

HISTORY STUDENT TIMES

**SECRETS,
SCANDALS
&
SPIES**

Issue 2

November 2012

HST



Leter from the editor...

Welcome to Issue 2 of the History Student Times. For me, this is one of the toughest points of term, as your deadlines feel like they're approaching quicker than Usain Bolt, you remember just how cold Leeds is, and you still can't quite believe that it's *really* week 8?! It's not all bad news though, as with winter comes Bonfire Night, winter clothes, end of term celebrations and all things Christmas. Inspired by 5th November, this issue takes a look at the world of secrets, scandals and spies, as our writers consider histories of the cold war, secret rooms, the SS, and even debate 'what if Guy Fawkes had been successful?' On top of this we have more from the history department, including your history society update, a staff interview, as well as upcoming career events that are definitely worth making a note of. Once again a big thank you to all the contributors and editors who helped compile this issue, and I hope you all enjoy reading it as much as I did. Good luck to everyone with your work, have a great Christmas, and I hope you all had another exceptional first term at Leeds!



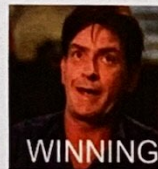
-Lizzie Scourfield, HST editor

Puzzles

Can you work out which historical figures' names these pictures create?

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

Atomic Bomb
 Bill Clinton
 Espionage
 FBI
 Freemasons
 Gestapo
 Guy Fawkes
 Holocaust
 James Bond
 KGB
 Mata Hari
 Pearl Harbour
 Secret Speech
 TET Offensive
 The Rosenbergs
 Watergate



-Aimie Hennah & Lotty Thompson



On This Day...7th December -Izzy MacSwan

December 7th. To Leeds University Students, this day signifies the end of our first semester; finally we will be just a train ride away from wholesome, home-cooked meals, central heating and the promise of a Winter Wonderland. As History students, perhaps you find yourself wondering what happened on this day in the past. Maybe December 7th didn't hold quite the same Christmas cheer in former years...

It certainly didn't in 1941. On December 7th, 1941 the Imperial Japanese Navy launched a surprise attack on Pearl Harbour in Hawaii and declared war on the United States and Britain. 2400 Americans died and a further 1178 American citizens were injured; less than 100 Japanese were killed. The next day, American declared war on Japan, ending its policy of isolationism. President Roosevelt called the attack "a day that will live in infamy". Coincidentally, twenty four years earlier in 1917, the United States declared war on Austria-Hungary. December 7th seems to be a

popular day for starting World Wars.

On December 7th 1955, Clement Atlee resigned as leader of the Labour party. In 2005, a Costa-Rican born United States citizen called Rigoberto Alpizar allegedly claimed to be in possession of a bomb, and made a sudden movement towards it. He was shot down by Homeland Security on the jet way of Miami International Airport. On December 7th 1982, Charles Brooks Jr. became the first person ever to receive lethal injection after being accused of murder. In retrospect, December 7th seems to be a rather gloomy day in the historical calendar.

Days surrounding December 7th aren't much cheerier. On December 8th 1980, John Lennon of The Beatles was shot outside the building where he lived in New York City by a man called Mark David Chapman. Chapman claimed his motivation was the 'blasphemous' nature of Lennon's songs, such as 'Imagine', the lyrics of which encouraged people to "imagine no possessions", which Chapman believed was hypocritical considering Lennon's wealth.

Luckily, there have been years when December 7th hasn't been the low point of the year. In 2001, the Taliban regime surrendered Kandahar. By giving up this stronghold, the war in Afghanistan began its slow end. In 1979, Lord Soames was named transitional governor of Rhodesia. This meant that he would lead the country into legal independence, while maintaining law and order and enforcing fair and free elections.

In terms of births on this day, tragedy doesn't completely taint the image of December 7th. Celebrities born on this day include Damien Rice, Sara Bareilles, Frankie J and John Terry. And so December 7th brought to the world two singer-songwriters, a mediocre R&B artist and a racist.

So all in all, December 7th may not be the happiest day on the historical calendar. However, this should in no way spoil our last day of term. If anything, we should take this as a sign that it is our duty to make this December 7th the best one yet, because, if I'm honest, it shouldn't be too hard.



Letter from HistSoc...

Hi all, HistSoc has started the year full guns blazing and hit you hard with two hugely successful socials and plenty more exciting things in our diary! After the weather barred us from having the planned 'Hippies and Heroes' Otley run last minute changes led to such a successful night at Players followed by Mint Mondays where we cleaned them out of Champagne. We sold 130 tickets for Mint making it only slightly lower numbers than our biggest event of the year, our Christmas ball.

We followed it up with having a few weeks later certainly one of the largest Otley runs and groups of people I've seen dressed up ambling down the Otley road. The theme 'Circus and Burlesque' meant we had an array of mime artists, tigers, clowns and a few ringmasters thrown in there. We had to have 6 prizes for the best dressed rather than the normal one as everyone really went full out, the most effort being those two who actually sewed their t-shirts together and were Siamese twins. However, Princess Penny the male ballerina and the 2 canon ball artists with their helmets and leather jackets were my personal favourites. We sold 85 tickets for the Safer Sex ball, our final destination on the Otley run, and every Penny went to RAG. We raised £341 for RAG's appointed charity for the event, the Terrence Higgins trust, so thank you all for coming!

Last week we hit 350 members, an incredible increase on last year! We've designed hoodies which you'll see parading around campus soon and have ordered everyone their own personal membership card. Our Netball and Football teams are fully up and running and are always looking for new people – you are never too late to join! Check out our Facebook page for all the details.

Our diary is very full so make sure you keep checking our Facebook page to ensure you don't miss anything! Coming up next is our 'Give it a go' session. We've organised a pub quiz in the old bar with prizes supplied by our Sponsors Deloitte – a chance to come test your historical knowledge and show why we are history students! The Christmas ball is not far beyond that – our biggest event in our social calendar. It is all booked and organised and details will be released in early November – you really don't want to miss it. Then there's the annual post-exam blow out – our trip to Berlin. HistSoc are making sure this will be a weekend you won't forget.

We're also going to be organising a HistSoc member only career event with our sponsors Deloitte. We hope as many of our members as possible took advantage of the link we sent you to apply to the Deloitte career evening on 16th October and we hope as many of our members as possible got accepted onto the evening and took advantage of this invitation.

If you haven't bought your membership yet it is never too late! You need membership to go on the trip, be part of our sports teams, get discounts on our socials and priority in buying tickets for our Christmas ball, as well as a discount for it! Trust us, it's worth it!

See you on a social very soon,

Cat (President) x

Deloitte.





HistSoc Netball...

This year the History Society has set up a departmental netball team to enter the university's intra mural league.

On Friday 21st September 18 netball enthusiasts attended try-outs. From this a strong squad was chosen by Sports Sec Laura Sedgwick. The team then trained together and played in the seeding tournament two weeks later.

HistSoc netball played three matches in the tournament against Law, Geography and Leeds Uni Netball Team 9. The team secured two comfortable victories, scoring 7-2 against LawSoc and 5-3 against GeogSoc. After losing 1-8 against Netball 9s, HistSoc netball are determined to come back fighting in successive matches. When asked if there are any teams they are hoping to beat in the future, they replied: 'We will beat Netball 9s! And Law again...because it is Law.'

Winning two of three matches at the tournament, HistSoc netball made it into division one of the league. Particular credit was given to goal-shooter Hayley Booth, who didn't miss a shot in the first two matches, and Harriet Osmond who really held the team together playing center.

The first league fixture was against Psychology. It was an exhilarating match: the girls started relatively confidently to score five all in the first quarter, but came down by six goals to a score of 5-11 by halftime. After a few strategic changes the girls came back on court. All players were high on adrenaline in the closing minutes of the match and it turned out that every minute mattered- HistSoc secured the winning goal within seconds of the final whistle and won the game 20-19. Georgie Scott was voted player of the match against Psychology.

If you are interested in joining HistSoc netball then find them on facebook: 'The University Of Leeds History Society Netball Team', where regular updates about training sessions and matches are posted. The only requirement is that you are a historian- netballers of ALL ABILITIES are welcome and the team was set up with the main aim of having fun!

-Eveie Robinson

Events

- **5th December:** 'The making and breaking of States: The end of Empire in India revisited'- lecture given by Professor Judith Brown and sponsored by the British Academy. **5.30pm Rubert Beckett Lecture Theatre.**
- **6th February:** 'What can a University of Leeds history degree do for you?' – networking event between history students & former Leeds history alumni. **5-7pm room TBC.**
- **Mentor meetings:** Semester 2 Week 2 – Semester 2 Opportunities & Internships. Week 8 – Module Choices & Employability Tips.



Clockwise from top left: Zoe Miller, Cathertine Poole, Becky O'Neill, Hayley Booth, Verity Ingle, Joey Colley, Natalie Phillips, Eveie Robinson



Interview: Shane Doyle, Senior Lecturer in Modern African History

Jess Duncan: Where did the corruption in Africa, in particular in government, come from?

Shane Doyle: Like all cultures in the world there is a long history of corruption in Africa. Pre-colonial accounts of people arriving in Africa who witnessed court cases saw people on each side of the case making hand signals, which signified a certain number of benefits that the king would then see and adjudicate the case in their favour. That's a sort of universal thing. The role of the colonial government is interesting as the colonial government in itself was not a terribly corrupt system - it did happen, but in the scheme only a little more common than it would have been in other European countries at the time. What is more relevant is that you get this legacy from the colonial system. Where colonial governments are very weak and have very little support within the population, they are underfunded. They have a kind of systemic tendency to misdirect funds to key interest groups. For example, you see them subsidising European settlers at the expense of the African majority, or you see them subsidising the urban population at the expense of the rural population. The reason for that is that these are key support bases or there are groups that can threaten the colonial state and these systems continue after independence. After independence African governments were very weak and very authoritarian; at independence they didn't have the laws that were robust enough to make corruption a difficult thing to achieve. Botswana however, copied Singapore's anti corruption legislation to a significant effect. Yet Botswana is very ethnically homogenised, one of the largest diamond producers, and has a very small population with plenty of money to go round - it is an unusual case.

JD: Africans were never ready to govern themselves. Colonial powers did not prepare them to take over, and so only the powerful and corrupted governed?

SD: I certainly think it's fair to say that colonial governments tended not to prepare them well for self-government, in that they started very late. In employment in Africa there is a regression; lots of Africans were employed in West Africa and then around the turn of the century were dismissed and replaced with whites at the higher levels. In Ethiopia a significant number of Africans are going to university in Europe or America and coming back to nothing as the colonial state doesn't want them. Colonial governments were very determined to strengthen ethnic identity and to obstruct the emergence of a sense of national identity, intensifying ethnic identity. Corruption is based, rooted out, and prevented by individuals in the state having a sense of national self interest beyond personal or ethnic self interest, something that is still a working process.

JD: Why do you think bribes and corruption has become a way of life for many Africans/ Have you experienced it at all when you have visited, how did you experience it?

SD: Bribes are not quite as common as people think. I have given what would probably be defined in a court of law as a bribe three or four times but I have lived in Africa for about 5 years of my life. It does not happen every day, but I probably have privileges and friends who are not powerful but lower middle class. It happens when you need to get something done quicker than the system allows or when you have done something slightly wrong. Or, for example, driving at the end of the calendar month - the police money runs out at this time, so at the end of the month there are more road blocks

and police checks and if you got something wrong you pay. One time in darsilan, all the street lights were out and a tree was in front of a one way street sign. I turned into that road unaware and three policemen were waiting up the road. Spiders waiting for me, the fly, to catch in their web. They were drunk and I didn't want to give cash, they were threatening to impound my car and put me in a cell overnight, but I had to get back to my work in Nairobi the next day. I explained this isn't exactly reasonable, and they said so what can you do, so I said they seemed nice guys why don't I buy you some beers that you can drink after your shift and maybe you can accept this is not a reasonable charge. So that is what we did. It felt dirty afterwards and had technically broken the law but I think I had reason not to be prosecuted for it. Police will extract bribes from people, and generally people complain, but it is a petty amount and really in the scheme of African corruption is not what we should be focusing on but is creating an aura of this is how a state works. But it's kind of the big corruption that is significant like the president of Nigeria in the '90's who endorsed 5 billion pounds - that's what is significant as it takes a lot of police to rack up this amount. Police are very fixable as they're underpaid, but gross corruption is more difficult.

JD: Some say without poverty, there would be no corruption, others say without corruption there would be no poverty, which side do you agree with and why?

SD: I think poverty and corruption are linked but in some way it's more about inequality. Botswana is least corrupt but still very unequal. If you rooted corruption out from African politics to a large degree you would still have deeply poor countries. I just don't understand how areas like Tanzania or Malawi will ever be rich countries in



the next 30-40 years even if corruption is removed as they have low natural resources and education bases and so on. Nigeria: you think this is a country with enormous oil reserves, but the average income is the same as it was at independence. You think there is some potential there for greater economic prosperity shared out more evenly but there are certain kinds of economies which encourage corruption more. Oil is something offshore which hardly ever touches the land of Nigeria and individuals within the state cream of a bunch of the wealth.

JD: Of the ten countries considered most corrupt in the world, six are in sub-Saharan Africa, according to Transparency International, a leading global watchdog on corruption. Why has corruption remained in modern Africa?

SD: There are two aspects that make African societies more corrupt than other areas. You have very weak insignificant governments, and a very weak sense of national identity versus a strong ethnic politics. Once an ethnic group is in power they mine the state for what they can get out of it. People talk about it being 'our turn to eat' referring to their ethnic group in government.

JD: Should foreign countries stop supplying aid until corruption is eliminated?/ Are foreign countries making the corruption worse by taking advantage of these secret deals with African governments?

SD: I think you have to distinguish between companies and western national government. For example Britain and France have major oil companies headquartered within Europe and Africa, but there are other rival companies in the Middle East and China. If European governments were stopping BP or Shell from operating in Africa, would that route out their

corruption - this is a moral question and I don't think it will limit corruption.

It's very difficult to answer. More upsetting when I last visited Uganda was what a huge proportion of Bill Gates' HIV money was actually being distributed among the state; you kind of think one thing to rip off oil money, another to rip off aid money. If we stop aid altogether then no money will ever reach the poor. The Gates money is in a way unusual as there is such a huge amount of it so it was easier to siphon off larger amounts. In general aid money is pretty well audited and I don't think there is a significant source of embellishment in the scheme of things. There is a broader moral question of whether the provision of aid for African government is somehow reducing African politicians sense of responsibility for their own national identity country; they might not rip off if they were not having as much money coming in from outside.

JD: Why, if it's so obvious, is nothing done about it?

SD: The best approach is to continue auditing aid carefully, not bypass the state to local communities or NGO's. This has to be a long term process of trying to reduce corruption within the state in Africa. It's going to take a significant increase in education and a sense of nationhood and these things take a long time. It's important to think about it historically and comparatively and see that Britain used to be a deeply corrupt society and Asian countries in South East Asia used to be very corrupt three or four decades ago. Things can change, but they change for reasons like economic growth or weaker sense of sub nation interest.

JD: Will it always be the rich live rich and the poor live poor?

SD: Corruption isn't just something that comes from the top, poor people in

Africa also encourage ethnic politics to access power and a degree of wealth, so I wouldn't just argue its rich a powerful ripping off system. I think that it's unusual in Africa for people to vote on grounds which party is offering best policies for their country, and is going to take some time to develop in the same ways it has everywhere else in the world.

JD: Is this happening in other countries around the world but we just don't hear about it, for example the expenses scandal?

SD: Corruption is universal, but the expenses scandal was as a result of sense of privilege more than corruption, as many didn't think they were being corrupt but playing the system. Thinking about other European countries, a succession of presidential candidates in France has been funded by an African political leader. European politics is corrupted if you can get hands on cash that does not get audited, but African countries still come way out in general. Universal principles that make corruption the playing of the system happen everywhere. There are reasons in Africa why it happens in greater intensity - it's not unique but at the end of the spectrum.

I want to emphasise how difficult it is to be a good government in Africa. The scale of the problems that Nigeria for example is facing: intense division on ethnic and religious grounds, population that will double in 30 years, HIV. It's extremely difficult to achieve demonstrable return on the long term programmes required in a 5 year electoral cycle. So buying votes does work, but you are more likely to win if you seem to be governing well. The 2007 election probably would have shown this if the election was clean.

-Jess Duncan



What If... Guy Fawkes

Everything would be different – John Briggs

'Remember, remember the fifth of November, Gunpowder, Treason and Plot'. Political assassinations, successes and failures, are not completely uncommon in Britain's turbulent history, but few are recalled so often and as spectacularly as the Gunpowder Plot. There is good reason for this, we celebrate Guy Fawkes' failure because the ramifications had he lit the fuse beneath a full House of Lords, King and all, would have been astronomical. In today's context, a terrorist attack that left us bereft of the Queen, the Cabinet and the CEO of every top 100 company is about as close as we can get to imagining the scale of disarray caused.

Gunpowder. As modern reconstructions have shown, had Fawkes successfully lit his fuse without discovery, the destruction of the Palace of Westminster would have been absolute and the death of all of those within a foregone conclusion. Obviously Britain would have lost her King, but more than that, all the major landowners of the day would have been assembled in the House of Lords for the State Opening of Parliament.

Treason. The effect of wiping out the King and these various peers, the most powerful men in Britain, all at once would have been extreme. The nation would have been thrown into economic and political disarray as various relatives fought amongst themselves for position and privilege. A power vacuum would have left Britain exposed to foreign powers and internal dissent.

Plot. While Guy Fawkes was attempting to kill the King, in Warwickshire his accomplices were attempting to kidnap his daughter, Princess Elizabeth and place her on the throne as a Catholic puppet monarch. Had the explosion in London succeeded it can be assumed that in the confusion that followed such an act would not have been impossible and with James' sons isolated in Scotland such a monarchy would have been relatively easy to establish.

A rebellion headed by a throne-deprived Charles? Or perhaps intervention from Europe to secure the rebels on the throne, certainly Britain would be in no position to fully defend itself, having lost the bulk of her military leaders in the explosion. What of the course of the civil war, which was so divisive in determining the superiority of Parliament? Would it even have taken place? This is a very brief exploration of the topic, but the wide reaching effects of the Gunpowder Plot are obvious; a complete power vacuum, which would likely have changed the course of the seventeenth century beyond all recognition.

It might not be as different as we think – Hannah Conway

If Sir Francis Tresham had not sent a letter to his brother in law, Lord Monteagle, and Guy Fawkes had been left undisturbed to ignite the fuse, then the Houses of Parliament would have been destroyed in an almighty explosion which would leave a quarter mile blast radius in its wake. If the Gunpowder Plot had succeeded in 1605 the history of England as we know it would have been altered, but it would not have changed everything. Even if the Gunpowder Plot had been successful, England would have remained under Protestant control to at least 1625, as it did under the reign of James I who ruled from 1567 until 1625 and even could have remained under Protestant rule for consistently longer than it did under Charles I when the plot was foiled.

The Jesuits wanted to destroy the Houses of Parliament, assassinating in the process both the King and his government allowing Rome in amidst the resulting chaos to take control of England and take the four



had been successful...?

year old Charles prisoner in London. However, it is highly unlikely that this would have happened, but rather that Protestant rule would have continued under Charles I had Guy Fawkes successfully ignited the 36 barrels of gunpowder, even just half of which would have obliterated Parliament. The plotters had planned to ride out to the central regions of England after the explosion and rally support; when they reached these counties the plotters spoke as though the King was already dead, but the response they received was not the one they had anticipated, they attracted little recruits and were even unable to continue to the next stage of the plan, to capture Elizabeth. This lack of support they received suggests that had the plot actually been successful they would not have received the response which they had expected but rather that Catholics would have been horrified at the scale of the destruction and carnage, just as Henry Garnet the leader of the English Jesuits was appalled when he learned of the murderous plot. Therefore, rather than strengthening Catholicism in England the Gunpowder Plot would have weakened it as Protestants would most likely have taken up arms in revenge against Catholics. This would likely have been accepted by the European Catholic community as it is reasonable to suggest that they would have perceived it as a reasonable response to the murder of the country's monarchy and government, meaning that Protestant rule would have persisted in England regardless of the success of the plot.

There is no What If! – Jess Duncan

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Who were the SS?

In 1925 the Schutzstaffel, better known as the infamous 'SS', transformed itself from a small group of street-fighters into one of the most dominant and powerful organisations within the Third Reich's regime of terror. Upon the Nazi's seizure of power in 1933, their duties expanded almost overnight, from being Adolf Hitler's personal bodyguards to now officially carrying out the Nazi's racist ideology, operating outside the constraints of German law. By the end of the Second World War, the SS would forever be known as a criminal organisation, responsible for atrocious crimes against humanity and the deaths of millions of innocent people in the Holocaust. But who were the men working for the SS?

Heinrich Himmler, the fervent anti-Semite who was appointed Reichsführer-SS in 1929, saw the SS as being an elite force. All personnel had to be selected on the grounds of racial purity and unconditional loyalty to the Third Reich. Recruits therefore had to prove their German ancestry from as far back as 1750, as well as proving they had no Jewish ancestors. They were schooled in racial hatred, taught to believe they were the elite of humankind and made to harden their hearts to human suffering. Yet these were well-educated young men; in many cases University professors, college graduates, naval officers and businessmen. But this perverted elitism bestowed on them by Himmler, himself a mild-mannered, prim and very dull former chicken farmer, made the men cold, ruthless and completely indifferent to the suffering of anyone deemed 'inferior' to them.

This mind-set allowed them to carry out mass executions during World War II of Jews, Gypsies, political opponents, Russian prisoners of war, Polish leaders, homosexuals, the disabled and many other 'undesirables' without a flicker of emotion. In testimonies of SS men given during the Nuremberg trials, they are able to describe their murderous tasks as if they were normal, day-to-day activities;

one such example being Wilhelm Bahr, a medical orderly at Neuengamme concentration camp. When asked how long it took for 200 Russian POW's to die by gassing, Bahr stated he left for two hours and came back, by which time the prisoners were dead. When asked why he left, Bahr said it was his lunch hour. 'You left for lunch and came back afterwards?' Yes was the answer.

It was the SS *Totenkopfverbände*, or 'Death's-Head Battalions', who ran the concentration camps, first in Germany, then in Poland, with a brutal and sadistic efficiency. They were easily recognisable due to their sleek black uniforms and special insignia (death's head collar patches, silver daggers and lightening-like runic S's). Testimonies from survivors of the camps tell of the cruel treatment bestowed on them by SS guards on a daily basis. And whilst much of the focus tends to be on the male guards, it is easy to forget the females, who were notoriously as cruel as their male counterparts. One particularly horrifying account centres around Ilse Koch, the 'Witch of Buchenwald', who would take the skins of murdered inmates with distinctive tattoos as 'souvenirs' to be made into handbags or lampshades.

The total number of Holocaust victims, many of which perished at the hands of the SS, has been estimated at between 11 and 17 million people, including 6 million Jews. Following the defeat of Nazi Germany by the Allies, the SS was declared a criminal organisation by the Allied Tribunal in Nuremberg in 1946. Many of the SS personnel, including Wilhelm Bahr and Ilse Koch, were executed for their crimes against humanity. Whilst many pleaded that they were simply 'following orders', it is hard to believe, although undoubtedly brainwashed by their leaders, that human beings could carry out such despicable and horrifying acts of torture on a mass scale unless they had an in built willingness to do so. And the question remains; would we all act the same in their position?

-Becky Higgins



Chamber of Secrets

Throughout history we have used secret rooms and passageways, from the Egyptians to the hidden 'speakeasies' during the American prohibition, to keep our secrets secret and to protect ourselves in the face of danger. These chambers of secrets have been used for many different purposes: they protected Catholic priests who were persecuted by Queen Elizabeth I and they have even assisted in the activities of drug smugglers, such as those who constructed a secret tunnel from Tijuana, Mexico to Otay, California in order to smuggle marijuana to the US.

Secret passageways and hidden rooms were not always used for protection or escape from danger however. Sometimes they were utilised in pursuit of a much more sinister agenda. One eerie episode of the gruesome work undertaken in such secretive places would be the case of Herman Webster Mudgett; better known under his alias H.H Holmes, and his nightmarish 'Murder Castle'. Holmes came to Chicago in 1885; he was a known swindler and was later discovered have been specifically involved in insurance fraud, which drove him to murder on numerous occasions. The 'Murder Castle', as the three story building on 63rd street, Chicago became known, was an immense structure with

labyrinths of trap doors, secret passageways and hidden rooms that can only be described as chambers fit for murder. The castle exhibited an array of architectural oddities; with no architect involved in the planning, various labourers worked on the project for a short time only, the result being that Holmes alone knew the intricately secretive nature of this devilish building.

'The Murder Castle' was a maze of horror, hidden and concealed to lead unsuspecting visitors to their demise at the hands of Holmes. There was a dark shaft which connected one room to a sealed cellar, where it is thought that Holmes disposed of his countless victims. Hidden trap doors lead to a horrifying hanging cage that was walled in by bricks and mortar, which sealed the victims' fate. However, the part of the Chicago 'castle' which has rooted itself within my mind is the nightmarish 'Vault' which slowly killed Holmes' prey and silenced their desperate shrieks of fear. The 'Vault' was a steel bound room built into the wall, lined with asbestos. The labourer who was commissioned by Holmes to construct this steel 'vault' was W.E. Carpenter, and in a statement to reporters after the trial of Holmes in the 1890's he said that Holmes had insisted that the steel room be airtight. 'The Vault' was practically

soundproof as the steel combined with the asbestos lining would deaden the screams of Holmes' victims while they were asphyxiated.

Holmes was arrested in 1893. The number of murders he was suspected of was twenty seven, but there were probably countless offences, as not only did he possess a furnace in the cellar in which he could have promptly incinerated any evidence, he also owned a glass works where corpses could be disposed of with ease. It is a widely held theory that the cellar of the 'Murder Castle' was a diversion and the real location in which he of his victims was the glass works. It was the perfect location: it had the equipment needed to burn the bodies and the secluded nature of the premises meant that it would attract little attention. Holmes is considered to be one of America's first serial killers and his petrifying story still evokes horror today.

With more and more companies such as 'Creative Home Engineering' offering to install secret rooms within people's homes, I sincerely hope that homeowners are trying to discover their inner spy in the style of Bond-esque escape routes from cocktail bars, or Batman-inspired sliding bookcases leading to their own personal bat cave, rather than taking inspiration from Holmes, the architect of terror.

-Hannah Conway



IHP: A License to Chill: The Cold War and the real James Bonds



The next James Bond, *Skyfall*, is surely one of the most hotly-anticipated films of 2012: I know for certain that I will be taking a morning off writing the next essay to go and see it. Already, Daniel Craig has established himself in many people's eyes, especially we younger generations, as *the* James Bond: number six in order, but number one in class. The Bond he portrays is a lean, mean fighting-machine, consummating his eponymous license to kill without the aid of the flamboyant gadgets and cars of his predecessors. But gone too is the sense of threat pervasive amongst the early films based on Ian Fleming's Cold War-set novels. As Judi Dench's M comments in *Die Another Day*, James Bond is, in many ways, a product of the Cold War. But I doubt one of us would for a minute believe that espionage in the post-1945 world was anything like the glamorous, death-defying affair into which Sean Connery so often ran, all guns blazing. It is commonly accepted that Cold War spies, both East and West, bore far more in common with John Le Carré's unassuming, sometimes cynical, often morally ambiguous Smiley than Fleming's heroic James Bond. But how much do we really understand about their world?

SPECTRE or Moscow Centre?

Everybody knows the scene. Bond is confronted with his greatest of all enemies, Blofeld, menacingly sat in his swivel-chair stroking the ubiquitous white cat. Blofeld, head of SPECTRE, is without a doubt the epitome of James Bond-style super-villainy. On the other side of the coin, we have Smiley's nemesis Karla, an agent of shadowy Soviet espionage service Moscow Centre. Representing Britain, we have Bond working for MI6 and Smiley doing his duty for the Circus. The question is, do either of these interpretations do justice to the complicated web of Cold War espionage across the Iron Curtain?

The short answer is both yes and no. I'm sure everybody knows that Blofeld and SPECTRE are the product of escapist fiction only, with no serious parallels in reality, but even the more realistic depictions of Le Carré only tell some of the story (not that the genre-defining author ever claims to be writing an historical account). Whilst both writers served in British intelligence, only Smiley's creator in any sense accurately recreates it in his novels. For during most of the Cold War, there was no such thing as MI6 (Military Intelligence 6). There was, however, the Secret Intelligence Service (SIS), nicknamed in Le Carré's fiction as the Circus. This is not to say that MI6 does not, or has never, existed, for the SIS and MI6 are precisely the same organisation – the former being the term used during peacetime, the latter only being used when Britain is directly at war. With the Cold War being, well, cold, both Smiley and Bond actually received their pay cheques from the SIS.

OK, so that distinction is largely a technicality; far more interesting are the plethora of espionage services created by the Communists across t'Iron Curtain (as we say in Yorkshire). Everybody has heard of the KGB, nicknamed in real life and by Le Carré as 'Moscow Centre', due to the position of its infamous Lubyanka headquarters in the centre of Moscow. But have you ever heard of the GRU (you will have after studying the Cuban Missile Crisis with Martin Thornton – watch out for double agent Oleg Penkovsky), or, if you have, know what it does? Is it just a clone of the KGB? Are they the same, like MI6 and SIS? The answer is no. The Soviet Union had two espionage agencies, using almost identical methods to do two subtly different jobs. The KGB was, despite its agent's army ranks, essentially a civilian agency run by the Party to protect the USSR from collapse from within. Sometimes this involved spying on foreigners such as ourselves, but the goal was always to track possible defectors or dissenters who may cause trouble within the Motherland. Conversely, the GRU, based in the Aquarium, was a military-run organisation of the General Staff, which fiercely defended its independence against the KGB, whom most GRU officers regarded as being as much of a threat through their incompetency as Britain or America ever was. The GRU was outwards-facing: they presumed the real danger came from without, so concentrated all their efforts on gathering intelligence from the Soviet Union's enemies abroad: us. Overall, they were by far the more effective



institution, as both Westerners and ordinary Soviet citizens were oblivious to their existence until Gorby's glasnost reforms. A GRU defector named Viktor Suvorov writes that anyone could join the KGB by applying at a local Party headquarters; the GRU was strictly invitation-only.

Then, of course, there are the satellites. Each state in the Soviet sphere had its own espionage agency, mostly modelled after the KGB. By far the most infamous is the East German Stasi, who were based in a massive complex in Berlin, from where they spied on every conceivable aspect of the lives of their citizens. Less well-documented, are the activities of the mysterious Building 17, from where the Stasi ran operations within the UK amongst other 'enemy' states. The headquarters in Building 1 made the most interesting day of my recent visit to Berlin (who wouldn't want to sit in the same chairs as nefarious secret policemen?), but there was very little mention of the activities of Building 17 across the car park.

Q who?

James Bond is characterised by four things above all else: the girls, the gadgets, the cars and the over-the-top plots. With Roger Moore, this didn't always make for a plausible concoction to say the least. But is it all so far-fetched? Well, I'm not going to claim that the CIA were using invisible cars to take photos of the Cuban missile installations, but the Stasi did develop the original gadget-car: a standard, cheap, unreliable East German Trabant modified with high-tech infrared camera technology to enable them to conduct surveillance operations at night, around the clock. Way cooler than an Aston Martin with an ejector seat. Scarier yet were the prisoner-transport vans which would snatch unsuspecting victims from the streets disguised as greengrocer's vehicles. They also were fond of hidden cameras and listening 'bugs' too, perhaps the most disturbing examples including a bug in a teacher's marker pen, and cameras in thermos flasks and a petrol can. The latter is actually quite clever: placing the can in a petrol station along the main road linking West Berlin with West Germany, the Stasi could monitor diplomatic vehicles for details such as number of passengers. If a diplomat went to Berlin with two aides and only came back with one, then perhaps he had left a spy behind. Bye, bye visa. The KGB had miniature cameras disguised as John Player cigarette packets. Equally impressive and much larger was the joint SIS-CIA spy tunnel dug under Soviet military command, Berlin, to tap into their phone lines. It was just a pity that, through a double agent, the Russians knew about it from the start and engaged in their all-time favourite hobby of disinformation.

So, whilst the real Cold War spies did indulge in high-tech equipment to help gather intelligence, unfortunately, the lives they led were not nearly as glamorous as Ian Fleming's fictionalised portrayals. Le Carré's Smiley somewhat epitomises the position of the real spy – often bored, morally uncertain and leading a somewhat downcast life. In actuality, espionage was sometimes quite mundane. What we call 'spies' can be placed into two categories: intelligence collectors, and intelligence relayers or analysts. The latter, colloquially known as 'handlers' would recruit the former, who could be straight-forward agents working in government offices or military structures, or occasionally a high-profile mole, defector or double agent from within one of the enemy organisations. The handlers' existence could be quite sedentary, although not without risks involved if operating semi-legally from within the basement of your embassy in a foreign country, as was the common modus operandi of the GRU. The assets they recruited were the ones who took the real risks, day-in, day-out. The KGB were experts in assassinating those who betrayed them. Look what happened to Trotsky. Whilst Britain reacted leniently to double agents such as Kim Philby, our men in Moscow were not accorded the same treatment, making the lives of Oleg Penkovsky and Viktor Suvorov very dangerous indeed. Not dangerous in the all-guns-blazing sense: Dangerous as in the favourite parable of the GRU, related by Suvorov after his successful defection, with which I end this article.

There is only one way out of the Aquarium: that is through the furnace. Serve the GRU well, and you will be cremated with full military honours as a hero. Betray the Motherland, and you will not have the luxury of death before being thrown into the flames.

-Alex Shaw



Film Review: Zulu

"the army doesn't like more than one disaster in a day"

"looks bad in the newspapers and upsets civilians at their breakfast"

Zulu re-enacts the Battle of Rorke's Drift in which the British Army's 24th Regiment of Foot is besieged at a missionary station in Natal by a force of four thousand Zulus. This occurred the day after a catastrophic British defeat at the Battle of Isandlwana in which approximately one thousand five hundred soldiers were killed. Despite the Rorke's Drift defenders only having one hundred and forty men and being outnumbered almost thirty to one, Lieutenant John Chard (Stanley Baker) and Lieutenant Gonville Bromhead (Michael Caine) decide to remain in position rather than leave their wounded men behind. In what was Caine's first lead role (though he'd previously had bit-parts in seventeen movies) he played the typical blue blooded aristocratic officer who is forced to concede command to Baker who, as the senior officer, was considered to be his social inferior.

Filmed on a budget of only \$2 million, in what was Baker's debut as a producer, the filming got off to a shaky start. The first eleven days of the shoot originally had to be scrapped due to poor weather but by waiting for better conditions it was possible to showcase the beautiful South African scenery. Director Cy Endfield drafted in five hundred Zulu warriors as extras to represent the army of four thousand. To create the illusion of a larger force, Zulu mannequins were used to cast silhouettes in scenes where they lined the hills to surround the British defenders; they are easy to spot as many of them have no legs. The Zulu extras were introduced to classic American

Westerns and instructed to mimic the behaviour of the Native Americans to characterise their role in the film.

The lack of jingoism exhibited in *Zulu* makes it remarkable for its period (1964). No justification for the British invasion of Zululand is given and there is no back story to the tale apart from the defeat at the Battle of Isandlwana, which had occurred the previous day. The Zulu enemy are depicted as model soldiers, at some points braver than the British defenders.

The film is largely historically accurate, although the iconic scene in which the two forces sing to each other over the battlefield was fabricated, as was the final encounter with the Zulu warriors when they praised the bravery of their enemies then left. In truth they only retreated because of the approach of a British relief column. The majority of the film was shot sixty miles away from the historical battlefield. The scenes inside the hospital and church were shot in a studio in Twickenham.

Zulu's profound influence on cinema is evidenced by Peter Jackson's usage of the battle scenes as a template for the Battle of Helm's Deep in the *Lord of the Rings: the Two Towers*. Ridley Scott also took inspiration from the film by modifying the Zulu chants to create Germanic war cries in *Gladiator*. Even today historians still study the Battle of Rorke's Drift as one of the only instances in history where a massively outnumbered and surrounded force emerged triumphant.

-Rob Tidball



The greatest cultural extravaganza that one could imagine (Bowie on Berlin, 1970)

-Liam Revell

Klaus Wowereit, Berlin's beloved mayor said in a 2004 interview, "*Berlin ist arm, aber sexy*" (Berlin in poor, but sexy). It is true indeed that many parts of Berlin still show somewhat shabby remnants of communist times in the not-so-distant past, but these echoes combined with the incredibly rich tapestry of Berlin's history make it a city that cannot and should not be missed off any historian's travels. I had the opportunity to live and breathe this great city whilst working as a British Council Language Assistant, and this article is designed to give you a brief introduction to a place which is full of character, and home to many characters.

Berlin is first mentioned in documents in 1244, a relatively late bloomer by European standards. Initially founded by the Archbishop of Cologne to build up the marshy area along the banks of the Spree, Berlin blossomed to become the royal residence of the Brandenburg Electors. Damaged greatly by the Thirty Years war, Berlin recovered and experienced a period of Enlightenment and architectural boom, in part influenced by the large French presence in the city. Under Friedrich *der Große* (the Great), Berlin was transformed into a cultural centre with the Berlin State Opera and the Prussian Academy of Sciences being notable additions. By 1850, the population had swelled to 400,000 making it the fourth largest city in Europe and the unification of Germany in 1871 saw Berlin become the capital of the newly-founded German Empire.

The following few decades were met with economic growth and depression and culminated in WWI. A disastrous home front and ultimate defeat led to strikes, rebellion and mass inflation on the streets of Berlin, with the *Spartacists* failed revolution leading way to the infamous *Weimar Republic*- an era that is synonymous with Berlin for its *Neue Frau* (New Women) image and underground debauchery scene. Berlin again became a centre of culture, albeit alternative. Flappers and dandies passed by injured relics of the war and the pace of life was portrayed in Fritz Lang's epic *Metropolis*. Despite austerity and rapid change throughout the 1920s people such as Einstein, Gropius, Grosz, Brecht and Tucholsky, saw Berlin regain its prominent cultural standing in Europe.

Economic woes returned to the city with the crash of 1929 and social upheaval and discontent led in part to the well-documented rise of the National Socialists. Their leadership would impact hugely on the city both in architectural and destructive ways. The resulting war left a legacy of devastation unprecedented in Berlin's history. Vastly depopulated and demolished, the majority of the antique buildings in the city are reconstructions.

Post-war optimism was short-lived, with Allies occupational division of the city. The Soviet blockade and Anglo-American airlift from 1948 saw Berlin become the blueprint for the preceding Cold War. Berlin's infamous Wall, 1961, epitomised Churchill's Iron Curtain division of Europe. Families were separated and the difference in life styles of people living on alternative sides of a single wall is a peculiarly odd concept in Berlin's history. The East German influence lives on through *Ostalgie*, the reminiscing of Eastern German ideals and life. The Berliners kept their DDR *Ampelmännchen* (traffic lights) but the rather unexpected fall of the wall in 1989 brought Coca Cola and other Western values to the eastern part of the city. Since its return as capital of a reunified Germany in 1991, Berlin has gone from strength to strength.

From Prussian Kings and failed uprisings, to Nazism and the Cold War episode, Berlin has undoubtedly had a tumultuous history. It has however remained a fascinating city that has captivated people around the world. It has a unique past, and its future is never certain. I implore you to visit, explore its streets, and fall in love with its quirky charm and fantastically contrasting landscape. The people may not be the friendliest bunch, but they are Germans and have as Berliners a reputation of having to put up with rather a tough time. Over my year there I became a *Berliner*, although not of the donut variety JFK once famously announced, a true one that, like Berlin's most famous daughter Marlene Dietrich, "still keeps a suitcase in Berlin".



Operation Medic

-Ben Kavanagh

As a history student, I am terrified by medic parties. I have always found the whole affair bizarre. It seems to be something that only those directly involved in the social circle can fully understand. It makes sense that students forced to spend every waking second of every day working alongside each other develop such an intimate social life; I have been told medics are in fact told by their tutors to socialise mostly with other medics. However, being an outsider to all of this, their ethos of 'work hard, play hard' still fascinates me. Being an inquisitive historian, I needed to know more.

I therefore decided to go on a self-assigned covert operation to one of these parties, but with a difference. I seized the opportunity of a party initiating the freshers to infiltrate as a first year dentist – I figured being a medic would be too risky as people would realise I had not been to any lectures or tutorials during the day – and discover from first-hand experience what this life consisted of. It was an incredibly risky plan, but, I can assure you now, I managed to survive...ish.

The night got off to a bad start for me due to my clothes. It was a fancy dress party, so I undertook my usual challenge with these parties and tried to stay within the theme with as little effort as possible. I thought I had managed this quite well – I had to dress up as a herbivore, so I wore a shirt and claimed to be Paul McCartney. It turns out medics are unforgiving in their judgement of effort and assigned "no effort" penalties. I soon realised another problem: medics HATE dentists. This resulted in a persistent "dentist penalty" on any drinking game we played. Additionally, it appears they have a morbid fascination with dentistry, so I was therefore bombarded with questions about why I chose it over medicine. Fortunately I was able to use my blagging skills acquired from a year of history seminars, and managed to bluff my way through conversations about my passion for teeth.

The party itself was intriguing to observe. The medics create clustered circles and almost constantly have their elbows in the air because

some genius decided a while ago that the use of hands redundant. At any one point in the evening you hear people muttering, "thank you Mr Chairman" or "no acceptance" as if it's part of some ancient pagan ritual. It really is a case of 'every man for himself' regarding drinking games. The only thing I can compare it to is a French exchange: you will listen not understanding a word that is being said, then you will be asked a question, and answer it completely wrong. Plus, the quality of drink in France is usually much more civilised than a 2-litre bottle of Frosty Jacks.

I almost got away with it.

Just as we were about to head out to the club, I was finally confronted by a third year medic: "You're a history student, aren't you?"

Naturally I protested: "How dare you! I'm a dentist. How could you possibly suggest that...?"

"How many teeth do you have?"

There was a pause. A very long pause.

I don't remember much else of the rest of that evening. The medics are unforgiving...



Q&A: Intern Profile.

Name: Jamie Mosley

What is the name of your internship role?

Research-led Teaching Intern

What is Research-led teaching?

Research-led teaching could be characterised as a journey, taking students from their school-based experience through Research-led Teaching to Research-based learning - a journey from teaching to being autonomous, self-reliant, supported and supervised. Research-led teaching is a university curriculum based on current academic research, in the chosen field, by the student. It is an attempt to link research with teaching to strengthen the learning experience.

What does your internship entail?

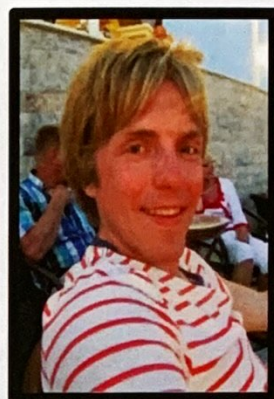
My internship entails working with Dr Kevin Linch to explore the idea of incorporating Research-led teaching into the modules of the School of Arts and Humanities. This includes finding out what the current student body understands about the ideas of research, and research-led teaching, and finding out whether or not they think it would be a good idea to incorporate this into the learning experience at the University of Leeds. It also involves research into the universities that currently use this model of learning, and how well it is working out for them, to see if research-led teaching is a viable working option for the University of Leeds. I will also be attending the second Student Education Conference (SEC2) in January with Dr Kevin Linch to present a paper at the Symposium on 'Students as Scholars'. If all goes well, my role as intern will eventually entail incorporating research-led teaching into viable modules for the next generation of students.

Which historical areas are you looking at?

The historical areas I am looking into at the moment are the Georgian period (18th-19th century) and the French Revolution and Napoleonic Era. For my dissertation I will be researching the idea of Naval training during the Age of Nelson, and how it differed between the officers and the regular sailors.

How can students get involved/ give you their ideas for this project?

Students are already getting involved with research, if you have ever taken a module in the second year run by either Dr Raphael Hallett or Dr Kevin Linch, such as Research Collaboration & Communication (HIST2550) or Historical Research Project (HIST2535), then you are getting involved and letting them know that research is a popular way to earn your degree. The way to get involved in such a rewarding experience, if you are a first year, is to take these modules in your second year. The skills they impart on students will really enrich their learning experience and take their degree to another level. Another way in which students can get involved is by joining the Research-led Teaching Facebook group in the University of Leeds groups, and posting your ideas and questions there. Finally, keep an eye out for Dr Linch's questionnaires on the Portal and let us know what you think. You will receive some lovely printer credits for your trouble.





Debate: Has the monarchy

YES

-Jonathan Mitchell

It has been a year of patriotism, a year to revel in what it means to be British. A chance to celebrate the true representative of our great nation, the face of the Commonwealth to whom we sing our allegiance whenever the opportunity arises, her majesty the Queen. But why do we idolise such a figure? Why did we line the Thames in our thousands for a brief glimpse as she sails by with her hand aloft? The answer is surprisingly simple, there is no reason.

A brief account of our monarchy will reveal much treachery, bloodshed and history-defining decisions. This was possible not because they had proven their competence as rulers, accomplished more than any other man or woman to make them worthy of such power, or even elected to rule. But because their parents did it.

It's a fact shrouded in irony as we preach democracy abroad and even fight for its existence, only to wave our

flags joyously in celebration of our own heredity rule at home. Sure the era-defining decisions are gone, so our monarchy has become 'harmless' in that respect. But does this not simply mean that the monarchy has become negated of any practical use other than as a face for postcards and key rings to be flogged extortionately along Westminster Bridge?

Of course there is little doubt that the monarchy is financially beneficial. Making my first journey to London over the summer I witnessed first-hand the buzz of foreigners outside Buckingham Palace to see The Changing of the Guard, only to find that as dazzling as those red uniforms may be, they fail to withstand a bit of light drizzle. But whether or not profit is a good enough reason to keep this outdated, contradictory institution must surely be questioned.

And as a representative of Britain? The monarchy represents aristocracy, a

system not only of inherited power but inherited wealth, which defies any socialist government or working-class citizen in modern British history. As society and modern politics evolve, this becomes ever-increasingly outdated, regardless of how many alcohol-fuelled nights in Vegas our Princes choose to partake in.

So what are the practical implications of abolition? Simply too great to consider. The Queen still holds a baffling devotion among her subjects, and until the country's affection for this hereditary system weakens, we will continue to accept the reign of the world's most fortunate halfwits for years to come.

It's a complicated issue. But society will continue to grow and develop over time, while the traditional foundations the monarchy was built on will not. And maybe, whether in 50 or 500 years' time, Britain may seriously find itself questioning the role of the monarchy.



become outdated?



Becky Higgins- **NO**

5th June 2012. Over a million people have descended on London, frantically waving their Union Jacks and bursting into impromptu renditions of 'God Save the Queen'. They have flocked to the capital for one reason; to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. And if we ever needed a reminder of the Queen's popularity, the deafening roar that sounded as she emerged onto the balcony of Buckingham Palace surely satisfied even the most sceptical anti-monarchists.

Like it or not, the monarchy is as popular in Britain as ever. Time and again, opinion polls show that an overwhelming majority of the country wish to keep it. Yes, alternatives are frequently discussed, but they would never be acted upon. Why? Because the monarchical system works.

The monarchy is an integral part of Britain's history and culture. The Queen reigns over 16 Overseas Territories, five Crown Dependencies and in all 16 Realms. She has seen

12 British Prime Ministers in office, and is head of the Armed Forces and the Church of England. Unlike elected heads of state, the Queen is impartial. While Presidents and Prime Ministers have commitments to satisfy certain sections of the electorate, monarchs stand above these demands. In their eyes, every citizen is equal, and it is in their interest to better the country for all of society.

Contrary to popular opinion, the monarchy is not as expensive as many would lead you to believe. The Queen costs each taxpayer about 69p a year, amounting to approximately £40 million overall. When compared to the £200 million the Queen gives the Treasury through revenue from her land, this seems a relatively small figure. When it is compared to the astonishing £7 billion generated from tourism at the royal attractions, the cost appears insignificant.

Furthermore, the prominent members of the monarchy are great role models. Take

Prince Charles, whose charity 'The Princes Trust' encourages young people to contribute to society and become educated, well-rounded individuals. Or Prince Harry, who has fought alongside the brave men and women who serve our country in the Afghan War. And let's not forget the royals' newest member, the Duchess of Cambridge. In an era where young girls search drunken photos of C-list celebrities for a role model, isn't it better to have a well-educated young woman as the new ambassador for our country?

There will always be those who believe our country would be better off without the monarchy. But ask yourselves this, would our great British nation really be the same without them? In 1947, a twenty-one year old Princess Elizabeth made a pledge to devote her life to our service. And, sixty-five years later, she's still doing a magnificent job.

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