

ROGUE



MONDAY 6TH APRIL

EDITORIAL

Hello and welcome to the second issue of Rogue (Relocated Corona Conditions Edition), brought to you by Ella Westland and Zoya Lulu Kirmani, your new editors! Never fear, both of us are well educated in the world of Royal Russell student press and have pooled our resources to bring you a new version of the classic paper you've loved over the years. It's an honour to be asked to take over the roles of Ella Jones and Megan Driver; talk about big shoes to fill.

Ella has learnt the ways of InDesign inside out, working hard to bring a fresh look to The Rogue by thinking outside the text box and experimenting with colour palettes beyond even Warhol's reach. She has broadened the reach of the paper, opening up the space for new thoughts, ideas and perspectives encouraging our readers to become writers; to report on their adventures in school, and also begin to look at global events, current affairs and issues hitting closer to home.

Meanwhile, I've been trying to install Grammarly in my head so editing is quicker and so I can read contributions and silence the critical editing voice in my head asking, 'should there be a comma there?' Not to mention the cover art... you know how in movies, there's a montage of the protagonist trying to make something but throwing multiple crumpled up sketches in and around the trash can, getting increasingly frustrated? Now imagine me. Papers. Mechanical pencils. Coffee. SpongeBob T-shirt. Messy bun – not the cute kind. Drowning in balls of coffee-splattered paper, sometimes my tears too. A painful image, I know. On a different note, Ella and I

have conjured some exciting plans for future issues. The most significant change, not just due to Coronavirus, is that we're venturing online. Ella and I were fortunate enough to attend The Hague International MUN this year and were inspired by their decision to go green and completely paperless. Although we both lust after the satisfaction of holding a physical copy of our achievement in our hands, we agreed that the good of the planet supersedes our personal desires. Don't worry, corona virus hasn't wreaked havoc on our plans, hope is not lost. We plan to introduce a termly, 'Best of' printed edition, once life returns to normal.

Until then, please enjoy reading Rogue (Relocated Corona Conditions Edition)! This issue includes new ways of escaping the boredom monster as well as some wonderful updates from across the globe. Thank you to our incredible writers for working so hard to bring us so many insightful and fascinating pieces.

The main focus of this reinvented paper is to give helpful advice on how to adapt to the new normal that has affected our mental health and turned our routines inside out. All the people we care about are now the people we worry about. We want to offer advice, support and just pose a distraction.

Thanks everyone. Make like Dory and just keep swimming.

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ROGUE NEEDS YOU!

We're looking for contributors, whether that's weekly or just a one off, no journalistic experience is required we're open to all! Rogue is not just looking for articles, we're also looking for any content you feel others might enjoy. Have you heard or seen something funny on Microsoft Teams, got a picture of a pet working from home, heard some good gossip, learnt a new skill you'd like to share, want to set a quiz, got a good (clean) joke or just got a question that needs to be answered? We want to hear from you!

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BY ZOYA LULU KIRMANI

THE LAST DAY?

It came pretty suddenly as if I just realized my phone wasn't in my pocket. Becoming aware that that usual weight in my pocket wasn't there. That I was missing something. It was just like that. Just a few days before, a comedian with a peculiar sense of style and chronic sore throat announced that school was to close at the end of the week. No school, no GCSEs. As you can imagine, the audience did not take it lightly...

It was a bright sunny morning; the sun was emitting a warm wave of heat over the city and the people were enjoying their peaceful lives. All but one person who dared to switch up the recipe for dinner because their partner couldn't make a decent meal. Fast forward a couple of days and the world is ending. Unfortunately for us that caused a few disturbances in our daily lives.

On the last Friday of school, we drove 45 minutes to get to school instead of taking the train and tram. We awkwardly elbowed people as we walked by them as if trying to show off some hideous rash and developed a spidey-sense every time someone coughed. A sombre shadow dawned on the school that day, and this time it wasn't because it was Monday. Ironically, the only thing to distract us from the sad truth that we were all leaving was to sign each other's shirts so that we would remember each other when we leave. The incessant high pitch calls of "Does anyone have a marker?", "Hey, can I borrow your pen?" or, my personal favourite: "HEY don't draw that my mom is going to see!". To our surprise, many of the teachers were happy to make this a day to remember, we played "guess the song" in chemistry and physics and, unfortunately, indulged ourselves in the new cool activity the young generation calls "TikTok" in Spanish with Ms Conde. Apparently, it's fun. These activities also included short breaks of hurriedly signing each other's shirts again, luckily for me, I was able to get both Mr Hutchinson's signatures, I know whose is who's because of one subtle difference; one says "The Hutch" and the other says "Sorry – Hutch".

This brings me to the end of the day. Mr Botting and a few other members of staff went through the trouble of setting up a final assembly for Year 11. A slideshow of all our innocent young faces when we joined the school was presented for us to laugh at and reminisce the times when we made new friends in contrast to leaving old ones. We tried to organize ourselves into neat rows for a group photo, some of us with trembling lips and glimmering eyes. Once the picture was taken there was a strange silence, followed by a cacophony of screaming and crying. We embraced our peers with open arms and damp eyes, despite the risks and the perturbed looks of teachers. Like a group of shuffling penguins, we were escorted out of the school only to repeat the process at the tram stop. There were still many more tears and plenty of hugging but overall, it wasn't totally depressing. We were all still optimistic and looking forward to the not-so-near future. Nevertheless, as the tram approached East Croydon station, I announced my goodbyes over the bustling of the oblivious and uncaring public and stepped off the tram. I looked back and saw good friends wave as if it were the end of a brilliant movie, which it was. All it needed was a standing ovation.



BY SHIRAZ KIRMANI

THE POLTERGEIST'S TALE

The poltergeist spun thoughtfully on the teacher's green chair.

'Well,' he thought. 'This is weird.' It had been terribly quiet this morning and, frankly, he was bored. B. (Spin) O. (Spin) R. (Spin) E. (Spin) D. (spin).

Crash. As he'd planned, the edge of the revolving seat had knocked Mrs Pepperdine's usual clutter of piled up papers to the floor. It barely raised a smile on his mischievous face. With no one to tut and shake their head resignedly at the mess, it all felt pretty pointless.

The poltergeist reflected on his previous successes. All those times he'd blown gently on the summer wasps buzzing so merrily past the open window: caught suddenly on an unexpected updraft, they were soon bumping against the ceiling and then even better, dodgem-car-ing off into now screaming students below. Delightful chaos. And all those moments of mayhem just by changing a few controls and switches here and there so Mrs Pepperdine's projector and DVD player didn't work. Again. He giggled to himself. Such fun watching her stride off stressed to 'flipping IT' again. Turning up the heating in the pipes in June. Scaring the parakeets out of the trees just as the teacher started reading. Brilliant. Whispering to the subconscious of the gardeners, and, lately, builders, 'Now would be a great time to mow or move that ton of gravel' just as the timed essay work began. Yep, C14 was a fantastic opportunity for any highly motivated, experienced poltergeist.

He'd never really envied his cousin, Peeves. Hogwarts was nothing to Royal Russell. Here, there was just so much potential to cause trouble, largely because no one knew he existed- and wouldn't have believed it anyway. Peeves could keep whizzing through the corridors of magic, making up stupid songs. It was much more rewarding to leave Mrs Hart's office gate open so he could watch passing PE teachers and the

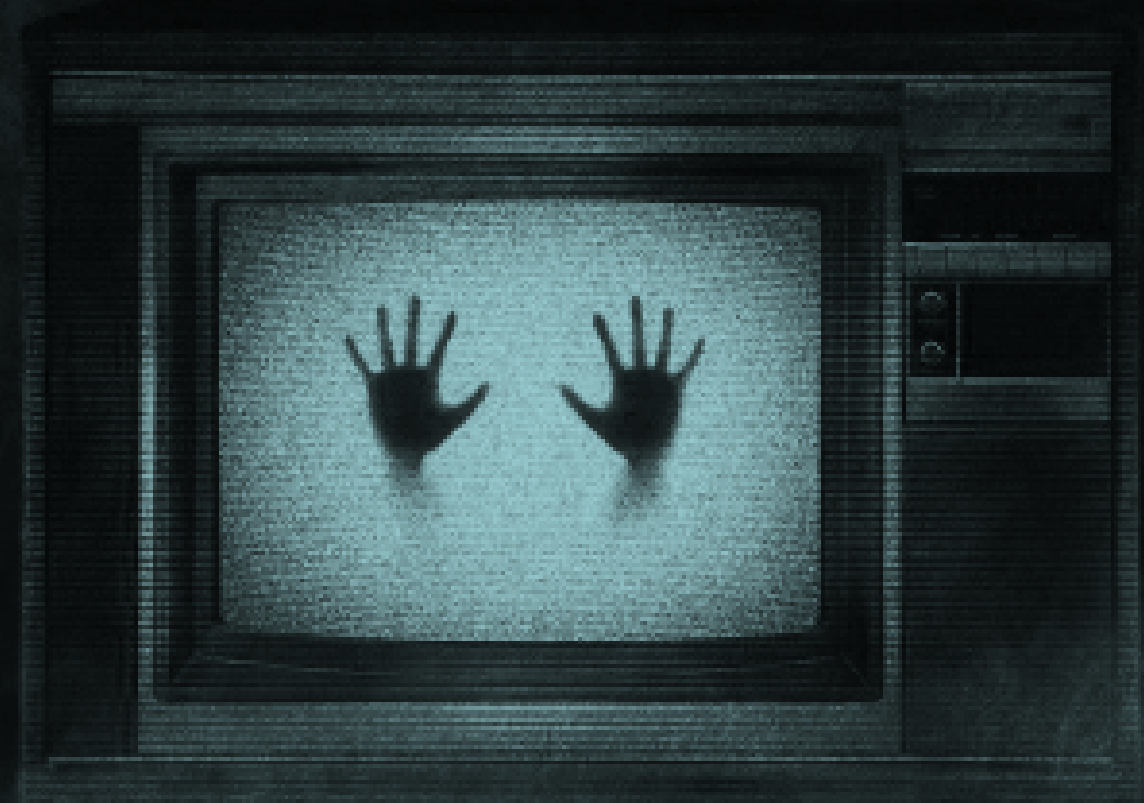
ever-patient Mrs Delgrosso-Stephens scuttle after Rosie as she escapes, scampering with boundless energy across the Quad. No one knew it was he who mixed the peas into the baked beans. Jammed the photocopier, just before the lesson, of course. Moved Miles' bag from the rack. Changed the clocks in Buchanan. Stole the Blutak from the posters. Nudged Amber at exactly the wrong moment so she accidentally deleted her coursework. Set the phones off in the lockers. Left little surprises in the toilets in Keable. All him and no one ever guessed; he chuckled with self-congratulatory glee.

His face fell. It was Tuesday 24th March. The second day of no lessons in the classrooms of Royal Russell School. The dawn outside the window promised another day of dull niceness, with no students to tease, no teachers' plans to scupper, no SMT to give headaches.

Suddenly, a thought came to him. A marvellously wicked thought. The perfect plan for pandemonium on a new scale...

'It's the twenty-first century after all,' ... and he wiggled his way into the computer, slid down the circuitry and into the inner workings of the system: 'Firefly, here I come!'

BY MRS PEPPERDINE



THINGS TO DO AT HOME

BY GRACE SCOTT

Since the whole country is in lockdown, online learning is the new way of life and although #stayathomeandsavelives is crucial, we can all admit that boredom is kicking in after the 8:15-3:50 school day and at weekends. Not to worry, I can help you fix that. This is a time you can use to spend with your family, try new things and, maybe, even take a break from social media.

Jigsaw puzzles are a great way to kill some time, or maybe a few days...try and get the whole family to pitch in, it can be a fun way to spend time together.

Reading is also something you can do, there is nothing like being captivated by a good book and escaping the reality of this crazy world. From classics such as 'The Great Gatsby' and 'Pride and Prejudice' to 'The Lord of the Rings' and 'Harry Potter' there is always a new book to read.

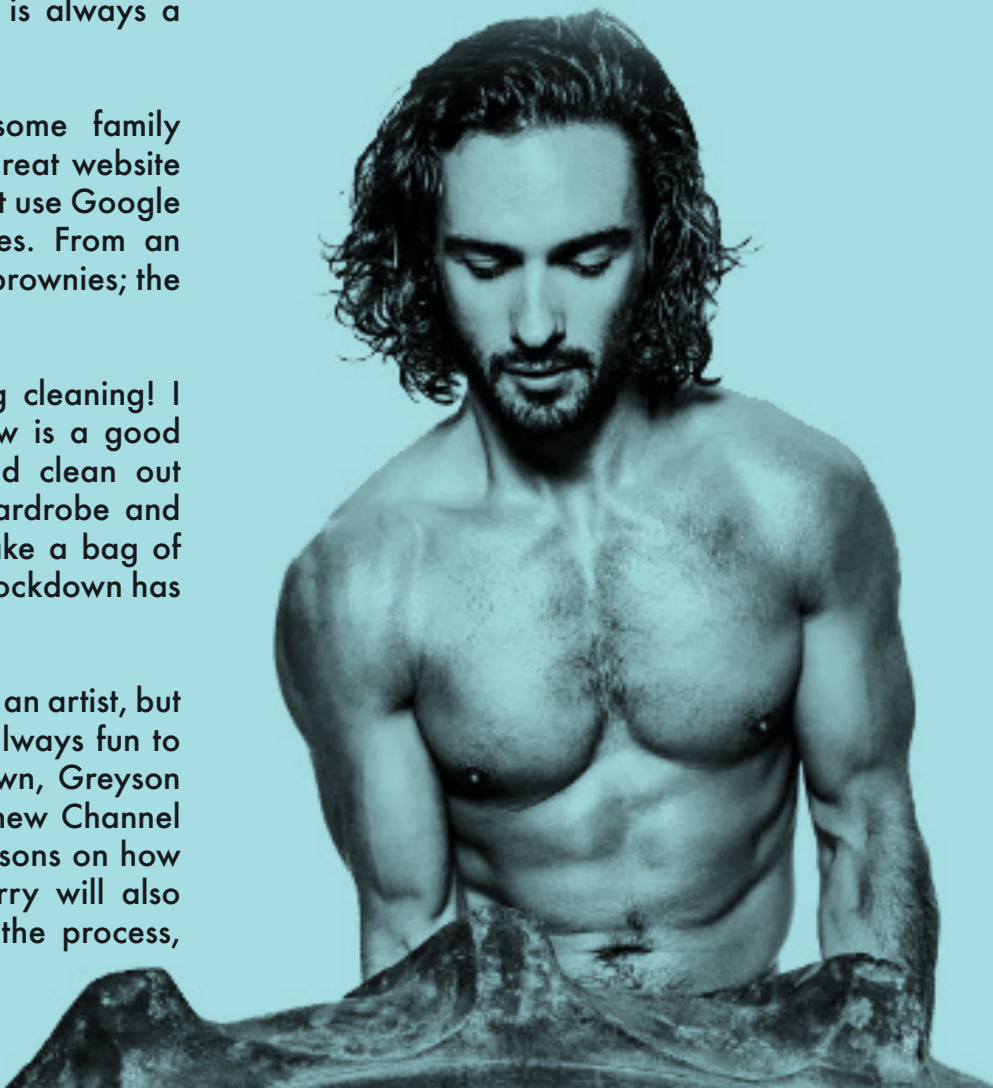
There is nothing like doing some family baking. BBC Good Foods is a great website for quick and easy recipes, or just use Google to search for some easy recipes. From an exotic Pad Thai to gooey, fudgy brownies; the internet has it all.

You might even try some spring cleaning! I know it can be tedious, but now is a good time to stop procrastinating and clean out those drawers, sort out your wardrobe and tidy your bedroom. You can make a bag of stuff to donate to charities once lockdown has been lifted.

Now, admittedly, not everyone is an artist, but art is very therapeutic and it's always fun to give it a go. Throughout lockdown, Greyson Perry is teaching art skills in a new Channel 4 series and will be teaching lessons on how to sculpt, draw and create. Perry will also be speaking to other artists in the process,

to gather further insight into the fascinating world of art. Once quarantine is over, the public has been encouraged to submit their work. So, go ahead, give it a go.

As we are still allowed out once a day for exercise some people may enjoy going for a run or a dog walk in the woods or even a walk around the neighbourhood, but this may not be everybody's style. Thank goodness for the internet. From Joe Wicks' workouts to HITT classes, Yoga classes and flexibility classes YouTube can cater for your every need. Exercise is particularly important to help maintain good mental health and can give you a break from your studying.



MAINTAINING YOUR MENTAL HEALTH

With the new rules about staying in and remaining isolated coming in to play at the end of March, many people are going to be living their lives very differently to normal. Not being able to see your friends is extremely difficult, especially if you are used to seeing them every day at school. Mental health is a key ingredient to staying happy and getting through this pandemic.

There are many good ways to maintain and improve your mental health, one great way of doing this is to take part in activities that make you feel accomplished. You know those small jobs you've been putting off doing around the house for ages? Well now is the perfect time to get them done! That way you feel more put together and in control over your life and emotions.

If all the working from home is getting you down, do something you're good at. This will make you happier and remind you of your skills and talents. A great way of learning to accept yourself is to take part in activities that make you proud of yourself, so if you have a creative streak make some art and do what you love. My all-time favourite way of keeping happy and busy is to learn a new skill, this can be anything you like and with the helpful use of YouTube, you can pretty much accomplish anything. This is a great way of spending time and not only do you learn something new, but you provide your whole family with entertainment whilst you're learning.

Being inside with not much to do can often result in binge-eating everything in sight. So, making sure all your meals are balanced and healthy with not too much snacking between is very important and generally improves your self-control. Similarly, staying active whether it's learning yoga or doing a daily workout makes you feel accomplished and helps you to work on yourself positively.

Sleep has also been linked to being happier. It is easy, especially now we have online school, to be tempted into staying up until 3 am but sleep is important and gives you the energy you need to be productive and accomplish things in the following days.

Staying in touch with your friends is a great way to stay as connected as possible to your normal life. Texting on social media works great for that, however, seeing friends face-to-face (on video call of course) makes you feel more connected to them and able to have an actual human-to-human conversation instead of just typing. You might not be enjoying quarantine, but you should try to make the most out of it, being home constantly is not fun but you get to spend more time with your family. Who knows? It may even be fun, bring out those old games and the monopoly set and challenge your family to see who's the best.

During times like this keeping a positive mindset is really important, make sure you listen to enough news to stay informed but don't make it the main part of your day as there are much more positive things to focus on. Make sure to stay productive! Write a book, make a short film or invent a game, all these things will keep you active and prevent you from being bored all the time. If you have any issues or are worried at all make sure to talk to someone you trust, such as a parent. Telling people your feelings helps to lessen the worry and maybe they will be able to think up a solution.

BY EMMA HOURIHAN

FINDING THE GOOD IN EVERY SITUATION

Being optimistic and having a positive outlook on life doesn't equate to pretending that everything is fine. Coronavirus has flipped our lives upside down, but life continues. Staying informed and knowing that there are still positive things happening may help you to look at the bright side and make the time in quarantine easier.

THE ENVIRONMENT

The water in Venice's canals has been cleared of pollution so much that fish can be seen beneath it after many years. Animals have been spotted venturing into areas that they typically wouldn't as they'd normally be overcrowded by humans. Goats have swarmed Welsh towns, deer doing the same in Essex and crocodiles, jaguars and turtles have taken over Mexican hotel resorts.

Air pollution in China has decreased drastically, with Beijing seeing their first blue skies in years. The combination of industrial factories having to close and large reductions in transport and electricity production has meant that the release of carbon dioxide and greenhouse gases, which contribute to global warming, has decreased

drastically worldwide. Additionally, concentrations of nitrogen dioxide, which irritates the lungs and can contribute to photochemical smog, have plummeted and the effects can be seen from outer space with satellite imagery.

Scientists have recently discovered a new bacterium, a strain of *Pseudomonas* bacteria, which feeds on toxic plastic. This bacterium, which attacks polyurethane (typically found in furniture, carpet underlay and bedding as a flexible foam), can survive in the toxic carcinogenic chemicals that polyurethane produces when broken down. This brings hope that it could be used to manage the plastics that pollute the Earth, as over 300 million tonnes of non-biodegradable plastic are produced each year with 50% being intended as single use.

THE NHS

Cooperation between University College London, UCL Hospitals and the Mercedes F1 team has resulted in the development of a Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) breathing aid in under 100 hours to help those suffering from the coronavirus. They are currently being trialled at

UCL Hospitals and, if successful, are ready to be mass-produced. Similar devices have been used in Italian and Chinese hospitals to increase the amount of oxygen in the patient's lungs without being too invasive, as many coronavirus patients find it difficult to breathe. This allows ventilators, which are currently scarce, to be used for more critically ill patients, whilst also freeing up beds in the Intensive Care Units – making this development extremely significant.

NHS Nightingale, a hospital specialising in only corona cases, has been built in only 9 days in the London ExCeL exhibition centre and has now been opened by Prince Charles. With space for 4,000 beds, it will free up space and reduce pressure in other hospitals across England, allowing more patients to be cared for with the oxygen and ventilators prepared. The hospital was able to be built so quickly because of the cooperation of many architects, soldiers, engineers, contractors and NHS professionals. They hope to have 16,000 NHS staff working at the hospital, with 200 at each of the 80 wards. They plan for similar facilities to be constructed around the country.

COOPERATION AROUND THE WORLD

It has been reported that an estimated 59,000 lives have been saved in 11 European countries as a result of everyone partaking in social distancing. This figure will continue to increase as long as people stay at home and follows the Governments' social distancing rules set in place. Organisations across the world are hurriedly working together to research and produce antibody tests and a vaccine for coronavirus. Potential vaccines have been trialled on humans in Seattle and China, with Spain expecting to develop one by the end of April.

This modern pandemic will certainly change the way that we operate as a whole, but not everything is doom and gloom. For example, a 94-year-old great grandmother has defeated coronavirus, being the UK's oldest woman to do so. Finally, it is great to hear that an American World War II veteran has recovered from the coronavirus and has just celebrated his 104th birthday.

BY ADINA BROWNE



A TRIP BACK HOME



From the day that I made the decision to go back home, I knew that I would encounter many difficulties on the trip but from the moment I embarked on the journey, I found that it was far more difficult than I expected.

When I arrived at Heathrow Terminal 2 it was crowded as normal, but some of the passengers were wearing a mask as well as about 60% of the staff. In front of the check-in desks of Air China, most of the passengers were wearing a mask but some passengers were also wearing goggles and others were even wearing a protective suit.

According to CAAC (Civil Aviation Administration of China) regulations, all passengers have to wear a mask when they take a flight destined for a Chinese city. Cabin crew will also check all passengers' temperatures before they board. If your temperature is higher than 37.3 degrees Celsius, you are not allowed to board the flight.

There were many differences on this flight compared to my usual experience. All crew members were wearing a protective suit, goggles and mask. These crew members checked passengers' temperatures every two hours, if a passenger's temperature was higher than 37.3 degrees Celsius, they would be moved to the rear of the cabin, it was called the 'Isolation area.' I also received no meal on this nine-hour flight, only five bottles of water, some cake, bread, yogurt, milk, juice and an egg. I was afraid to take off my mask, so I only drank the water.

We landed in Beijing at 13:40, Beijing time, but I didn't get off the plane until 17:40. Passengers had to wait for the Health Quarantine Officer to call their name before they were allowed to disembark. We all received a health check in the airport, including a temperature and symptoms check. After passport control, passengers are sent to a gathering point, passengers that are destined for Beijing must find the staff representing their local district to take them to a hotel to begin the fourteen-day quarantine. A coach left for the hotel at 19:30, a coach's maximum capacity is forty passengers but this one only carried ten in order to create distance between passengers.

I began my quarantine in a nice 4-star hotel, they offered you breakfast, lunch and dinner and also allowed me to receive deliveries. I had to report my temperature twice a day at 9am and 2pm. The staffs here were all wearing protective suits.

As they found four confirmed cases of Coronavirus on the flight I arrived on, I was moved to a hospital to finish quarantine. They tested me twice here and doctors came to check if I had symptoms or not.

Finally, after 15 days, I arrived at home to see my family. In this dangerous situation, I hope everyone is staying safe and well!

BY ARK YANG



5SOS REMAINS 'CALM'

Australian pop-rock band 5 Seconds of Summer (5SOS) released their fourth studio album 'CALM' on the 27th of March. The record is sonically and lyrically very different from their usual pop-punk boy band songs about American Apparel underwear. They have certainly found a more mature concept after exploring a slightly newer sound in their third studio album 'Youngblood', which allowed them to delve into slightly more electro instrumentation and deep lyricism.

The lyrical and sonic range this album conveys is impressive, from meaningful love notes such as 'Best Years' and 'Lover of Mine' (which the lead singer and guitarist, Luke Hemmings, wrote with his girlfriend and singer-songwriter Sierra Deaton) to upbeat melodies like 'Wildflower' and 'Not in the Same Way'. They even express their views on society in 'No Shame'. Hemmings confessed the band believe this album is their most 'honest' and 'vulnerable'.

The album title is an acronym for the members of the group: Calum Hood (bassist and vocalist), Ashton Irwin (drummer and vocalist), Michael Clifford (lead guitarist and vocalist) and Luke Hemmings but is slightly misleading for such a diverse sound, including electric beats seen in 'Easier' (which Charlie Puth co-wrote with One Republic singer and producer Ryan Tedder), elements of grungy rock melodies like 'Teeth' and 'Thin White Lies' and self-reflective songs like 'High' and 'Old Me'.

It was certainly brave for the band to release their album in strange times like these, alongside the likes of Dua Lipa, as they cannot travel to promote their new record as they have previously done with their other 3 albums, but the band thought that releasing new music would provide people with some entertainment whilst they're self-isolating. 5SOS sold more copies of 'CALM' in one day than their third studio album, 'Youngblood', sold in a week due to promotions online

through Instagram live stories, Twitter, Reddit Q&A's, Twitch Livestreams and video calls with radio stations.

Not only have they lifted many spirits with their record but they are also donating profits from merchandise sold in the UK to the NHS whilst also having their own non-profit charity 'Friends of Friends' which they started to raise money for the Australian Red Cross after the tragic Bush Fire's in their homeland. The band has also released a four-track 'Relaxation Remix' collection for the meditation app 'Calm'.

The varying lyrics and sonic inspiration are highly reflective of the band's new musical maturity, their coming of age and success since being a group of teenagers who met at school to accompanying One Direction on three world tours (which they make a reference to in their reminiscent 'Old Me' music video), and finally to being their own mature and respected artists.

The album is now number 1 in Australia and the UK as well as number 2 in the USA, gaining on the Weeknd's record breaking new album, After Hours.

BY PHOEBE MIDDLETON



NEVER-ENDING OCEAN

There was once a world where the creatures walked on the land, and these creatures were careless and greedy. Perhaps if they had cared for their world better, this fate would not have befallen them. Perhaps their society would not have been swept away by the cruel waters. Their cities, once vibrant and thronging with life were now husks of their former selves, claimed by the depths. The ocean stretched on forever, their once green land a carpet of dull grey. The only sounds came from the fish in the water and the wind in those few trees that were not submerged. Only in a few places was the earth not covered in the blanket that was the ocean, and the rest had all disappeared, absorbed into the waters.

The land-dwellers had brought this upon themselves. They exploited the earth for all it was worth, and the earth fought back. It was likely that there were a few land-dwellers left, in those high places which the sea did not reach. But it did not matter. New species were beginning to stir in the primaeval depths. Creatures made to rival the land-dwellers as the dominant species, creatures that would drive any man insane. It was all their fault. They thought they were above nature.

The land-dwellers had a rich and plentiful civilization. They called themselves humans, and they had everything they could ever want; food, water, comfort and luxury. But their carelessness led to their downfall. They should not have ignored the earth for so long. It would not be long before the last humans died out. They had learned their lesson, only too late.

BY CONOR MORRIS

