



The Wonders of Wales

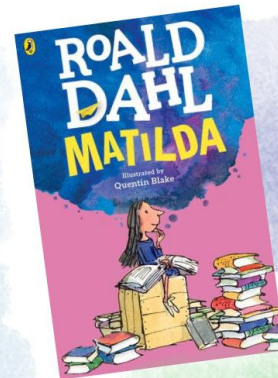
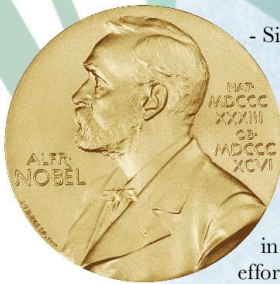
Being the month of the patron Saint of Wales, St David, it only seems right to reflect on the wonders of the country and the impact its contributions have made on the wider world. In 1933, A.N. Wilson, English author and newspaper columnist wrote:

"The Welsh have never made any significant contribution to any branch of knowledge, culture or entertainment. They have no architecture, no gastronomic tradition, no literature worthy of the name."

The following examples of just some of the many Welsh achievements and contributions to the world will hopefully remind you to be proud of the country you live in and the fact that while we are only a small country, our influence is becoming increasingly larger than A.N. Wilson could have ever predicted.

Four Welshmen have won Nobel Prizes for: Literature, Physics, Peace and Economics

- Sir Clive Granger won the Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences
- Brian David Josephson won the Nobel Prize in Physics for the prediction of the Josephson effect
- Bertrand Russell won the Nobel Prize in Literature for his writings championing humanitarian ideals and freedom of thought.
- Sir Martin Evans won the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in recognition of his discovery and contribution (with others) to the efforts to develop new treatments for illnesses in humans. Evans was the first to culture mice embryonic stem cells and cultivate them in a laboratory.



Roald Dahl, the world famous Welsh author, has sold over 250 million books!

Between 2013 and 2016, Gareth Bale was the world's most expensive footballer



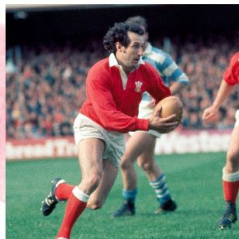
Andrew Vicari, one of the richest artists of the 21st century, is Welsh



Four Welsh actors have won Oscars:

- Anthony Hopkins
- Catherine Zeta Jones
- Ray Milland
- Hugh Griffith

Katherine Jenkins made the biggest classical music deal in history!



In a 2003 poll of international rugby players, Gareth Edwards was voted the best player of all time.

Some Welsh inventions include:

- Radar by Edward G Bowen
- The Microphone by David Hughes
- Tennis by Walter Wingfield
- The electronic hearing aid by Edwin Arthur Stevens



The phone by William H. Prece

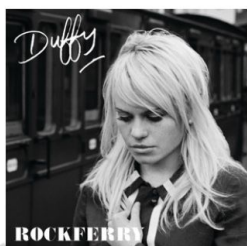
- The equals sign by Robert Recorde

The world's second biggest architecture company is owned by Welshman Keith Griffith



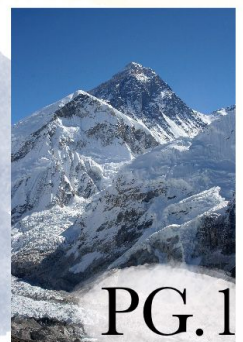
Welsh men and women are responsible for designs such as:

- The miniskirt and hot pants by Mary Quant
- The Rolls-Royce by Charles Rolls
- Buckingham Palace by David Nash



Grammy and Brit award winning Welsh singer Duffy has sold over 10 million albums

The world's highest mountain was named after Welshman George Everest



Celebrating Creative Courage in Art

On December 8th, 2020, Pope Francis announced a 'Year of St. Joseph' to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the declaration of Joseph as patron of the Universal Church.

"Only the Lord can give us the strength needed to accept life as it is," he writes, *"even when we fail to understand it completely."* The Pope suggests that God chose Joseph to guide the beginnings of Christ's earthly life because of his "creative courage". The carpenter of Nazareth *"was able to turn a problem into a possibility by trusting always in divine providence."*

With this in mind, Bishop Vaughan pupils have taken part in The Great Big Art Exhibition project with Anthony Gormley. The idea is to fill our windows and streets with art, turning the nation into one big gallery. These works will later be joined online as one large exhibition. Students at BVS have made some excellent contributions to the project, simultaneously showing their wonderfully artistic abilities and the creative courage shown by St. Joseph to display their work to the world.



Chloe
Gonzales 7W

Gladivin
Benny 9A



Jarrood
Kisembo 7W



Ailbe
Maddock
8I



Julia
Romanowska
8I,

Keira Hughes
9I

What Inventions Do We Owe to *Women* ?

Monday the 8th of March marked international women's day - an opportunity to remember and celebrate the influence women have had in our personal lives, and also those who have influenced us through their contributions to the world that, in many cases, have helped to shape our daily lives. From some of the smallest creations such as the comb to inventions as large as the space rocket propulsion system, it is without doubt that we have many things to be thankful for in our modern world that we owe to women. Here are just some of the many inventions made by women that you may not have known about:



1. The Circular Saw

Tabitha Babbitt, 1812

While living in a shaker community and working as a weaver, Babbitt watched people struggle to cut wood with a pit saw which required two users and only cut in one direction. Babbitt attached a circular blade to her spinning wheel and invented the much more efficient circular saw.

2. The Aquarium

Jeanne Villepreux-Power, 1832

A French naturalist, Villepreux-Power was trying to prove that the paper nautilus (a sea creature) does not take discarded shells from other organisms, but rather grows its own shell. To observe the creature for an extended period of time and to study marine life, she invented a glass aquarium.

3. Globes

Ellen Fitz, 1875

Fitz was a tutor in Canada when she designed a globe mount that could display the earth's daily rotation in relation to the path of the sun, not only by day and night but also throughout the year.

4. Windshield Wiper

Mary Anderson, 1903

After receiving a patent in 1903, Anderson tried to sell her new windshield cleaning device to a manufacturer who refused, stating that her invention 'lacked practical value'. Her windshield wipers failed to take off before her patent expired, and it wasn't until a decade later that a similar device became standard on cars.

5. Stem Cell Isolation

Anna Tsukamoto, 1991

A vital breakthrough in cancer research, Tsukamoto's co-patented process of isolating human stem cells found in bone marrow has saved hundreds of thousands of lives.



Fairyloot Review: February Subscription Box - Liberty Saleh



What is Fairyloot?

FairyLoot is a monthly book subscription box that focuses on Young Adult and Young Adult/Adult crossover fantasy literature and is based in the U.K. In every monthly box, you receive a brand-new Young Adult fantasy novel (very often an exclusive edition and hardback), 5-6 exclusive goodies related to the theme of the box (not including the two Tarot Cards that have amazing artwork of different characters which are collectibles), and other items sourced directly from the author. Fairyloot often teams up with big name authors to offer exclusive editions of their existing books and even new releases! These books can be purchased outside of the subscription plan, although active subscribers do receive the luxury of early access to all exclusive releases by Fairyloot.

My thoughts on the February box:

As it was with last month's box, it was very exciting to open and was packaged with care. The only thing that made me not like this month's box as much as the January box is that I have not read many of the books that the items were inspired by. All the items were still beautiful and the artwork that was featured by all the talented artists were incredible as usual, but it's not the same as when you have read the book that inspired a piece included in the box and having that relate to a story that you love.

What was included in the February 2021 'What the Future Holds' box?

- Candle inspired by The Luner Chronicles by Marissa Meyer (hand poured by @flickthewick)
- Moon shaped fairy lights.
- Enamel pin inspired the Villains series by V.E. Schwab (designed by @jezhawk)
- Pillowcase inspired by the Red Rising series by Pierce Brown (illustrated by @lizzart_zardonicz and graphic design by @chattynora)
- Cutlery set each featuring a different quote from Warcross by Marie Lu. (Came in a box with a design by @warickaart displayed on the lid)
- Two collectable tarot cards (Five and Six of Wands) inspired by Spin the Dawn by Elizebeth Lim and illustrated by arz28.
- Bookmark with the February subscription box promotion picture on one side and the Fairyloot logo on the other.
- Fairyscoop booklet including an exclusive author interview and information about the next month's theme and other extra information.

The Featured Book of the Month:

February's book of the month was *This Golden Flame* by Emily Victoria which I have not heard of before this but after reading the synopsis, I'm definitely intrigued! The book also came with an art print with an author letter on the other side. The original book cover is blue with gold but the Fairyloot exclusive edition is pink with gold. The book also has pink sprayed edges, along with art on the reverse dust jacket, rose pink embossing on the outline of the main character under the dust jacket, and is hand signed by the author on the title page.

What is *This Golden Flame* by Emily Victoria about?

Orphaned and forced to serve her country's ruling group of scribes, Karis wants nothing more than to find her brother, long ago shipped away. But family bonds don't matter to the Scriptorium, whose sole focus is unlocking the magic of an ancient autonomy army. In her search for her brother, Karis does the seemingly impossible – she awakens a hidden automaton. Intelligent, with a conscience of his own, Alix has no idea why he was made. Or why his father – their nation's greatest traitor – once tried to destroy the automatons. Suddenly, the Scriptorium isn't just trying to control Karis - it's hunting her. Together with Alix, Karis must find her brother ...and the secret that's held her country in its power for centuries.

A Long-Awaited Return to School



Year 13 students in the library annex

Most of us have now been allowed back to school after a long-awaited return. For my year group, Year 13, we went back on Monday 15th and have been in since. It seems that the reaction has been mostly positive, with people glad to see their friends again, but with some mixed feelings towards schoolwork. Personally, I am glad to be back and see all my friends again after months of staying home, and having a normal routine again should make things easier.

I also hope that things continue to get better.


I interviewed a few students to get some opinions on the occasion. One Year 13 pupil said, 'It's nice to see everyone and get back into a routine'. This positive view was shared by a Year 12 pupil who told me 'It's great to see my friends'. However, others do recognise the challenges that a return to school poses, as seen with another Year 13 pupil who claimed, 'It's difficult having learning half online and half in-person'.

So it would seem that most people are happy to see all their friends again in person, and I don't blame them. It's certainly been an interesting return. Whatever you may feel about all this yourself, I think we can all agree that we hope things can go back to normal soon!

21st March 2021,
Gregory Williams

Positive Quotes and Affirmations Board

YOU HAVE GIVEN SO MUCH.
YOU HAVE WORKED SO HARD.
YOU HAVE FOUGHT THROUGH
SO MANY THINGS JUST TO
MAKE IT HERE. YOU HAVE
TAKEN THE LEAP AND YOU
HAVE WAITED. YOU HAVE NOT
GIVEN IN TO SHORTCUTS
BUT SOMETIMES THE SOUL
JUST NEEDS TO BE REMINDED:
KEEP GOING. KEEP BELIEVING.
KEEP TRUSTING. THE WORK
YOU'RE PUTTING IN IS NOT
IN VAIN. MORGAN HARPER
NICHOLS


 YOU CAN

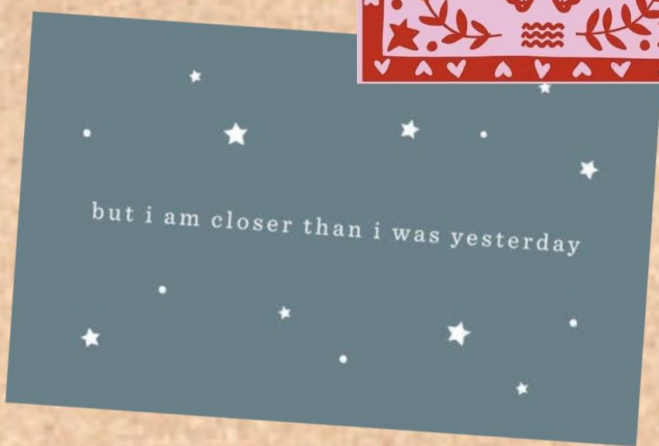

 KEEP GOING

SOMEWHERE
 THERE IS A
PAST YOU
 OVERFLOWING
 WITH SO MUCH
 PRIDE LOOKING
 AT HOW FAR
 YOU'VE COME.



"And the day came
 when the risk
 to remain tight
 in a bud
 was more painful
 than the risk it took
 to blossom."

 Anais Nin


 but i am closer than i was yesterday