

MONDAY  
Money

TUESDAY  
Build the Change

WEDNESDAY  
Sport

THURSDAY  
Science

FRIDAY  
Culture

THE DAY  
Turning news into lessons



# NEWS DETECTIVES

## TODAY'S BIG STORY

### Running is what saved me, says Mo Farah

Is he Britain's greatest Olympian? Sir Mo Farah ran his last race at Newcastle's Great North Run, taking fourth place and bowing out after an unmatched athletic career.

He did not win the race, but he had already won the crowd's hearts long ago. Mo Farah finished fourth in the Great North Run to **thunderous** cheers. It was his **swansong**, the end of British athletics' most **glittering** career.

Now 40 years old, Mo Farah knew it was time to call it a day. The race was won by Tamirat Tola of Ethiopia, who covered the 13.1 mile, half-marathon course in 59 minutes and 58 seconds.

Sir Mo came in three and a half minutes behind. It was a good time, but not enough to win him a seventh



Sir Mo: Farah was knighted in 2016 for his services to British sport.

#### THE STORY SO FAR

Mo Farah is the most successful male long-distance athlete in history. No modern British Olympian has won as many track medals. Now 40, he won his first major title aged 18.

victory on a course that has been a favourite of his.

Along with his six Great North Run wins, Mo Farah can boast 17 **major** running titles to his name. He holds the British record for events from the 1,500 metres to the marathon.

Sir Mo, who was **trafficked** to Britain from Somalia aged nine, won his first major title aged 18. But it was during the 2012 London **Olympics** that he became a **household name** and a sporting legend.

He took gold in the 5,000 and 10,000 metres. He repeated this **feat** in 2016, at Rio.

While he did not make it into the next Olympics, he had already assured his place in the history books, and kept pushing himself right to the end.

"It's going to be very difficult," he told reporters after his last race. "Because I'm one of these athletes where I've got to keep on moving."

## KEY WORDS

**Thunderous:** Very loud

**Swansong:** Final act

**Glittering:**  
Impressive

**Major:** Important

**Trafficked:**  
Brought illegally

**Olympics:**

A global sports competition held every four years

**Household name:**  
Famous

**Feat:**  
Achievement



## YOU DECIDE

Is he Britain's greatest Olympian?

**YES.** His records across all forms of running and his triumph over the odds add up to greatness.

**NO.** There are other Olympians with more medals. The numbers are what matter.



# THE DETECTIVE ZONE

## SPOT THE FAKE

One of these three news stories is fake. Which one?

**Man stacks 5 MnMs, sets world record**

**Fly ruins domino world record event**

**Woman sets record for failed record attempts**

**Mo Farah is famous for his 'Mobot' celebration when he wins, but where did it first appear?**



- A) On a TV show
- B) 2013 London Olympics
- C) During his school years
- D) At his first race win

## TIME TO DESIGN!

Mo Farah is one of Britain's favourite athletes. Your challenge is to make a tribute to him that shows why he is so beloved.

### Step one:

Think about your design!  
What do you know about Sir Mo? What form will your tribute take? A poster? A video? A statue?

### Step two:

Create your design!  
Show the world why Mo Farah remains unbeatable!



### Talking point

Is it always better to quit while you are still at the top of your game?

### Amaze someone

Mo Farah is famous for doing a celebration dance called the Mobot, which involves making a heart shape with his arms.

Mo Farah is the only person to ever win the top prize in TV game show The Cube, where contestants have to complete challenges while inside a giant plastic cube.

# THE EXTRA PAGE

## Mo Farah's final run

**M**o Farah, one of the greatest British athletes of all time, finished fourth in the final race of his career at the Great North Run.

The 40-year-old four-time Olympic champion slipped off the pace early in the famous 13.1-mile race from Newcastle to South Shields.

He finished three minutes 30 seconds behind Ethiopia's Tamirat Tola, who won in 59mins 58secs.

"It's very emotional. There was a lot going through my mind," Farah said.

He said: "All I know is running and that is what made me happy for so many years.

"Running is everything to me. Running is what saved me."

"Thank you for the memories, thank you for the medals."

Farah retires with a glittering CV.

He became the first Briton to complete the Olympic 5,000m and 10,000m double with victory in front of a joyous home crowd at London 2012, and defended his titles at Rio 2016.

Only five Britons have more Olympic medals than Farah, who also won six world, five European and two European indoor titles as well as the Chicago Marathon in a career dating back more than two decades.

Farah waved to the crowd during the final 200m of the Great North Run before jogging back down the finishing straight to high-five fans,



**Final bell:** Farah's career has lasted more than 20 years.

many of whom were carrying 'One Mo Time' signs.

"Without the crowd I wouldn't have got through it," he said.

"I wanted to end my career here in Newcastle. I've had some amazing memories. It's really important to come out here and give my support to the crowd.

"It's very important to have a race like this. Without the support and community in Newcastle, it wouldn't be the same."

Former European 10,000m champion and Great North Run founder Brendan Foster said:

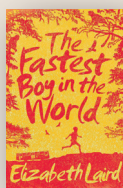
"Mo Farah is the greatest sportsman or woman Britain has ever had. We'll never see his type again."

Steve Cram, the former 1,500m world champion and now BBC commentator, said: "Thank you for the memories. Thank you for the medals. Thank you for all the excitement and drama."

British Athletics described Farah, who was knighted in 2016, as "the greatest", while Team GB tweeted: "Generation: inspired." ■

This is an edited version of a story from © BBC News [10/09/2023]

### Read more on this topic



The Fastest Boy in the World by Elizabeth Laird

Pan Macmillan



Patina by Jason Reynolds

Knights of Media

### Answers to the puzzles

#### Mo Farah question

A) It was on Mo's appearance on TV show "A League of their Own"

#### Spot the fake

Woman sets record for failed record attempts