

## Sitwell Speaks to assembly

**William Sitwell, restaurant critic for the Telegraph, gives us eye opening insights to the world of food writing and journalism.**

William Sitwell is an accomplished all rounder of TV food critiquing and food writing and has also been a critic on the well-known cooking show, Master Chef, for over 20 years. He runs a small wine business, a supper club and his own 'Feast in a box' food delivery service.

His family have been renowned for writing and he, too, found his happiness in writing. "I got a thrill out of it, seeing my words printed on a page".

He occasionally wrote for school newspapers. When he went to university, he had a radio show of his own alongside writing for his university's newspaper.

William Sitwell believes that doing what you love is the best way to make money. "The holy grail of working is doing something you love while making money off of it," says Sitwell. When in school, he was never fond of science and arithmetic classes. Sitwell much preferred the satisfaction of stitching words together to make coherent and fluid sentences. His field, much like his family before him, was literature.



When he left school, he began doing odd jobs, not too sure about where he fitted in life. He worked as a taxi driver before managing to land a job in parliament thanks to his Father being close with one of the members.

He began to write as a journalist, trying his best to please his editors. "As a young journalist, you want to please your editor," Sitwell informs us that modern journalism is more to do with being told the story beforehand and to go out and extract information through questions. This can be more difficult as some stories can be untrue or documented wrong. Sitwell describes the "The pressure editors put on journalists to go out and get a good story" as immense. The field of journalism is difficult as truth is difficult to find. Much like gossip, as information goes through about 3 or 4 people and it starts to twist and contort to untruths.

"The secret to good journalism is structure," He informed the eager audience. He refers to writing a piece as a simple construct, a beginning, a middle where you and an end. Sitwell believes that "The worst kind of journalism is flowery and overly flamboyant," conveying that simple and well written is better than cramming in as many thesaurus words as possible to try and sound intelligent to impress the readers. (For food info, please turn to page 4)

He also emphasised the importance of reading. "It can transport you. The more you read, the more you understand about life.

Sitwell told us that "The best selfish thing you can do is read a book." It is almost what's not written that makes a good writer." He believes that reading is a perfect substitute for media and phones. "It's important to look people in the eyes and interact with them; tell their stories."



On the 28th of June 2023, Queens college's year 8 went to see "The Lion King Musical" in The Bristol Hippodrome. Above are some quotes from two of the students. The reviews from the students were mixed, with some saying that it was too long and some saying that they wanted more, but I think it is safe to say that we all enjoyed it.

Personally, I thought that it was spectacular and as a passionate actor and musical theatre lover, I could really appreciate the work and effort that was put in. The whole cast were talented beyond description in all aspects. I was especially impressed with the young actors Jonah Hamilton (young Simba) and Anayah Thomas (young Nala). They were as good, if not better, than the adult actors and acted professionally throughout the entire time they were on, even with the pressure that they must have been under. I was also greatly impressed by Kyle Richardson as Simba and Janique Charles as Nala.



I would also like to credit Richard Hudson for the set design. The moving set and drastic set changes were absolutely outstanding. How he made the stage look like a savannah and jungle within minutes still baffles me. The moving pride rock is definitely a thing of wonders. The incredible set and breathtaking masks and puppets really transported you to the pride lands of Africa.

I would definitely recommend this to anyone who is interested in going or is in Bristol. It heavily intertwines with traditional African culture with the costumes, dances and music which even have some lyrics in Zulu. Absolutely a 5 star show.



## Grease in a day

*A Fantastical show produced in a single day*

Grease in a day had acting, singing and dancing. We had from 8:30 in the morning till 6:30 in the evening where the show ran for an hour. We were all split into 3 groups: Team Danny, Team Sandy and Team Rizzo, It was a fantastic show!





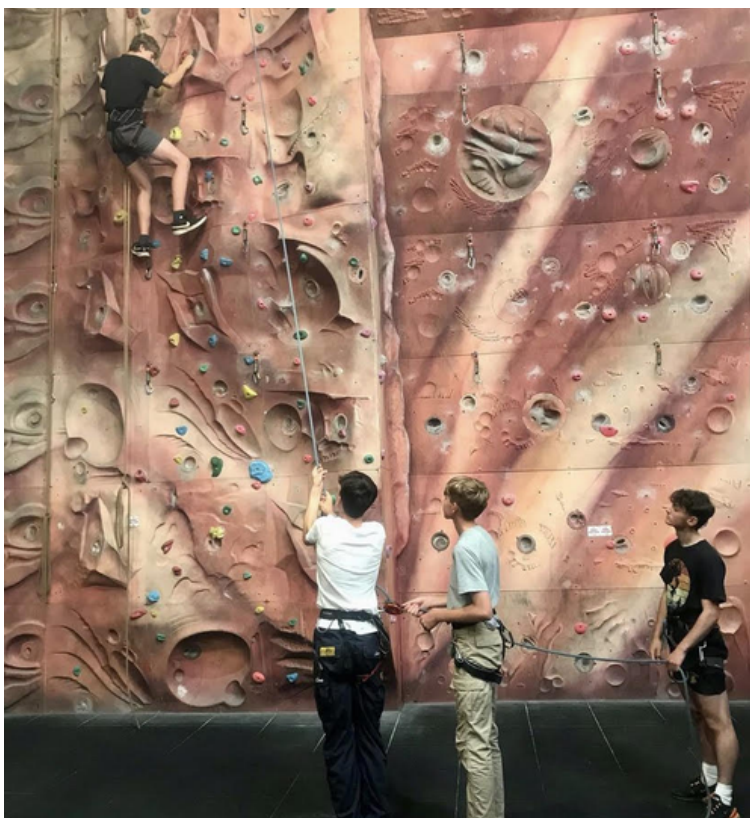
Year 9 and 8 students push their limits at the Adventure Challenge!

Within the last few weeks, our courageous pupils took part in our Adventure Challenge; a three day long trip to Wales packed full with activities that test pupil's capabilities. The activities consisted of canoeing, climbing, hiking and gorging. These young adventurers tried their best in every activity, exceeding their expectations and making themselves and the teachers proud of what they achieved during just three days of hard work and fun.

The year groups were split into groups of around 8 pupils, having a friend with them at least but often having to bond and trust each other even if they weren't the best of friends. Some of these activities included common fears such as heights, tight spaces, deep waters and darkness. Students enjoyed the free-time after activities to share their individual experiences and to mess around with each other.



Food in the evenings was cooked by the talented teachers and breakfasts and lunches were made by the students themselves to power them for the long day ahead. In the evenings the students enjoyed hot chocolate and treats before heading off to bed in their tents. Although many students complained about their uncomfortable nights sleeping outdoors, they did reveal afterwards that they did enjoy themselves. The UK weather held up for most of the time the students were there with clear skies and warm weather apart from the occasional short shower which everybody enjoyed running around in for the little 20 seconds it poured. All students can guarantee that they had a good time, all tried something new and didn't regret taking part in all the planned activities.



"The adventure was an amazing experience that I'm grateful to have been apart of. The teachers worked so hard and delivered a fantastic adventure"

-Hattie Year 8



Guides and tips for those who are eager to escape, end up on white sand and clear water. Or, walking down the bustling streets of New York with the best pizza in your hand.

Millions of people every year escape their country to spend a small fortune on a small life in another part of the world. They might go to the Bahamas or Europe or even somewhere cold like Greenland perhaps; anywhere where people fancy and enjoy. Isn't that what we all dream? This article is here to help and guide you through on how to save, where to go affordably, and what you will love most.

### Saving your pennies

People might spend years saving up for trips abroad, some might just book one tomorrow and take the earliest flight. For everyone it is different, and we're here to help and advise for those who have been waiting and waiting and seem to not go anywhere.

Firstly you have to set your goal; this is possibly the most important. Every week put a certain amount of money into a savings account or a jar. Over time this should increase and you could add more - but the goal is to make this a quick process, so putting in larger amounts would be more effective. You need to limit yourself as well, it can be tempting when you pop into town and see a beautiful top or outfit in the window and want to buy it but you have to remind yourself of your target- set a budget. Because of all your hard work and restrictions your money and hard work should have paid off and you finally get to hop on that plane to your dream destination.



### Attractions and destinations

Every year over 10 million people travel to other countries to get a tan and de-stress. In 2020 23.9 million people went abroad in 2019. Many of these countries were Italy, Greece and Japan, leading to extremely popular destinations. But sometimes the most hidden jewels are the places where people do not expect them to be. For example, to view and create some brilliant memories as well as sights you could walk up to Christ The Redeemer in Brazil - with spectacular views and food.

It is always important to explore different cultures and lifestyles whenever you visit abroad. This way you can learn so much more about the world and life.

The Maldives have always been an extremely popular destination - although it does come at quite a high price - people get what they pay for, whether it's breakfast in the pool or a huge range of water activities. The cloud, soft white sand and the warm, clearwater is what really brings people there. Continuing, if you prefer somewhere slightly colder and up north we recommend Iceland. Such a beautiful country with many places to visit. Their most popular attractions are their volcanoes and hot springs, with people coming from all corners of the world to visit them and bathe in their natural heated waters; whilst also visiting mind-blowingly huge volcanoes.

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When you travel abroad you never want to miss out on some of the most extraordinary sites the world has to offer. There is a huge variety of places to visit, whether people might want to explore or you just want to lie on the side of the pool sipping your margarita. You deserve a marvellous holiday and we hope this short but effective guide has helped you choose your next destination.



## Chromebook controversy

*A quick overview of the opinions of students around the introduction of the bring your own device policy by Oliver Webster.*

Walking around the school you may have seen these large, bulky cabinets with hundreds of cables trailing behind them. Perhaps you wondered what could possibly be inside them that needed such a large amount of electricity and space. Well, the answer is rather underwhelming. It's just a bunch of laptops but yet they still take up a huge portion of space in the classroom, space where the teachers could be keeping books or purple pens or highlighters. And the cost for keeping these computers charged must be ridiculous! Queens knows this and next year they plan to have everyone bring in their own device so that the school doesn't need to spend space and money on keeping them charged and stored.





## “We’ve gone through the ringer,” says Chairman

*Find out all about this diligent up and coming sports team and their long and well deserved rise to the top in this gripping article*

I had the privilege to interview Mr Kevin Sturmey, Chairman of the Taunton Town Football Club. Mr Sturmey has been leading this club for 13 years and he has managed to turn it from a small run down old club with 95 spectators to a national league team with outstanding fame in Japan and an incredibly bright future.

Even this great man admits that the club has been through many arduous times; from flooding, a fire, masses of debt to the loss of the community when COVID struck- alongside the club being run by a large portion of volunteers- and struggling to pay the players. Despite this, the club now is the top most supported team in Japan and have been promoted to National League South this season.



Upon being asked about how Japan has had an impact on the club, Mr Sturmey appeared confident that it would have massively positive impacts for the club. The streaming of Taunton Town fixtures on Youtube brings in a large audience. According to Sturmey, Taunton Town F.C is “The best supported club in Japan.” He hopes to get a pre-season in Japan funded by Japanese sponsors. They even have their own clothing brand. “The Japanese are very fanatical, they enjoy the idea of the pyramid of football”. Sturmey also commented on the competition in America and Canada. “There are loads of wealthy Americans willing to invest in publicity in other countries. Football is unlike any other sport. The big problem is that it is a very cruel system”.  
*(Above right: Manager Rob Dray and Taunton F.C super fan Taketo Oshio who travelled all the way from Tokyo to witness them play).*





Following their recent promotion to the national league, Sturmev has big ambitions for the club and its future. "We are aiming for the top 12 in the nationals. The nationals is where we want to be. Audience engagement and community growth is vital now".

The need for money is more dire than ever before. Players need to be paid more now that they are in national training. The need to grow as they move up the ranks is essential.

Mr Sturmev has been getting his hands dirty helping out on the grounds and working hard. "There's more to management than meets the eye. I've been working 100 hours a week. I've had two days off this season. Everything is very busy at the moment. In 8 days, we travelled 1,054 miles around the country to play. You've got to be committed, you've got to be...well, mad i think."



Mr Sturmev's ambition doesn't stop there. "We dream of the FA Cup. No other sport has this level of championship. There are so many sponsorship opportunities in the big leagues. We need to, however, grow our club sustainably so there is still community and heart in the pride of Somerset". Sturmev is also keen on giving underprivileged local children a chance to play and show their worth. "Everyone deserves a chance in life", says Sturmev.

## Lords cricket game

### *Bairstow catches something other than a ball!*

On wednesday June 29th during the third day of the ashes 2 just oil protesters entered the pitch at Lords cricket attempting to spread orange powder. Whilst the security attempted to calmly escort the intruders off the pitch Jonny Bairstow, the wicket keeper for England, picked one of the protesters up and carried him off to the side off the pitch before dumping him in security's hands. Jonny, 32, was playing his second ashes. The metropolitan police later made three arrests, Guy Lavender, chief executive of Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) which owns Lord's, said he condemned the protest "in the strongest possible terms". From this the security has now been heightened to prevent further scenes like this. Some of the powder made its way onto the pitch but after a short job for the groundsmen play could resume after only five minutes. Bairstow quoted after 'I just did what had to be done so we could finish the match'. Unfortunately after the incident England had a disappointed finish to the day with 339 for 5.





## "Say yes to heaven" Lana Del Rey's not so new single

Lana Del Rey dives into her dreamy, ambient sensational single in this musical masterpiece

"I accidentally fell in love with Lana Del Rey as soon as this single was released due to the light dreamy vocals and lyrics"

-Mia Aydon-Benz

Elizabeth Woolridge Grant, commonly known as Lana Del Rey, released her new single "Say Yes To Heaven" which was released on May 19th 2023. However, it was leaked online and went viral on a social media platform "Tik Tok" after being leaked in October 2020. Many critics praised the song for its dreamy soundscapes.

Lana's lyrics talk about escaping and taking a chance. It uses romantic imagery such as red dress which is also a cross reference to many of her other songs such as "Carmen", "Summertime Sadness" and "Off to the races".



Overall, I think that the song deserves all of the credit it has gotten and is one of the best songs in Lana Del Rey's Career. This is because of her amazing songwriting and vocal skills. Therefore she will go down as one of the greatest artists of all time

"Lana Del Rey is an all time favourite music artist for me. This song specifically is extraordinary and such an inspiration for children and adults alike"

-Marta, Year 9