

The College Voice

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The
Ladies' College
Guernsey

In association with



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Guernsey's Washing Away!

By: Katherine Jensen

GREAT Britain has been hit with some tremendously catastrophic storms over the Christmas period. Giant waves have accumulated and are crashing among shores causing great damage to millions of houses and businesses.

Guernsey too has been affected by such dire weather conditions. Just as the New Year arrived Perelle Bay Hotel was forced to close its doors

and cancel a function on Saturday 4th January because of flooding caused by the weekend's storms. Proprietor Joao Freitas said the hotel had no heating or hot water due to flooding of the boiler and the flood-water was as high as three inches deep on carpets. The hotel was one of the worst casualties in a weekend of exceptional storms, which caused widespread problems on island roads.

Perelle was not the only area affected by these vastly damaging waves. A powerful tidal surge punched a 15ft hole in the L'Eree shingle bank. La Societe Guernesiaise conservation officer Jamie Hooper inspected the damage and advised on how it should be repaired. He said relentless bad weather had weakened that natural sea defence over a number of days and in such an extreme case, intervention was mandatory to prevent further damage.

In a similar case, a sea wall patio at



Perelle road after the huge waves hit the beach

L'Ancresse Bay has partially collapsed after it was damaged in the high tides. The Environment Department said, "There is a risk that

any sea defence wall may be undermined during high tides. It is not possible to rule out further damage."

However, it is not just object destruction that had taken place as a result of this forceful weather. Birds have been the latest casualties of the bad weather, giving animal rescue service GSPCA its busiest New Year to date. Geoff George, acting chief officer said, "The stormy weather has led to casualties and we are expecting more problems as the weather gets worse." All of the birds are currently under heat lamps or in intensive care units and GSPCA hopes to release them back into the wild as soon as the weather improves.



A gannet called Balthazar has now been nursed back to health after being rescued

Many roads have been closed causing steep increases in the traffic. It is important the island works together in order to minimise inconvenience caused by the damage. For the time being, it is advisable to stay away from the coast if at all possible and wait for conditions to improve.

Could You Be The Next Delia Smith?

Well it certainly won't happen if we never learn to cook! 6th Form students and The College Voice writers, Clementine Thompson and Anna Ogier discuss the matter

By: Anna Ogier

For:

LEARNING to cook in schools is the best idea since sliced bread - a matter which shockingly some students cannot do. Or at the very least, have never had the opportunity to do. Yes, the days of mothers passing on their skills to their children are rapidly fading away with more parents working longer hours, finding less time to even cook for their dearests, and so the microwave meal and childhood obesity is on the rise. Cooking in schools would ensure a basic level of cooking competence for all students, which is not only vital for university and beyond, but most importantly actively provides children with a healthy attitude towards food. At an early age good habits concerning nutritional balance would then become an integral part of every child's life.

With an introduction of simple international dishes, greater understanding of other cultures would also be injected. Libby Grundy, director of Food For Life Partnership, a programme working with schools to improve healthy eating education, said: "In schools that already offer cookery lessons, we have seen pupils go home and teach their parents what they have learnt. We found 45 per cent of parents were saying the family now ate more healthily as a result." Now, this is not a proposal

for a compulsory Home Economics GCSE, this is a plea that on a regular basis all pupils before, and perhaps even beyond GCSE, partake in cooking lessons. This article is not ignorant to the fact that such lessons require costly facilities, but regarding the long term, is it not of equal importance for any school to produce both students with great grades, but also, students equipped with the necessary skills to lead a healthy lifestyle? In the words of Virginia Woolf: "One cannot think well, love well, sleep well, if one has not dined well."



By: Clementine Thompson
Against:

I strongly believe that there is absolutely no place for cooking lessons in the Ladies' College. Introducing cooking lessons into a girls' school is both derogatory and stressful for the girls, and chaos for the ones left to clean up. Firstly, what sort of mes-

sage does getting girls to cook emit? Perhaps that the girls should become obedient housewives, doing all the chores, whilst the men go off to work. This view on life is certainly not what a twenty-first century girls' school should be encouraging. As well as this, where would these extra cooking lessons fit into our already crammed timetable? It would be totally unacceptable to take lesson time from our non-academic subjects, like PE and Drama, in order to be taught cooking. Alternatively, even an afterschool club would end badly; with the numerous PE and Music fixtures on offer, our plates are already full. It is not fair to add burnt caramel and saggy cakes to our stresses. On the other hand, the opposition may believe that cooking gives us the opportunity to develop a practical skill. This is true, however there are other skills which would be far more valuable for girls. For example, why not teach us some gardening, electrical maintenance or even plumbing? These skills are much more useful in the long-term as we would not have to pay vast sums of money to bring an expert in for a basic job. Getting cooking in our school certainly won't nurture the skills of budding business women, authors or engineers. To introduce cooking into the Ladies' College would be outdated, superfluous, and turn an enjoyable pastime into a chore.

Can't Turn Down A Bargain!

By: Isabelle Morgan

JANUARY sales are just one of the ways of proving the Western World's endless desire for material goods. As if the joy, happiness, over-indulgent mealtimes and the sharing of gifts were not enough, people still flock to the highstreet on Boxing Day for additional purchases to satisfy the incessant desire for something new.



Customers queuing for the best deals at Gucci!

Known as the 'dead zone' in terms of travel, the first few weeks of January are a popular time for holidaymakers to find surprisingly good deals on holiday packages such as a four-star, all-inclusive, seven-day break to Egypt for just £405pp, just one of the many offers boasted by shops and travel agencies offering their deals for less.

Part of the Get Into London Theatre scheme, which has been running for over 10 years, includes up to 55% off tickets at 45 West End productions, with those organising it seeking to promote theatre and capture the interests of young people.

But – unfortunately – it is not all

good news. Charity shops, although popular for the sales of Christmas cards in early December, are never the first destination for shoppers when January sales hit. Charity workers and shop owners of places such as the British Heart Foundation charity shop are trying new approaches to lure customers to spend more on a good cause, for example their opening of shops dedicated to furniture and electrical appliances.

For those working in the wedding industry, 'love is blind' – to everything but the calendar. There are about a sixth of the number of weddings in January as there are in August. This may be due to the weather or the fact that the expense of Christmas has taken its toll on those planning their big day. This, however, is not all bad, as for those getting married, the ability to haggle on wedding destinations and offers and find a better price for their expenses is far easier than at any other time of year.

When one thinks of January sales,



the mind wanders to the queues outside shops and shopping centres and the grabbing of items before they fly off the shelves into the hands of another eager consumer. But there is far more to January sales than just shopping in a local town or the nearest big city, especially with the popularity in this age of technology of Internet shopping. One thing is for certain, the fall of prices in January affects the lives of keen shoppers and those working in retail far more than we could imagine.



Book Worms Wanted

By: Catherine Reilly

Hidden away in the corner of the Library Prep room, a small gathering of students can be found but only once a week. These noble girls of all year groups have gathered in this space, during Monday lunchtime, united by a common love of books.

Founded by Elizabeth Reilly and Aimee Truffitt, the Ladies' College Book Club is now entering its sixth year of running. Now run by Elanor Buchanan, the Book Club has more than doubled in size and age range.

While most book clubs would ask every member to read the same new book each week, ready to discuss it at the next session, we at Ladies' College know that that is a little too boring for our tastes. Instead, we welcome everyone to join and talk about any and all aspects of their favourite books and stories.

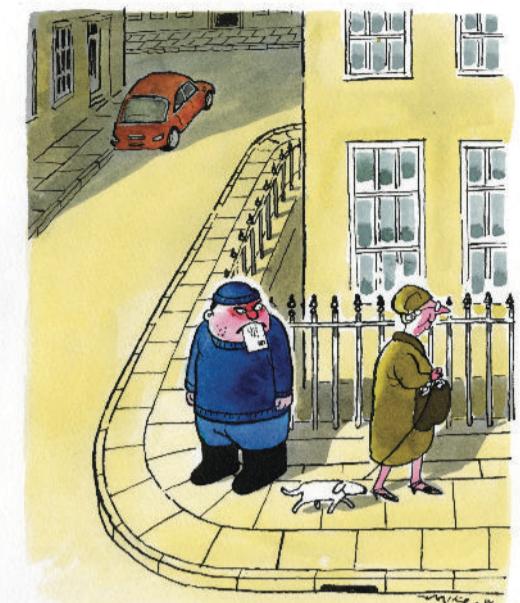
Each week, a new aspect is discussed. Brilliantly selected by our leader Elanor, we chat about what we love most about books. Are romance novels always about the romance? Is the villain always wrong? Have the mythology of vampires and werewolves been ruined and overdone by popular culture? In our Book Club, you are allowed to bring up anything that you want to talk about in a hearty discussion to help you find not only new books to read, but a new appreciation for them.

However, reading is the only side of Book Club. Anyone who wants to is welcome to share their own works and writings. We try our best to encourage all kinds of creativity, help-

ing to improve skills and even occasionally giving out edible prizes to small competition winners. Members of Book Club are also the first ones privy to the world of the National Novel Writing Month, where participants are challenged to write up to 50,000 words (or whatever your target may be) in all of November.

Book Club is a large factor for what goes on in the library. Since all the Senior Librarians are members, we often use the ideas and opinions of our book club to help optimise the school's use of the library and the books. For example, the book club helped with the Library's new 'Blind Date with a Book' program. On occasion, the librarians, aided by some members of the club, cover and provide brief descriptions of books, so students can select a new mysterious book to read, hopefully expanding their horizons of genre. When these programs are running, all the books are available to check out in the school foyer.

Book Club is also a great way to make friends with people throughout the school, sharing your love of books and stories in an environment that never fails to entertain, especially on our end-of-term parties. To keep us thinking (and laughing) Book Club plays many games, such as Quick Fire Questions, One-Word story, and of course, Literary Consequences. On occasion, we can even organise outings together, such as Cinemas to see one of our favourite books translated on the Big Screen, or even to the Carnegie Discussions to have our thoughts put towards the decisions of book awards.



SHOULD'VE GONE TO SPECSAVERS

Specsavers

The Ladies' College Book Club is open to all students at this school (and sometimes teachers if they are really nice to us). You don't have to be a literary expert to join in, we discuss everything from Jackeline Wilson to Harry Potter to Shakespeare, and no one gets left behind. It is held every Monday in the Prep Room during lunch time, so come and try it out. Everyone is welcome to bring their lunch and eat together with everyone.

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CLAYTTON HARRIS	JESSICA'	CAUDALÍE	[comfort zone]	

This Month's Film and Book Review!

Film

The Changeling

Director: Clint Eastwood

Stars: Angelina Jolie and Colm Feore

By: Miranda Griffin

THE Changeling is a heart-wrenching drama that will have you rooting for grieving mother, Christine Collins (Jolie) to find her son. She returns home to find him missing. After a lot of heartbreak and tears, she receives a call telling her that her son, Walter has been found. Filled with joy she rushes to the train station to find that Walter, is not Walter but a different boy. She attempts to inform the officer that the boy is not her son and that he is pretending to be Walter. The officer feels that his appearance as a great investigator could be damaged and attempts to convince Christine that her son may have changed over time and that she must give him a chance to prove he is her son.

Arriving home, Christine begins to discover that there are very few similarities between this boy and her real son; including changes in appearance and height. She decides to take the issue to press and fight for her true son back. Unfortunately this does not go to plan and Officer Jones forces her to enter a psychiatric ward. She befriends inmate Carol Dexter who tells her that all the women in the ward have gone through similar experiences where they jeopardise the reputation of the police and therefore have sent them to a psychiatric ward as punishment. Detective Ybarra (Kelly) travels to a

ranch in Wineville, Riverside County, to arrange the deportation of 15-year-old Sanford Clark to Canada. Clark tells Ybarra that Northcott forced him to help kidnap and murder around twenty children, and identifies Walter as one of them.

Following this, Christine is released from the psychiatric ward and struggles to believe that her son has been killed. Another boy at the ranch confirms that Walter was there, as he had helped him to escape. She was given hope that he could still be alive. And Christine continued to search for him for the rest of her life.

Book:

Animal Farm

Author: George Orwell

By: Louisa Streeting and Natascha Helyar

THIS is a novel that holds a much deeper meaning than what lies on the surface. First published in 1945, 'Animal Farm' has become the classic political fable of the twentieth century. Adding his own brand of poignancy and wit, George Orwell tell the story of a revolution among animals of a farm, and how idealism was betrayed by power, corruption and lies.

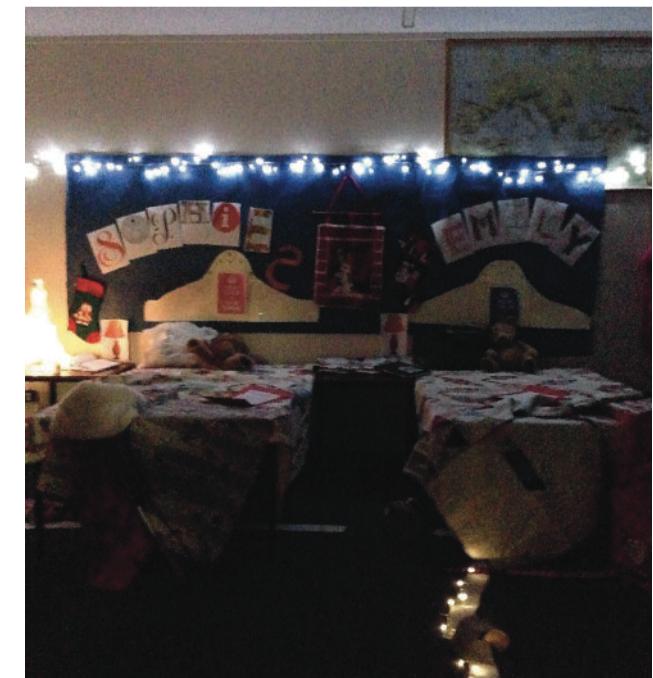
Set on Manor Farm, the animals are encouraged by the boar known as Old Major to mutiny against their farmer, and to run the farm themselves under the important qualification that all of the animals are equal to each other. After his death and a successful rebellion, the pigs naturally take the leadership role, Snowball and Napoleon assuming com-

mand, with the notion of equality almost immediately diminished. They adopt Seven Commandments of Animalism, including the most important of which "All animals are equal". Napoleon and Snowball struggle for superiority. Snowball is sent away by Napoleon who subsequently declares himself as sole leader of Animal Farm. They exploit the other animals shamelessly, breaking all the rules about equality that they had established. Years pass, and the pigs start to resemble humans, as they walk upright, carry whips, and wear clothes, making little distinction between the two.

Orwell's novel is an allegorical, dystopian and anti-Communism novel that reflects the events leading up to the Russian Revolution in 1917. Animalism is a clear parody of Stalinism, an ideology, which Orwell actively despised, hence why the book was banned in the Soviet Union until 1989. 'Animal Farm' is an interesting way of exploring the contemporary criticisms in a comedic setting. Orwell wrote the book from November 1943–February 1944, when the wartime alliance with the Soviet Union was at its height and Stalin was regarded highly by the British people, a circumstance that Orwell hated. It is one of Orwell's most famous novels and is universally read from all ages. As a child, the initial meaning of the story is lost and appears simply as a tale of rebellious farm animals, but as one grows older the profounder and more political significance is apparent.

January Fun!

A Few Snaps Of The Christmas Decor!



New Year's Word Search

www.KidsCanHaveFun.com

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

Baby

Parade

Noisemakers

Midnight

Time

Celebration

Fireworks

January

First

Eve

Calendar

A League Of Our Own

Upcoming events:

House Gym:
13th February

House Football:
Juniors
Brock v Carey - 21st January
de Sausmarez v Durand - 28th January
3rd and 4th place play off - 4th February
Final - 11th February

Seniors
Brock v Crey - 11th March
de Sausmarez v Durand - 12th March
3rd and 4th place play off - Tuesday 18th March
Final - 12th March

Sport of the Month - Sailing!

Anna Ogier interviews major sailing enthusiast Clementine Thompson, ranked 1st U17 girl in the UK. Hi Clem. How long have you been sailing? I learnt to sail on the Model Yacht Pond aged seven. I started going to national competitions when I was ten, which was really fun. My current boat is the Laser Radial, which I've been sailing for nearly two years. What skills can be learnt from sailing? Numerous skills can be learnt from sailing, as it is a sport that involves a lot of technique. By learning to sail, you develop the ability to do lots of things at once, as you have to steer and control the sails, whilst looking where you're

going! Also, you pick up handy things like tying knots, as well as abstract things like understanding of the wind and reading the sea. Where has sailing taken you over the world? Well in Winter, I spend a lot of time training in Weymouth with the British Youth Squad, so I'm a regular on the ferry! However, in Summer there are lots of championships in Europe, which is very exciting. This summer, I'm going to France, Italy, Denmark and Poland. How can I get involved with sailing? There are lots of ways to get into sailing. Firstly, I would recommend



watching The America's Cup sailing race on TV, which really demonstrates how exhilarating sailing can be. Also, a good way to start dinghy sailing is by enrolling in a summer course in the Guernsey Sailing Trust, the variety of boats there means you will find one you enjoy. If sailing with lots of people is for you, then I recommend trying yacht sailing. This is normally on bigger boats with crews of about 15 people. I got into yacht sailing through the Rona Sailing Trust, which offers Summer expeditions that count as the Resi-

dential for Gold DofE. What is your advice to anyone who might be interested in sailing? You will find sailing is a hobby that can be enjoyed for a lifetime, so don't be put off by the cold weather!

Gym Tips

5 fitness tips from the editor to help you get the best start to your New Year's resolution!

1. A beginner should aim to work out three times a week with at least 30 minutes cardiovascular exercise, 30 minutes strength training and at least 10 minutes stretching.

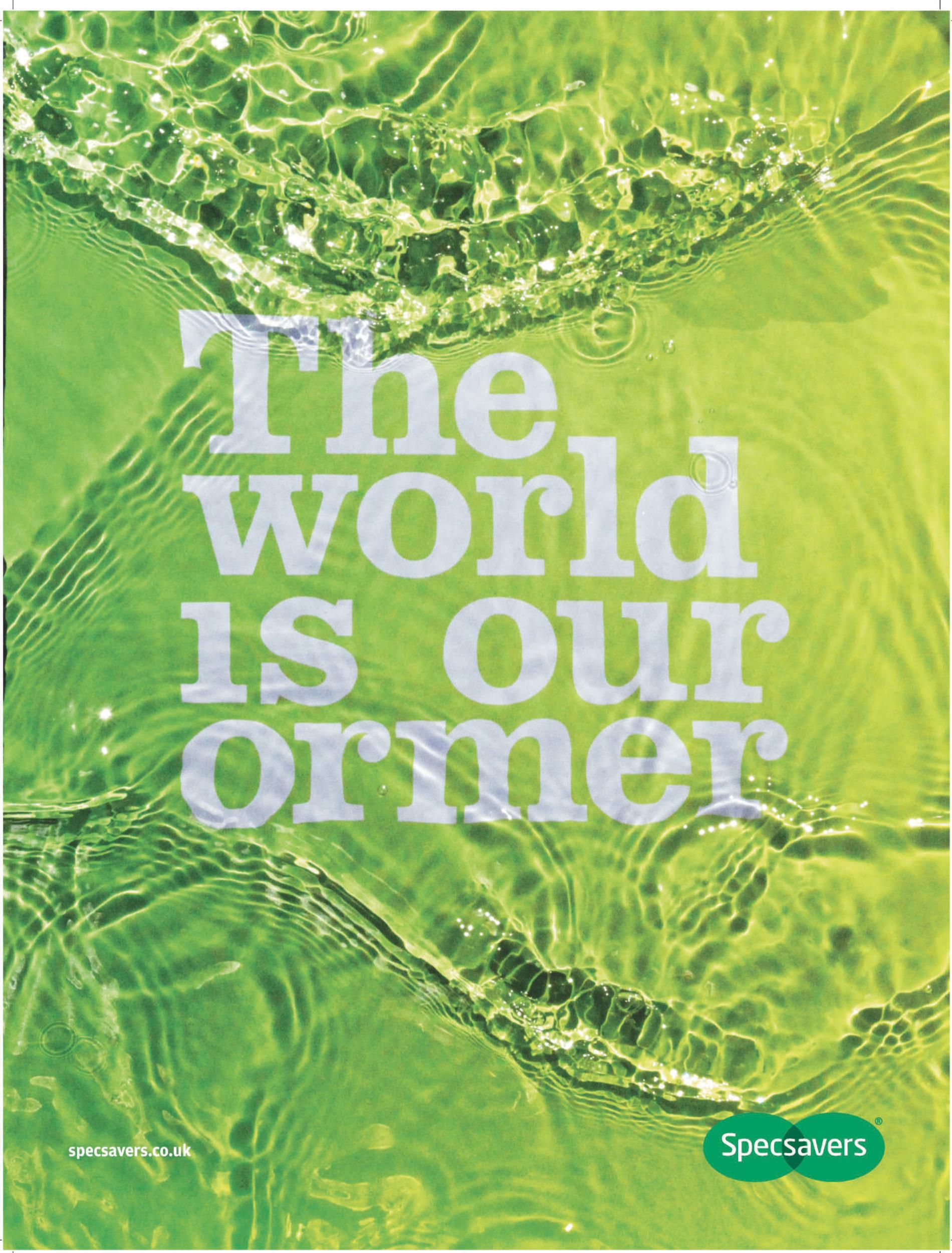
2. You will burn more fat if you develop muscles throughout your entire body and don't worry you won't get 'too muscly' by doing strength training. It will simply tone and improve your metabolism!

3. Eat healthily. I would recommend eating 80% healthy and indulge 20%. Everyone needs a bit of chocolate in their lives!

4. Develop a fitness programme and vary your routine as you progress. If you continue to do the same amount of exercise every week you are going to stay at a constant weight with no improvement of fitness

5. Lost interest yet? Stick with it! Stay motivated by finding a physical activity that you enjoy, you may want to ask a personal trainer to help you with new routines. You can also set goals and track your progress so you don't become discouraged.

Bonus tip - Enjoy yourself!



The
world
is our
ocean

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