



# Fyling Hall Matters

Friday 9th June 2017 (Issue 27)

## Petition Against Trump's Visit

The Mayor of London has called on our British government to cancel the visit to Britain by President Trump in the Autumn. This is due to a series of tweets in which the president criticised the Mayor and his response to the London terror attacks.

The Mayor of London's words were taken out of context by President Trump and this has sparked an online backlash with over 1 million people signing an online petition to ban President Trump's visit to the UK. This, however, is not the first time this controversial president has sparked a reaction from the British

Public. It was on the 20th of February that tens of thousands of people took to the streets to protest against President Trump's visit to Britain. Protests were organised around the country in: Plymouth, London, Manchester, Bristol, Cardiff and many more locations.

However, this was ignored by the government and the state visit occurred despite the obvious resentment of President Trump by the British public.

Isabella Clements

## School Assemblies

In-light of this week's general election, we have had a series of assemblies tightly themed around politics. Although the majority of the school is not yet old enough to vote, the extent of student's knowledge was surprising and continued to expand throughout the week.

Due to the busy GCSE exam schedule, the Barn was unavailable and instead assembly was hosted outside in the Stackyard. Surprisingly the weather held up and we all stood outside in the sun, a pleasant change from the confined walls of the Barn.

Mr Instone and Mr Batchelor hosted these two pre and

post general election assemblies, over which they informed us of the multiple parties and their manifestos.

In order to further involve the students, the assembly consisted of a portion of entertaining and light-hearted roleplaying. During this, Mr Instone and Mr Batchelor randomly took the side of either Labour or the Conservatives, without knowing in advance which party they'd be representing, and argued the political views of these groups.

Callum Wallis

*We invite you to comment on the articles expressed in our newsletters. Please email [news.team@fylinghall.org](mailto:news.team@fylinghall.org) giving a reference to the article/journalist by name. We are open to new ideas, your suggestions and even a bit of criticism!*

## On this day in ...

1944, thousands of allied soldiers landed in Normandy for the beginning of the invasion of Nazi occupied Germany. This day is known as D-Day.

On 8th June 1973 a volcanic eruption in Iceland began that would last for 8 months. This eruption killed around 9000 people, mainly due to famine, as there were huge food shortages due to the poisonous flames of the eruption.

On 11th June 1509, King Henry VIII married Catherine of Aragon, his first wife who he later divorced and replaced with Anne Boleyn.

Isabella Clements

## Words of the Week

	This week	Next week
Tricky:	<b>Tycoon</b>	<b>Extravagant</b>
Trickier:	<b>Impresario</b>	<b>Flamboyant</b>
Trickiest:	<b>Entrepreneur</b>	<b>Ostentatious</b>

## Internet Freedom : (The Finale!)

In this week's article I will be discussing the dark net and why it is used. So what is the dark web, how can we access it and why is it important?

A simplification would be to say that the dark web is the part of the internet that cannot be accessed by using normal web browsers like Internet Explorer or Google Chrome; it is a separate part of the internet held on designated servers by networks like the 'Tor' project (Tor being short for the onion router, due to how it hides your identity) and I2P (invisible internet project). It has everything on the normal internet as well as extra websites where you can do anything from reveal atrocities committed by countries to buying fake credit cards and IDs. Using the dark net is not illegal (in fact the US government is the main donator to Tor), and it is nearly impossible to track. So what is the dark net used for?

Well the dark net is used by many people. Journalists, activists, aid workers, whistle-blowers and criminals all use the dark net. In fact anyone who wants to remain anonymous uses the dark web, and now many other people are using the dark web. Ordinary people also have reason to use the dark web.

But why we would ever need to do this? Alan Pearce, a journalist and author interested in cyber security, says there are three reasons to use the dark web: The NSA factor; rampant over-commercialisation and for use by criminals and 'sickos'. So what are these factors?

Criminals have been using the dark web as it is secure, simple and allows them to sell to hundreds or thousands of clients. These online markets have reviews and comment sections, and function like any other market according to economists. Drug dealers are lowering their prices, ensuring the drugs arrive and responding to messages hastily. They ensure good customer service to increase their review ratings. Many of the drugs are even delivered by royal mail. Royal mail does not have the right to open suspicious packages unless they can confirm the presence of narcotics (or other illicit items), usually by the uses of sniffer dogs; and some employees have never seen a sniffer dog in their entire career.

Years ago, back in eastern Germany, people were outraged when they were told that they had to register every typewriter and their owners with the government; however we are probably under much more surveillance now than they were, and many of us aren't even aware of this fact.

This leads me on to the "NSA factor": the justified fear of being spied on by governments and other organisations. This concern really originated from the

revelations made by Edward Snowden, that the NSA was performing illegal and disturbing mass surveillance on pretty much everyone (if you haven't read the Snowden revelations, I highly recommend that you do). The power that governments have and the possibility for this power to be exploited, in a similar way to the 'Wannacry' attack which took down computers in the NHS as well as the many other governmental institutions, is deeply troubling. The government is determined to be able to access all of your data, even if it doesn't have the right to it, because it isn't protected.

Even in the UK many government organisations have the right to access your search history over the last 12 months upon request and a warrant, even if companies cannot. The UK population is actually one of the most monitored countries in the world. The Conservatives have even talked about a blanket ban on encryption altogether. But there are limits to this rule. Using Tor and a VPN (Virtual Private Network) based in another country should be enough to stop the secret services from seeing everything that you search for.

The dark net is not the only tool available to stop commercialisation, but it is perhaps the best. Large advertising companies cannot track users on the dark net. This is incredibly useful in the US as companies can now purchase your browsing history, if you're not using the dark net that is. Alternatively many internet add-ons could be used, and they could be used in conjunction with Tor, but it will put you at a higher risk from government spying; albeit probably not a concern if you are just trying to avoid adverts. Using Ad block on its own will not protect you from the corporations.

These tools have the ability to let you be anonymous online, if you choose to use them. It is for this reason that the dark net is becoming so mainstream: even Facebook and Twitter have websites on the dark net now. Is it right for all these companies to know so much about you? What if they advertise faulty, inappropriate or sensitive products to you? Can you trust corporations and do you really want personalised adverts all of the time?

So how safe are you on the dark net? It would be safe to say that you would be protected against hackers and targeted advertisements, but what about against the government? To be honest, it's hard to say. Just this year, US government has managed to hack into Tor once using a classified tool they call NIT to target and arrest people searching for child pornography, however since this they have dropped all cases so as to keep this exploit hidden. Since this, Tor has updated their systems, and using this tool in conjunction with a

## Internet Freedom : (Finale)

foreign based VPN provider will protect you unless the NSA is specifically targeting you. And even then the NSA may be more interested in their exploit than stopping crime.

I feel like I do need to address Theresa May's "war on the internet". She claimed boldly that she wanted to ban encryption, so as to stop the terrorists "plotting their attacks in secret". This is possibly the most dangerous move which could potentially devastate this entire country. For a blanket ban on encryption, our entire country would be monitored and incredibly vulnerable and a Wannacry styled attack would cause incomprehensible damage to the country. Any software without owners and old software would be banned.

Now I know the recent terror attacks in this country have been truly devastating, but Theresa May is using this as an excuse to push her own political agenda, which upsets me. "I'll rip up human rights laws that impede new terror legislations" is a quote from May as she tries to push the policies that David Cameron initially proposed; despite experts all claiming that it is a terrible idea to try to unencrypt the internet and that it wouldn't even work. In addition to that, most radicalisation is actually done face to face. Terrorism is a large issue, but this is not the way to fight it. It won't work, even experts admit. And of course we would like to think our private banking details are encrypted to maintain our privacy and protect against fraud.

So should you use the dark net? Well if you want to bypass firewalls, remain anonymous, avoid adverts, commit crimes, share uncensored information, stop

people being able to access your entire digital life or be safer online, yes. While it is not a perfect solution; if you want a small part of your privacy back I would recommend this. The dark net means that the government doesn't see everything you do in our 1984 style surveillance state, although if you don't mind the surveillance and ads, you may as well use the normal internet as it is faster. You can improve the security when using Tor to be completely anonymous, given common sense, caution and a little knowledge, or find articles describing how you would do this (it's hard to do this from school and it's quite complicated, so I haven't included it in this article).

The dark net will mean that the governments don't see everything you do in our 1984 style surveillance state. It also means you aren't doing the cyber equivalent of registering your typewriter at the local government run station and getting your mail intercepted. But by trying to break Tor, the governments put so many good people at risk including many of their informants and political activists. If you want to learn more about anything mentioned in this article, please comment. I would be happy to provide you with more information and any source articles.

Jack Dudley

*This set of articles are the result of research by the author, are intended to be informative and do not necessarily represent the views of the school. The school strongly opposes the use of VPNs and students trying to get round Internet security measures designed to protect them and the school network. These rules are rigorously enforced.*

*"Insecurity knocks from time to time . Invite it in for a cup of coffee, talk with it, understand it, then take that sugar spoon and poke it in the eye"*



*"Be who you are and say what you feel, because those who mind don't matter and those who matter don't mind"*

Dr Seuss

### The Week Ahead

Sat	10 <sup>th</sup>	12:00pm	County Athletics competition @ York University
		6:00pm	Cinema trip years 10-13
Sun	11 <sup>th</sup>	10:00am	Boarders attend St Stephen's Church
		2:00pm	Fyling Hall Football World Cup Tournament years 5 -13
Mon	12 <sup>th</sup>	9:00am	Year 8 History Trip to Fairfax House, York
Tues	13 <sup>th</sup>	1:30pm	U13 District Rounders tournament @ Graham school
Wed	14 <sup>th</sup>	2:30pm	U13 Cricket v Red House (Away)
Thur	15 <sup>th</sup>	4:00pm	Years 7-9 Athletics Field Events competition @ CCW
Fri	16 <sup>th</sup>	7:00pm	"Dylan" A night of poetry and music celebrating all things Dylan!

*"Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless"*

Mother Teresa

### News Team

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