



## Jamaica inspires young artist

When 24-year-old artist, Eden Mullane, went to visit her grandmother's home in Jamaica in 2006, she said that she was so inspired that 'it really did change my life'. Eden was overwhelmed by the beautiful colours of the lush Caribbean landscape in Jamaica, and she has been painting scenes of the Jamaican countryside ever since. But it was not until lockdown that she decided to 'take the leap' and follow her dreams of becoming a full-time artist. When she left university, she wanted to work in an artist's studio. That was not an option for her because she had to stay at home during the pandemic and so she began painting there and posting photos of her work on social media. "Within four weeks I sold quite a few paintings and I realised deep down in my heart all I really wanted to do was paint full-time professionally and that was what I loved," she said. No sooner had she set up her own business, than she won the title of Sky Art's Landscape Artist of the Year. Her business is now going from strength to strength.



*Pictured: Eden Mullane has now started her own business, selling her paintings through social media Source: @MikeLiggins*

## Dragonfly designed drones



*Pictured: Drones are being developed to mimic the flight of a dragonfly Source: snowswife*

A drone, which is a small aircraft without a pilot, has a lot of different uses. Crop spraying, military and police surveillance, package delivery and photography are just a few of them. During the Coronavirus pandemic, drones have also been delivering food and medicines to people at home, self-isolating. Recently, scientists in Australia conducted a study of 'flapping-wing' drones in order to make them more aerodynamic. So, they enlisted the help of a 300-million-year-old flying machine: the dragonfly. The aim is that the flapping-wing drones will mimic the flight of the dragonfly by hovering, cruising and performing aerobatics in the same way. Dragonflies have been practising their skills for thousands of years. Javan Chahl, a professor and project leader at University of South Australia said, 'Their flying abilities have evolved over millions of years to ensure they survive.'



## Floating gardens boost villagers' income

Villagers living in houses that float on the river Tonlé Sap, Cambodia rely on fishing for employment because they are too far from job opportunities on dry land. But in recent years, climate change has made this job much more difficult. Fisherwoman, Ol Pheap says, 'There are frequent, long storms which mean we cannot go out to do the fishing. Because there is so much wind, our equipment moves away and it's so difficult to bring it back home.' The dry seasons are a problem too. They can now last up to seven months, so the water recedes back so far that it can sometimes take three hours to sail their boats to the fishing areas. Once there, a day's catch can weigh many kilogrammes less than it used to. Thankfully, the charity ActionAid has developed a scheme to support the villagers' income. A campaign called 'She is the Answer' gives women training and seeds to grow vegetables in floating gardens. The crops, which include cabbages and peppers, are shared in the village and any surplus is sold for extra profit.



Pictured: Cambodian woman with her catch of fish  
Source: Felix Dance Inset: A floating vegetable garden

## Your thoughts on last week's news...

*I think it is good to have people copying ideas, because you wouldn't copy a rubbish idea, you would copy a good idea. In fairness, it wouldn't be nice if you invented this awesome, beautiful cake and somebody went and made that same cake.*

*Tabitha – age 10*



What was your opinion on this week's news? Visit our discussion area, found here:

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to share your thoughts!

*I don't think it's wrong if it's to help us learn.*

*Jay – age 12*

*It's okay to copy because I copy all my school friends. They don't say anything to me. If it's a good idea we should copy and if it's bad then just point out how terrible it is.*

*Hannah – Class 11*

I think...



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