and save their money. In the long-term, this crisis will exacerbate not only physical illnesses, but also mental illness. We need to act now to demand better conditions and reject the status quo. We need to act now to urge the government to provide financial relief before a population health crisis ensues. We need to act before it's too late.

### ***Resources***

If you have been affected by the rising cost of living, please know you are not alone, and you do not need to suffer in silence. If you would like further support, BLSA and QMUL have a Cost of Living Portal with different resources to support students, including money and practical advice, a financial assistance fund, free campus facilities, and external support: <https://www.qmul.ac.uk/student-experience/cost-of-living/>

If you have the resources and are able, consider checking in on those around you, donating food to your local food bank, or volunteering your time to support organisations tackling the cost of living crisis.





# RETURN TO THE GARROD

BY ROB TUCKER

As we hope many of you will know, BLSA is returning to the Garrod building with many exciting new student spaces that we cannot wait to show you. But perhaps fewer of you know how this came about and what's specifically happening so we hope this will help.

For several years now, past BLSA presidents have been aware that the location of the BLS building against the abandoned old Dental Hospital has meant that one day it would likely be knocked down. Confirmation of this finally occurred in the summer of 2021 as the university's purchase of the land covering both BLSA and the old dental hospital was finalised. It's worth saying that we are excited to see what the university does with this space as the university's addition to the Barts Life Sciences cluster will bring a great new space for students and staff (in many years to come).

Once this purchase was finalised, the university, medical school leadership and BLSA began private discussions about the BLSA building and its students' spaces future. Several options were looked at, all with logistical issues

at how far we could spread out money to make great spaces, how big those spaces would be, how close to Whitechapel campus they would be, and the potential for the longevity of the spaces.

***This left only one option on the list, and it happened to be right on our doorstep***

and going full circle back to where the BLSA (then the London Hospital's clubs union) had been before.

## THE GARROD BUILDING!

The Garrod gives great value for money allowing for big interesting new spaces, with an amazing history, at the heart of our Whitechapel campus and builds a student hub with recreational spaces, teaching spaces and student support all working closely together.

To highlight a few of these amazing spaces:

## THE OLD LIBRARY

The Old Library, currently it's

used for some evening events hosted by student groups and externals, with some use in presentations for university work or art exhibitions.

The new Old Library is designed to continue to let it do this as a flexible heightened performance space with a small stage and seating configurable into two directions. All of the furniture in the middle of the room is moveable to allow for anything possible to be done here, we can't wait to see what our student groups do! Lastly this space during the days when it is not used for events now won't lie empty and has a variety of furniture to make it a large student and staff hub to work and socialise in.



## THE GRIFF INN

The new Griff Inn takes up a third of the ground floor with a brighter fresher café bar space. There are sections throughout the design allowing for cosy couches watching films & sport and keeping some of our favourite iconic booth seating. Hopes are that this space will be open for longer with more flexible food options – which are still being consulted for so keep an eye out. This space is also designed to be as inclusive as we can to allow for bar shutters with a design to separate the bar from the seating, as well as gender neutral toilets.



There are many other spaces to get excited for including a fitness suite, showers, prayer rooms and BLSA offices.

***Not everything is always roses, we admit that:***

This space will open the current aims is in September 2023, which means some construction will happen in the spring and summer this year and they'll work to create as few disruptions as possible. It may be likely the new building isn't entirely finished for BLSA's Freshers' events but at least we can give the BLSA building one final big send off!

The building was never going to be perfect, there have been struggles in lobbying for one to one or improved solutions to societies store rooms and the multi faith spaces. We hope that by using the building in all the spaces it offers will allow us to spend the next year ironing out these issues and trying to invest in fixes for the future.

To find out more about the Garrod plans, including lots more pictures then check out:

[www.bartslondon.com/new-blsa](http://www.bartslondon.com/new-blsa)



## RECOVERY ROOM

Currently this space is another super flexible one as an empty room allowing for get active sports sessions, society events and Friday prayer. In the new building this space has always been seen as very important to replace even better and bigger. The new recovery room (with a new name pending) will be fitted out with a small kitchenette hoped to help with the cost-of-living crisis to allow more students to safely reheat their own food with microwaves and kettles. This space will also allow for a continuing dedication to Friday prayer space.





# RECALIBRATE

What can we learn from  
Rosemary's lobotomy?

By Amrita Bhattacharyya



I was introduced to the powerful story of Rosemary Kennedy by a chance recommendation from the YouTube algorithm. This certainly kindled my interest in the history of lobotomies and, to put them in their wider context, the shift between surgery to pharmacology and onwards. I was inspired to learn how treatment of neuropsychiatric conditions has changed. Yet, what most interested me was not the impact of the surgeries on the brain, but how injustices were committed in the name of science and medicine.

#### A BRIEF HISTORY OF PSYCHOSURGERY

According to the Encyclopaedia Britannica, the lobotomy is a medical procedure which requires the removal of one area of the brain. This recalibrates the brain by severing certain nerve pathways from others.

Psychosurgery was first performed on humans in the latter end of the 19th century (late 1880s). Gottlieb Burkhardt, a Swiss physician, chose six seriously unwell inpatients from a mental asylum to trial the surgery. The aim of the lobotomy was supposedly to calm the patients, not to return them to sanity. Four of the six patients had more manageable symptoms afterwards; however, one of the patients died and another killed himself. This ought to have been enough to raise suspicions about the practice of lobotomising brains, but it was still relevant several years later.

A journal article in the Singapore Medical Journal stated that in 1935, António Egas Moniz, inspired by the work of American physiologists on chimpanzees, worked with a young neurosurgeon called Almeida Lima to invent a tool that could remove the frontal lobes without damaging the rest of the brain. Moniz believed that the frontal lobe contained the 'abnormal neural connections' that resulted in the aberrant behaviour of those with psychosis. This operation, in turn, influenced Walter Freeman and James W. Watts, the psychiatrists responsible for Rosemary Kennedy's near-complete incapacitation.

#### THE BIOGRAPHY OF ROSEMARY KENNEDY

Rosemary Kennedy was born into the well-connected and cursed Kennedy family in 1918. The circumstances of her birth, followed by her harrowing lobotomy around two decades later, were caused by the unscrupulous actions of her mother's gynaecologist. According to IrishCentral, Rosemary's birth was complicated by the Influenza epidemic. Her mother's doctor, Dr Good, was detained by his influenza patients. Reluctant to be deprived of

his fee, he ordered the nurse to instruct Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy to keep her legs closed, withholding the supply of oxygen so important for Rosemary's developing brain.

Though she was announced healthy at the time of her birth, later in her life her parents would recognize signs of the damage that this oxygen deprivation had caused. As a toddler, she was behind on her developmental milestones compared with her two elder brothers: she struggled with walking and had difficulty coordinating her limbs. At age 15, however, she took part in many of the activities that a daughter of an important family would be expected to. According to Lawrence Leamer, who wrote about the Kennedy women, when squired by her older brother John she did not appear to dance badly. On the other hand, her skills in arithmetic, reading, and writing were at the level of a child in primary school.

Rosemary's parents tried to control the narrative, by censoring Rosemary's letters home, lest they fall into strangers' hands. When she was asked to interview with the Boston Globe, Rosemary painstakingly copied out a response which had been prepared for her by her father's assistant. The limited knowledge there is about Rosemary's perspective points to how frustrated how she felt that she couldn't take part in the same activities to the standard of the rest of her siblings. In his autobiography, Tim Shriver, Rosemary's nephew, mentioned that Rosemary's intellectual impairment was hidden from Rosemary herself as well as from others. According to Shriver, her parents reasoned that Rosemary would be happier if she was unaware about her difference, yet this failed spectacularly. Could she have coped better had the nuns who had the charge of her education attempted to explain what happened at her birth? Would it have reduced her frustration and rage if she understood the causes behind her intellectual impairment?

In 1938, her father was named the American ambassador to Britain, and as a result stayed for 2 years there with his family. Rosemary was placed in a Catholic school run by nuns, who took the time and had the patience necessary to teach her. The nuns were training her to be a teachers' aide, and had she stayed there, she could have flourished. However, when WWII started, Rosemary was sent back to America and was kept in a convent, which reportedly did not have the same benefits as the convent in Britain.

#### Rosemary's Lobotomy

In 1940, when she returned to America from the brief reprieve in the idyllic British countryside, her condition appeared to have deteriorated. At this time, she also

suffered convulsions, which suggests that she may have developed epilepsy. Her intense frustration led to her inability to control her violent rages. Could her parents have had the compassion and patience to help her, her situation would have probably improved.

When her father, Joseph Kennedy, heard of the lobotomy cases, he felt that they would resolve Rosemary's situation. He had understood that lobotomies, when done properly, calmed down patients' violent urges. Without informing Rosemary's mother or siblings, he paid for psychiatrists Dr James W. Watts and Dr Walter Freeman to operate on Rosemary.

During the lobotomy, the psychiatrists instructed Rosemary to sing the national anthem and the Lord's prayer. They stopped the operation when she was unable to sing properly anymore. The results of the lobotomy were disastrous: they had led to the mental and physical incapacitation of Rosemary. One of the nurses who had assisted the doctors was so horrified, she left the profession.

However, despite this case of a lobotomy gone awry, psychiatrists and other doctors continued the trend. According to a Healthline article, lobotomies only began to fall out of favour in the 1950s, when patients could resort to pharmacologic medication, such as the first wave of typical antipsychotics.

#### CONCLUSION

Rosemary was in an unlucky and dangerous position: at the time, the knowledge about intellectual impairment was scarce, the solution to mental ill-health was to hide those who suffered in insane asylums, and her own parents feared greatly about their family's reputation. Notwithstanding this, this lobotomy could be considered an awful solution to the station, even at that time. Rosemary was certainly reliant on other people before her lobotomy, but had they given her the patience and love that she needed, she wouldn't have been completely dependent on them.

Outrage and indignation were certainly at the forefront of my mind when I was first studying her life. However, the perpetrators of these actions are long dead now. This opinion might indeed be at odds with my anger about the injustices committed under the aegis of medicine. On the contrary, I believe that the wider injustice is to dismiss those who have suffered as mere mistakes, or worse, martyrs. I hope it is possible that we can pass on the lessons that we have learned from Rosemary's past.





Myosotis  
arvensis  
"forget-me-nots"



# The QM-glomerate

## Remembering Westfield

By Lucy Edgar

**I**t is no secret amongst the Barts and QM community that tensions have been on the rise as the future of the name Barts and the London hangs in the balance. The QM principals' tactics have become more and more underhanded, cancelling orders and refusing to sign off on anything which appear black and white.

Now, the argument we are hearing from the other side is that 'it's only a name', nothing will happen to your culture', it will actually make all of our goals more achievable and we wouldn't have to be sacrificing any of our convictions.

That being joint under one name in fact benefits everyone and will improve student and staff life.

But is that true? Or are we going to repeat a little heard of piece of QM history, which they would rather you not remember.

Have you ever heard of the Westfield College? I doubt it, as in all material senses, it no longer exists. It was set up in 1888 and was the first college to aim to educate women for University of London degrees. Founded by Constance Louise Maynard and Dudin Brown who wanted to create a collage to provide women with University of London degrees. It was revolutionary due to providing subject degrees beyond what would be considered traditional or relevant for women. It began with studies in the arts and humanities and went

on to offer botany, being one of the first universities to allow female students to conduct experiments and scientific research. It was also proudly international and taught botany to the first Chinese student to graduate from the University of London, Pao Swen Tseng.

**T**he merger with Queen Mary occurred in 1989, due to reorganisation within the University of London. It retained its separate identity for a few years till 1992, where most of the site facilities were relocated to Mile End. In fact, Queen Mary University of London was named Queen Mary and Westfield Collage up until as recent as 2013.

So, what became of the actual brick and mortar of the collage? Sold off, some went to Kings College, and some was demolished to make way for luxury apartments. It's teachers? Mostly relocated to Royal Holloway College and Kings College, many choosing not to follow through with the merger. It's legacy? A student accommodation complex named the Westfield Student Village and the Westfield Trust Prize, an academic cash prize given to outstanding undergraduate or postgraduates studying at Queen Mary. And a Trust which went to a £4 million library square redevelopment and restorations.

These prizes, trusts and developments were established

in memory of the College but fail to memorialise the ethos of the College.

**P**inciples of the empowerment and education of women were lost when the name was lost, corroded over many years. Queen Mary's wage gap is that female staff make 90p for every pound male counterparts make and make up only 37% of the highest paid jobs. This is even worse when factoring in bonuses, where women earn 22p for every £1 that men earn when comparing median bonus pay. The Westfield College was historically women lead, in the history of the College only one of the Principals was male, so the lack of female representation at the top is concerning, especially considering that highest executives decide how the trust money is used and how to continue the legacy of the College. Much of this is lost, there is no poster or celebration for this historic and innovative school, and our university seems to be regressing in many of these areas.

So, is this how Queen Mary memorialises the histories of colleges they have merged with?

An academic cash prize and their name pasted on a random road. I suppose Westfield can be grateful for at least keeping their name on something.



# *Retrospect* *What should we* *do about Jack* *the Ripper?*

*by Lily Colton, Digital Editor*

For those unfamiliar with Whitechapel, it is likely that the name ignites imagery of glooming gas lit alleyways in a crime laden, poverty stricken, Victorian London. Whilst Whitechapel has of its own merit, a rich history in the East-end of London, it will forever be synonymous with one of England's most infamous serial killers. This is not necessarily a blemish on the district, in fact, it is the mark which puts Whitechapel on the map. A fair share of businesses in the area utilise this history to appeal to tourists, through guided tours, or a "blank" the "blank" type quip for an establishment name.

***Whilst we can all surely appreciate the use of a clever pun, how appropriate is it for businesses to thrive off the back of the murder of women?***

Is the act of christening one's business after a serial killer nullified when the name is a moniker? A moniker derived from one of many deceptive letters that sullied the media 135 years ago. Perhaps this is why it is palatable; the commercialisation of a falsehood is surely no crime. A nickname which remains unclaimed is a benign piece of history to exploit, creating little offence bar for those who dislike wordplay.

This sentiment is why we are unphased by this exploitation, Jack the Ripper prospers off the paradox that anonymity bestows unto him, to be both elevated to celebrity status and reduced to a caricature, the killer is mystified, and these crimes almost acts of fiction. It is why we enjoy these horrific tales. They seem to be just that: stories. Time gifts us a degree of separation from reality. The brutality of murder is softened by age. A faceless, nameless killer of a bygone era, whose Whitechapel has long since been smoothed over.

On investigation for Charles Booth's poverty map, George Duckworth infamously described Dorset street as the "Worst Street in London". This street, whereupon Mary Jane Kelly lived in Miller's Court, has long since disappeared

beneath a £120 million, 460,000 sq. ft commercial Haven next door to Spitalfields Market. See, those streets are long gone. Their gentrified successors require a little more imagination, projectors even, on the "Ripper" tours which still stalk the area. Each of these tours boast their own selling points, all with the aim to inflate the egos of the crime tourists they attract with the idea that they could solve this case. Entertaining, certainly, but we must remember the reality below these gimmicks.

These murders are real. The photographs of the victims' corpses are real. Real and accessible through very little internet sleuthing. In fact, a quick trip to Wikipedia will showcase violent images and graphic descriptions. What benefit does this have?

***How long can we spurt on about "morbid curiosity" before we gain perspective on our desensitisation to abhorrent crimes against women?***

Historian Hallie Rubenhold's non-fiction account "The Five: The Untold Lives of the Women Killed by Jack the Ripper" pieces together the lives of the "canonical" victims. Their stories are a poignant reminder that these were real people, not overtly sexualised vessels to fetishise obscene violence through. Rubenhold tracks these women through their lives, telling their stories until they eventually reside in Whitechapel, finding that destitution connects them all.

Whilst Jack the Ripper is not the only criminal who has been sensationalised - we need only look at our major streaming services array of true crime content to discover the other big household serial killers, it's a case which hits rather close to home.

Whitechapel may look different to how it looked 135 years ago, and gentrification does the job of smothering remnants of culture and history, but it would be obtuse to believe that it shares no familiarity to its predecessor. In fact, much of Whitechapel has stayed stagnant

for over a century. Perhaps the destitution which connected the five victims is also what connects their Whitechapel to ours.

Victorian England may be obsolete, but the poverty experienced is not. The CHAIN annual report for the borough of Tower Hamlets reported 297 individuals seen rough sleeping in 2021/2022 with high spatial concentration surrounding the Whitechapel and Spitalfields & Banglatown wards. Moreover, in the last 3 years, 3,662 accounts of violence and sexual offences were reported to the police in these two area boundaries.

***Jack the Ripper is remembered 135 years on, and yet, the violence against women and the suffering of the impoverished individuals of today are readily forgotten.***

Profiting off this case, which only came to being because of societies failings all those years ago, is distasteful when we can see the repetition of the same patterns right now.

I say all this, criticise this case and our affliction to it, whilst being fully aware of my own intrigue over it. True crime connects us over what we fear, I am sure everyone has lost time over an old cold case, a prolific serial killer, or a classic tragedy like the Titanic or maybe even the Donner party. Can we enjoy true crime ethically? Is it excusable to pour over these horrors because it is a part of our human disposition; that we cannot help but be curious. Maybe it is possible to honour the lives lost without peeking at the grislier details? Can it ever be moral when we permit the same violence to occur today?

Perhaps the only loophole is to complain about it, like I have.

Truthfully, I do not know.



# Rethought, Dr James Barry

by Lara Gliksten

The complex story of Dr James Barry was initially presented to me in an arguably oversimplified package. The first female doctor, forced undercover by a patriarchal and unaccepting society, to become an incredibly talented and highly esteemed military surgeon, all the while maintaining secrecy until the end.

As a devout fan of George Eliot, Ellis Bell and the film *She's the Man*, my feminism was immediately piqued.

I thought it would be an excellent idea for an article, publicising a strong female role model to be respected and admired. When I found out that Barry might be connected to Barts, such an article became irresistible. I was thus incredibly surprised when my research revealed Dr James Barry was an incredibly talented individual whose surgical skill and public health impact was hidden behind a constant gender debate about which the deceased could have no say. Furthermore, the surgeon connected to Barts was in fact a Sir James Barry, who was born a man, died a man and remained a man in between.

Margaret Ann Bulkley was born in the year 1789 in the town of Cork, Ireland. Her father was placed in a debtor's prison when Margaret was around 15 years old, leaving her mother, Mary Ann to beg help from her estranged brother in 1804. The latter was a painter by the name of James Barry who would go on to look after them. More importantly, James would go on to introduce Margaret to his friends that moved in radical circles. Among these included the writer William Godwin, widower of the late Mary Wollstonecraft and who was famously vocal on gender equality. Additionally, General Francisco Miranda, a Venezuelan revolutionary exiled to London and owner of a library Margaret frequented. The decision in November 1809 Margaret made to journey to take up a place at Edinburgh medical school as James Miranda Stewart Barry indicates the influence these individuals had on her was not inconsiderable. Henceforth to her death they would maintain this identity as a man.

The public interest in Dr James Barry was largely gossip and speculation until the 1950s when the historian, Isobel Roe, gained access to the military records of the army. The piece of evidence connecting Margaret Ann to James was a letter on 14 December requesting any letters addressed to Margaret to be forwarded to Mary Anne. The letter, signed James Barry, had 'Miss Bulkley' indiscreetly scribbled on its envelope by the dispatching solicitor allowing for the final puzzle piece

connecting Barry's two lives. When in Edinburgh, Barry's short stature, unbroken voice and delicate features continually aroused suspicion with most blaming youth or a delayed puberty. The University Senate would even attempt to bar Barry from sitting the final exams, believing them to be 12 rather than 22. They may have succeeded had not the Earl of Buchan, a friend of Barry's tutor, intervened and persuaded them to relent. Barry would qualify as *Medicinae Doctor* in 1812.

Almost immediately, Barry signed up to be an army surgeon and spent a few years in Britain prior to being posted to Cape Town in 1815, where they would serve for 14 years. Through Lord Buchan, Barry had a letter of introduction to the Governor Lord Charles Somerset. Their friendship began when Barry successfully treated Somerset's sick daughter, establishing a trust that would last a lifetime. This closeness would arouse suspicion of homosexuality, then very illegal, when an accusation appeared on a bridge post in 1824. Many suspect that if anyone knew Barry's secret, the most likely candidate was Somerset whom Barry described as "my more than father – my almost only friend," but this remains speculation.

In terms of medicine,  
Barry's impact was  
remarkable.

They performed the first successful documented Caesarean section on a lady called Mrs Munnik, saving the life of both mother and child. The infant would be christened James Barry Munnik and the name trickled down to the later Prime Minister of South Africa, J. B. M. Hertzog. Much of his legacy remains in public health, advocating improvements to sanitation and living conditions, particularly for the enslaved, imprisoned and mentally ill. Barry would make the recently invented smallpox vaccine available to Cape Town some 20 years before it was widely used in Britain. From Cape Town they travelled widely, maintaining the same surgical talent and passion for health and sanitation reform. In Crimea, Barry would visit the famous Scutari field hospital where they would meet Florence Nightingale. Despite their similar interests Nightingale would describe Barry as a "hardened creature" and a "brute"; by then, their abrasive personality was no secret.

Barry would die of dysentery in 1865, with his secret yet undiscovered. They had repeatedly voiced a wish that 'strict precautions should be adopted to prevent any examination of his person' and that their body should be 'buried in [the] bed sheets without further inspection.' The

charwoman, Sophia Bishop, obeyed no such instruction and remarked to Major McKinnon that this was a woman. She even claimed that Barry had likely given birth before, identifying stretch marks and citing her own experience of 9 births as expertise enough for her observation. Yet the death certificate that was signed acknowledged Barry as a man, and they were hurriedly buried in Kensal Green cemetery. The army hushed up the affair either through shame or lack of interest. Remarkably, the latter option seems most likely following a letter to McKinnon from the Registrar General asking for confirmation or denial of Barry's sex. McKinnon replied, "it was none of [his] business whether Dr Barry was a male or female" following it up that "I thought it as likely that he might be neither, viz. an imperfectly developed man." Bishop had hoped that she might be able to bribe McKinnon into keeping her mouth shut and his nonchalance must have been not only frustrating but immensely surprising.

The ambiguity that ensued has led to Barry being lauded by both the feminist and transgender community in opposition. EJ Levy wrote her biography of Barry using exclusively female pronouns, depicting Barry as a woman forced undercover by ambition but retaining her feminine sense of self. This position was romanticised in numerous dramatic recreations of Barry's life. In the Cape, Barry would be embroiled in a pistol duel with Captain Cloete for alleged intimacy with the latter's wife. Following a non-threatening gunshot injury he would insist on dressing his own wound. When this duel was portrayed in a 1919 play, starring the actress Sybil Thorndike as Barry, Thorndike would burst into tears upon injury. This ultimately reflects of the liberties of interpretation and the enraging inaccuracies of gendered behaviour. Considerable speculation has rested on the possibility that Barry had Androgen Insensitivity Syndrome. Their Edinburgh thesis on femoral hernias, which can result from undescended testes, perhaps lends weight to this idea.

The consensus has come to acknowledge the fact that Barry upon assuming a male identity never indicated they wished to be known as anything but.

Describing Barry as a woman in disguise or transgender is to impose our own comparatively straightforward labels on a remarkably complex picture.

This seems immoral to do for someone who wanted only to be remembered for their impact in medicine.



## NEUROSURGERY CONFERENCE

Barts and the London Neuroscience Society presents their annual National Conference taking place on Saturday the 11th of March (9am - 5pm): The zombie brain, controversies in neuroscience. Join us for a day of exciting talks by keynote speakers from the fields of Neurosurgery, Neurology and Neuroscience to learn more about the "grey matter" in ambiguous areas in neuroscience. On top of learning you will also have the opportunity to participate in exciting interactive workshops, discussing cases of rare brain pathologies and practicing your neurosurgical skills. Follow our socials for more information and tickets!

## BL BOAT CLUB

BL Boat Club started the '22/23 season by moving into a new indoor bay at ULBH. This upgrade has been a tremendous boost to Club morale and will ensure our beloved fleet is sheltered from the harsh elements. In November, our Novice Men were the fastest MN8 at the UH Autumn Regatta, while our Senior Men's IV finished second after being narrowly beaten by KCL. We also raced at the Fours and Quintin Head (as part of a composite crew). Preparation is underway for UH Head and UH Bumps, and we're training hard to represent BL in the UHBC '23 Henley Campaign.

We've enjoyed a record year of fundraising – our Rowathons in 2022 raised a total of £3,499 for LAA and The Forward Trust. We're looking forward to our 2023 LAA Rowathon in March and winning the '23 RAG Cup! The Club has also been hard at work raising money for a new Women's 8+, which has seen us streamline our fleet, reduce expenditure, and seek grant funding.

These developments come amidst QM's assault on BL identity. We're working to consolidate our Club Archives. We believe that this will help immortalize the identity of BL, ensuring that future BL students will be reminded and proud of BL's rich heritage and strong identity.



## DRAG SHOW

### BY GAIA FRAYED

What a drag show! Like every year because it's so unlike any other year, this year's unique spread raised over a grand and a half for chosen charity Positive East as well as raising hearts and spirits all round. Between Robson in reading glasses and performers needing glasses (one or two runway walks ended up being advertisements for specsavers) there were so many iconic and memorable moments.

On a more serious note, this year we asked people at the end of Fridays performance to look around and take note of who was in that room. You know who you are! LGBT+ safe spaces at universities are still rare. For me, the drag show has been life changing in helping me understanding shame, my internalised homophobia and growing to love myself over my time at Barts. Therefore, a very personal thank you to all who came and made that amazing space for all of us.

We make the safe space at Barts together, for all of those not able

to speak up, come out or show up. Discrimination towards the LGBT+ community at Barts still affects almost all of us. I know people who hide their truth some or a lot of the time, and I'm sure you do too. Hiding because of discrimination from family, a religious group, workmates or even those you consider friends. I might even suggest that instead of calling out, next time we see this in action, help make every space at Barts as amazing and safe as the drag show by 'calling in' an exercising those ally muscles. Subverting the title of one of my favourite series, please don't be afraid to say "it's not a sin" to be born this way - cos it ain't!

Well done again to all this years kings and queens and special congratulations to winners of Wednesday and Friday respectively Antiantiseptica and Frieda Willy. Stay away and see you next year folks!

**WANT TO BE FEATURED IN THIS SECTION?  
WE'LL BE SENDING OUT A FORM TO STUDENT  
GROUPS BEFORE THE NEXT ISSUE COMES OUT  
SO KEEP AN EYE OUT!**

# Rediscover London

by Ellora Kamineni, Arts and Culture Editor

London is a wonderful place to be a student. With countless museums, theatres, music venues, and galleries, there's really something for everyone! Whether you're firmly plugged into the artistic and cultural side of the city or if the last 'artsy' thing you did was go clubbing (there's music, it counts!), there's always more to discover. Now I know what you're thinking - supporting the arts is expensive - and you'd be right - going to see a West End show can set you back £35+ and smaller museums can be extortionate! Well worry not, I've scoured every corner of the internet to find every deal, discount, offer, and hack available to students (and healthcare students specifically) so that you can discover London's arts and culture scene without discovering that you've dipped into your overdraft.

## FOR HEALTHCARE STUDENTS

### Blue Light Card

The Blue Light Card is a discount card available to NHS, EMS, social care, and armed force workers and students. It's really easy to sign up - all you have to do is provide your NHS email (and if you don't have one already, get one! It's invaluable in clinical years and you'll need it once you start working anyway!). There are thousands of discounts available through the card - restaurants, clothing stores, hotel booking, gym memberships - but amongst all of that, there are some pretty cool arts/culture deals such as:

- 10% off booking theatre tickets through SEE
- 10% off booking theatre tickets through Theatre Desk
- 10% off booking theatre tickets through AGT
- 3 months free Spotify Premium

### Blue Light Tickets

Not to be confused with the Blue Light Card, Blue Light Tickets is a service that provides free and discounted tickets to NHS and emergency staff. The process to sign up is similar

(although less intensive) to the Blue Light Card, and new opportunities for free tickets are posted every day, so make sure to keep checking the website! The website offers tickets for comedy shows, theatre, music, sports, and more!



## THEATRE

### National Theatre - Friday Rush

The National Theatre, which is currently showing 'Phaedra' and 'Standing at the Sky's Edge' at the National and 'The Lehman Trilogy' at the Gillian Lynne, offers £10 tickets for shows throughout the week released every Friday at 1pm. There are a limited number of tickets available so if you're not on the site at 1pm exactly, the chances of snagging discounted tickets is low!

### RSC - £10 Tickets for Matilda The Musical

In collaboration with TikTok, the RSC offers £10 tickets for full time students and people between the ages 14-25, for Matilda The Musical, currently at the Cambridge theatre! To claim these tickets (there are 16 available per performance) all you have to do is head over to the Cambridge Theatre box office at 10am on the day you want to see the show. Make sure you have proof of age ID and be warned that you can only buy one ticket per person!



## Theatre Royal Haymarket - Masterclass

Masterclass, a scheme for 16-30-year-olds by the Theatre Royal Haymarket, is free to sign up for and regularly offers £5 West End tickets as well as workshops, events, and masterclasses by professionals in the industry (the next one is by Phoebe Waller-Bridge!)

## Southwark Playhouse - Pay As You Go

The most expensive upfront option on this list - Southwark Playhouse, an Off-West End venue, offers a 'Pay As You Go' scheme, where you receive a balance of 5 tickets for £75 upfront, which comes to exactly £15 per ticket. Southwark Playhouse is currently showing 'Smoke', a play starring Meghan Martin (of Camp Rock fame).

## Almeida Theatre - 25 and Under Scheme

The Almeida Theatre, a prestigious off-West End venue in Islington offers £5 tickets to anybody aged 25 or younger! Tickets are limited to 2 per person per show but it's very simple to get - all you need to do is show your ID when collecting the tickets at the box office. The venue is currently home to the play 'Women, Beware the Devil'.

## Royal Court Theatre - Monday Tickets

Released at 9am every Monday

morning, The Royal Court Theatre offers reduced tickets, as little as £12 each, to their programming of the



same evening. Currently, the theatre is showing the plays 'Sound of the Underground' and 'Graceland'.

## Young Vic - Lucky Dip + 25 and Under Scheme

The Young Vic has a few different ways to access theatre on a budget. The least expensive is their Lucky Dip tickets, which are only £10. These tickets are bought the same way as any other ticket on their website but you won't know until you get to the venue where your seat is (or even if you get a seat, some of the tickets are for standing room!). If you don't fancy potentially standing for 2 hours, there's also a 25 and under scheme, similar to that of the Almeida theatre,

where a limited number of tickets are available to people 25 and under for £12.

## TodayTix Rush Tickets

Almost every day at 10am, the ticket website TodayTix opens up Rush Tickets for select West End and Off-West End shows. The standard price of rush tickets are £20 - £30, but some can be found for as low as £15. Rush tickets are in limited availability and can be located anywhere in the theatre, so it's a bit of a gamble, but considering the price, it's almost always a great deal!

## Seat-Filler Services

There are countless seat-filler services in London, and all you have to do is sign up and pay a small (£5-10) registration fee! Once you do, you get access to the cheapest tickets for Off-West End, Cabaret, Burlesque, and Music shows on the market! There are too many seat-filler services to name but a few that I've personally used (and had great experiences with) are Central Tickets, Play by Play, and The Audience Club.

And that's most of the big healthcare student-specific and theatre discounts in the city! Of course in a city as massive as London, there are loads more opportunities and price reductions up for grabs, but this list is a solid start! Catch the next issue of the Circadian for a continuation of this article: discounts, offers, and hacks in museums, galleries, and musicvenues!



# RECIPE

By Abi Young

ALSO CALLED BLACK DAL, THIS IS THE MOST CAPTIVATING, INDULGENT DAL YOU'VE EVER EATEN! IT'S FULL OF EARTHY, RICH TOMATO AND WARM BUTTERY GOODNESS. THE LONGER YOU COOK IT, THE MORE REWARDING THE FLAVOURS WILL BE – IT'S REALLY WORTH THE WAIT! YOU CAN MAKE IT A DAY IN ADVANCE, JUST ADD SOME WATER TO THIN IT OUT WHEN HEATING THROUGH IF NEEDED.

IF YOU GIVE THIS RECIPE A GO, TAKE A PICTURE AND TAG @ BLCIRCADIAN BECAUSE WE'D LOVE TO SEE YOUR RECREATIONS.

## INGREDIENTS:

- 300g (1.5 cup) urad dal (black lentils)
- 50g (¼ cup) rajma (red kidney beans)
- 15g (1 tablespoon) ghee (clarified butter)
- 30g (2 tablespoons) salted butter
- 1 white onion finely chopped
- 1 tablespoon (tbsp) minced garlic
- 1 tablespoon (tbsp) minced ginger
- 80g Tomato Puree
- 9g Fine Sea Salt
- 60g (4 tbsp) Butter
- 1 teaspoon (tsp) Deggi Mirch Chilli Powder (or ½ tsp of normal)
- 1 teaspoon (tsp) Garam Masala
- 100ml (½ cup) Double Cream
- ½ teaspoon (tsp) Kasuri Methi (dried fenugreek leaves) (optional)
- Small piece of grated Ginger
- 1 tsp Sesame Oil
- Optional: Sesame Seeds, Spring Onion, and Crunchy Veg (I like Sugar Snap Peas)

PHOTOS BY ABI YOUNG



## Dal Makhani

serves six to eight

### METHOD:

1. Wash and rinse the dal and rajma 3-4 times until the water runs clear. Soak in 5-6 cups of cold water overnight (8hours), or soak in boiling water for 4 hours. Drain and rinse again.
2. In a large saucepan, cover the soaked dal and beans with 600ml (2.5 cups) of water and gently simmer for around 1.5 hours, then turn off the hob and leave to sit whilst you start cooking the Makhani. When cooked, the dal should be fully soft and the white insides very creamy.
3. Heat a large saucepan on a medium-low heat with 1 tbsp of ghee and 2 tbsp of salted butter, then sauté the finely chopped onion and cook until light golden brown, stirring frequently (about 15 minutes).
4. Add the garlic and ginger paste and cook for around 2 minutes before adding the tomato puree. Cook until you can see oil separating out from the sides.
5. Add the drained cooked dal and rajma along with 60g butter, garam masala, chilli powder and salt and mix to combine.
6. Add fresh boiled water 800ml to cover the dal by ~4cm, simmering on a low heat without a lid for 45 minutes. Stir every 10 minutes or so to stop the dal sticking to the bottom until it thickens and add more water as needed.
7. Add more water as needed (I added 200ml) and simmer on the lowest heat for as long as you can (minimum 1.5hrs). The longer it cooks, the better the texture and flavour – it really is worth the wait!
8. Mix in 100ml of cream and cook for a further 15 minutes.
9. Add the Kasuri Methi (if using) and mix in.
10. Serve with Chapatis or Naan.

### TIP:

Get your black urad dal from big Sainsbury's, Amazon or an Indian supermarket such as Haatbazar in Bethnal Green.

# Where to Munch this March?

BY SIDHANT SINGH, SELF PROCLAIMED FOODIE

As this rather cold winter comes closer to the end and we look forward to spring there is no better time to leave the warmth of your home to explore London's amazing food scene. London is home to one of the most diverse food and beverage experiences around the globe with everything from phenomenal street food to some of the finest restaurants. However, this edition we are going to explore some of the hidden gems that won't break the bank and game changers that may be worth splashing out a little on.

## E. Pellici's

£ | 332 Bethnal Grn Rd, London  
E2 0AG

Situated on Bethnal Green Road, Pellici's has been serving up amazing Italian food and a stunning full English for over a century. The restaurant has been run by the same family for just over 100 years, with the Nonna still cooking up lovely desserts! If you need a weekend brunch to catch up or are hanging after a big friday night out I couldn't think of a better place to grab some food and caffeine and have a lovely chat. The staff are friendly and the restaurant is packed with regulars, who all make you feel welcome from your first trip!

Sid's Order: Full English and whatever dessert they made that day

## BAO Noodle Shop

££ | 1 Redchurch St,  
London E1 6JJ

A new spin off from the fantastic team behind BAO, an asian sensation in London, comes BAO Noodle shop. Serving a curated menu of Taiwanese cuisine and fantastic cocktails, the restaurant also has a karaoke room for hire (perfect to start or finish the night). Over half of the menu is vegetarian and vegan so it's a perfect fit for all. It is quite busy so I would recommend reserving a seat if you plan an evening visit.

Sid's Order: Slow Cooked Beef Cheek and Short Rib noodle in a rich beef broth with spiced beef butter + Koji Coffee Washed Old Fashioned

## Beigel Bake Brick Lane Bakery

£ | 159 Brick Ln,  
London E1 6SB

Perhaps the most iconic food spot in east london, beigel bake is perfect for everyone. Open 24 hours, beigel bake will satisfy any late evening cravings, or early morning fuel for the day, serving a wide range of beigels and desserts. Located down the iconic brick lane, beigel bake will provide you with a perfect mood boost and leave your wallet unscathed in this cost of living crisis. Sid's Order: Salt Beef with Extra Mustard or Smoked Salmon w/ Cream Cheese (+ lemon & pepper) and a cheesecake bite

## Saravanaa Bhavan

£ | 300 High St N,  
London E12 6SA

Saravanaa Bhavan is an international chain of south indian restaurants serving some of the best dosas this side of the old empire. A vegetarian

restaurant (with a vegan menu as well) serving amazing south indian delicacies and service as quick as a maccies. It's a fantastic place to try some south indian food without breaking the bank and is conveniently located close to the east ham tube station for a quick dinner trip out.

Sid's Order: Ghee Roast Masala Dosa + Extra Coconut Chutney

## Iskelé

£££ | 179-181 Whitecross St,  
London EC1Y 8QP

Iskelé transports you to the heart of listanbul's night markets and street side restaurants with a beautiful interior and amazing Turkish grill and mezze options. Attached to it's sister restaurant Cozzo, Iskelé transforms in the evening with dim lighting and wonderful reflective Turkish lamps and stained glass. The kitchen runs off their amazing charcoal grill which infuses every dish with that amazing smoky aroma we all love. Perfect for a birthday dinner, a special occasion or just when you need to treat yourself.

Sid's Order: The Healthy Meal Platter (It's a mixed grill with a small portion of each mezze) + A bottle of Picpoul de Pinet, Duc de Morny (to share or not).

# RECAP

## THE YEAR IN POLITICS

BY MAT FORMIN

I think it's fair to say there does seem to be a few people that are a tad upset at the current government right now. Everywhere you see, people have decided that they hate the government so much, they'll stand outside their work in British weather grumbling and moaning that the government hates them. I mean just the other night at the Brits, Wet Leg announced in their speech that they wanted to 'F\*\*k the Tories', or something close to that at least... So, for all those that have been living under a rock for the last 12 months, I thought I'd run you through the last year in Politics, which History students 100 years from now will cry when given an exam question on.

### J a n u a r y

**Prime Minister: BoJo**

**Scandal: Partygate**

Ah, Partygate. Surely this should have been a red flag that the Conservatives love a game of Musical Chairs, but alas... We found out over a year ago now that they were having an absolute bender in Number 10 during COVID, and like a teenager who's just been caught with a bottle of Vodka in their hand, they outright denied the entire thing. Gaslight, Gatekeep, Girl boss, I guess?

### F e b r u a r y

**Prime Minister: BoJo**

**Scandal: Cabinet Reshuffle #1 (Foreshadowing)**

Ah, you never forget your first they say, and neither did we. A sign of things to come, but Boris woke up one morning and decided he just didn't like Mark Spencer as his Chief Whip. I heard he was going to be replaced with a Mr. Tesco, as they didn't have the budget anymore.

### M a r c h

**Prime Minister: BoJo**

**Scandal: Rishi's NI Increase**

It was a slow month for the Tories last March, but to be fair to them this was when Vladimir Putin decided to illegally invade Ukraine.

Don't worry though, they still managed to slip in new increases to National Insurance to pay for their 'precious health service' (citation needed).

### A p r i l

**Prime Minister: BoJo**

**Scandal: Porn in Parliament**

I mean we've all been there, right? About halfway through your workday you get that horrible urge to get off to Tractor related-Pornography right there and then, in the highest chamber of government. No, I'm really not making this up – Neil Parish was in the House of Commons when he was getting freaky with the JCBs on his phone.

I mean I'm not kink shaming, but maybe if it was regular porn, he'd have gotten away with it.

### M a y

**Prime Minister: BoJo**

**Scandal: Local Losses**

Turns out a lot of people around the UK aren't huge fans of Tractor Pornography (and 12 years of Austerity, but who's counting?) because the Tories lost a record 485 seats in local elections this month.

Oh, and Liz Truss came out saying that she wanted a hard border with Northern Ireland and to get rid of our Brexit deal, because of course she did.



J u n e

**PM: BoJo**

**Scandal: Chris Pincher**

There's really no jokes here, Chris Pincher is a horrific man who sexually assaulted two men after getting drunk at a gentlemen's club and lost the Conservative Whip.

Oh, and of course the Tories knew about prior allegations of him being a potential abuser.

J u l y

**PM: BoJo**

**Scandal: Cabinet Reshuffle 2: Electric Boogaloo & Bye Bye BoJo**

Who'd have thought that there would be backlash for the PM if he protected an abuser in his party?

Well, a few cabinet reshuffles and some resignation letters later, he finally got the hint, gave up his squatter's rights to number 10 and went home to his wife (or girlfriend, nobodies quite sure anymore).

You've got to respect him at least, he did the equivalent of farting and walking away but for the entire country.

A u g u s t

**PM: BoJo (just)**

**Scandal: The Illusion of Choice**

If I gave you the choice between cow turd, and dog turd, it would

distract you from the fact that they are both turds. I think Confucius said that once, and I think it perfectly resembles the Conservative Party election between good ol' Liz and Rishi. Not that anyone could vote on it anyway, unless you were part of the Tory party (and no, not the fun ones they put on the year prior).

S e p t e m b e r

**PM: Liz Truss (Blink and you'll miss it)**

**Scandal: Mini-Budget**

Never in the history of British Politics has a plan backfired so quickly as Liz Trusses and Kwasi Kwarteng's Mini Budget. The Pound to Dollar exchange graph would have been the most depressing thing to see the morning after if not for the fact I thought it would make a great Rollercoaster.

All jokes aside, hats off to those guys for tanking an entire economy in 24 hours, real authentic 'Wall Street 1929' vibes, cheers.

O c t o b e r

**PM: Rishi Sunak**

**Scandal: PM Outlizzed by Lettuce**

The hardest pub quiz question in 50 years' time. A 10-mark History A-Level question straight from the back-pocket of Satan himself. Who actually was Liz Truss? Beats me, but she was funny to

watch for the 6 weeks she was in office at least. That is, if you find the ending of Othello funny...

N o v e m b e r

**PM: Rishi Sunak**

**Scandal: I'm a Tory, Get me Out of Here**

At this stage, I was completely convinced that not only did we live in a simulation, but that someone had been playing the Sims blindfolded, and we were just watching.

In the wake of the worst pandemic this side of 1918, our Ex-Health Secretary signed up for I'm a Celeb. If anyone had that on their 2022 bingo card, you my friend are a liar and a cheat.

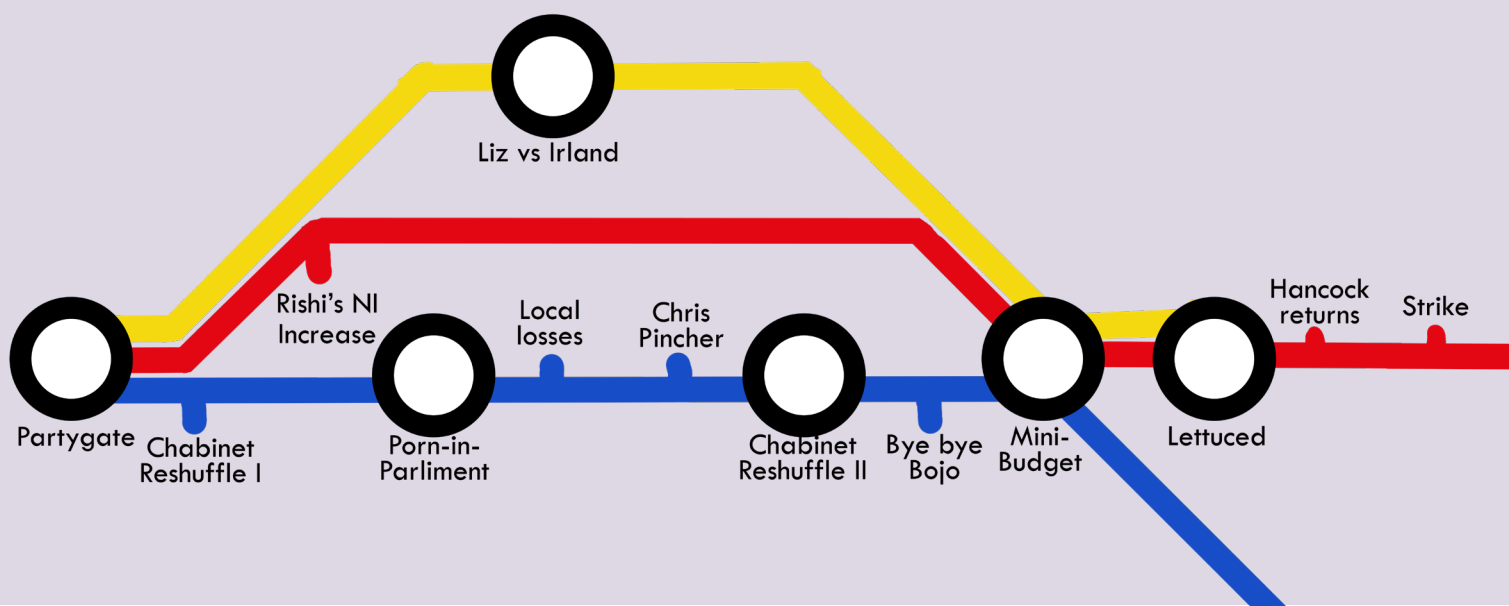
D e c e m b e r

**PM: Rishi Sunak**

**Scandal: Strike 1, Strike 2, They're OUT (hopefully)**

Chaos. Everyone is striking. Everyone is sad. Everything is on fire, and the Tories and their best mates that run Fortune 500s are hoarding the water. Nobody can go to school, or get the Train, or go see a Nurse, or go to University, or see a Doctor soon enough, and do you know what?

**After 12 months of nightmares and scandals, I don't blame them really.**



# REVISION PLANNER

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OR SCAN IT TO USE IT AGAIN AND AGAIN!



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TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
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