

**'STAY
COOL
BUB!'**



The Kilgarth School
Aspire Project



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**Kilgarth
School**
Wirral

I would like to thank the entire Kilgarth School community, particularly the students, staff and governors and Julie Gibson for co-ordinating this project. I would also like to acknowledge the fantastic support from Darkhorse Design, Paul Hooley Design, the Lions and Printfine.

We at Kilgarth School care passionately about enabling our students to explore their limitless potential and embrace opportunities that present themselves.

In 2014 we decided to write to inspirational figureheads from around the globe and asked them to send us a signed photograph and some words of wisdom. We hoped to show our students that they do not need to face the challenges of the future alone and that they should aspire to achieve great things.

This book contains the remarkable responses that we received.

This is the Kilgarth School Aspire Project.


Steven Baker
Executive Headteacher

'STAY COOL BUB!'



Hugh Jackman is an Australian born actor, singer and producer who has won international recognition for his roles in major films, notably as Wolverine in the X-Men film series and Jan Valjean in Les Misérables. The urban dictionary explains that 'Bub' is a term of familiar address for a boy!





'Every day is an opportunity to grow. Even on the worst day you can learn something that will make you a better person.'

John Bishop is popular nationwide as a comedian and presenter; we think of him as a local lad because he comes from Liverpool. John didn't pursue his career in comedy until he was 40 years old and then rose to success very quickly, regularly appearing on TV in his own shows as well as presenting travel and wildlife documentaries. He is also known for his charity work, having raised millions for Sport Relief in 2012 when he completed a 290 mile triathlon over just 5 days. In September 2015, around the time John sent his inspiring message to our pupils, he hosted a fundraising concert at the Liverpool Echo Arena to help those affected by the Syrian refugee crisis.

Miranda Hart

is a British actor and comedian who reached the heights of fame after the success of her TV series *Miranda*, which earned her 4 BAFTA nominations. She is quoted as having said that when she was growing up she felt like a fish out of water and didn't fit in. We are therefore very grateful for her poignant words of wisdom.

**“Be yourself
and don’t
compare.
There is only
one you!”**



John Humphrys is an award-winning Welsh broadcaster and his response to our Aspire Project was the first we received. During his career, John has worked as a foreign correspondent in both America and Africa, as well as being a diplomatic correspondent and presenter of the Nine O'Clock News. He has been the host of the BBC television quiz show Mastermind since 2003 and co-presents the Today programme on Radio 4.

'BE CURIOUS!'



'ALL GOOD WISHES'



Johnny Depp
is a 'Hollywood A-lister' who starred as Captain Jack Sparrow
in *Pirates of the Caribbean*.



**‘AIM HIGH AND DON’T
LET ANYTHING
DISTRACT YOU FROM
ACHIEVING YOUR
GOALS!’**

Phil Davies is Leader of Wirral
Council and oversees the Cabinet,
which is responsible for the council’s
key decisions.



'BE BRAVE'

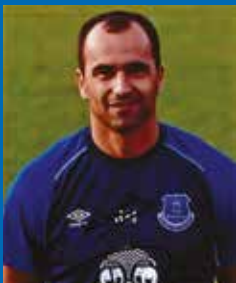
In addition to her many acting roles, both on stage, film and television, **Jane Horrocks** has an iconic and recognisable 'voice' often heard in animated productions (Chicken Run and Garfield amongst others). She recently starred and sang in the jukebox musical *Sunshine on Leith* which received critical acclaim.

Cllr Les Rowlands is the former Mayor of Wirral and was elected in May 2015. The role of Mayor means that he acted as the focal point for the affairs of the community and raised money for worthy causes. Cllr Rowlands is highly regarded in Wirral as an affable and respected character who has served on every council committee since becoming a councillor in 1998, including as Chair for Education. He used to be a musician and actor, appearing on stage and TV in numerous roles.

**‘Set
yourself
goals
as you
journey
through
life.’**



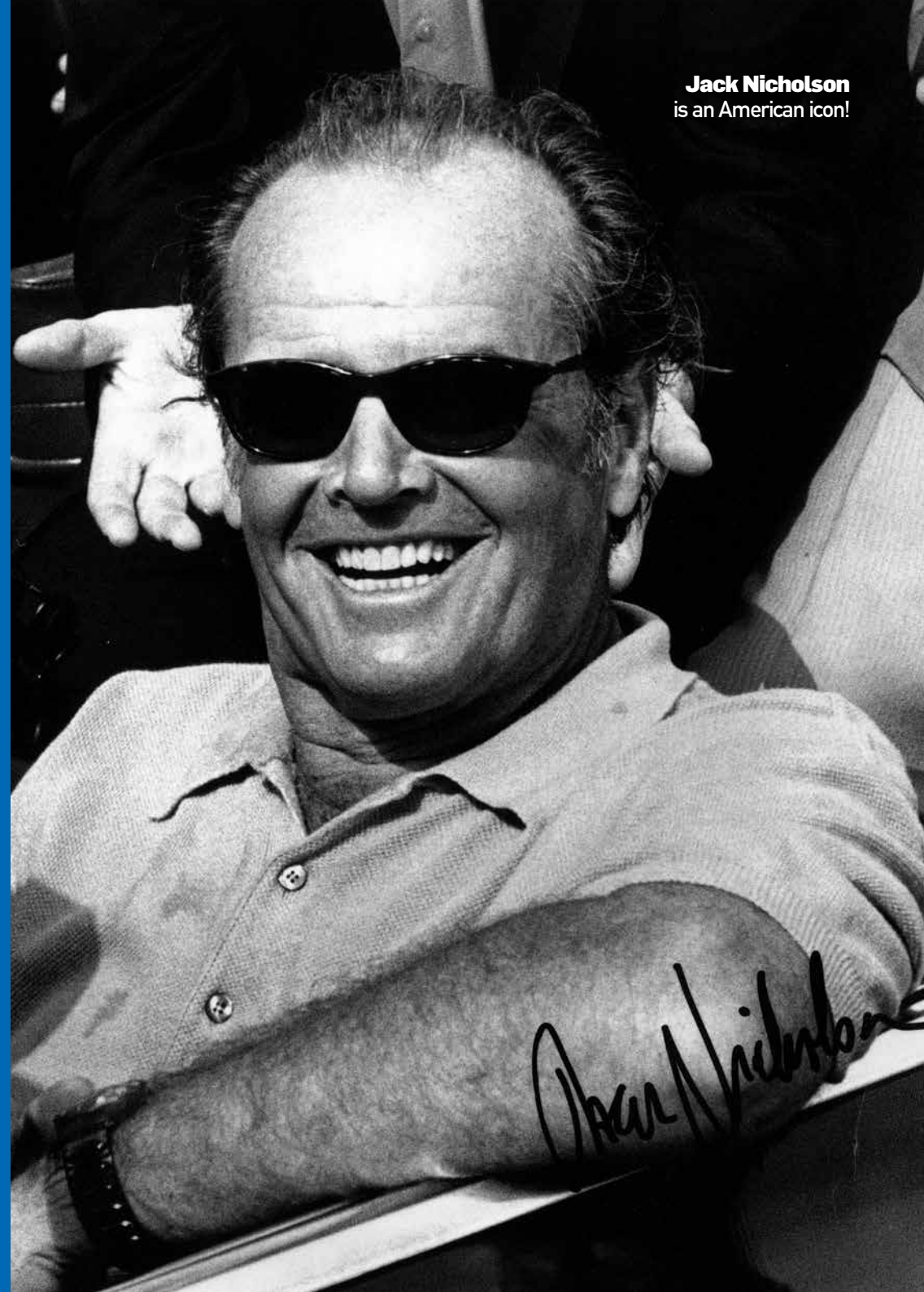
**‘That will do,
won’t do.
For me, it’s
the best
or nothing.’**



Roberto Martínez

We were delighted for the Everton fans in school when we heard back from former Everton Manager, Roberto Martínez. Roberto made his first appearance as a professional footballer at the age of 19 for Real Zaragoza and he continued playing professionally until he was 33, when he began his management career at Swansea.

Jack Nicholson
is an American icon!



‘You have the opportunity of having an incredible life led with purpose, do not miss this chance! Find something that you are passionate about and give this everything you can.’

Céline S. Cousteau is a French-American explorer, filmmaker and conservationist. She is from a family of ocean explorers and is the granddaughter of the legendary Jacques Cousteau, who sailed the world for much of the late 20th century, educating millions about the Earth's oceans through his pioneering documentaries. Céline is the director of CauseCentric Productions, a non-profit organisation that specialises in documentaries about environmental issues.



**ALWAYS
HOPE
FOR THE
BEST**

Michael Atiyah is an English mathematician, specialising in geometry. He is a winner of the Abel Prize, awarded to outstanding mathematicians.





**‘HEY THERE – you lot –
take care of yourselves
and each other.**

**Don’t reach for the sky.
There’s nothing up
there. Reach for what’s
possible and what
makes you feel happy.
It will COME!’**

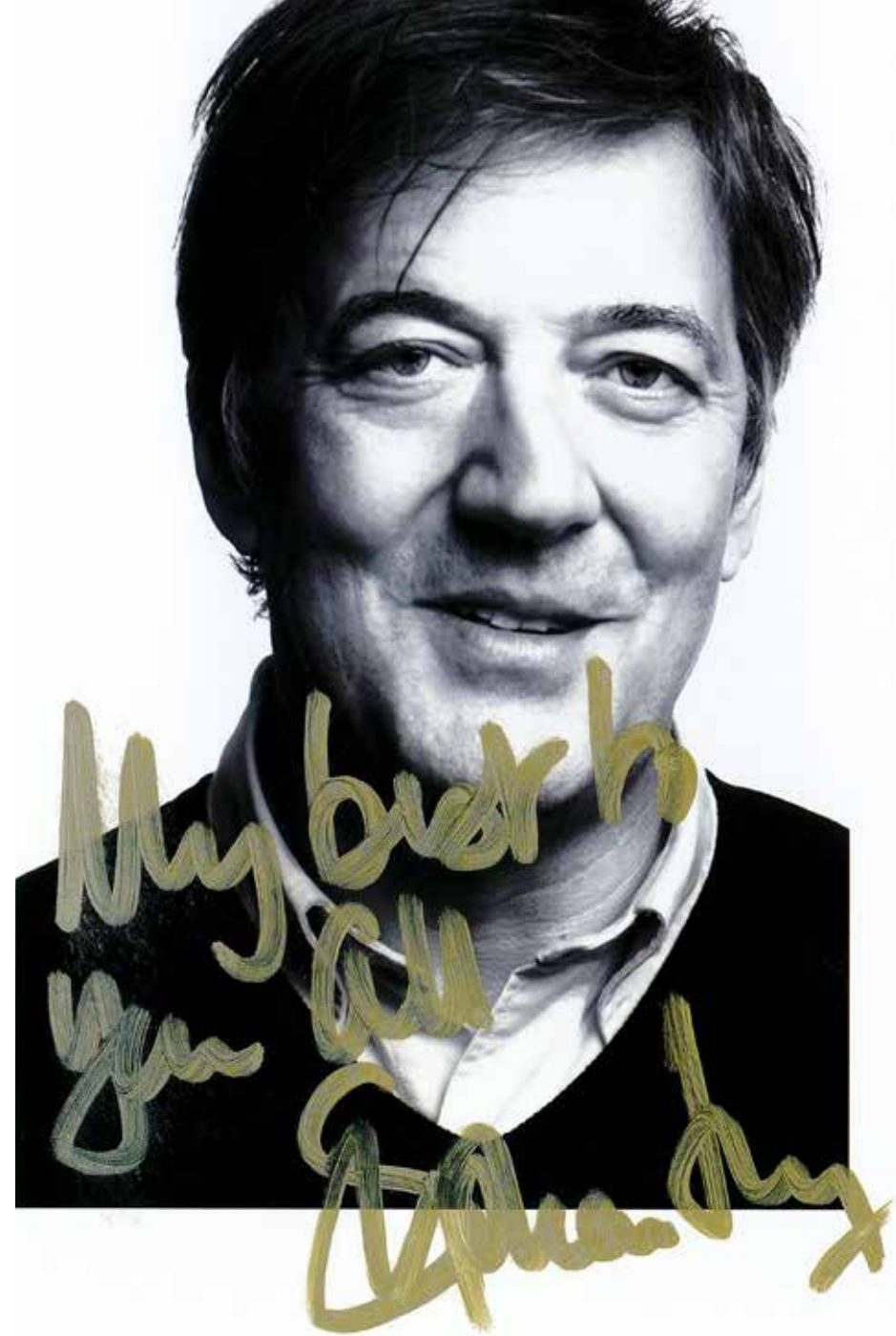
Lots of love from Emma Thompson.

Emma Thompson is an award winning actor and also President of the Pearson Teaching Awards Trust. We were delighted that she responded to our Aspire Project with such a wonderfully positive message. Her accolades include two Academy Awards, three BAFTAs and two Golden Globes.

“**WORK
HARD;
KEEP
CALM;
STAY
POSITIVE;
NEVER
GIVE IN**”



Jim Teasdale was the founder director of Mersey Maritime, the Birkenhead based representative body which works to promote our region's historical maritime industry.



Stephen Fry is an actor, presenter and spokesperson for mental health. He is an established tweeter with nearly 8 million followers.

**‘Dare to
dream the
impossible,
for only
then will
it become
possible.’**

Paul Moxham is an Australian author
who writes mystery novels for young readers.

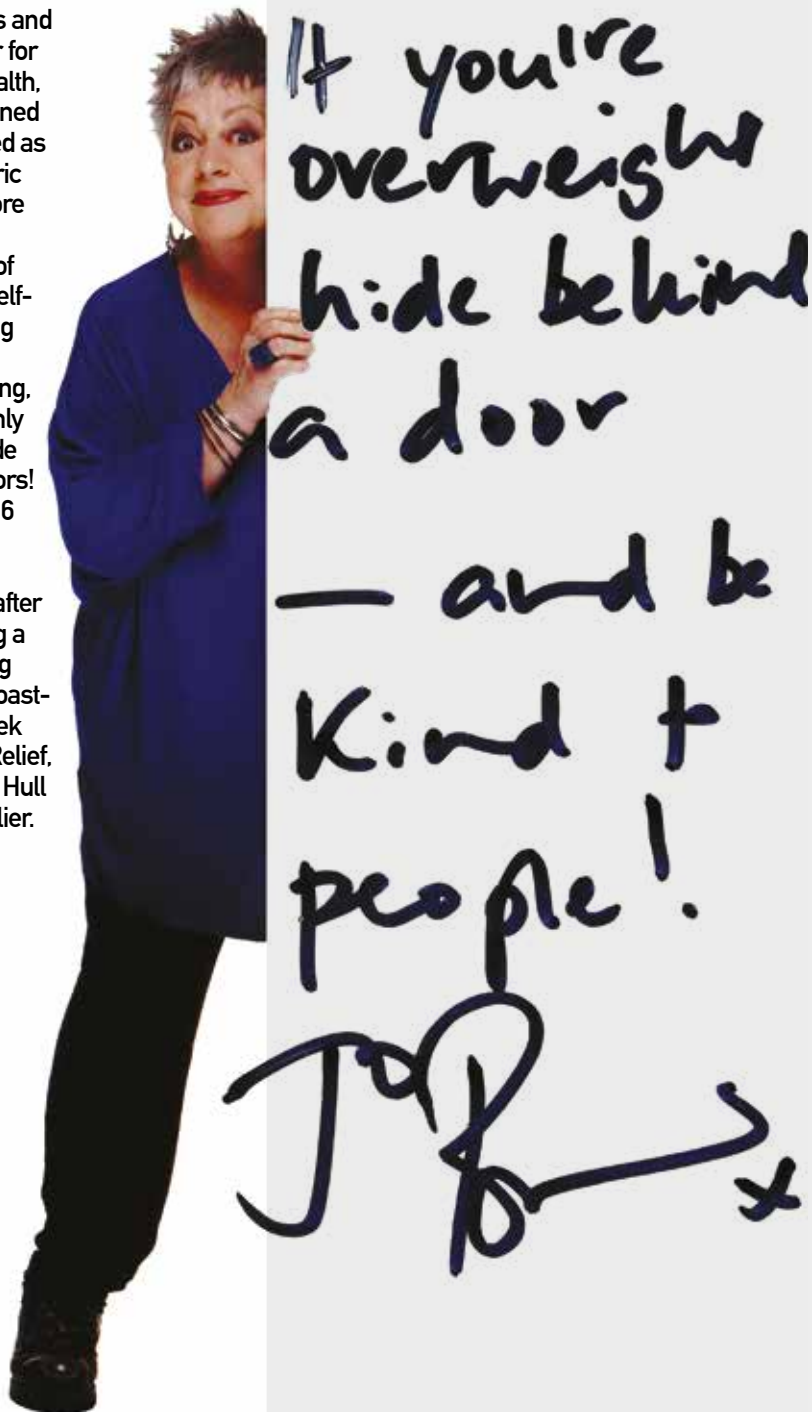


**“The most
ordinary
life can be
extraordinary...
not because
of what you
are given -
but because
of what you
are able
to achieve!”**



Robson Green is an actor, musician, TV presenter and producer who grew up in the North East of England. He planned to join the RAF after leaving school but changed direction and pursued a career in acting. He has been a regular on our TV screens for over 20 years now and we are grateful to him for his most inspiring message. Many of our fishing enthusiasts at school will recognise Robson from his TV series 'Extreme Fishing', where he travels around the world investigating and participating in the sport.

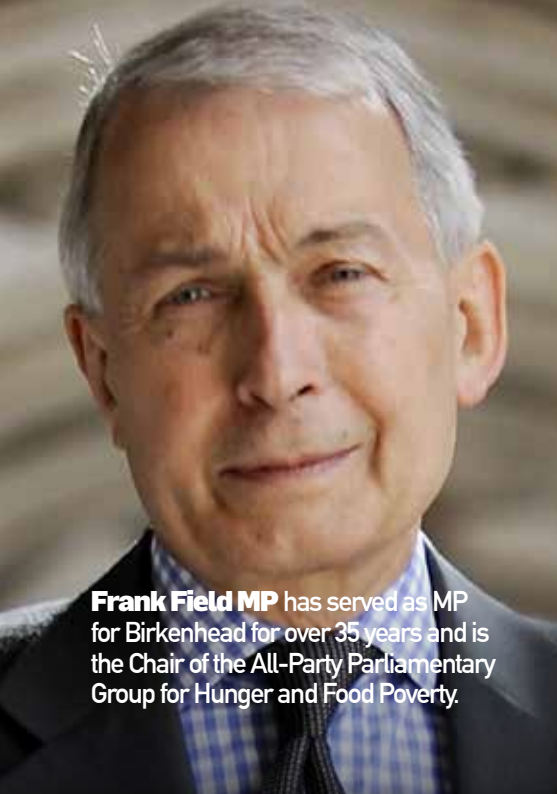
Jo Brand is one of Britain's best known comedians and a crusader for mental health, having trained and worked as a psychiatric nurse before entering the world of comedy. Self-deprecating with great comic timing, she certainly doesn't hide behind doors! On 28/01/16 Jo arrived on foot in Liverpool after completing a challenging 150 mile coast-to-coast trek for Sport Relief, having left Hull 7 days earlier.



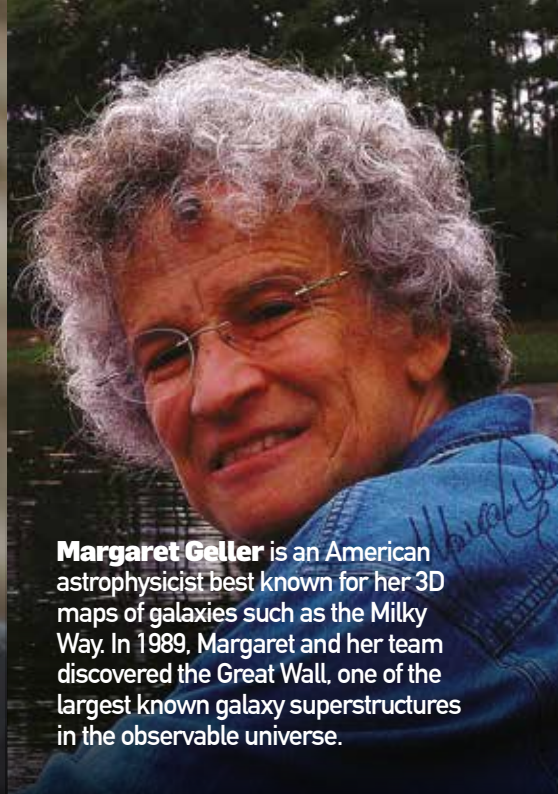
‘Boys and girls who grew up in Birkenhead have gone on to lead the way in football, rugby, acting, poetry and music. This is thanks not only to their hard work and outstanding talent but also to their exceptional character and personality.

Be confident that by working hard, learning new skills and being outgoing, you too can achieve your dreams.’

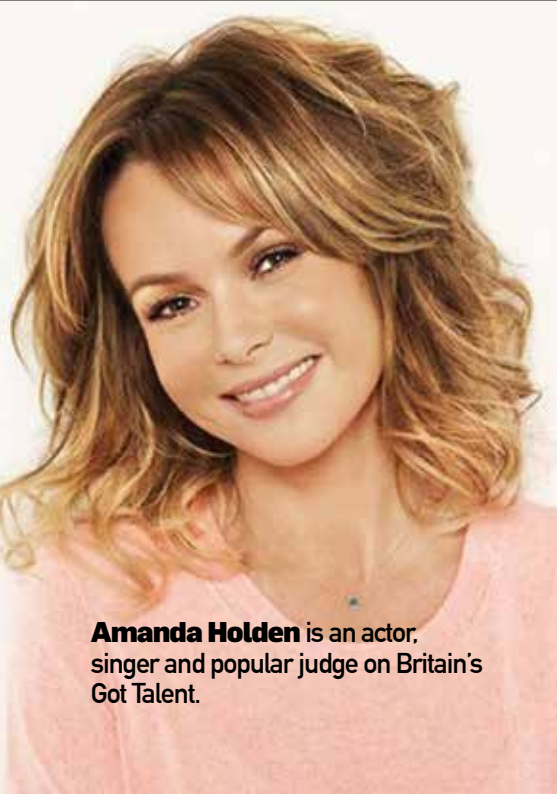
Frank Field has served as MP for Birkenhead for over 35 years and is currently the Chair of the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Hunger and Food Poverty. He has fifty years of campaign experience and continues to work relentlessly, both locally and nationally, to improve the lives of children in poverty and low paid workers. Frank is also a trustee of the charity Cool Earth, which he co-founded in 2007; the charity works to protect the world's most endangered rainforest by working hand in hand with local communities in Peru, Brazil and Ecuador.



Frank Field MP has served as MP for Birkenhead for over 35 years and is the Chair of the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Hunger and Food Poverty.



Margaret Geller is an American astrophysicist best known for her 3D maps of galaxies such as the Milky Way. In 1989, Margaret and her team discovered the Great Wall, one of the largest known galaxy superstructures in the observable universe.



Amanda Holden is an actor, singer and popular judge on Britain's Got Talent.



Cllr Phil Davies is Leader of Wirral Council and oversees the Cabinet, which is responsible for the council's key decisions.

‘Share what you know & others will share with you. Be a mentor & seek mentors. Everyone grows.’

Margaret Geller

‘The poor and most disadvantaged children around the globe yearn to go to school and have an education.

Never forget that you are the most fortunate in the world.’

Rt Hon Baroness Frances D'Souza is the current Speaker of the House of Lords. She is an expert in human rights and has done significant work on emergency aid and the alleviation of famine.





Trying to **DISCOVER** a new truth far outside the realm of daily experience can be a lonely endeavour. However, it is a loneliness similar to the long-distance runner, where your path can cross the roads of Archimedes, Newton, Einstein and Stephen Hawking. Then, your loneliness becomes a blessing, for which I have always felt gratitude.



Professor Yuri Manin is a Russian born mathematician and was the first to put forward the concept of the quantum computer, the most futuristic and complex of all computers, which is still being developed today.



‘If you work hard you can achieve great things and, no matter how big or how small they are, you will feel a great sense of satisfaction as a result.’

Eric Robinson was appointed as Chief Executive of Wirral Council in February 2015. Prior to his appointment he was a Director of Social Services.



‘Invest in yourself and be open to a helping hand. Life doesn’t always go according to plan and sometimes people let you down. That’s when your investment in you counts.’



Rt Hon Caroline Flint, MP is the Labour MP for Don Valley in Yorkshire and came third in the Labour Party ‘Deputy Leadership Election’ in 2015. In response to our Aspire Project, we received a letter from Caroline, which gave us an insight into the challenges she faced when she was young and we are grateful to her for sharing this and for her inspirational words of wisdom.

‘IF
YOU’VE
HAD A
SH*T
YEAR –
FORGET
ABOUT
IT...
MÖVE
ON’

Danny Dyer is a London born actor who currently stars as Mick Carter in the long running soap, Eastenders.



YOU ARE
GREAT!

Nicky Cox, MBE is editor of First News, a British national newspaper for children, which she launched in 2006. Nicky worked at the BBC for 14 years as Editorial Director of the Children's Division. She was also Executive Producer for several BBC Live Events as well as being involved with ChildLine from launch. In 2009 Nicky was awarded an MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours for her services to children.

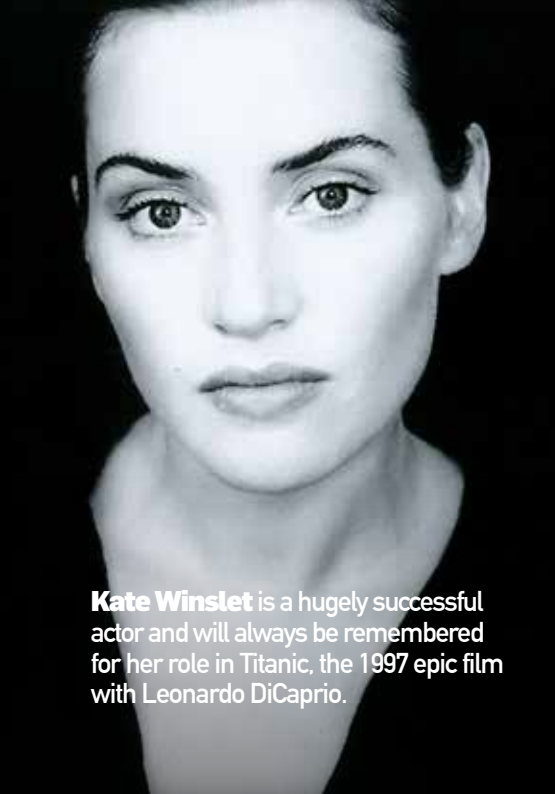


'Follow your dreams....

**and remember, every
day you live you make
a difference in the
world – you have a
choice – what sort of
difference will you
make? Together we can
change the world.'**

Dame Jane Goodall is renowned for her pioneering study of chimpanzees in the 1960s. In 1960, at the age of 26, she travelled to Tanzania to observe their behaviour in the wild. She later founded the Jane Goodall Institute to promote the understanding and protection of great apes, and to inspire young people to protect our world. Jane is also a UN Messenger of Peace.





Kate Winslet is a hugely successful actor and will always be remembered for her role in Titanic, the 1997 epic film with Leonardo DiCaprio.



Harriet Harman, QC is an MP, a trained lawyer and the longest serving female Member of Parliament.



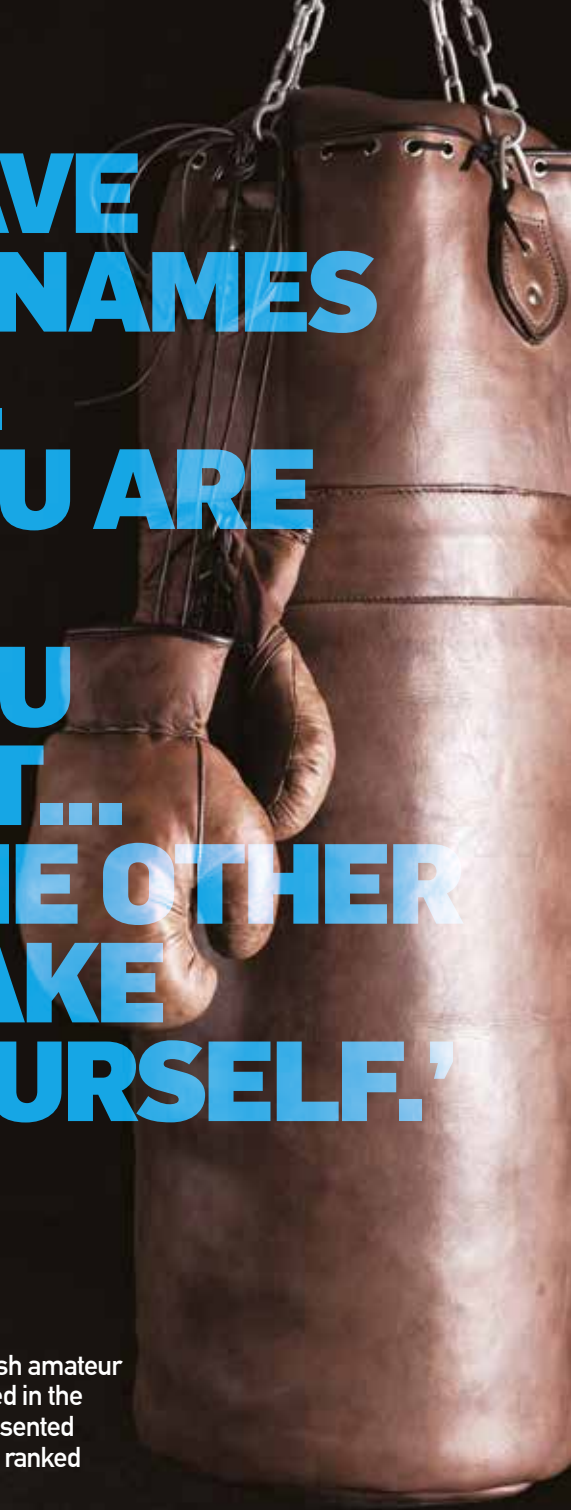
Russell Brand is an English comedian, Hollywood actor and author. He supports charities that provide drug and alcohol rehabilitation.



George Osborne is the Chancellor of the Exchequer and MP for Tatton, Cheshire.

**‘YOU HAVE
THREE NAMES
IN LIFE.
ONE YOU ARE
GIVEN,
ONE YOU
INHERIT...
AND THE OTHER
YOU MAKE
FOR YOURSELF.’**

Natasha Jonas is a retired English amateur boxer from Liverpool, who competed in the 60 kg lightweight division and represented Rotunda ABC & GB Boxing. She was ranked no. 5 in the AIBA world rankings.





WITH

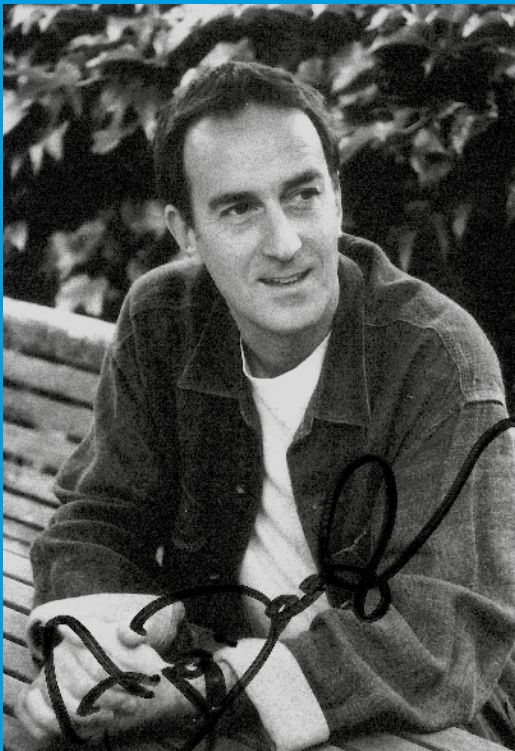
CONFIDENCE

**YOU CAN
ACHIEVE
ANYTHING**



Sajid Javid became the Conservative MP for Bromsgrove in Kent in 2010. He is the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills.

**‘AN OWL
IN A SACK
TROUBLES
NO MAN’**



Angus Deayton is an English actor, writer, musician, comedian and broadcaster and regular supporter of Comic Relief and Sport Relief.

**‘PICK YOURSELF UP
WHEN THINGS
GO BADLY –
AND THEY WILL.
THEY DO FOR
EVERYBODY – AND**

**NEVER
LOSE SIGHT
OF YOUR
DREAM.’**



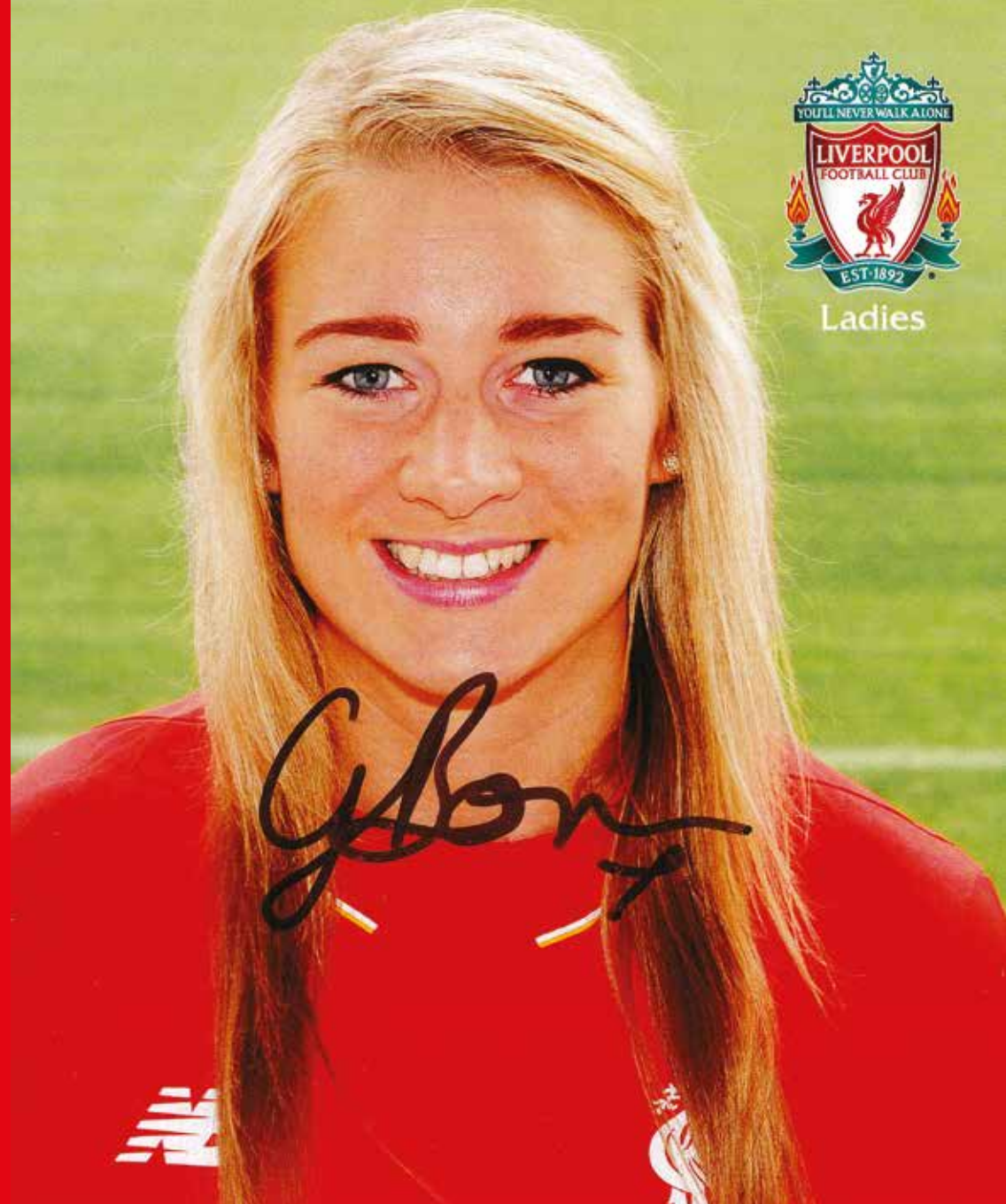
Dame Athene Donald, DBE, FRS has featured in the Guardian's list of 'top 100 women in the field of science' for her work relating to physics.

4 TO ALL
AT KILGARTH
SCHOOL...
KEEP
READING!

David Williams has
a talent for writing fiction
books for young people.
His award winning books
are very popular with our
readers at Kilgarth.



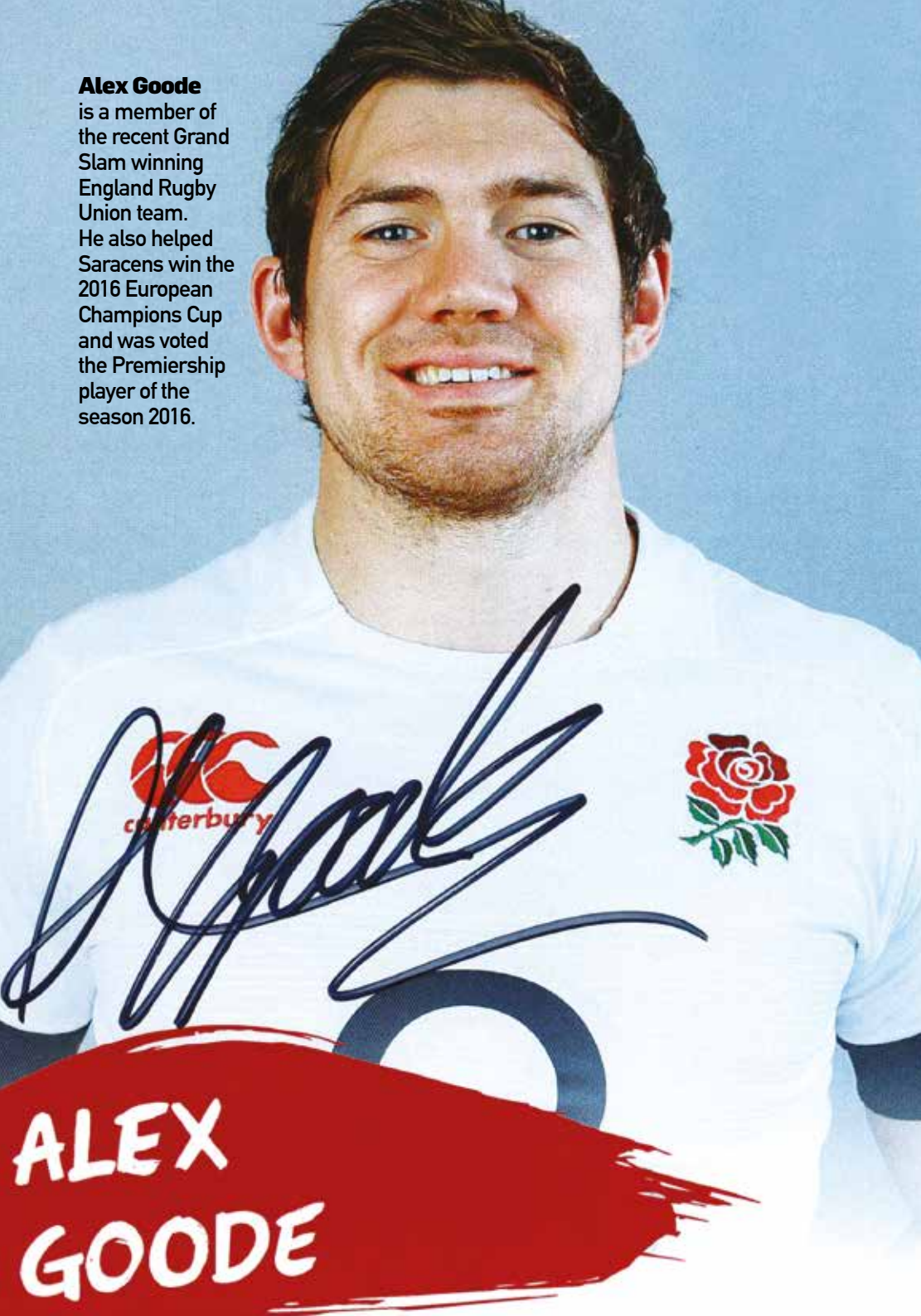
**‘All the very best
for the next step
in your journey.
You’ll never walk
alone.’ Gemma Bonner**



Gemma Bonner is the captain of Liverpool Ladies FC and an England regular.

Alex Goode

is a member of the recent Grand Slam winning England Rugby Union team. He also helped Saracens win the 2016 European Champions Cup and was voted the Premiership player of the season 2016.

**I get the idea that shall power the rest of my life:**

psychology can be about building the good life – directly. The practice and science of psychology is presently half-baked. Psychology starts with the premise that getting it right equals not getting it wrong. It follows that if psychology can somehow eliminate all the ills of the world – mental disorder, prejudice, ignorance, poverty, pessimism, loneliness and the like – human life will now be worth living. But the absence of ill being is not equal to the presence of well-being. Not getting it wrong does not equal getting it right.

Psychology can be not merely about the absence of unhappiness but about the presence of happiness.

**Dr Martin Seligman**

is the former President of the American Psychological Association. He is an internationally renowned author and an avid promoter of the field of positive psychology.

**‘IF YOU
ARE
WAITING
FOR A
SIGN
THIS IS
IT!’**

Ed Burstell



Described as a ‘gregarious New Yorker’,
Ed Burstell is the Managing Director
of Liberty Department Store in the West End
of London.

**MY GRANDFATHER
USED TO SAY:**

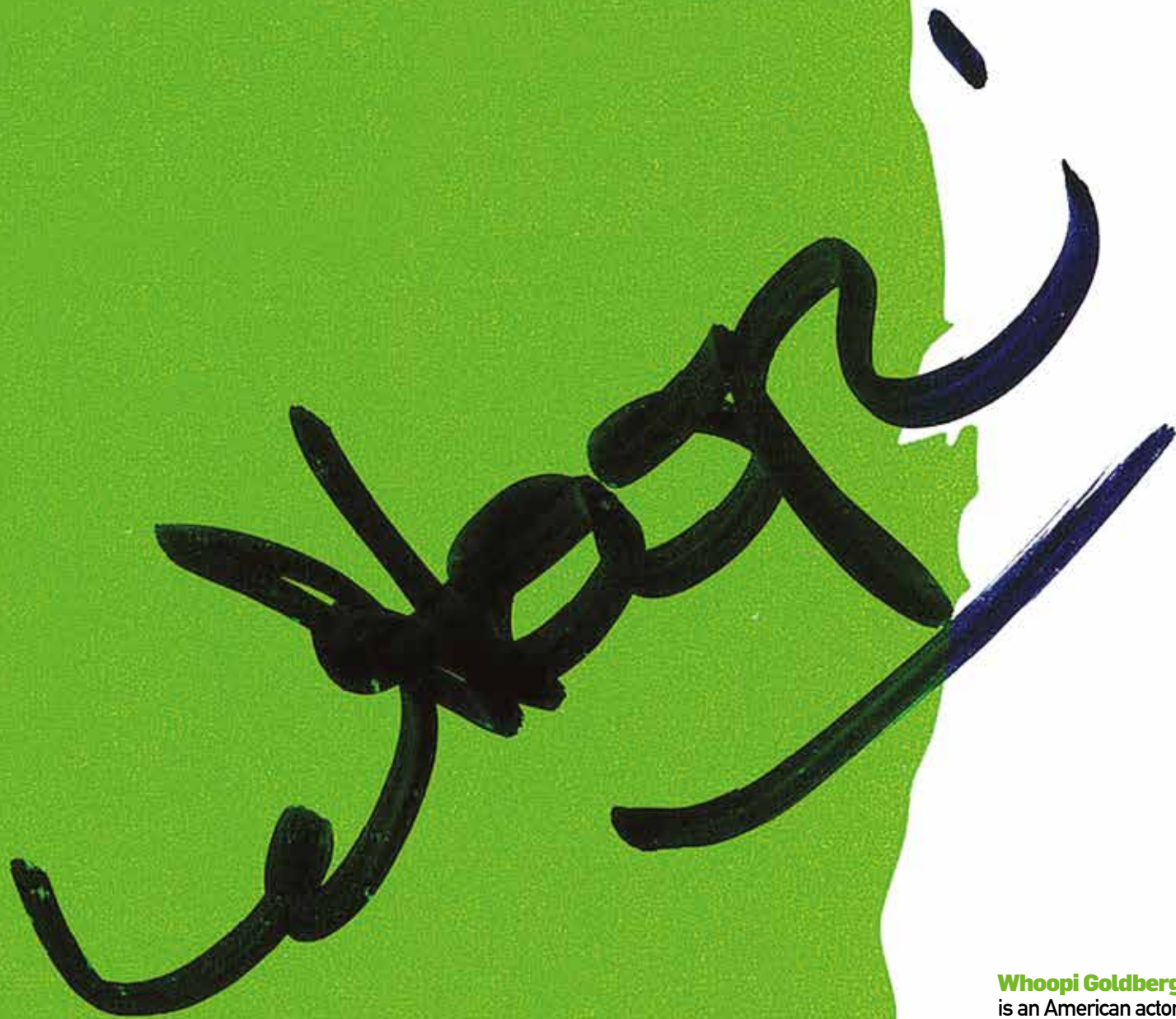
**‘NEVER
WRESTLE
WITH A
CHIMNEY
SWEEP!’**

**JUST BECAUSE
SOMEONE ELSE
IS FIGHTING FOUL,
THERE’S NO NEED
TO JOIN THEM.
YOU’LL ONLY END UP
COVERED IN SOOT.**



Hilary James Wedgwood Benn
is the current Shadow Foreign Secretary.
His family has a long history of affiliation
to the Labour Party.

**“I AM WHERE I AM
BECAUSE I BELIEVE
IN ALL
POSSIBILITIES.”**



Whoopi Goldberg
is an American actor,
comedian and television
host. She has won
a range of awards
including two Golden
Globes, a Tony, a
Grammy and an Oscar.

'STAYCOOL BUB!'

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