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Flock and awe: King's College wages war on geese

Gabriella Swerling

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Steve Turkentine, a King's College porter, with the laser torch he uses to scare geese. Inset, two Japanese tourists who were attacked by the birds
 GEOFF ROBINSON

They divebomb unwitting tourists, chase all the indigenous species away and their copious droppings are a health hazard.

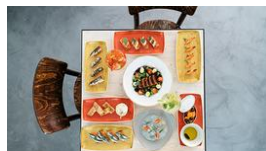
The Canada geese of the River Cam have proved such a menace there were fears that a Cambridge college wanted to cull them, prompting an outcry by sensitive students determined to protect the “sentient beings”.

Now staff at King's College have become more inventive in trying to scare the mounting numbers of aggressive birds away, arming themselves with £750 laser torches. They work by

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