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NOUSE



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University shelves proposal for two-semester year

● Semesterisation plans have been postponed due to a “lack of clear consensus” among University management

Anwen Baker
NEWS EDITOR

UNIVERSITY OFFICIALS have confirmed that proposed plans for semesterisation at York have been postponed, after a “lack of clear consensus on the right course of action” according to the University Registrar.

David Duncan, University Registrar and Secretary, told *Nouse* that “There are no plans to implement semesterisation in the near future.”

He said he was unable to be more specific in terms of a time frame but according to Kallum Taylor, YUSU President, the proposal has been delayed for at least a year.

Taylor confirmed that the University were not currently discussing semesterisation, saying: “We were told that the big semesterisation question would be delayed for a year, but there’s absolutely nothing about it doing the rounds.”

“It’s not yet in the current draft of the University Strategy too... And to be honest it’s a pretty huge thing—impacting on literally everything here.”

“So if it is being lined up, it needs talking about as early and as

openly as possible.”

Koen Lamberts, the new Vice Chancellor, had previously indicated that semesterisation was a viable choice for York, saying that there were “compelling arguments in favour” of the move, but that any issues would have to be “ironed out” and Sir Christopher O’Donnell, Chair of the University Council had stated that “ultimately, we will have to move in that direction”.

The semester system would consist of two fifteen-week semesters instead of the three ten-week terms that the University currently has. It was first proposed in 2012, with University officials signalling that the move was inevitable.

Student feedback was generally negative, with most saying that semesterisation would have a negative effect on their educational experience. Under the plans the first term would run from 2 September to 21 December, with the second term starting in early January and ending on 6 June. There would be no Easter holiday during this time, only a long weekend and some assessments

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Student £300 in debt after YUSU blunder

Vee Wells
DEPUTY NEWS EDITOR

SAMUEL BOURNE, the Chair of the York Physics society, has revealed that he is £300 in debt after paying to fund the 2013 National Physics Colloquium out of his own pocket. The third-year Physics with Astrophysics student has not received reimbursement from YUSU

for the money he spent on funding the colloquium, despite YUSU agreeing to fund the event.

YUSU had originally agreed to help fund the event, but communication problems meant that Bourne had to come up with the funding himself or risk the event being cancelled.

After the event took place in No-

ember, Bourne repeatedly contacted YUSU to inform them about the problems he was facing in getting the money back. He claims to have emailed Anna McGivern, YUSU Activities Officer, about the issue on multiple occasions, as well as

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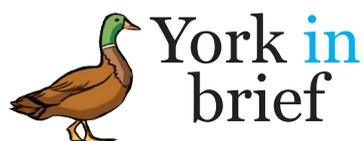
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News



York in brief

York rank mid-table in University Sex League

The University has ranked 64th in a sex league table published by studentbeans.com. The table is based on the average number of sexual partners students reported having since starting higher education. The average number for York students was 4.35, while York St John University came in 12 places higher with an average of 4.8 sexual partners. The University of Brighton topped the table with an average of 10.59 partners, while Bath Spa University came bottom with 2.57. A third year Physics student said: "The results are probably skewed by the fact that people still see sex as taboo. I reckon York are getting their rocks off far more than that."

Hindu epic to be performed in June

The University's Sekat Patak and the Yorkshire Pencak Silak will join forces on 4 June for a concert in the Sir Jack Lyons Concert Hall. The Sekat Patak, an ensemble of traditional gamelan instruments, was formed in 1981. Pencak Silat is an Indonesian martial art, often practiced with musical accompaniment. Its artistic aspects are rarely explored in the UK, where it is mainly learned as a form of self-defence. The performance, which will consist of fight scenes from Hindu epic *Mahabharata*, will be the first of its kind in Yorkshire.

York student wins entrepreneur award

Alex Kontos, a second year Electronic Engineering student, has won the Duke of York Young Entrepreneur Award for his web browser Waterfox, which now has more than three million users worldwide. Speaking about the award, Kontos said: "It is a great feeling to be able to represent the University of York in such a positive light... I could not have done it without the wonderful members of the Careers team who helped instil the confidence I needed to progress as far as I had."

Reporting by Vee Wells

>> Lead story continued from front

would have to be held before Christmas. The annual Roses tournament could not be held, as it would not be possible to coordinate dates with Lancaster University. In a survey over two thirds of students stated a preference for the current term system.

One second year Politics student expressed their delight with the University's decision: "I think semesterisation is utterly farcical. It doesn't match up with many other universities' holidays or term systems. Why must York insist on being different to every other Uni?" "I'm glad they have decided to postpone the decision. Hopefully the University will actually listen to the students for once and keep the three term year."

Oxford Brookes, Edinburgh and Newcastle are among the universities with a two semester system. When semesterisation was first introduced at Newcastle students came out in protest against the move.

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having face-to-face meetings with her "probably three times" from January onwards. During this time Bourne was only refunded £200 of the £500 total that YUSU had agreed to provide.

However, immediately after *Nouse* brought the issue to YUSU, Bourne received an email detailing repayment from the YUSU Societies Co-Ordinator. According to YUSU the remaining money will be paid to Bourne by the time *Nouse* has gone to print. *Nouse* attempted to contact McGovern about the funding issue, but she was unavailable for comment.

However, Kallum Taylor, YUSU President, denied being aware of the Physics society's predicament, saying: "We weren't aware of Samuel's case until *Nouse* has [sic] actually got in touch with us so there's been some confusion, somewhere along the line. I'm now told that we've spoken with him and will be sorting him out."

The National Physics Collo-

quium, which took place on 23 November 2013, was attended by 300 people including students from the universities of Lancaster, Sheffield and Edinburgh. It was the University's first student-led conference on the subject.

"The money was spent on travel costs and an honorarium for Sean Carroll, porters costs, food, and night security because we had people staying over," said Bourne.

Sean Carroll, a researcher and physicist from the California Institute of Technology, was the only external speaker at the colloquium, and delivered a lecture on the workings of the Large Hadron Collider at CERN.

Bourne explained: "The travel grant application process [kept] the funds away from the society account for 4 months.

"However, the biggest fault was with the ticketing: YUSU wouldn't fund until we had tickets, and then messed up our tickets until the week before and wouldn't sort it in time. [At the time] I received £100 from the YUSU development grant to

cover food, but that was it.

"I also changed the plans and floated the colloquium on the university public lecture company for free, rather than charge £5 as I had intended."

Despite the problems of last year's event, plans are already being made for the 2014 colloquium. However, the society will not be relying on YUSU for funding. "We will be using YuStart for the most part," Bourne said. "But if that doesn't work, then I'll apply for a grant from the IOP [Institute Of Physics]."

YuStart has a positive track record so far with science projects. Over £7000 has been raised for the development of the Astrocampus, which is the most successful campaign on the website so far.

The PhysSoc Committee has changed since the colloquium. While Bourne has retained his position as Chair, ex-Ordinary Member Sam Jarvis has become the Treasurer. Jarvis is reticent to talk about the upcoming colloquium, saying: "We're only just starting organising it for this year."

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NOUSE

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Tambako the Jaguar

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International student told to use hardship fund to pay library fines

Thomas Witherow
SENIOR CORRESPONDENT

HARD-UP INTERNATIONAL student Junie Joseph has been left distressed after being told by University staff to apply to the hardship fund, just to pay off a £9 fine for overdrawn key texts.

She was fined after taking three key texts out and forgetting to return them on time.

Junie, a Human Rights masters student, struggles to make ends meet at the end of the month, and has already had to apply for one hardship fund payment this year, a process she found "humiliating and demoralizing".

To apply to the hardship fund you must complete several pages of forms with a detailed account of your incomes and outgoings, including benefits, grants and scholarships.

She struggles to find money to travel to meetings associated with her degree, and job interviews. As

an MA student she does not have the same rights to government

“In a case like this they should make an exception and waive it. It’s hardly going to send the library into financial ruin”

Dan Whitmore
YUSU Academic Officer

loans. She was shocked at the University’s unsympathetic approach to her situation.

Dan Whitmore, YUSU Academic Officer, said: “It seems a little harsh on the library’s part that they aren’t letting this fine slide when this student is clearly under im-

mense pressure financially.

“I can understand that they obviously don’t want to find themselves with a flood of students who are, generally speaking, constantly short on cash claiming that they can’t afford to pay their fines.

“But in a case like this they should make the exception and waive it. It’s hardly going to send the library into financial ruin.”

Stephen Town, the University’s Director of Information, wrote to Junie in a private email: “The simplest way to avoid hardship is to return books on time.

“If you have a genuine hardship case then there are other routes for support as my staff have suggested.

“I would suggest the remedy is in your own hands.”

Junie told *Nouse* how even when describing her circumstances library staff would not change their stance: “I have talked with three to five other people from the library and none were willing to help.

“I am on a student loan from overseas. When I say it is not financially feasible for me to go outside of my budget I am being literal.

“My course mates organise nights out often but I cannot go - and don’t go - it is best to stay home so that I don’t get myself in trouble.

“Studying here is not an easy task - it is financially draining and I worry about how I will make it to the end of the month.

“It makes me less effective as a student.”

“It’s absurd,” Joanna Moffat, a third year student, said. “Some members of the university staff need



JUNIE JOSEPH

Junie Joseph found the hardship fund application “humiliating”

a degree in customer/student care. The university needs to be more understanding.”

Andy Mulholland, a supervisor on the Library staff told *Nouse*: “She’s inconvenienced other people. I mean you either know the rules or you don’t.”

Poppy Young, a Philosophy student, said: “If she is managing her money well and can prove it, there

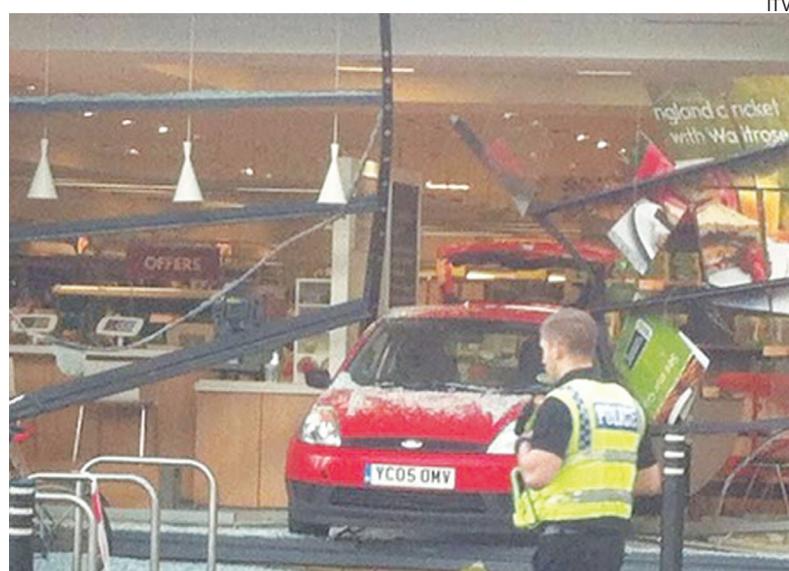
should definitely be some sort of special circumstances allowance. It’s just a bit cruel and petty.”

Sophie Gadd, third year English and History student, said: “It’s only a tenner. I’d say the library should wipe the fine, in the spirit of the end of year.”

Financial support and advice is available from the Student Welfare Advisers in Market Square.



Library staff have recommended that Junie take out a hardship fund



ITV

Grading changes leave postgrads outraged

Rosie Shields
EDITOR

POSTGRADUATE students have been left outraged after it is revealed that changes to Masters courses will only affect future students.

The University Teaching Committee (UTC) has passed an amendment which will change the criteria for Merits in taught postgraduate programmes. The changes, which will be enforced from the next academic year, will mean that students will be able to gain more than a pass if they fail one module.

Currently if a postgraduate student fails one module their entire degree is capped at a pass mark.

One student told *Nouse*: “including the module which I have failed, meaning I can’t get more than a pass, I have an average of 67.375, including a 20 credit module with 78 and a 10 credit module with 83. The exam I failed was 10 credits- out of 180. I still have 60 credits (dissertation)

left, due in September.”

If the amendment had been passed immediately on March 5, it would have been in action before the next major examination period.

One student noted that “All MA students (not combined) hand in their dissertations in September and are worth at least one third. There is still a long time before our classifications are determined and a significant amount of our degree left to make up for anyone who may have slacked a little after being demotivated thanks to the current regulation preventing higher than a pass being achieved.

“If they wanted to avoid the demotivation and subsequent complaints that they argue prevent them from implementing the policy this year, they should have released the policy with immediate effect.

“Additionally, looking back through UTC’s and its sub-committee’s- the Standing Committee- minutes, the regulation was

brought in to prevent students from failing all of their taught modules, passing the dissertation and consequently passing the Masters. However, this regulation is the other extreme. Why is 1/18 of my degree capping my classification at a pass, when 1/6 of my results so far are high distinctions and the rest merits.”

Dan Whitmore, YUSU Academic Officer, said “I am really disappointed that the SCA hasn’t rolled this policy out with immediate effect. When I asked that it be amended to allow current students to benefit I was told it wasn’t possible as some students might complain that, having failed a module at the beginning of their course, they didn’t try to do well in the assessments which followed. This is, of course, ridiculous.

“I find it particularly patronising in the context of the University constantly talking about how they recruit an ‘excellent calibre of student’ yet seeming to have very little faith in their work ethic.”

Smash the Waitriarchy

The Waitrose on Foss Island Road played host to the emergency services on Saturday after an elderly woman reversed her car through a huge glass window. One member of staff received minor injuries. The driver was unharmed. Dean Hickey, former Goodricke Chair, commented “Worst news ever. Spiritual home destroyed”. The shop has since reopened.

News



Constantine Redesign

Constantine College has unveiled a new logo after its first one was criticised for using an image of Emperor Hadrian instead of the College's namesake. The new logo, designed by Kieran McHugh, features the College's initials and the year "2014" written in Roman numerals on a magenta shield.

Cat Santini, the Constantine Chair, confirmed that magenta will be the College's official colour, and not purple as was previously stated.

The College, which will have 620 founding members, plans to work with societies, student-run businesses and outside organisations, holding events to aid students' personal development.

It was also revealed that Rob Aitken, the current Derwent College Provost, will be the Constantine College Principal from 1 August.

NUS referendum set for week 7

Anwen Baker
NEWS EDITOR

A REFERENDUM on whether YUSU should remain affiliated to the NUS is due to be held in week 7.

This follows the recent disaffiliation of the University of Oxford's Student Union from the NUS, joining other universities such as Imperial College London, Queen Margaret London, and Southampton.

Tom Morgan, a third year politics student, is running the No campaign, arguing that York should disaffiliate. He said: "the fact that universities such as Oxford, Southampton and Imperial have left the NUS just shows how more and more students are realising how undemocratic and absurd the Union is."

"We aren't allowed to know half the policies they make concerning us, they make alcohol more expensive and they are a breeding ground for career politician labour students."

Kallum Taylor, YUSU President, is set to run the Yes campaign. He argued why YUSU should re-

main affiliated to the NUS, telling *Nouse*: "The financial reasons are strong, and the political ones are acceptable... But you're never always going to get everything you want in an organisation with over 7 million members!"

"People who use one or two unsatisfactory things the NUS might do to push for exit are being really, really unreasonable and likely chasing their own ideological fantasy."

"It's simple really; overall, we're much better off being in and playing an active role in the National Union of Students."

YUSU faced criticism last year after their decision to take part in the NUS organised DEMO2012. Around 300 out of 5000 protesters were York students. An NUS report on the demonstration stated that "there was no measurable positive impact of the demo and no changes in local or national policy that can be attributed to it" despite costing £155,000.

Voting opens Wednesday week 7 and closes Wednesday week 8.



The Oxford University Union voted to disaffiliate from the NUS last week

The JB Morrell photo mystery

Yvonne Efstathiou
NEWS REPORTER

ON THE 16th May, Kingma Ma, a third year History and Economics student found a "cute childhood photo taken in the 1990s on Kodak film", tucked inside the cover of a book in the JB Morrell library. He then shared the picture on Facebook, hoping to find the original owner. "I discovered the picture imbedded on page 73 inside a book- Marsh, 'Protest and Political Consciousness'. I was using it for my History essay when ironically, a piece of living history fell", said Kingma when contacted by *Nouse*.

Ma says that he wants to find the owner of the photo as "since it is a family photo, it can have a lot of sentimental value, especially for international students studying far away from home". According to various sources, the picture seems to have been taken in either Russia or Eastern Europe.

Jaro Ulyanoff from Latvia, a third year Physics student said that the child in the picture "definitely looks Russian, Samovar on the left, that sofa and the power cable". While there is a big pile of newspa-

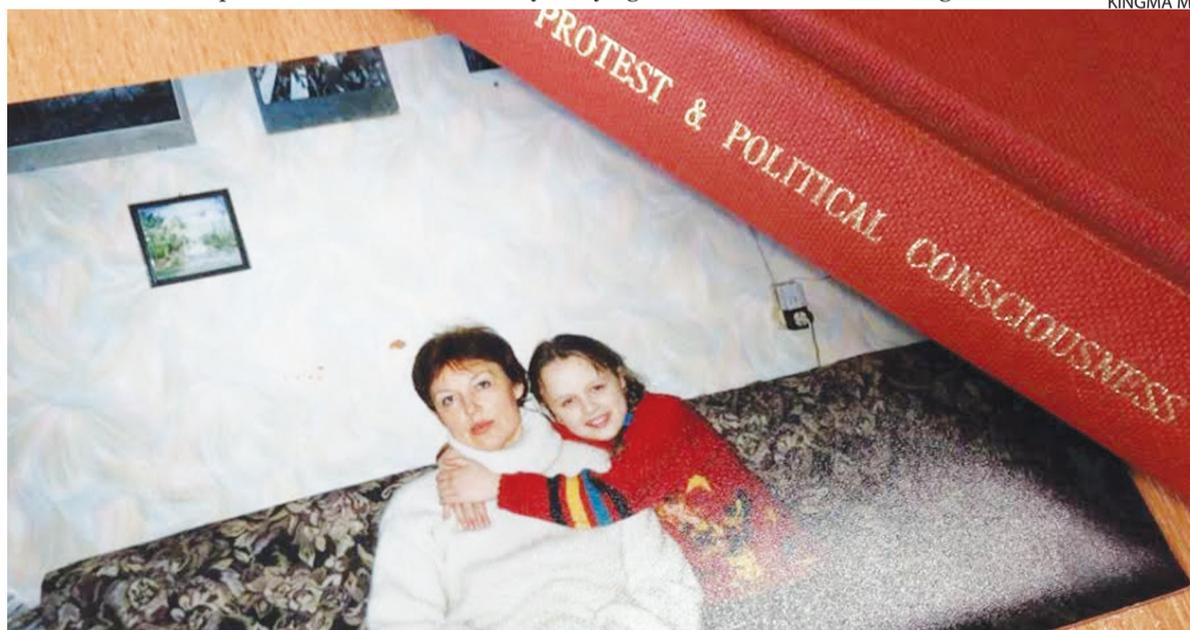
pers to the left of the sofa, it is not easy to identify the language due to the small print size.

There is no evidence that the picture is of a current York student. When asked if he is optimistic that the owner of the picture will be

found, Ma said that "It is an old book with a 3 week loan written by a pretty invisible academic so I doubt it is going to be as popular as 'Das Kapital'. Therefore, there is a pretty slim chance that the student could be currently studying at York but it's

still worth a shot, especially as the photo is in very good condition".

Protest and Political Consciousness is classified under the H. 2.44 MAR library code. The picture is now at the library help desk and the owner can go and claim it.



According to one York student the photo appears to have been taken in Russia or somewhere in Eastern Europe

York Labour disaffiliate from Labour Students

Alfie Packham
NEWS REPORTER

THE UNIVERSITY of York Labour Club (UYLC) has voted to disaffiliate from Labour Students, the youth wing of the Labour party, following "concerns with levels of democracy" within the organisation.

The split comes following Labour Students' refusal to allow a debate on the use of One Member One Vote (OMOV) at their national conference on 21 February.

The motion was put forward by UYLC and the Labour Clubs of Salford and Hull. OMOV would allow party members to vote and determine policy.

Caitlin O'Kelly, Chair of UYLC at the time that they disaffiliated, said: "At the end of last term we held an EGM where over 75 per cent of the membership voted to disaffiliate from national Labour Students."

"We did not take this decision lightly but believe national Labour Students requires democratic reform in order to be truly representative of its members. We remain absolutely committed to the Labour Party and to a Labour victory in 2015."

Tom Morgan, another UYLC member responded to the news: "I'm very pleased that York disaffiliated from Labour Students. The past chairs of Labour Students have been awful and very rude to the clubs in the North especially. The way Labour Students is run is completely undemocratic."

Eleven Labour Clubs including UYLC co-signed a letter which outlined their discontent at the "unconstitutional and undemocratic" dismissal of OMOV.

The letter states: "Blocking York, Salford and Hull's motions is arbitrary, it is unconstitutional, it is undemocratic, and it flies in the face of what Ed Miliband is attempting to achieve in his reforms to the Labour Party."

It went on to say: "if the Committee's decision is not reversed, our clubs will reluctantly be forced to seriously consider disaffiliating from Labour Students after National Conference."

A Labour Students spokesperson responded to the open letter saying: "Following an extensive consultation with members, a vote was held at Labour Students National Council in December which resolved that the voting system should not be changed to OMOV and that this matter would not be considered again until after the next General Election, a decision agreed by 75 per cent of delegates."

"Labour Students is a democratic organisation, and the Labour Students Steering Committee agreed to uphold the decision of National Council and ruled the submitted motion was not accepted."

UYLC's decision to disaffiliate follows an announcement by Hull University Labour Club of their disaffiliation from Labour Students on 11 March.

Students campaign for University fair pay

Amy Wong
DEPUTY NEWS EDITOR

THE UNIVERSITY of York's Green Party and Liberal Democrats societies are working together to campaign for fairer pay at the University.

The campaign is part of a national movement by the Young Greens, which was introduced to York by the University's Green Party at the start of May.

It aims to ensure the lowest paid worker at the University earns at least ten per cent of the salary of the highest paid worker. The current ratio between the highest and lowest salary at the University is 16.49:1, meaning that the highest paid employee earns more than 16 times the lowest.

The organisers of the Fair Pay Campaign also want directly employed workers to be paid the Living Wage. The Centre For Research in Social Policy calculated this to be £7.65 per hour for people living outside London.

According to a University spokesperson, the University "made a unilateral decision last year to raise the salaries of the lowest paid employees to a rate higher than that recommended by the Living Wage", which campaigners have recognised. However, they want contractors to pay their workers the living wage as well.

The University explained they "prefer" to use direct labour because

it "allows [them] to ensure that employees are paid fairly", adding that its employees "enjoy a range of benefits, including generous pension provision and holiday and sick leave entitlement".

Supporters of the Fair Pay Campaign have also said that the salaries of the Vice Chancellor and senior management should be published.

However, the University told *Nouse*: "The Vice Chancellor's salary is published annually in the University's financial statements, while the salaries of senior managers are also listed in bands in the same document."

The financial statements for the last academic year show that the Vice Chancellor received a salary of £231,016, alongside £5,168 in benefits in kind. There was also £40,767 in lieu of pension contributions, which ceased to be made in December 2012.

The Fair Pay Campaign's Change.org petition, which will be presented to senior management, has currently been signed by 72 people out of a necessary 500, whilst their Facebook page has 122 'likes'.

The campaign is backed by the University of York branch of the University and College Union (UCU) and several YUSU officers, including Kallum Taylor, YUSU President, but it is hoped YUSU will hold a referendum which will allow them to officially support the campaign.

When asked, Taylor commented on the proposal, saying: "I'm more than happy to lend any support and involvement with this campaign. The change has to start somewhere, and we can really set a

best practice to be proud of here."

According to the University of York Green Party, they are "looking for more societies to join the campaign, we currently have the Lib Dems on board and are waiting on

a response from Labour."

Interested students and societies should contact the society at greenparty@yusu.org for more information, or check out the campaign website, fairpaycampus.co.uk.



The York Fair Pay Campaign has been organised by the University's Green Party and the Liberal Democrats



JOACHIM S. MULLER

Tiny tigers

Three Sumatran tiger cubs have been released into their enclosure at Flamingo Land in Ryedale, North Yorkshire. The two month old cubs have been named Kuasa, Mentari and Bulan.

It is estimated that there are only around 440 Sumatran tigers left in the wild, so the birth of the Flamingo Lands tigers equals an almost one per cent increase in the population levels.

Dr Andy Marshall, a lecturer from the Environment department at the University of York and Director of Conservation Science at Flamingo Land, is set to travel to Su-

matra next year to investigate ways of improving the Sumatran environment and furthering the protection of the animals in their natural habitat. The destruction of their habitat is the greatest threat to the animals, followed by poaching.

Dr Marshall said "This is a significant event for tigers worldwide. The viable wild Sumatran tiger population is below 300 individuals and an approximately equivalent number form part of the global conservation breeding efforts by zoos." The cubs will stay with their mother for up to two years before being moved to other zoos.

YUSU invite Willets to hear DSA concerns

Rosie Shields
EDITOR

YUSU AND York St John's Student Union have sent an open letter to David Willets, Minister for Universities, voicing their concerns about proposed changes to Disabled Students' Allowance.

The Government statement, which is yet to be finalised as policy, focuses on the need to change the current system due to limited public funding.

The open letter calls for more transparency from the government on the policy statement, particularly in regard to how the classification of different levels of disability will affect certain students. Willets has been invited to both the York student unions to discuss the changes and allow students to relay their concerns.

Letters have also been sent to Hon. Mr Bayley MP and Hon. Mr Sturdy MP, calling for them to gather information on the exact policy and share the Unions' beliefs about the importance of DSA.

Thomas Ron, Disabled Students Officer, told *Nouse* that "DSA is tremendously important to students at this university."

"Now, while the policy of the Government is not yet clear, in that we have just a statement, many students as well as disability services are concerned about what might

happen.

"I hope that these letters will ensure that our MPs will consult with us, inform us, and take the concerns that we have to heart. I also hope that Mr. Willets comes down to hear what students have to say, put to rest any confusion we may have, and hear about what we are worried about.

"Since the Government is only just starting this policy there is still time for our voice to be heard and for the government to take it on board and I hope they will do so."

The full Government proposal states that they will no longer pay for standard specification computers and will only finance higher specification computers if they are needed purely for reasons of disability, not for course related issues. Some students with Specific Learning Difficulties will still get support through DSA if they are considered complex.

They will also continue to fund some Non-Medical Help specialists for complex cases. There will also be a change in the definition of disability in line with the Equality Act 2010 as well as a requirement to register for providers.

These new changes are expected to come in on September 1 2015. All current receivers of DSA will continue on the same system for 2015 to 2016.

News

Tang Hall lottery grant now open to students

Sofia Geraghty
NEWS REPORTER

STUDENTS ARE being invited to pitch their community engagement ideas to secure up to a £500 grant from the National Lottery Fund.

The Tang Hall Big Local is a £1 million lottery fund awarded to Tang Hall that seeks to develop the local area and make "a massive and lasting difference over 10 years", developed entirely by the community. In its initial stages the THBL has been awarded £20,000, part of which is being used for the community grants scheme.

The grant is intended to improve living conditions in the Tang Hall area. Big Local is offering grants to local groups willing to organise and run projects or events that will benefit the Tang Hall community. Students will have the

chance to gain experience in project and event management.

Tang Hall is one of the most popular areas for students, being close to the University and having relatively cheap rent.

Despite the high population of students there have been some problems regarding student-resident relations.

According to a 2013 YUSU survey 40.2 per cent of students didn't feel valued in the area, whilst 61.9 per cent of residents claimed to have never met their student neighbours. Noise and improper waste disposal have been identified as issues within the community.

Suggestions for events have included the formation of a Tang Hall sports teams, a football tournament, and a street party. The deadline for applications is 31 May.



Tang Hall and Heworth as seen looking east from the top of York Minster

Disability sport to be represented at Roses

Beth Jakubowski
DEPUTY EDITOR

DISABILITY SPORT is set to be represented at next year's Roses tournament for the first time ever.

Sitting volleyball and wheelchair basketball are scheduled to be contested during the 2015 Roses tournament, which is going to be held in York.

Thomas Ron, YUSU Disabled Students Officer, told *Nouse*: "The idea of disability sport is to provide a medium where all people can play sports together and no one is hampered by disability. It will allow students who otherwise could never play any sports to represent their university and play at Roses."

Roses 2015 will be the first opportunity for disabled athletes to compete in the tournament. Cass Brown, York Sport President, introduced a Key Contacts scheme this year, which emphasises inclusivity and accessibility in sport.

A sitting volleyball club has been running at York since January. The club was founded by Elsa Mersalian and is open to the general public as well as students.

Brown told *Nouse*: "It is mainly thanks to the strong relationship the York Sport Union and the Disabled Student's Network have that this is happening. Above all though, the implementation of disability sport at Roses carries an important message for both current and prospective students: no matter your ability or disability, sport at York is for everyone."



The 2015 Roses tournament will include wheelchair basketball

Listings

MUSIC

31 May - Basement Open Mic Night. York City Screen. 7.30pm. Free
11 June - University Chamber Choir Concert. Sir Jack Lyons Concert Hall. 7.30pm. £3-£11.
13 June - The Chimera Ensemble. Sir Jack Lyons Concert Hall. 7.30pm. £3-£6.

STAGE

27 May - David Copperfield. York Theatre Royal. 7.45pm. £10-£12
28 May - The Thankful Village. Thorganby Village Hall. 7.30pm. £5-£9.50
29-30 May - Away From Home. York Theatre Royal. 7.45pm. £10-£12
30 May-1 June - 'Allo 'Allo. The Drama Barn. 7.30pm. £4-£5.50
2 June - Death in the Barn. The Drama Barn. Free
5-7 June - A Clockwork Orange. The Drama Barn. £4-£5.50
5-7 June - The Book. York Theatre Royal. 7.45pm. £10-£12
6-8 June - Mystery Plays For Our Age. Various times. St Helen's Church and St Olave's Church
9 June - Drunk as a Bard. The Drama Barn. Free

LECTURES

27 May - Edward Snowden: Civil disobedience for an age of total surveillance. Bowland auditorium, Berrick Saul building. 5pm. Free
28 May - Understanding audiences. YH/001b, Research Centre for the Social Sciences. 9.30am. Free
29 May - Anatomising the genome: Chromosomes and the search for disease. 6pm. Free
03 June - York medieval summer series. K/133, King's Manor. Free
03 June - From page to place and back again. AEW/003, Alcuin East Wing. 6.30pm. Free

FILM

28 May - The Wind Rises. York City Screen. 8.30pm. £5.50 student ticket
6 June - Inside Llewyn Davis. York Student Cinema. P/X/001. 7.30pm. £3.
9 June - The Monuments Men. York Student Cinema. P/X/001. 7.30pm. £3
12-13 June - 300: Rise of an Empire. York Student Cinema. P/X/001. 7.30pm. £3

COMEDY

5 June - So You Think You're Funny? The Duchess. 7pm. £14

SPOKEN WORD

27 May - John Greening poetry reading. The Golden Fleece. 7.30pm. £2 or free for members of Poetry Society
28 May - Words and Whippets. York Theatre Royal. 7.45pm. £6

GENERAL INTEREST

4 June - Gamelan Sekar Petak. Sir Jack Lyons Concert Hall. 7.30pm. £3-£8
6 June - D-Day Dance. York Theatre Royal. 7.30pm. £17



12-13 June - 300: Rise of an Empire. York Student Cinema. P/X/001. 7.30pm. £3

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Home students must aim higher

Micky Ross



Home students are not prepared for an internationalised economy

KATIE JACKSON

By its own, our university endeavours to “prepare students to succeed in the modern global economy”. However, as the international market becomes more and more competitive, what is really being done to achieve this?

The University’s own success in the global economy is quite evident, as it has attracted huge cohorts of overseas students as part of the internationalisation process. These cohorts have of course created a lot of financial revenue, but the visiting students themselves provide more than that. They have brought other world views, differing experiences and an opportunity for all to expand their cultural horizons.

As the benefactor of all this, York has been pretty lucky because the vast majority of these students have been, to some extent, internationally competent upon arrival. But then that’s not a huge surprise. These individuals have spent a long time learning English, the world’s de facto common language. A lot

of them already have experience of studying abroad. And they have all, to varying degrees, been influenced by British and American popular culture.

There is still a feeling among these international students, how-

“It would seem that a lot of home students have nowhere near the intercultural competencies of overseas students”

ever, that they’re not quite good enough. And thus they enrol on lots of courses provided by the University to help students become better communicators and better academics.

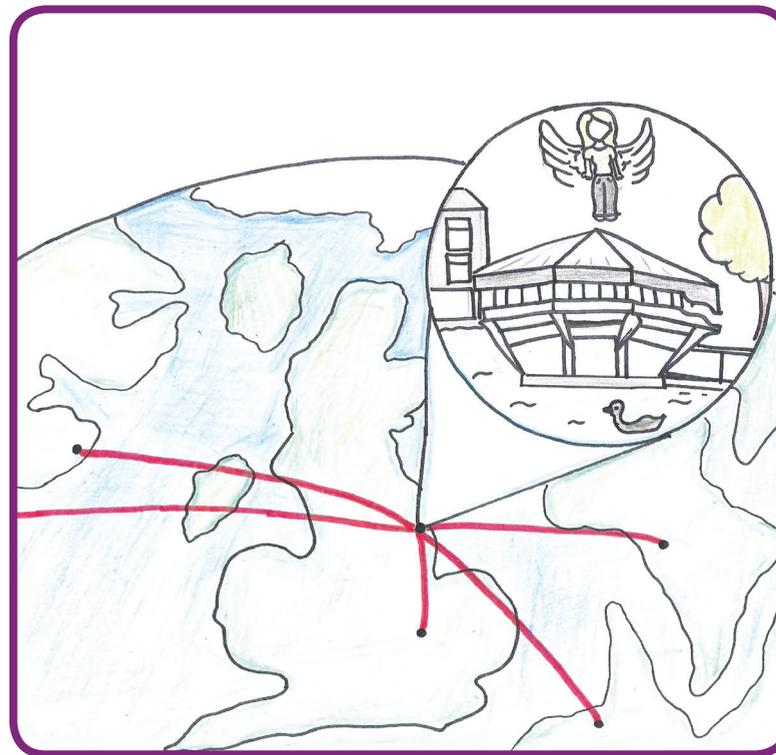
And this is great! I truly believe in high standards for students, and the University believes in excellence across the board. We must all be

better. Better thinkers, better contributors, and taking into account globalisation, better internationalists.

But as the international students continue moving towards excellence, where are the home students? What engagement do they have with the internationalisation process? It would seem that a lot of home students have nowhere near the intercultural competencies of overseas students. Nor do they have the enthusiasm to get there.

I’m not blaming home students for this situation. What I’m saying is that the University needs to expand its horizons when aiming for internationalisation.

We know we need to produce internationally competent graduates, and yes, our international students are pretty much there. However, there is little expectation of, or support for, home students to achieve such aims. Let’s start to recognise that internationalisation begins at home.



Sir, I think we’re missing the point

Kate Mitchell

Graphics Director



Fighting to get Sir and Miss out of the classroom should not be a priority

Jennifer Coates, a professor of English Language and Linguistics at the University of Roehampton has lamented the use of ‘Sir’, and ‘Miss’, to address teachers in UK schools, calling the practice “depressing and sexist.”

According to Coates, equating male teachers to a knight is unfair when female teachers are addressed by a title that simply means “unmarried”.

The most ‘liked’ comments on

a BBC article on the subject are dismissive of her claims, with one married female teacher stating she is “very happy for pupils to call [her] Miss”.

It is easy to see how a professor of Linguistics would be more in-tune to, and bothered by, the problematic nature of quirks of language use than most. Someone who has dedicated their professional life to studying language is far more likely to be attuned to its uses in everyday

life - to the point of over-analysis. Equally, it is easy to understand the argument that it is a non-issue, considering the children in question would rarely interpret the words they were using to have connotations of inequality.

This issue has interesting arguments on both sides. Ultimately however, it is, as Coates’ naysayers have suggested, hard to argue that its use has any direct negative impact. Realistically, fighting a theo-

retical problem should not be a priority - especially as the teachers themselves do not seem to mind.

There are other issues that should be addressed first. From un-

“Fighting a theoretical problem should not be a priority- especially as the teachers themselves do not seem to mind”

equal pay to cat calls and sexual assault, the Everyday sexism Twitter and blog draw our attention to the real problems.

The stories sent in to the project show time and time again examples of women who have been abused, made to feel uncomfortable or vulnerable or felt pressured into conforming into gender stereotypes.

These are the issues which society needs to work towards eradicating. Large or small problems, these examples make far more of an impact on women’s lives than the different connotations behind ‘Sir’ or ‘Miss’.

It is hard to endorse Coates’ suggestions when it is difficult to see what change forcing children

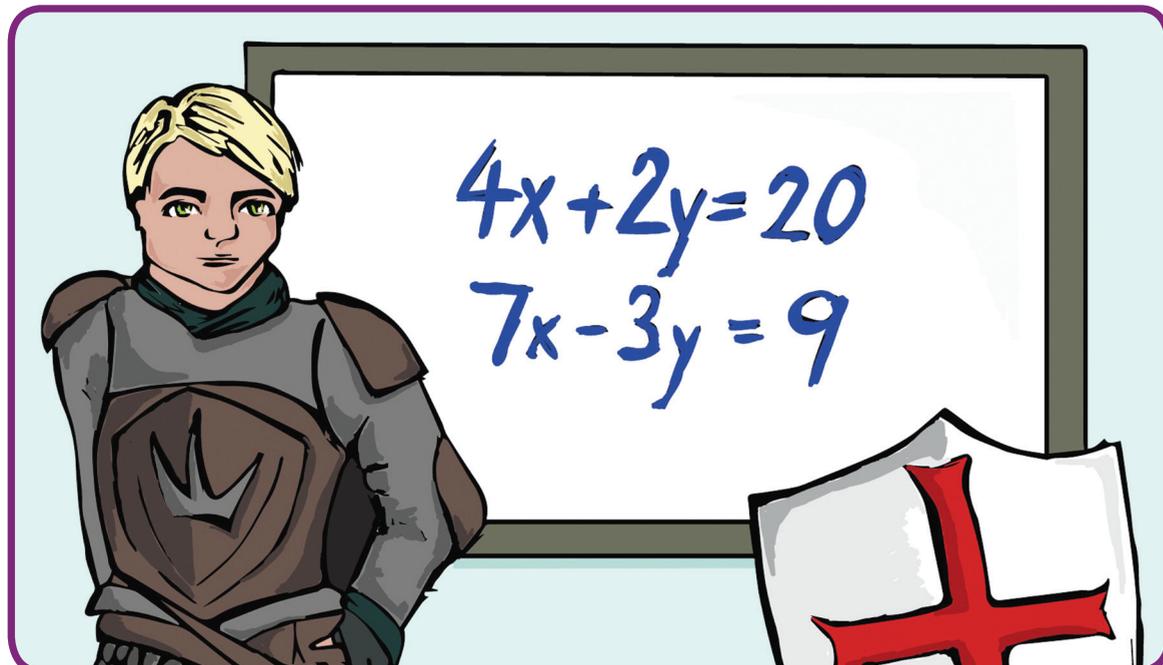
to completely alter their way of addressing teachers would bring about when the teachers in question have never articulated any problem with the way things currently are. Educating children to respect each other in meaningful and practical ways is far more important.

If teachers collectively rose up to protest against the use of the terms ‘Sir’, and ‘Miss’, then I would be convinced that it is a legitimate issue, worthy of our time and effort. However, if no one directly involved is getting hurt and offended, it should not be a primary focus right now.

In an ideal world, I would like to support her. The fact that she is speaking out about an issue which

“However, if no one directly involved is getting hurt and offended, it should not be a primary focus right now”

concerns her is to be commended. However, there are too many battles to fight for us to focus on everything, and the ones that promote substantial, practical change need to be prioritised.



KATE MITCHELL

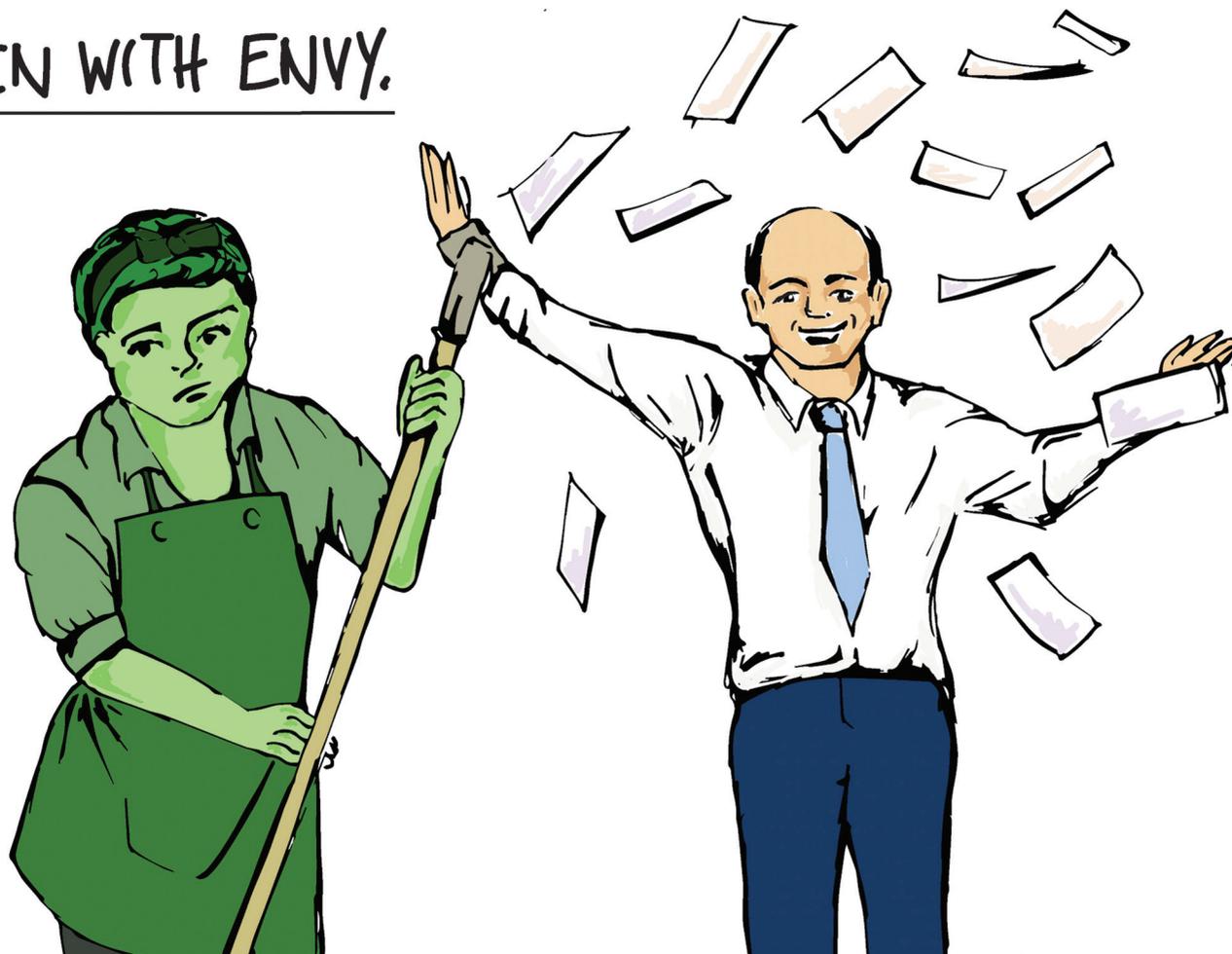
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VIEWS FROM THE OUSE



KATE MITCHELL

GREEN WITH ENVY.



Close the staff wage gap

V.S. Wells

Deputy News Editor



The unfair distribution of wages across University staff must be evened out

The University of York Green Party is leading the campus campaign for fairer wages for university staff, and it's about time. The strikes of the last year or so embody to the dissatisfaction and disappointment which define the relationship between the University's senior managers, and the rest of its employees.

In keeping with the national Green Party's policy to introduce a "living wage" rather than a minimum wage, the campaign for fairer pay asks that the University pays all of its staff at least £7.65 an hour. The Young Green (the youth movement from The Green Party) have taken up the cause, campaigning on campuses across the country for universities to increase the amount they pay all their employees. According to the Fair Pay Campus website, 12 universities have joined

contracted workers are also given a living wage.

The current minimum wage for adults over the age of 21 is £6.31, representing an annual income of £13,781. The question is how many contracted employees are earning less than a living wage, and thus how much it would cost to increase their pay by £3,000 a year.

However, that is not the only aim of the campaign. There is also a move to reduce the gap between the highest and lowest pay, so the highest-earning employee earns no more than ten times the lowest-paid. According to the last figures released, the Vice-Chancellor's salary is just over £231,000 per year, excluding another £46,000 in "benefits in kind" and money given in lieu of pension contributions.

Clearly, it's going to cost a lot more money to raise the lowest wage in the company – and here, we must remember, York may be a university, but it is also a business – from £13,781 per annum to £23,101.60. If this policy were to take hold, therefore, the only reasonable solution would be to cut Vice-Chancellor Koen Lamberts' pay to a still-reasonable £167,076 per year, saving almost £70,000 in the process. After all, he's only been here since January, and we don't know how good a job he's going to do: perhaps he should be on financial probation?

However, as we are constantly reminded, the country is only just recovering from economic crisis. Rising rates of inflation are causing wages to be worth far less than they were even five years ago, and many workers have had to accept pay freezes or less-than-inflation-rate

“Equality on Marx's ideological level is probably impossible, not to mention impractical”

rises, making them – in real terms – worse off than they were previously.

Obviously, the debate about pay is not new. According to an article in The Guardian in 2012, "The UK's highest earning 1 per cent have seen incomes rise by 117 per cent in 25 years, compared to just 47 per cent among lower earning groups." In other words, since 1987, the wage gap between the top- and bottom-paid jobs has increased significantly, with the rich getting richer.

The report compared the nation's top 1 per cent of earners with the bottom 10 per cent, and estimated the inequality ratio to be 8.72:1

While the University of York is not a perfect microcosm of society in general, it is striking that our economic inequality ratio sits at 16.49:1, almost double the national average.

The move towards fairer pay

is supported by the York branch of the UCU (University and College Union), the same people who organized strikes and walk-out for academic staff this year due to disputes over pay. First year Politics students had a Marxism lecture was cancelled as it fell on the day of one of these boycotts: their lecturer sent out an email apologising, and said it was "what Marx would have wanted".

Those at the lower end of the pay scale at York have every right to be angry. I know I would, especially if my senior management took home more in non-salary benefits than my entirely yearly wage. Complete financial equality on Marx's ideological level is probably impossible, not to mention impractical, but a reducing of the discrepancy between high and low earners would certainly be a good place to start.

After all, every employee of this university is vital in ensuring it runs well, from coffee-addled PhD seminar tutors to the cleaners who brave student kitchens every day of the week. It is the staff on the lower-end of the pay spectrum who we will probably interact with the most, and do the most to make sure our day-to-day lives run as smoothly as possible.

If dealing with hungover students every day of the week doesn't warrant a fair wage, then I don't know what does.

Let's all go win the Roses! WHO'S WITH ME? Well, THAT went well, didn't it?

Christ. Thanks to the delayed nature of print media, that little proclamation came out about two days AFTER Lancaster managed to give us more beats-per-minute than Phat Fridays.

Luckily, this week's screed is on a far less flexible topic – exams! Everybody's talking about exams – friends, acquaintances, local wildlife. Burgeoning alien civilizations are sending probes out to Omicron Persei VIII to ask how many exams they've got this week.

JB Morrell is our prison, and the entire student body's taking part in one big re-enactment of The Shawshank Redemption (with several added hours of clawing through sewage, and no redemption). Unfortunately, the Library Cafe wouldn't let me pay for my Coke in cigarettes, but at least you're significantly less likely to get shanked.

Unless you're a first year. "First Years Don't Count!" goes the usual mantra (well, presumably unless they do Maths). Granted, you just have to pass your exams and none of your marks actually count towards your degree, but, I'd at least like to maintain the illusion that I spent £9,000 this year to DO something. Something that doesn't start with "downing a glass of".

(On a side-note, don't you DARE venture into the library if you're an A-level student, or I think your head gets put on a turnstile as a warning to others.)

It's competition for seats that's the cause. I think you can only get a box-chair in Morrell through right of succession after the last king dies. Even regular seats are all but gone after 9am, often by poor souls that've just revised themselves clean out of existence. They've left their stuff behind, though. It's almost like they've left (but they haven't, of course. That'd just be a dick move).

And then there's those people who need to heed the hallowed words of Samuel L Jackson and Go The F*ck to Sleep. They're usually found slumped over a desk or, in one memorable occasion I saw on the way home, on the bridge outside. I briefly debated throwing some loose change in the girl's laptop case, but decided that'd probably be mean.

To sum up, best of luck out there and I'm sure you'll do fine. Which probably means you'll be beaten horribly by a bunch of people from Lancaster. Try not to squirm too much.

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NOUSE



Est. 1964

Gender equality on the front lines

Amber Harcourt



If women are fit enough, they should be able to serve in close combat

The discussion of whether women should be able to engage with close combat in the British army has flared up again recently. It has been hotly contested for years, but following the announcement of Sir Peter Wall, Chief of General Staff, at the beginning of May, it was brought back into the limelight.

The Ministry of Defence has to review its policy every eight years, with the most recent assessment taking place in 2010. However, the Chief of General Staff announced that the next review is being brought forward to the end of the year, and will address this all-important question.

Phillip Hammond, the Defence Secretary, commented that he wanted to send a signal that the military is open "to all who can meet the...standards" regardless of their gender. This attitude has both won applause and sparked outrage amongst former soldiers, female soldiers and members of the general public alike.

But it seems strange to me that this should be an issue. The idea that women can't serve in close combat positions appears to be some sort of attempt to protect women. In the words of Lord Dannatt, the former Chief of General Staff, keeping women away from these roles is "a point of principle".

"To be in a unit that is given or-

ders to attack a hill, to attack a town, to attack a village, that is a role not for women," he remarked.

Ridiculous. The idea that wom-

“The assessment should be open to both men and women, and they results allowed to speak for themselves”

en are either unsuitable for the army or need protecting more than their male colleagues is undermined by the excellent work of many female soldiers who have served, or currently are serving, in Afghanistan, Iraq and all over the world. Though banned from close combat roles, women can currently serve close to the action as medics, or as part of bomb disposal teams. They serve with distinction and clearly patriotism is not gender specific.

The other major argument against allowing women in close combat roles is that it will lead to a weakening of the army.

However, this is a weak argument. The issue would only be relevant if those fighting on the front line overnight became half men and half woman. Of course women are biologically predisposed to be weaker than men and in order to qualify

for the position women should have to pass the same fitness tests as the men.

Women should not be given easier routes into qualifying in the name of gender equality. That would not be equal. The army has high standards, but if women can meet those standards, they should be able to serve their country the way they want to.

Rosalynn Saxton, a female soldier who served in Kosovo, Bosnia and Iraq, argues that many women are physically strong enough to fulfill these roles and that fears contradicting this are being magnified by the media.

Saxton reaches the heart of the problem: the issue is with "the serving men in the front line roles, in that it will be them that have a problem serving with a female on equal terms as it may be them that make the female a liability and not the female herself."

It is the media and the skeptics, both male and female, soldiers and civilians, who are presenting the female soldier as incapable of fulfilling a combative position.

The assessment should be open to both men and women, and the results allowed to speak for themselves. If a female soldier is physically and mentally capable of serving in close combat, the patriarchal traditions of the army should not stop her.

KATE MITCHELL

Library fines must be examined individually

Library fines exist for a reason. They are in place so that the borrower does not exceed the borrowing period to which they agreed to. The library provides a service with clearly stated conditions, however, sometimes this can result in circumstances that are unfair. One such student was instructed by library staff to apply for another hardship fund simply to pay off a fine on key texts. The library charges £1 per hour for late key texts, which is a lot. A supervisor at the library said that she had inconvenienced others, and the student said that she talked to three to five other people at the library but 'none were willing to help'. There is an exceptions policy in place, detailed on the website, which outlines situations that are normally accepted, including a 'First occasion' or 'Exceptional personal circumstances'. For a student undergoing financial hardship to the extent that they are unable to pay library fines, the university should be more sympathetic and take a closer look at the situation. Furthermore, library staff should have the exceptions policy close by to help those with concerns, rather than making a perhaps unfitting recommendation to take out another hardship loan.

Semesterisation victory for students

The proposal to move York towards semesterisation has been shelved for the foreseeable future after a lack of consensus on the issue. This represents a victory for students and staff alike, as semesterisation would isolate York from other universities. It would mean fifteen-week terms twice per year, when the present trimester system with ten-week terms works perfectly fine. It would only be counter-productive because a lot of students are either already burned out at the end of each term, or homesick and looking forward to returning home to their families. Furthermore, it would knock holidays at York even further out of sync with the holidays of other universities, which would cause a logistical nightmare for families trying to organise holidays. The Easter holiday in particular would have to be sacrificed to allow for 15-week terms, followed by a ridiculously long summer. This latter point may make it easier for students to work on dissertations and find part-time work, but there is a danger that it would lead to students getting out of the swing of things during the long break.

Access to sport needs mass marketing

University should be a place of inclusion and development, therefore increasing accessibility to sport at York is a step in the right direction. It is a crucial point which must not be overlooked as all students must be given the opportunity to participate in all elements of student life. The new York Sitting Volleyball Club, in addition to Wheelchair Basketball are positive projects which need to be replicated. Many sports teams are open to supporting disabled students and helping them participate, but the message must be put across clearer so as many individuals as possible can feel like they have the chance to play. The consultation conducted by the York Student Think Tank in 2013 which investigated the accessibility of sport in York to disabled students found that while good provisions exist within the local community, such as 'Multi-Sport' and 'Goal-ball' at York St. John University, there was a 'general lack of awareness' for what was available to disabled students. The relevant services and committees should take note and ensure that opportunities are publicised well.

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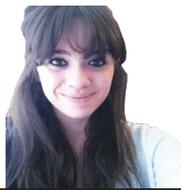
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Contribute: editor@nouse.co.uk



Saving lives trumps moral complaints

Emily Henderson



HIV pill is worth the controversy

Controversy has sprouted around the invention of a new drug intended to prevent HIV. If taken once a day, the pill decreases the chances of contracting the virus by 92 per cent. However, the project has come under fire from moral critics, who raise a pertinent question – does the drug encourage promiscuity?

The pill will be primarily aimed at gay men who have recently contracted a sexually transmitted disease or have a HIV positive partner, or those who risk HIV through illicit drug use. However, its critics have lambasted the pill's potential to be a "party drug". If you take it, they claim, it eliminates the need to use a condom.

This argument, however, is unsound. The pill is meant to be taken once a day: you can't just take one on the spur of the moment. One could go so far as to argue that this constant thought of taking the pill places emphasis on what it is that you are seeking to prevent. In addition, whether or not to take the pill should be the choice of the individual alone.

Regardless, the controversy is not simply a moral issue, but a matter of life and death. The treatment provides the chance to eradicate HIV entirely. If that sounds too optimistic, it's worked before. China in 1966 was described by British physicians as having "eradicated almost the whole country from venereal diseases". While foreign doctors were initially unconvinced, a

visit to China provided sufficient proof. How did they do it? Through shifting ideas of medical care from treatment to prevention.

So while this drug may be a contentious step forward, its potential to eradicate HIV makes it a step worth taking.

This needs to be combined with education, not on any moral grounds, but on the matter of life and death. Both these methods will eventually kill HIV, and prevent any eventual resurgence.

But ultimately, the entire promiscuity debate has already been proven wrong. Tests taken during

the creation of the pill indicate using it actually increased the use of condoms. Much like the cervical cancer jabs, this is not promoting unprotected sex or sexual promiscuity. It is the attempt to prevent what can soon be the preventable.

In the words of a professor of medicine prevalent at these meetings, "We must continue to invest in science". Rather than squabbling over some non-existent increase in promiscuity, our emphasis should be placed upon the best attempts to eradicate the virus, and educate so that it does not come back.

KATE MITCHELL



What will you miss the most about York?

"Having vodka for breakfast."



Joss, 2nd year, Geography.

"Tron."



Kallum, YUSU prez.

"Nothing, I will be happy to leave."



Peter, 1st year, Politics.

Topical Tweets from the Twittersphere



@GilbFromUpNort Matt Gilbertson May 22nd

I love people wandering into Willow; practising their dance moves as if it matters what they look like.

May 21st **@JazmynAshleigh** Jazmyn Carr

Lost my willow virginity last night! And now this won't come off my arm!

@Hannah_hlc19 Hannah Connolly May 18th

I accidentally ended up in willow on thursday :(#easilydone #sambuca #mess

#minstergram

Nouse takes a look at what you've been Instagramming recently in York

@ellierice93

Campus is looking so beautiful today

16 May



@howiseeus

black clouds #langwith #universityofyork

23 May



18th June 2014

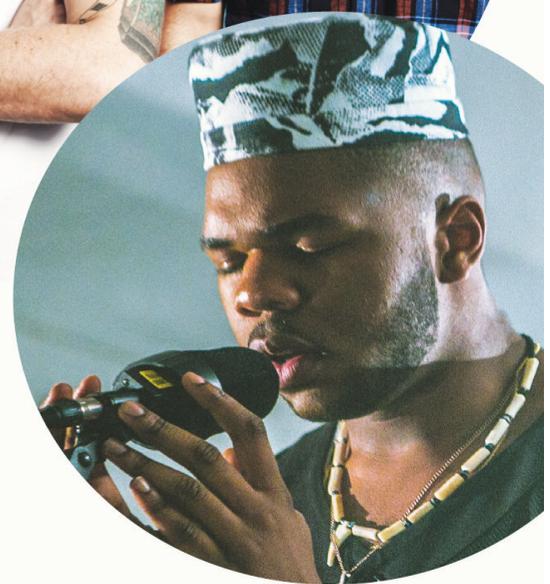
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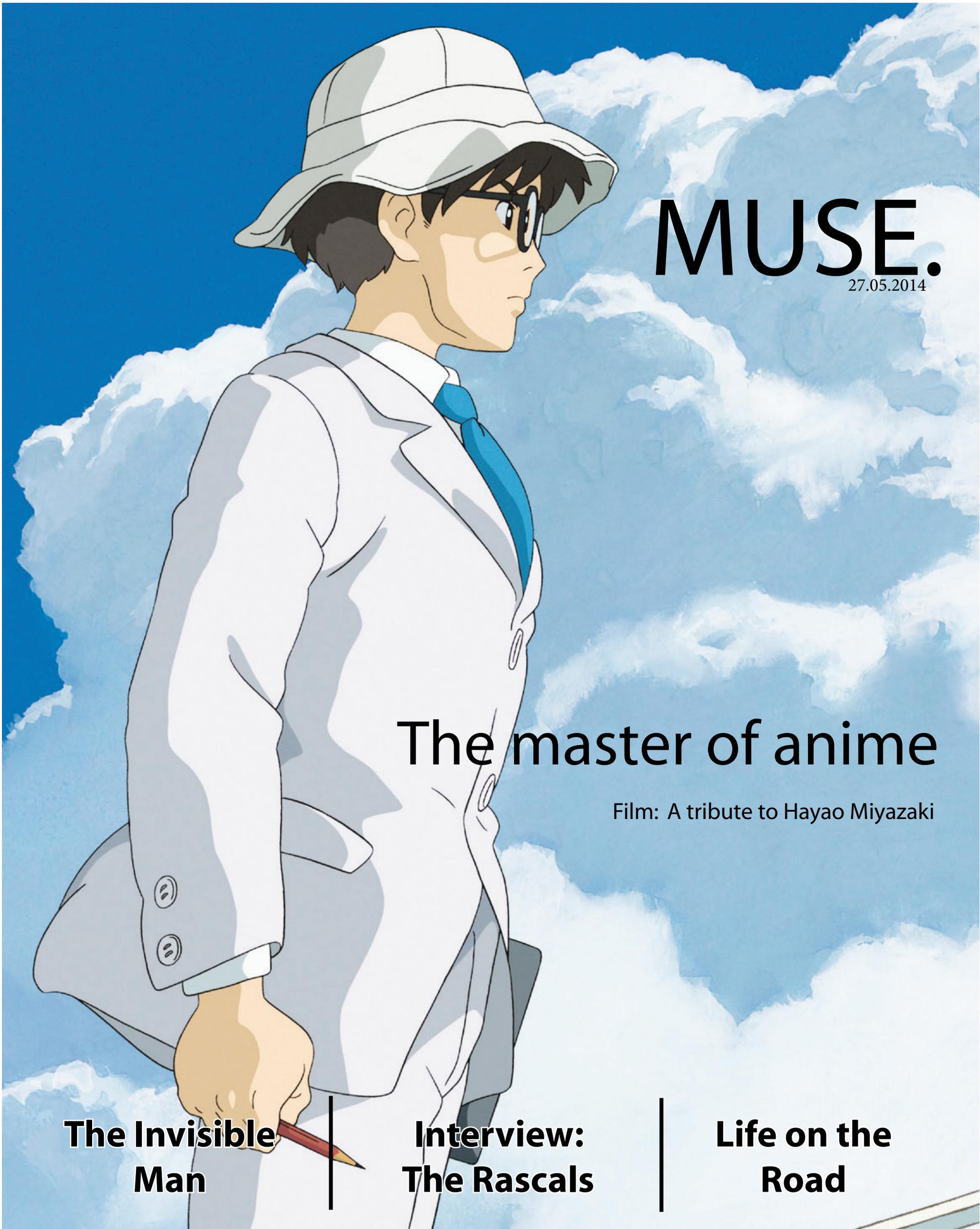


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The master of anime

Film: A tribute to Hayao Miyazaki

**The Invisible
Man**

**Interview:
The Rascals**

**Life on the
Road**



M7. Artist Liu Bolin reveals the process behind painting himself into backdrops around the world

M11. Burgeoning Bristol band Meadowlark, who have toured with Gabrielle Aplin and Stornoway, chat about their second EP

M12. Following his announced retirement, we pay tribute to Hayao Miyakazi's career and review his last ever film *The Wind Rises*

Food & Drink.

M14. Are your favourite TV chefs just a bunch of sell-outs?

M15. Vodka brand ODDKA reveal just what makes their drinks so spirited

Arts.

M6. We interview the man behind the creation of 1,600 papier-mâché pandas

Fashion.

M8. Weird and wonderful alternatives to traditional DIY beauty methods

M9. Beauty miracle product Skinade is the must have product of the summer

Film.

M12. A first look at York University produced film *The Knife That Killed Me*

Gaming.

M18. A rundown of this year's biggest game releases at E3

Music.

M10. We interview emerging artists Rascals from grime capital Bow, London

Image Credits.

M2 Top Left: Liu Bolin Top Right: Meadowlark

Editor's Note



Deputy Muse Editor Grace Marsh welcomes you to our exam edition

This edition marks my first as deputy Muse editor and my first editor's note. Saying something that is vaguely interesting, without trailing off into one of my semi-famous rants is going to be a challenge; I wish I had that much to say in essays.

While we're on the subject, we are of course at the heart of exam time, meaning daily trips to the library, binging on any food we can get our hands on, and wishing we did a subject at a university that didn't require effort. Painting pictures in exchange for credits would be a dream.

Then again, as a first year, I apparently have nothing to worry about because "first year doesn't count and your exams don't even matter." How many times have you been told that line, or worse, are guilty of saying it yourself to the annoyance of irritated freshers? No wonder we freshers are scared of revising in the quiet zone in fear of stealing precious third year revision space.

I meanwhile live in more fear of going outside for some fresh air and returning to find the library police have run away with my belongings. But I guess it's good to live on the edge every now and again.

Maybe a library fresher influx contributed to the campus sandwich shortage that I experienced last weekend - eating a pot of watery lentil salad just wasn't a good substitute for a lovely carb-loaded library baguette.

That aside, I have been finding other ways to procrastinate - mostly involving food; I've baked more cakes during the past two weeks than I've baked in my life. The highlight of my week so far was getting a free bowl of nachos.

If the general negative mood floating around campus is getting you down, there's no need to despair. Hopefully you'll find that Muse can whisk you away from revision and the influx of election-related material plaguing all social media. Nigel Farage just gets worse by the week, and for that reason we

decided to make him into a cartoon (see Tom Fennelly's column on M19 for a few giggles.)

Our exam-time feature showcases the weird and wonderful ways that some students cope with revision. Alcohol seems to be the consensus in the *Nouse* office. For more on drink, read about vodka brand Oddka in Food & Drink for an alternative to the supermarket-own brands we've learnt to love (or despise).

We also pay tribute to recently retired king of animation, Hayao Miyakazi; a shot from this last film *The Wind Rises* graces our front cover. Interviews with Bow-based grime band Rascals, Bristol band Meadowlark and Chinese artist Liu Bolin, who paints himself into an array of scenes, are also featured. And last but not least, this edition sees the addition of a brand new Gaming section. Here's to hoping we can make your day in the library that little bit more interesting. Happy revising.

“our band nearly
outnumbered the
crowd”



Kris Gray: Guitar and vocals
Lewis Stott: Drums
Matt Hargreaves: Bass



The Gilchrists

Winners of York's Battle of the Bands 2014 and playing at this year's Summer Ball

Winning Battle of the Bands was a relief. I've been trying to win a battle of the bands competition since I was about ten so I was finally able to tick off that achievement. (Lewis).

We're really excited about being on the main stage at the Summer Ball this year. We played the second stage last year and it really feels like we're moving onwards with what we're doing. (Matt).

Recording has definitely been my favourite moment being in the band. Being able to show people the results of what we waste our evenings doing is a great feeling. (Matt).

Our best gig was obviously battle of the bands. The worst was when our three piece band nearly outnumbered the crowd. (Lewis).

How would we describe our sound? Kind of a funk/alternative/pop thing. Seems to work. We're not sure ourselves. (Matt).

The music scene in York is a bit of weird one. There are plenty of great acts around and there are some great small venues to see them at, but York as a city doesn't really get much tour wise beyond the odd novelty act and some singer from the 1970's on his 12th farewell tour. (Matt).

One of my musical influences is John Mayer. And also Joe Bonamassa who is a really big guitar influence for me. (Kris).

The most annoying habit of the band is Kris' youtube addiction. He spends half of practice watching queen of vagina. Also, Matt's bass amp is really heavy, and as the henchest, he always leaves me to carry it. (Lewis).

If I could have a superpower it would be the ability to rap. Like Eminem in *Eight Mile*. I know it was scripted for the film but he was free styling in character. (Kris).

What can you expect from us in the future? We just finished recording four incredible songs today, so hopefully those will be around very soon! (Lewis).

Interview by Georgie Andrews and Charlotte Wainwright

Tom
Witherow



How to be a York landlord

It's coming to the end of the year and York's landlords are licking their lips as another round of 'independently' arbitrated deposits come rolling in. They're sitting pretty as a new year of excited smiling cash cows prepare to move into their over-subscribed and under-furnished houses. But being a landlord isn't straightforward. There are tricks to this nefarious trade, so pay attention as I lay out the land.

When you buy your first student house you've obviously got to convert every room in the house into a bedroom. Two bathrooms? Convert one of them too. If you stick a rickety extension on the back and call it a living room, you'll be able to get away with another bedroom!

Some people tell you it's against the law to have too many bedrooms, but you don't need to worry about that. The council and local residents hate students, so you'll have plenty of support when there are complaints.

When furnishing, put beige carpets in every room so that every mite of dust your tenants drop can be deducted from their deposit. It's amazing how these things rack up!

Put horrible wallpaper on the walls to tempt your tenants into using blue tac. It's perfect, as you can charge them the cost of repainting the whole room without having to shell out a penny. If you're feeling kind, you can provide a tiny and utterly useless pinboard, but don't worry, it's not necessary.

Install an oven with so many nooks, crannies, and removable sections that it is almost impossible to clean. In fact so hard to clean you'll have to charge your tenants for countless man hours of scrubbing (then pay a pro to do it in three).

The best landlords are mysterious. You shouldn't visit the property or reply to emails, and certainly don't give out your phone number. If you're feeling flush you can even hide behind a letting agency and then they can ignore your emails for you.

Of course as a York landlord you don't have to replace anything. Students don't actually use washing machines, irons, hoovers or showers. They much prefer to live in abject squalor. University is a right of passage – they have to break free from their parents. And as for the oven, students live off take-aways don't they?

Letting out your second property doesn't mean you can't use it yourself! The shed and cupboard under the stairs are perfect to store all the shit you don't need in your own house. Students don't have very many possessions, and now the iron's broken you might as well ditch the ironing board. Giving you the space you need to store your kids' bikes over the winter.

You can boost rents by sticking a TV in the house, and then invite yourself round to watch X Factor. Even if they say no, just think of the awkwardness you can inflict. Turning up without notice is another great landlord trick. Don't worry if they're in the shower, it's a great opportunity to ask them how the water pressure is (true story).

All students are children of bankers. They won't have any qualms about high rents—"Daddy will pay" is a post-ironic running joke on campus. And if you're with an agency they create a healthy panic in the autumn term to make sure someone takes up your overpriced abode.

Finally, if you are worried about being taken to court, you shouldn't be! Students aren't really awake during office hours, so by the time they do get round to calling the council it'll be time to crack out that greasy smile for next year's lot.

Happy letting!

How far will you go for a first?

Think *you're* having a difficult time this exam period? We talk to some students who take revision to the extreme

Dutch courage

Most students aren't shy when it comes to knocking back the shots in Willow. Yet for some, alcohol has become a dangerous coping method for getting through the exam period.

As tempting as a tippie might seem to get you through the height of revision mania, alcohol is more likely to disadvantage your exam preparation than enhance it. As a depressant, boozing makes you less energetic in the long run, dulling your concentration and motivation,

not to mention the consequent health risks that stem from alcohol reliance.

A second year student at Chelsea College of Art tells us that she started drinking in order to relieve stress, but this, unfortunately, led her quickly towards a downward spiral:

"The only thing that seems to help me relax on the build up to a deadline is a big drink of whiskey. I honestly don't think I could get through without a drink".

Another stu-

dent at the University of York tells us how drinking became a regular occurrence during revision for her and her housemates: "We were all losing the plot a bit with so much work. We decided that we would do a shot of vodka every hour on the hour to keep us going. Needless to say, it went downhill from there."

Alcoholic beverages aren't the only drinks that students are turning to over exams. Energy drinks are even more popular, attracting students with their guaranteed caffeine buzz, cheap retail price and wide availability.

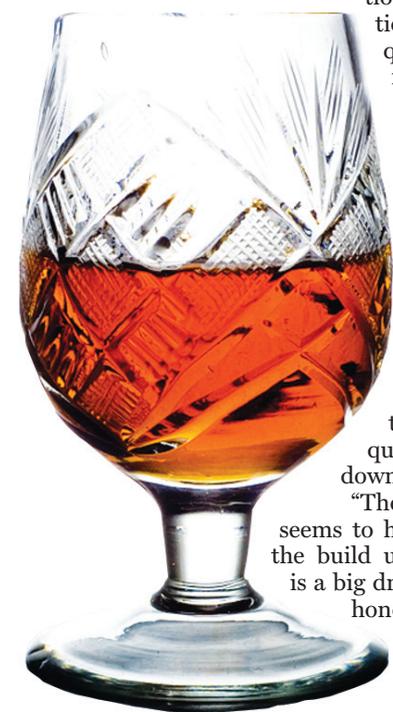
Despite the fact that energy drinks can be bought all over campus, most students aren't fully aware of their negative side-effects. "I drank seven cans of Monster to get through an all-nighter once and spent the next day being sick", a second year University of York Accounting, Business, Finance and Management student tells us.

Tame as this may sound compared to other nights spent during your time at university, stories such as these should not be taken lightly. The high amounts of caffeine found in energy drinks and coffee can lead to insomnia, vomiting, anxiety, headaches, and even cardiac arrest.

Some students have even reported experiencing heart palpitations during exams from drinking too much coffee.

The worrying thing is that most of us do not realise how much is too much. You might be surprised to know that the recommended maximum daily dose of caffeine amounts to approximately one large Starbucks coffee. Any more than this and you risk suffering some serious side-effects.

"A medic student a few years ago killed themselves by lethal injection"



Matter of life and death

Oxbridge exams are notoriously challenging: "I got 70 per cent and above in some of my papers last year and ended up with a 2:2". But for many current students we've spoken to, it's the high pressured university environment during the revision and exam period that's the hardest to cope with. "People become work machines," one second year Cambridge medic tells us, "but they also become awful people who can't hold conversations."

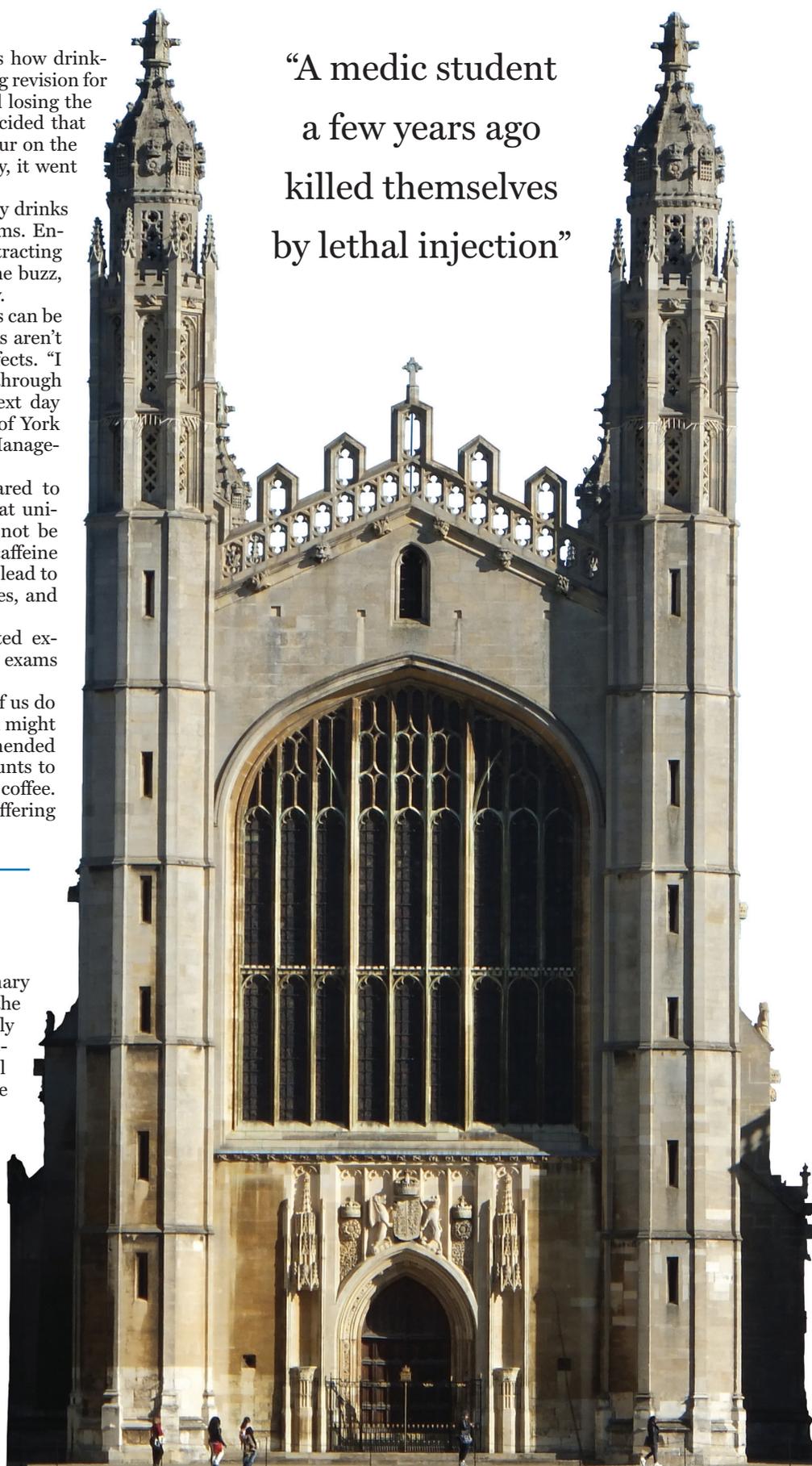
Over the years, students have been driven to take their own lives due to their not being able to cope with the stress. After considerable media coverage of the pressures put upon some of the most intellectual students in the world, the universities now put measures in place to prevent such tragedies: "Usually you can climb to the top of college chapel towers and look out over Cambridge. But in summer they stop you because people try jump off when they're overcome by exam stress."

Whilst the exam period itself is the time in which you'd expect students to feel the most

vulnerable, Cambridge uses these precautionary methods for a largely extended duration of the academic year: "People used to do it relatively frequently, so now they close them at the beginning of exam term - so after Easter - until all the exams have finished, as a preventative action."

Whilst the university is strict with such preventative measures, this doesn't stop students from finding a tragic way out of having to face their exams, something that their contemporaries find hard to deal with: "They don't even let you up accompanied or with your parents in case you might want to commit group or family suicide, which is sick when you think about it. We all make a joke of it but it's really sad that they have to do it. A medic student a few years ago killed themselves by lethal injection during exam term. It's just not nice to think about; it's so close to home."

Unfortunately these incidents are not unique to Oxbridge.



Eavesdropping in the Harry Fairhurst

A selection of the most weird and wonderful goings on from the University of York library's hottest 'studious buzz zone' during the revision period:



"I'm not gonna wee until my bladder bursts in an attempt to make me work. Actually, if I play this right, this could well lead to mitigating circumstances."

"I just nose-bleeded on a fresher."

"Apparently the average clitoris is the size of an aubergine."

"I just read the word 'shaft' in my textbook and I can't stop laughing. No, seriously, help me. I just snotted everywhere"

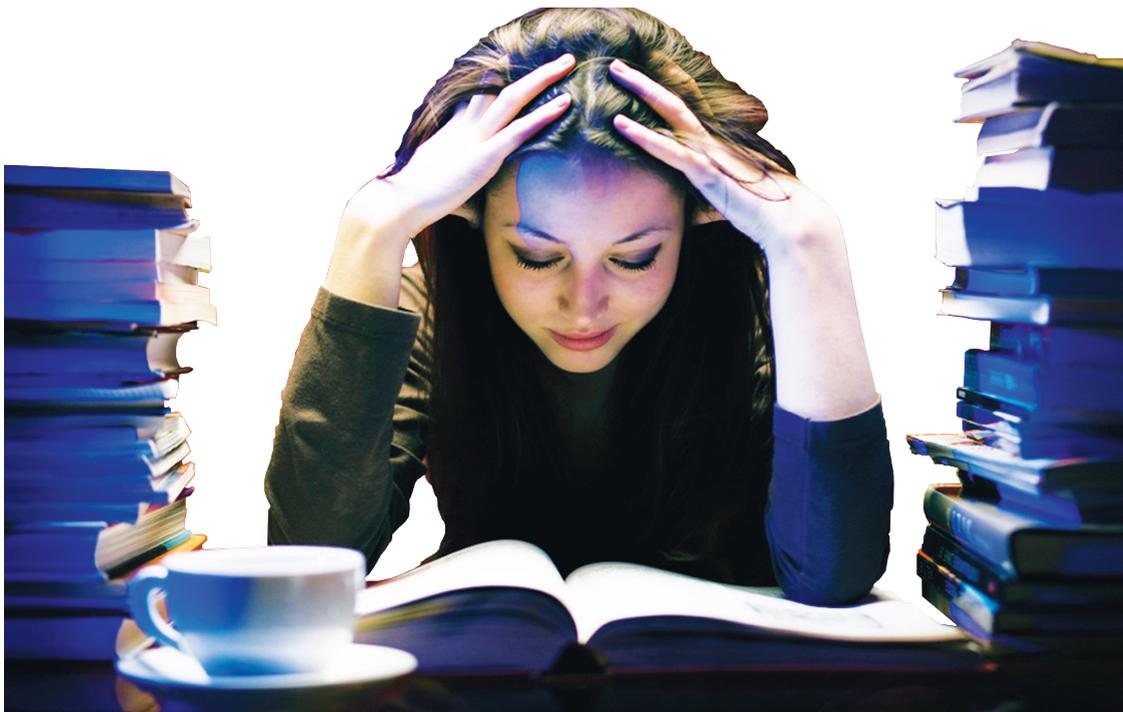
"I just overheard this girl talking about her horrendous break up. Her boyfriend was sleeping with her best friend the whole time. It nearly made me cry there were actual tears in my eyes. I need a snickers asap."

"I've just bumped into every single person I've slept with at uni in the past half hour."

"I just hit somebody with my rucksack to get the last BLT in the cafe... not even sorry."



All drugged up



With the pressure on to do well, students find themselves reaching for a bit of extra help during exams with some taking extreme measures.

Studies show that 1 in 5 students have tried study drugs such as modafinil which claim to increase concentration and memory.

While it is not illegal to possess or buy modafinil, a prescription-only drug used to treat narcolepsy, it is illegal to sell it, meaning that, as with anything sold illegally, you can't be sure what you're getting. Many of the pills are shipped from abroad and range from sugar-coated placebos to the real thing, to possibly toxic substances.

There are also a number of unpleasant side-effects attached to the drug, including nausea, headaches, diarrhoea, tremors, nervousness, confusion, insomnia, palpitations and unusual behaviour. Not only this, but scientists admit that they don't actually know what the long-term side-effects of the drug are.

Yet some students we spoke to seem to be pleased with the results and unconcerned by these side-effects. "I felt they helped give me an edge in terms of revision. Facts seemed to stick in my head

better, I procrastinated less and worked for longer periods. The only drawback was the frequent trips to the library 2nd floor toilets," a third year Economics student at the University of York reported.

A second year Psychology student at the University of East Anglia told us: "I use them very infrequently, but coming up to exams they can help you focus and maintain concentration for longer - useful for last minute cramming! During very stressful times I find them effective, whether or not this is a placebo effect I don't know, but they also come with annoying side effects like disturbed sleep patterns and feelings of anxiety. I know that some people are very opposed to using them due to their unknown long term effects, but the same people down 10 jäegerbombs and half a litre of Vodka on a Thursday night, so it's hard to draw the line on what can be determined as risky behaviour."

Another student, studying History and Politics at the University of Lancaster claimed: "Never before had I experienced as much stress as third year of Uni. I never expected the work load to be so high. Getting it all done was affecting my sleeping and it was too much to bear. Getting the pills was

pretty easy and cheap. Everyday I would wake up, take two and get all my work done at lightning speed. Right away I was doing better at uni and I just felt more relaxed."

Other students however report breakdowns in relationships due to irritability and unusual behaviour brought on by the drugs. The extreme focus it can cause results in the user completely forgetting to function in other ways. Students go the whole day without eating, drinking or showering - all they do is work. While this may sound like exactly what you need to tackle that tricky exam, your health is important if you want to perform well.

Strangely, some students even push legal drugs to their utter limits in order to get through the worry and stress of exams. One second year student we spoke to at London College of Fashion has resorted to snorting Pro Plus in a bid to find that extra boost for revision. "Pro plus is great, but when it's inhaled through the nose it enters the bloodstream so much faster. I can stay up all night caning revision—it's fab!"

Pro Plus is an over the counter tablet that contains 100mg of caffeine and is designed to relieve the symptoms of fatigue and tiredness, helping users feel more active and alert. The tablets, however, are advertised as a temporary measure, and over-use of the pills can lead to negative side effects, including problems with sleeping.

One second year English student at the University of York has experienced the negative physical reactions that Pro Plus can cause. "I once took about six Pro Plus tablets in one go in a desperate bid to stay up all night to complete an essay. At about 4am, my eyes started to vibrate, and my vision went incredibly blurry. It was pretty concerning; I'd never experience anything like it. But I did get the essay in on time..."

Are a few extra marks really worth illness and irritability? We think we'll stick to coffee - and not too much of it at that!

UoB Library Hermit

For many of us, time spent in the library increases dramatically over the exam period. However, for one student at the University of Birmingham, this has been taken to the extreme. The 'UoB Library Hermit' has been set the challenge of living in the Birmingham University library non-stop for six weeks in an attempt to achieve a 72 per cent average in his final exams - in order to simply pass his degree.

Whilst most of us struggle with minimal motivation and increasingly appealing, 'screw it, I'll become a stripper/join a circus/be a perpetual gap year student' thoughts passing through our minds, the Hermit has a more appealing goal to set his eyes on: "I fucked up. I fucked up big time. I called my older brother, who works for a top law firm, and explained to

him my situation. He has offered to pay off my entire student loan if I pass my degree."

His Facebook page, which has over 13,000 'likes', lays out the details, the 'rules' and the provisions permitted for his task. A cross between 'Spotted: University of York Library', a personal diary and a charitable challenge page, a read of the 'UoB Library Hermit's' posts makes for an entertaining revision distraction, ironically: "So join me on my journey as I attempt the impossible, as I lose the will to both study and live, and observe my ramblings as my sanity slowly unravels. I'm going down the rabbit hole."

Eloquent and witty and full of honest expletives, the Hermit's posts are indeed gradually deteriorating in optimism. We wonder for just how long he'll be able to keep up the chal-

lenge:

"Feel like I'm starting to go crazy. Studying all day everyday, sleeping on the floors in disabled toilets, periodical archives and people's offices that they forget to lock. Very little human interaction except with the nice ladies in the iLounge.

"I can't sleep tonight. About three hours ago I spent a while stood outside the main library just gazing up at the night sky, looking in wonder at the stars, and questioning why I was put on Earth, asking myself why I am here.

"I surrendered myself to the Universe, and in a broken whisper, cried out: 'Why am I here?' And to my surprise, the Universe replied. 'Because you never went to lectures and you drink too much, you fucking tit.'"



The Man of 1,600 Pandas

Paulo Grangeon talks to Emily Henderson about using art to save the planet's pandas

Paulo Grangeon is an incredible man. From the start of our interview he made one thing abundantly clear: "in this moment, the most important thing is the Panda, not the artist." His desire for the conservation of the animal was both touching and inspirational. In 2008, in collaboration with the WWF (World Wide Fund for Nature) he was commissioned by Serge Orru - "Serge had the idea, I was the arm" - to make 1,600 papier-mâché miniature pandas, one for each currently living in the world. They were created by a 40 person workforce in Taiwan after his six mould designs of two baby, two medium and two large pandas. "It is an incredible thing to watch, the women use rice to glue the papier-mâché."

First displayed in Paris, the work has been toured throughout Europe, prominently moving towards China, the home of the panda. This has been something of a "marvellous adventure" for Grangeon and his miniature companions, conveying the simple yet striking visual message into the heart of Asia.

His enthusiasm for his work and its message is abundantly clear: "I am so excited by Hong Kong, and by China; it is very important for the story," he tells me. Indeed, after the exhibition in Germany last summer the website received 45 million visitors—a crucial development in the visibility of the work and one which Grangeon wholeheartedly deserved.

Produced from completely biodegradable materials, the pandas make up a collective symbol of distress; not one of the carefully hand-crafted creatures are less important than the others in the throng as they unify to create a single concept. Though originally a wood worker, Grangeon discovered the medium of papier-mâché when in Thailand between 1997 and 2008, finding the material pliant and accessible for easily portable sculpture. These key properties made both papier-mâché and Grangeon the ideal vehicle to convey the outstanding message.

One could compare this practice of hand-made mass production in collaboration with art to raise awareness of Ai Weiwei's porcelain *Sunflower Seeds* of 2010; another arresting visual statement to critique a problem within China - that of immense and often unethical 'made in China' manufacturing.

Publicity is the objective of Paulo and the WWF: "Six months ago I didn't know anything about it and now it's incredible, they ask if I will sign a panda and I say 'why not?'" Paulo is becoming a celebrity in his own right, an experience to be relished by the artist: "I hope to be happy in the eyes of a lot of people."

The idea of ceremony is clear to Grangeon; throughout our conversation his devotion to the completion of the



PHOTO COURTESY OF WILSON SUN

exhibition and its goals were prominent. "Hong Kong is the most important, it is the last gate," he says.

As a man, Paulo is a compassionate, charming Frenchman and as an artist he is much the same. He derives no direct financial profit from the experience as 'all the money goes back to WWF,' continuing to own a wonderfully quaint ceramic studio and shop in France with his wife.

To speak to Paolo Grangeon was an uplifting experience, he is an infectiously happy man, all made possible through his 1,600 Pandas.

Is the end nigh for London Theatre?

Andrew Brannigan offers some much needed advice to the West End

The Four Horsemen of London Theatre Apocalypse have ridden. The ironically named Spice Girls musical, *Viva Forever!*, closed last year after only seven months. Hot on *Viva's* sassy high heels, Tim Rice's *From Here to Eternity* didn't even reach the seven-month mark, and Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Stephen Ward* lasted an embarrassingly brief three months. And now Harry Hill's X-Factor based effort, *I Can't Sing*, is galloping out of the Palladium in the fashion of a true apocalyptic harbinger, after a spectacularly poor six week run. Such poor performances are causing some to fret over the future of London theatre, and rightly so.

But before we cancel our summer city breaks in despair, let us first consider the nature of these particular failed productions. We have a Spice Girls show: a jukebox musical playing songs that should have been removed from any jukebox in the late '90s. Meanwhile, Tim Rice offers a piece of theatre based on an obscure 1951 novel, while Andrew Lloyd Webber looks to a political scandal from the early 1960s for his subject matter.

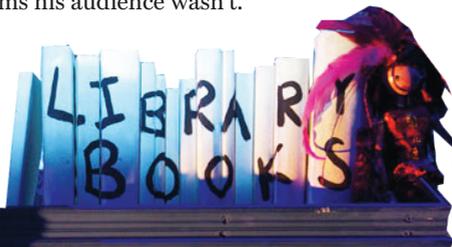
As for *I Can't Sing*, it is difficult to imagine how any show with such an unprepossessing title could have hoped to succeed even with its fairly positive critical reception, and that's not to mention the fact that it's based on a television show with a diminishing audience and coming in the wake of Harry Hill's disastrous movie.

What is striking is that the productions with greater playwriting pedigree seem to be doing better than the thoroughgoing musicals at the moment. For all the funky Tim Minchin tunes in *Matilda the Musical*, it is the libretto by Dennis Kelly (writer of *DNA* and Chan-

nel 4's *Utopia*) that binds the piece together and brings some welcome play *DNA* (if you'll pardon the pun) to the golden mix.

The new musical *Once* also offers a far more subdued, play-like experience than your usual musical fare with a book by Enda Walsh, and appears to be reaping the benefits while big-budget, lavish shows like *I Can't Sing* crumble.

It seems to me that there are two things that theatre producers need to bare in mind in this turbulent time for London theatre. The first is that a ritzy musical is no longer going to cut it if its subject matter amounts to no more than an indulgence on the part of its legendary composer: Andrew Lloyd Webber was interested in the Profumo affair; it seems his audience wasn't.



Most certainly, the audience's taste must be considered in these times of immense ticket prices and low bank balances. The second rule of thumb for theatre producers is that music and spectacle needn't even be at the centre of a show nowadays. One must look no further than the National Theatre's enduring straight-play *War Horse* to see that not all horses in London theatre spell its apocalypse, and, more importantly, shows stand in better stead when they're a case of script over spectacle.

Get Your Fix

Deborah Lam

Blithe Spirit

York Theatre Royal, £14, 9-31 May
Noel Coward's play about a séance gone wrong.



Allo 'Allo

Drama Barn, Week 6

DramaSoc reinvents the classic sitcom 'Allo 'Allo.



D-Day Dance

De Grey Rooms, £17, £3 classes, 6 June
Plunge into the 1940s big band-themed dance.



Aesthetica Art Prize Exhibition
York St Mary's, open till 22 June

The exhibition showcases prize-winning talent.



Now you see me...

Amy Blumsom talks to **Liu Bolin** about China, the government and being The Invisible Man



Can you spot him yet? Liu Bolin's artwork may not immediately jump out at the viewer, but that doesn't make it any less remarkable. For his two series, *The Invisible Man* and *Hiding in the City*, the Chinese artist uses a team of assistants to paint himself and others into their background to incredible effect. He has tackled every scene imaginable, from historic landmarks of international recognition to more mundane sites such as a supermarket shelf.

Liu talks me through the process he undergoes in order to produce his photographs, "I choose the background first, and then I stand in front of that place. My assistants paint me as if I'm a canvas and I become hidden in the background step by step. I need several assistants; some shoot, some paint."

Putting paint brimming with chemicals onto his body has taken its toll on Liu. In the nine years since he began *Hiding in the City*, the artist has painted himself in almost 200 pictures for the series. He reveals, "the situation of the skin on my face has turned really bad and I need to apply medicine everyday. The reason is that at the very beginning, I didn't take any measures to protect the skin on my face. I simply thought that the pigment didn't harm the skin, because I had smeared it on myself before. Now, I use segregation frost first, and also a mask to protect my face."

He has taken photographs around the world for *Hiding in the City*, but the most memorable place Liu shot is, surprisingly, Liverpool. More specifically it was the typical weather that stood out for the artist. "During the day, the climate in Liverpool was really terrible. Maybe because Liverpool is too close to the sea. Rain, snow, hail, and big wind blew the whole day—I met all kinds of climates on that day. Every time

the rain fell, I needed to run back indoors quickly. I remember that as my most interesting day."

Liu tells me that the original idea for his project was born out of protest. "I thought it would be great to use my art performance, my camouflage, as an attitude of protest to attract people's attention to the living situation of artists. That was my original idea."

Liu began *Hiding in the City* in 2005, but since then the intended message of his work has been altered. "Throughout the different series, the point that I focus on has changed several times. Such changes show the process of how I solve the questions in my heart." Ultimately though, Liu has one aim that unifies his works, "I want to express my concern about

"My assistants paint me as if I'm a canvas and I become hidden in the background"

some problems which restrain the development of the human race, and that humans alive in these times have to face."

Nonetheless, each picture carries a message. One of the most significant pictures in setting the tone for his work was "Laid Off", whereby six of the 21 million laid off workers in China between 1998 and 2000 were painted against a wall, fading them into the walls of the factory in which they had worked their entire lives. Above them a slogan from the Cul-

tural Revolution reads: "The communist period is the thriving force behind our cause". Liu tells me that "from this piece of work, the series found its attitude".

Liu explains that he hides in places of interest around the world in order to draw attention to serious issues that are of importance to him. "After reading a passage in the internet which said that Venice will disappear with the rising of the sea, I wanted to warn the human race that such a beautiful place will disappear if we don't start to take some measure to protect the environment. I care about the development of the human race, so I hid there with the aim of arousing people's attention to this issue."

Liu also cites China's struggles in the years following the Cultural Revolution as having an influence on his photography. He explains, "from the founding of new China until now, there are more than 65 years. In the first 30 years, the core of this country was class struggle. In the second 30 years, the core is economy. Money is the biggest thing, and the other aspects are neglected. However, all these social phenomenons have turned out to be a source of inspiration in my work, including the pollution of the environment and dangerous food additives. I want to record these using my artwork."

Amazingly, despite the intricacies involved in meticulously painting himself into some of the more complex backgrounds, Liu insists that he never gets frustrated. Instead, he reassures me that he is always pleased with the final product regardless of any difficulties that he may be faced with. "I never get frustrated with the complexity of the images. Maybe sometimes there are some defects which make the artwork not that perfect, however, I finish all the work pretty well." M



DO try this at home

There are plenty of beauty care methods that you can use at home without having to spend a penny of that precious loan. We've gathered a few of the most weird and wonderful DIY beauty tips.

Compiled by Katie Redgrave, Izzy Ashton and Robbie Hodges

DETOX TEA

Why limit the miraculous beauty benefits of green tea to the mug? After you've slurped your way through breakfast, leave your tea bags to cool and set them on your eyes for a minute or so. Your housemates might give you strange looks but you'll be blissfully blinded by Twining's and looking fabulous post-application. Running low on skincare essentials and feeling in need of a little rejuvenation? Green tea can make a great exfoliator. Brew 1 green tea bag in a cup filled 1/3 with water. Leave until lukewarm. Mix 1 tbsp of the liquid with 3 tbsp of sugar. The sugar will not dissolve.

VOLUMINOUS HAIR

With winter behind us, our hair may have kept some of the dull dryness from all of the cold weather. Get ready for summer with these food based hair treatments. **To add shine:** Orange + Honey. Squeeze an orange and mix the juice with some honey. Lather on head and leave on for at least 20 to 30 minutes. Rinse off and shampoo as usual... then shine! **To repair damage:** Egg + Olive Oil. Thoroughly mix one egg with some olive oil. Lather on your hair and leave for 15 minutes. Rinse off and shampoo hair as usual. **To volumize:** Beer + Water. Mix together 3 parts beer with 1 part warm water and soak hair mixture for at least 15 minutes. Rinse and shampoo as usual for hair-raising volume!

OIL PULLING

Oil Pulling is an alternative to throwing unpronounceable chemicals around your mouth in the hope of whiter teeth. This new method achieves this whilst aiding absorption of vital vitamins. A cheap, quick fix solution to every problem, hallaluah. Use around a tablespoon of oil (coconut oil for all the lovely vitamins, but any other oil like olive will do fine) and move it around your mouth like mouth wash for around 15 minutes and then spit out. Repeat every day for 2 weeks. Supposedly the oil pulls out the toxins from your mouth and saliva, helping you achieve the white teeth you've always dreamed of. Scientific research on this natural treatment is lacking - but there's no harm in trying and it is a cheaper and healthier method than any other alternative out there.

SERENE VASELINE

Often called out as the impressionist of nail painters, the trusty tub of Vaseline is here to help. A quick swab around the nail pre-lacquer and a subsequent swipe post-polish will ensure that your nails don't fall victim to an unsteady hand (be that bus-provoked, exam stress-induced or otherwise). Alternatively take to your face with the stuff. Surprise Skype call from the parents? Fake that warm, dewy, library-exhausted glow by mixing the jelly with a dash of lipstick and applying the concoction atop your cheekbones and brows for an instantaneous blush.

ASPIR-SKIN

The wonders of Aspirin. Yes I know what you're thinking, "we've heard it all before": Toothpaste, TCP, tea tree...the list of ways to treat spots is endless. But I wonder if you've ever tried bashing up an aspirin, mixing it with water and applying to said spot? It works like a dream. Aspirin is anti-inflammatory (making it look less red) and it contains salicylic acid - the fancy stuff they put in expensive spot treatments. You can also use multiple aspirins to make a cheap and easy facemask. Just leave on for around 10 minutes and you'll be amazed by the results. Perfect for exam stressed skin. It also works for boys with ingrowing beard hairs. It's an all round superstar product and a packet is less than a pound.

Campus style: what are you wearing?

Carly Howard, first-year history student in James College



For me, my style is all about reflecting my mood and personality. I love iconic period pieces that you can team with anything. I live in my 90s denim jacket by day, and will flaunt a 50s dress by night. So today, with the promise of sunshine on campus, I couldn't wait to finally embrace a bolder and brighter look to conquer those pre-exam blues.

I've been dying for the opportunity to wear this statement A-line skirt since I originally bought it back at the Fresher's vintage fair in first term. I'm teaming the more daring kaleidoscopic patterning with a plain and simple, cotton crop-jersey from Republic, a necessity for every summer

wardrobe. My nude leather brogues are a staple, classic buy from Clarks, perfect for that awkward spring-summer transition.

I really appreciate versatility within a wardrobe. I pretty much live in this oversized nineties denim jacket that I got from a local charity shop. I love to mix and match it with pieces from other eras. For a more casual 80s inspired look I'd pair it with acid wash skinny jeans; the past is certainly my main inspiration.

Instead of spending a fortune on branded clothing, I tend to opt for the student-friendly alternatives. Fashion apps such as "Depop", which allow you to trade and sell your old clothes, have really

freshened up my wardrobe, and have been incredibly kind to my purse! I like to take time in making my clothes personal to me. I can't remember the last time I bought a pair of denim shorts - I much prefer to tailor an old pair of jeans to my own taste.

I don't think you should restrict yourself to one particular look or trend. Those close to me would say I change my look every day. I think that's the best way to be, fashion should be as creative and adaptable as you are, and show off all sides of your personality.

Think you've got the style that outranks the rest on campus? Send your look to fashion@nouse.co.uk

The secret to glowing skin

Emily Russell shares the key to looking flawless

Like so many others, I have spent hours pouring over celebrities' flawless, makeup-less, post work-out photos. Millie Mackintosh is no stranger to a dewy skinned selfie on Instagram, but she accounts her flawless skin to a little more than a Sunday morning jog. She, and the likes of Laura Whitmore, Lucy Watson and Lauren Goodger have recently been promoting the new beauty must have: Skinade. When my friend got her hands on a course of the stuff, and passed them immediately on to me, instead of taking offence I ran straight to the kitchen to mix myself a glass.

Beauties' potential new Holy Grail comes in bottle form or travel sized sachets which can be quickly diluted in cold water. The product promises "younger, healthier and better-looking skin", and with weeks of pot noodles and sleepless library sessions on the horizon, I wouldn't say no to that. Kindly, the spiel on the packet tells me that we lose one per cent of collagen from our skin annually. I really can't argue with frown inducing, pseudo-science like that.

This miracle juice tastes surprisingly like watered down Lucozade that's been sat on the windowsill for an afternoon too long, but for something that promotes the body's natural collagen production you really cannot complain. After a quick look on Skinade's website I'm informed that my "fibroblasts"

will become more dense (who knew they needed any help!) and my skin will be hydrated. However, I'm not sure what's harder to swallow; the scientific jargon and statistics on the website or the price tag it comes with. At £90 for a 30 day course, it definitely isn't a sustainable method of skin care for most/any students, but then what is expensive for celeb-worthy skin? It's definitely worth a try.

Skinade promises visible results for the skin, hair and nails; the website features pictures of multiple user success stories. It really would be wonderful if just a cup of this after breakfast everyday could make such a big difference.

Alternatively, a large glass of water every morning instead of fizzy pop or a black coffee would promote hydration for the skin, and that's completely free! Add a slice of lemon and nature promises you a boost to the immune system, clearer skin and whiter teeth. A trip to the greengrocer may not be as trendy as this new super-product, but it's recommended by far more health professionals than any fad drink or tablet.

For a £90 product, I'm hoping for clearer, more hydrated skin that hasn't been ravaged by exam stress. Only time will tell if this course works, but there's always lemon water and YSL Touché Eclat for me if all that swigging has gone to waste.



Hot

Library attire.

A lot of effort is being made this exam season, from floral print dresses to cute culottes and smart polo/ short combos.

Maleficent by MAC.

Who better than MAC to help us get back on the Disney Bandwagon and perfect Jolie's bewitching smoky eye? A return to childhood nostalgia with a grown up twist: what's not to love?



Wishwantwear style suite. With the summer ball, race day and summer events coming up this is the perfect opportunity to get a designer dress for a fraction of the price. They're coming to campus Tues 3rd June.

Florence Mitchell tells us what's hot in the world of fashion

Tan lines. We all embraced the days of sun but in the bright library lights those shoulders are looking rather raw and the red arm, white chest look is certainly not in. Take refuge with cap arm sleeves or a well positioned scarf.

The Exam/Cruise Clash. We may love the fashion but we hate the timing. We wish, in future, that Lagerfeld would be more considerate of the student population; alas, we suspect this is unlikely to happen.



Bare legs. While we are all excited for summer, some of us seem over enthusiastic. It is not yet hot enough to wander bare legged around campus in skater skirts that look in peril of being swept up by the abrasive York wind. Stick with the 40 deniers for a little longer please ladies.

Not

Three of the best fashion Vloggers

1 Lisa Eldridge

Eldridge is a London-based makeup artist who works with celebrities such as Kate Winslet, Katy Perry, Keira Knightley and Emma Watson. She is also the creative director for British cosmetics brand No.7. Her clean, professional tutorials are as educational as they are gorgeous. My favourite is her Marilyn Monroe iconic guide.

2 Cutepolish

Cassandra became a YouTube star when her amazing video on how to cover up severe acne with foundation went viral, amassing over 20 million hits. The model and student has a comprehensive archive of videos on topics ranging from diet and fitness to modeling. A must view is her 'How to Make Killer High Heels' tutorial.

3 Cassandra Bankson aka DiamondsAndHeels

With her soothing voice and clear, easy-to-follow tutorials, this nail art maven is our go-to for standout manicures. As nail art novices, we appreciate the Easy Nail Art for Beginners series. My favourite view of hers has to be the 'Easy Galaxy Nail Art' they are incredibly detailed and would jazz up any outfit.

MUSIC.

Boys in Da Corner

Alex Donaldson interviews **Rascals**, the fresh faces of grime-capital Bow, London

“Yo Yo, whatsup”, they certainly aren’t interview shy. On the line are Kay Willz, Shizz Mcnaught, Tempz St. Louis and Marcus Merkz, the four London cockzures who together form the rap group, Rascals. Aside from admiring “some mad rainbows”, the boys are in currently awaiting their debut release. “That’s all we’ve been doing...before we finished the EP we were in the studio every day, so now we have time just to chill out”. Having recorded their debut album in that same period, knackered must have been an understatement. With a bit of unsuccessful journalistic persuasion they revealed that “the album is supposed to be out around...the end of the year”

We began by discussing their recording process, shrugging off a suggestion some of them took more of a lead role than others, Kay Willz asserted that, “we all have to pull our weight. What we try to do now is engineer ourselves, because it’s kinda hard to project what you want in your mind to someone and to turn it around in Logic or whatever you’re using. Even with production as well there’s a lot going on, working as a group.” I was intrigued to find the extent to which Rascals had a say in their own sound, as so many rap artists right now seem to be presented with tracks simply to overdub. Even at the suggestion that they fell into that category they retorted, “we’ve got one producer, name’s Inflow, but one thing about him, even though he’s the producer he’s always open to everyone putting their input in.” Shizz chipped in, “even on the album there’s songs where we produced it our-

selves. We were in a room together just us four, and a song got made from scratch,” pushing the fact that they are “in control creatively.” How refreshing it was to hear a group pitting themselves against one of the most commercially produced markets, taking real pride in their musical freedom. Didn’t say which songs though, they might be well shit, but the sentiment is still admirable.

So having found themselves on the pinnacle of their career, being interviewed by a student paper from York, where exactly did it all begin? “When we were about 9, we were in a group called Mucky Cubs, we were the youngest of the young wolf pack. Being from Bow we were surrounded by people like Dizzee and Tinchy, Wiley, Roll Deep, music was in our face, for us it was just normal.” But it transpires they’d been raised on something other than hip-hop. “I listened to The Temptations and Jimi Hendrix”. Willz recounted how, “when I was at 9 I realised the music going around me...but before that it was UB40, Bob Marley. More or less the music I listen to now is from back in the day; music that you’ve noticed that has longevity.” Although there was also praise for contemporary artists, “I like what Clean Bandit’s doing, I think there’s a lot of attention on Jess Glynne. Proves you don’t really need a whole back catalogue, you can just have that one song.”

Having first emerged in 2011 with early mixtapes, Rascals’ sound has changed dramatically with their releases this year: “100%, it was a process we went through, maturing, going through a stage where we were working with loads of different producers. When we made ‘So High’, that was the benchmark we set for ourselves, the sound we wanted to go with, the EP is a taster for the album.” Tempz adding that, “growing up, and the things we listen to, and yeah...just life I guess. It wasn’t forced, it just happened. Concluding that “it was a natural vibe, every tune we do, off the back of it we try and do something that’s totally different.” Critics might argue that UK grime has somewhat dropped off the mainstream radar, but the boys argue

that it’s never been stronger, having taken on a more official shape rather than the explosive cultural movement it began as. “100%, I believe that everyone’s more into the business, even supporting each other. Before, there’d be conflict, everyone took things too personally. For instance, there’d be an MC, I ain’t gonna say his name, but when you’d see him you might think ‘ahh he’s looking at me bad like’ but looking at everyone in the grime scene now there’s a lot of professionalism going on. Everyone’s making better music, everyone’s developing”.

Bet it was Wiley, the bellend. Back to the present, the conversation turned towards their live show. As for a tour, they said, “we’re gonna be announcing something very soon,” so keep your eyes peeled. They described how “Live is a whole different vibe...an opportunity to play to people who’ve never heard it, and gain fans that way, is more intimate”. Rascals were insistent that “we’re trying to make this a live band, not a boyband, but a band,” a trend continued from their studio experience, especially with latest single ‘So High’ – as they oh so casually admitted, “the end of that song has actually got the drummer from a band called The Kooks”.

As we wound to an end, the rap ‘band’ ushered in a moment of modest, introspection. “We’re definitely proud of what we have, it’ll do what it does, but we’re proud to put our name on it and that’s everything really.” It’s certainly overdue but 2014 should be their year. *Rascals So High EP is out on Virgin EMI June 15th.*

“We’re trying to make this a live band, not a boyband, but a *band...*”



In the Spotlight: Meadowlark

Hatti Linnell

“How the name came about is a long, long, but beautiful story, I won't bore you with it,” lead singer Kate McGill jokes before telling me that the name Meadowlark was inspired by a Fleet Foxes song of the same name. ‘But also because I love birds and bird names, and it seemed to fit. I just love the name Meadowlark.’ They're a three-piece band who met in Bristol, composed of McGill and her bandmates, Carl Jones and Daniel Broadley. The band came together as an amalgamation of previous musical situations. “The guys came up to Bristol to watch a guy called the Tallest Man on Earth,” McGill recalls, “and they came round to my flat beforehand and said ‘We're sick of our rock band, we want to start a new project’ and I thought ‘yeah I'm kind of sick of the solo thing and looking to start something new as well’. Then a few weeks later I texted Dan and asked him if he wanted to jam a bit and he said ‘yeah, you read our minds’, and from that moment on it happened really naturally and quite quickly as well.”

These events were a year ago now, and the band have been busy since. On the live circuit, they've supported several high-profile acts including Gabrielle Aplin, Stornoway and Lewis Watson, and meanwhile, they've been busy in the studio recording their forthcoming EP, *Three Six Five*, so called to mark their one year anniversary. “We are a little apprehensive, but because we've had this EP under our belt for quite a while now, we're more keen to get it out and see what people think

about it, because we've got songs for the second EP already! It's taken so long to do it so now we're just super excited to have it out,” says McGill of the forthcoming release.”

The anticipation is unsurprising as the EP is very good. The four songs are each good in their own right, but also distinctively belong to Meadowlark. Beautifully crafted and well-performed, each song sticks in the mind after just one listen.

My personal favourite is ‘Sail Away’, a bitter-sweet break-up song, but I also love ‘Family Tree’, a piano-based track where McGill's soft yet haunting vocals fit perfectly. “I really like Family Tree obviously, it's very personal to me, but there's a song on there called ‘Forlorn’, I absolutely love it so much. I can't wait to play it on tour, as a band,” McGill tells me.

The band are also very excited for the upcoming festival season: “The atmosphere is great – you don't really go to a festival to have a shit time. I know that's common sense but everyone there is really excited and happy. It's normally good weather and everyone's drinking in the day because that's allowed. The crowds seem really happy to be there. When we did Barn on the Farm last year, that was our first gig as a band, and it went down so well. We were just crazy excited about the response because we were playing stuff that no one had really heard at that point. So we were super chuffed with the response.”



PHOTO: MEADOWLARK

Two Reviews: Coldplay - Ghost Stories



Ghost Stories marks a conscious uncoupling from Coldplay's ‘Yellow’ roots, into a studio-centric visual experience. It's basically still moaning about life, but the neon rave of Mylo Xyloto is gone, and in its place we have visual mythological etchings, ghosts of the past and divorcing a super-vegan.

Let's start with the bad news, ‘A Sky Full Of Stars’ is produced by Avicii. Hands down this is Coldplay's worst song to date, for a moment I thought I'd

Being a massive Coldplay fan, after the single ‘Magic’ I was waiting impatiently for the album release. The record was a change from the characteristic indie rock feel of previous albums. With its extensive synth based tracks and mellowing instrumentals, it has a more chilled feel. Perfect for those chilled summers

forgotten to skip the advert on Youtube, but no. It doesn't belong on this album and we won't mention it again.

Opener ‘Always In My Head’ is a magnificently produced piece, combining choral panning and subtle guitar, it sets the album out as it means to go on, it's just a shame it's cut short by ‘Magic’. Now the hype might be all about this song right now but, in all honesty, it sounds like Martin's vocals are being strained by a song that wasn't written for him. Nonetheless, it does retain a place in your head, if only for those mind numbingly enuieux lyrics.

‘True Love’, with a twist on a standard chord progression, with minimal future beats, overdubbed with that tortured, almost off-key guitar solo is genius. It's clever, not catchy, and it works. It flows seamlessly into ‘Midnight’ which is the

out in the garden – post exams of course! ‘Always In My Head’ as the title of the album states, does portray a Ghost Story, not only lyrically but also with the use of melody.

The group collected a top 10 singles place with the track ‘Magic’, just adding to their collection of top 10 singles. The band seems to be going from strength to strength.

A particular favourite track of mine is ‘True Love’ with the effective use of synths and wallowing strings, added to Martin's melancholic. The reputation is a theme throughout the album, this song is no different, this also adds to the chilled and easy going feel of the album creating an eerie and ghost-like feel – yet again, apt for the title of the album.

The only track which didn't really hit the Cold-

standout track; dark, subtle and masterfully produced.

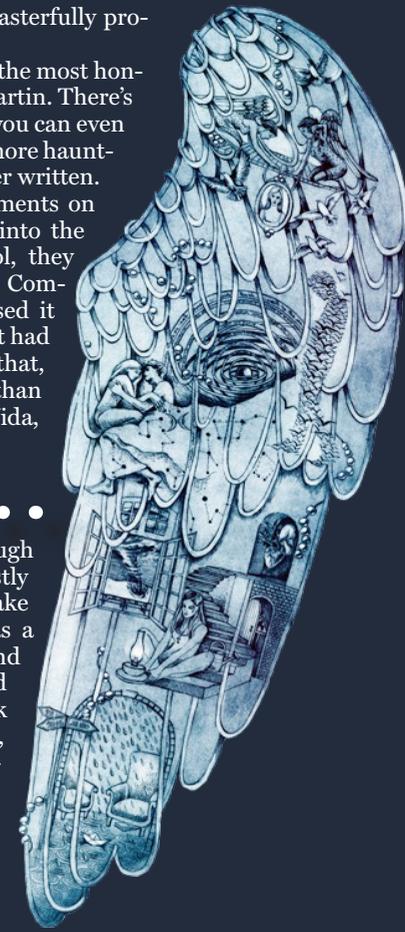
‘Another's Arms’ is probably one of the most honestly heartbroken songs by Chris Martin. There's a moment later in the album when you can even here wedding bells being rung. It's more haunting than any lyric Coldplay have ever written.

There's a lot of intriguing moments on this album, but it's a foot dipped into the shallow end of the electronic pool, they don't quite want to say OK to the Computer just yet, but they've half arsed it and it sounds more mundane than it had the potential to be. Having said that, it needs to be rated more highly than Mylo Xyloto and perhaps Viva La Vida, simply for the balls of it.

Alex Donaldson

play's high standards was ‘O’ although an enjoyable piano piece with ghostly voices, the track didn't exactly take off, failing to add to the album as a whole. ‘O’ is stripped of charade, and Martin sounds utterly exhausted by the final line. Not the best track to end an album with. However, this doesn't detract from the overall album. Coldplay are one of the biggest bands around at the moment; they've produced an album which directly relates to their title in every sense. The attention to detail over every area of the songs can truly be heard within each track.

Katie Woodard



REVERB.

James Arthur's polite message to Her Majesty.

“...I don't give a fuck if they don't like me, I'm the motherfucking king so they should knight me.”

FILM.



Cutting edge cinema

First look: The Knife That Killed Me

Kate Barlow

★★★★

Based on the novel by Anthony McGowan, *The Knife That Killed Me* is told through the memories of Paul Varderman as he reflects on his final moments before his life is cut short. Through this retrospective outlook we are taken on a journey into his life at school as a part of the 'The Freaks' and his reactions to bullying, crime and peer pressure. So far, so clichéd.

However, the most striking and certainly original element of the film is the fact that it has been shot entirely on green screen. The graphic backdrops at first take a little time to get used to. This is initially disorienting as it makes figures seem to stand out too much from their dark backdrops. This approach has the result of not focusing one's attention on one space, unfamiliar to us with the blurred technologies of modern filmmaking, giving the viewer the power to choose where to look.

As co-director Kit Monkman explained, the film is about not seeing the world through a single lens, making the viewer "present in the visual space." There is thus a two-dimensional effect, as blurred layers common to a cinema viewer's eye are destroyed.

In many ways this film adaptation is therefore more similar to a theatre production, allowing you to choose where to look and which element to focus on. While using the green screen approach certainly wouldn't work for all films, in this setting it seems to.

At times it feels like the innovation of the production is used to make up for the lack of originality in the story. And mostly, it does. Dark graphic images surround the characters, setting an atmosphere of foreboding throughout, aided by the soundtrack. The abstract images work best, the blackboards of scribbled notes and the dark wastelands of the 'scummy areas', with the more realistic interior backdrops often appearing strange and a little contrived. The backdrops appear as something straight out of one of Paul's notebooks, bringing the presence of imagination into the forefront

and advancing the first-person narrative of the film.

Credit should also be given to the fantastic young actors. Jack McMullen manages to carry the majority of the screen time as Paul, an especially impressive feat given the fact that the studio setting meant that all background settings had to be imagined. Jamie Shelton's Roth and Oliver Lee's Shane, contrasting as hyper-intelligent bully and hippie-ish Byron quoting pacifist, also both deliver powerful turns. The adults of the story, on the other hand, are often melodramatic, although this may be a take on Paul's views of the characters. Either way, the younger actors undoubtedly overshadow the older ones.

While sometimes the detail slips, as we see images and situations not quite matching up properly (a maths lesson is coupled with a blackboard of the Battle of Bosworth, for example), this can perhaps be excused as they slide into insignificance given the wider themes covered. The film mostly succeeds in portraying a take on knife crime that doesn't patronise the viewer, even though the dialogue can be a little stilted and corny.

The Knife That Killed Me is, after all, an independent project, being funded by a Kickstarter crowdfunding campaign, launched at Heslington Studios on Heslington East, part of the University's Department of Theatre, Film and Television. Produced by York-based independent production company Green Screen Productions Ltd, the film is set to secure a deal with Universal Pictures UK for a DVD and Video on Demand distribution.

While *The Knife That Killed Me* may not be the most original of stories, and it certainly has its faults in terms of attention to detail and the occasional bit of dodgy dialogue, the originality of the production cannot be avoided. Ultimately, it is a film that has to be seen as a whole, a broad collation of powerful themes and bold images. Original, graphic and unusual, it is hard not to warm to the project despite its flaws.



Godzilla

Niall Whitehead

★★★★

A dinosaur with the powers of a nuclear bomb marches up to a giant monster and beats the hell out of it in that crater where a city was five minutes ago. That sentence spawned twenty-eight movies in Japan, but it's not done quite as well in the West (the last attempt, by Roland Emmerich in 1998, was panned harder than a Colorado river). Now Hollywood's trying again, and they've hit the mark a lot closer this time around.

Plot goes thus: in the 1980s, a giant monster known as a MUTO attacks a nuclear power-plant in Japan, killing the wife of Joe Brody (Bryan Cranston) in the process before the government contains it and covers it up. Years later, Brody and his son (Aaron-Taylor Johnson) return to expose the truth to the world...just in time to watch the MUTO escape. And it soon becomes clear that the rampaging MUTO has attracted something even worse. Something that rhymes with "Godzilla", because...well, it is Godzilla. Something that's proved immedi-

ately contentious about this film is the lack of actual Godzilla in it. When he is there, he shines. He's a gargantuan beast, exuding raw power and a strange nobility. However, as with the classic *Godzilla* movies, the final fight is really the only fight. The rest is just buildup, teasingly offering glimpses of the monster before cutting away.

The majority of the film then goes to the human actors. Bryan Cranston is the one who rocks, but doesn't get much screen-time either. The Protagonist Ball is lobbed to Taylor-Johnson, doing his best impression of a lump of wood as he hurries home to his family. Ken Watanabe works well with the role he's got - standing in the back and moralising about nature, pointing out the folly of man (with fewer electric guitars than when Blue Oyster Cult did it).

Overall, *Godzilla's Not Dead!* Although the human plot's a bit rickety, the King of Kaiju is back, in all his glory. We can just hope the inevitable sequel shows us a bit more of him.



The Two Faces of January

Kate Barlow

★★★★

Chester MacFarland (Viggo Mortensen) and his alluring wife Colette (Kirsten Dunst) are a couple holidaying in Athens in a suit-wearing, chain smoking version of 1962. While touring the local sites they meet Rydal (Oscar Isaac), a young Greek-American accomplished tourist scammer. As in any inevitable thriller, when one of them gets caught up in the murder of a private detective they are left trying to flee the country.

The Two Faces of January is a throwback to those classic unforgettable thrillers, reminiscent of the likes of Hitchcock. From a slow and sleepy beginning the action gradually mounts as paranoia builds, the dialogue is crisp and the atmosphere dark. However, the problem with following the classic noir template so closely is that it sometimes feels as if we've seen it all before. Hitchcock already mastered this art over 50 years ago. The characters are a bit bland; Chester's rage and overwhelming jealousy especially become a little exhausting.

However, this is not to say that the acting is anything short of fantastic, and if anything the leads are overqualified for their roles. Mortensen switches with ease between charisma, paranoia and sheer pet-

tiness, while Isaac delivers a consistent air of quite distance.

Dunst too gives a strong performance as Colette, even if her motivations can seem unfounded. Colette is the type of female role rarely seen out of the age of black and white. Confused and hysterical, she is only granted knowledge of what is actually going on half way through the film, after which she proceeds to cry and moan her way through her screen time, finding comfort only in the arms of Rydal, to the frustration of her husband. Thankfully, most modern thrillers at least attempt to steer clear of this female stereotype, although it seems director Hossein Amini has yet to get the message.

The locations alone are reason enough to buy a ticket, taking us from Athenian ruins, to a tranquil Crete, to the rickety stalls of the Grand Bazaar in Istanbul. However, despite the impressive cinematography, it feels like they've opted for style over substance. The audience is fully aware of the plot throughout, removing the air of mystery and the satisfaction of a big reveal.

Ultimately, *The Two Faces of January* is held back by its loyalty to the classic thriller. Despite its stylish leanings, it is easily forgettable in a way its influences never will be.

The long goodbye

Kate Barlow looks back on the life and career of Japanese director Hayao Miyazaki

The decision to quit while still ahead is an underrated one in the modern age. So frequently do we see our heroes grow old disgracefully, and whether it be musician, actor, writer, or director, we see their talents crumble as they attempt to hold onto their dwindling fame.

Japanese filmmaker Hayao Miyazaki's decision to retire at the age of 73 following the release of his final, and most controversial, film *The Wind Rises*, the tale of fighter-pilot designer Jiro Horikoshi, therefore comes as a welcome change. Although the film animation industry will be lacking following his departure, to see someone finish their illustrious career with a flourish, rather than a gradual bumbling decline, is a rare thing.

Miyazaki is incontestably one of cinema's greats. His most popular offering, *Spirited Away*, is the highest grossing film in Japan, the first to gross \$200m worldwide, and received an Oscar for best animated film. His cinematic prowess has been compared to the likes of Walt Disney, Nick Park and Steven Spielberg. The foundation of Studio Ghibli alongside Isao Takahata in Tokyo in 1985 kick started Miyazaki's animation career. The studio went on to make 19 feature films, eight of which are directed by Miyazaki.

Miyazaki takes an extremely active role in the creative process of his films, often acting as both writer and director. What makes them so extraordinary is the overwhelming effort put into the process: Miyazaki is an advocate of traditional animation with each frame being drawn painstakingly by hand (with the exception of *Princess Mononoke* where computer-generated imagery was used due to both time constraints and creative reasons). His method is thus artistic rather than mathematical, giving his work a rare homemade charm. In his early days, the filmmaker even insisted on personally reviewing each frame used, a duty he only delegated to others with age and health concerns.

Ghibli productions frequently contest American animation methods, developing scripts and storylines together, using watercolour images, and offering more complex moral lessons

than their Disney counterparts, giving each film a more personal human touch.

As with a number of great filmmakers, Miyazaki's career

“it's a rare thing to see someone finish their career with a flourish”

isn't short of controversy. In 2003 he refused to attend the Academy Awards to claim his well-deserved statue for *Spir-*



ited Away based on America's involvement in Iraq. He doesn't shy from broad political themes, with pacifism, feminism, and environmentalism all cropping up throughout his work. More recently, the release of *The Wind Rises* sparked debate over his take on a man who went onto develop the Japanese fighter planes used in World War II: the Japanese government claimed he was 'Anti-Japanese' while others have accused the film of glorifying the country's war effort. For a man surrounded in controversy, he refuses to indulge in such hype, rarely giving media interviews. His voice is instead revealed through his films, all of which speak of a quiet affiliation with nature.

While Miyazaki is a household name in Japan, his films only began to hit the western world after the release of *Princess Mononoke* in 1997. However, his influence expands further than just the big screen. His impact on Japanese culture is enormous, as his animation style has become synonymous with the country's artistic movement, as seen in the eruption in popularity of manga in the last ten years. One of his previous childhood homes has now been turned into a museum dedicated to the works of Studio Ghibli, located in the Tokyo suburb of Mitaka.

No doubt the itching anticipation one feels upon the release of new a Miyazaki offering will be sorely missed. However, with eight perfectly constructed masterpieces under his belt, perhaps it is time for the Japanese master to step down and open the floor for new animation talents. Miyazaki's magic will be missed but certainly never forgotten; neither generation nor geography will undermine his influence.

While we may be saying goodbye to Miyazaki's directing career, he has stated that he is set to continue with his manga illustrations and is set to begin work on a samurai series. Similarly, it is certainly not the end of Studio Ghibli who have recently expanded their power base by opening their first foreign office in Hong Kong.

After making at least six claims to have retired over the previous years, claims which he shortly after revoked, the only question we have now: is this really the end for Miyazaki?

Anime-zing journey

The Wind Rises

Michael Brennan



Spirited Away, *My Neighbour Totoro*, *Princess Mononoke*: iconic films which transcend the traditional divides between cartoon and cinema, east and west, 'anime' and animation. And behind them all is the undisputed master of animation, Hayao Miyazaki, whose career is so prestigious that his self-designated final film seems almost impossible to live up to such lofty expectations.

While it wouldn't appear so based on the IMDB synopsis, *The Wind Rises* winds up being the most quintessentially Miyazaki film of his career, as he places the interests and obsessions flirting around the edges of his previous filmography front and centre. This is most explicitly his love of airplanes, as the famed auteur tells a loose biography of Jiro Horikoshi, designer of aircraft used by Japan in World War Two.

For Miyazaki it's a fairly indulgent subject matter which, at the films weaker spots, means it can meander a little too far, weighing the film down at points when it should be in full flight. But at other points it is within these small joyous details that some of the film's greatest delights can be discovered. In an industry obsessed with technology, Studio Ghibli proudly displays the careful old-fashioned artistry, sparkling on the silver screen in all their perfect imperfection. These gorgeous visuals manage to say so much, thankfully carrying the film through points where the disappointingly stilted subtitles let it down

(the dub may have succeeded better in the difficult art of translation).

A biography being an atypical subject matter for animation, Miyazaki cleverly melds the medium to the genre with his trademark whimsy. Instead the strange and magical worlds of his previous films, the fantasies of the human mind are represented. Earthquakes become growling monsters, faces become canvases for dreams and the medium elevates a personal story to the perfect epic.

Upon its a release in the US, some controversy clouded the film over its perceived lack of exploration of the ethics of its tale (real life spoiler: Jiro's planes go on to bomb Pearl Harbour). Miyazaki, known for using fictional landscapes to project messages and preach his morals, instead recognises the difference of the backdrop of a real person's life, addressing the issues with nuanced complexity that matches the tender humanity at the heart of the film. This contemplative reflection of the film's graceful landing is a product of a mature man on the brink of retirement, no longer the angry radical of the past.

The Wind Rises is yet another beautifully crafted masterpiece, but one with a bittersweet tinge, frustrated with the difficult nature of life but still crucially optimistic. It serves as a final gift from a retiring filmmaker, to inspire the rest of us who have the rest of our lives ahead of us, as the wind rises and we try to keep on living.



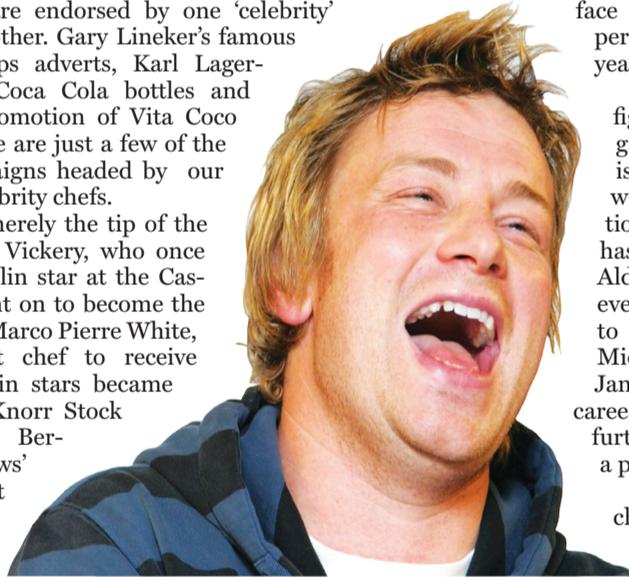
The celebrity chef sellouts

Tom Armston-Clarke investigates the commercialisation of the culinary world



An increasing amount of food products are endorsed by one 'celebrity' or another. Gary Lineker's famous Walkers crisps adverts, Karl Lagerfeld's artsy Coca Cola bottles and Rhianna's promotion of Vita Coco Tropical Juice are just a few of the recent campaigns headed by our favourite celebrity chefs.

This is merely the tip of the iceberg. Phil Vickery, who once held a Michelin star at the Castle Hotel went on to become the face of Aldi. Marco Pierre White, the youngest chef to receive three Michelin stars became the face of Knorr Stock Cubes and Bernard Matthews' turkeys. Not forgetting family favourite



Jamie Oliver, who was the face of Sainsbury's supermarkets for several years.

Although these figures are highly regarded by the British population, is it wrong for us to question whether Vickery has ever set foot in Aldi, or if White has ever used stock cubes to gain his hallowed Michelin stars? And Jamie Oliver? Well, his career has never spanned further than working as a pastry or sous chef...

Not all 'celebrity' chefs have followed this lead. Delia Smith, who has

written recipes for over 40 years, voiced her opinion on these 'sell outs'; claiming they may influence the public's choice of food. Perhaps as foodies we're over thinking it, as it's highly likely that the public don't really care.

As it gets increasingly difficult to succeed in the culinary world, questions are raised as to whether such figures have the right to avoid the kitchen in order to gain widespread success.

White once compared taking a job at Harveys to joining the SAS; with unthinkable hours, minimal pay and hierarchical abuse in the kitchens, is it any wonder these chefs do what they can to get out of the kitchen?

Many chefs now avoid putting their whites on and instead put their name on numerous restaurants. Whether these chefs ever visit the buildings with their name above the door or help choose the menu is up for debate; it seems to be merely another way for well-known chefs to build up an empire and also make a small fortune.

Only recently, health inspectors forced a 24 hour closure of Jamie Oliver's flagship butchers shop, located below the chef's exclusive Barbecoa restaurant.

In addition to findings of mould and mouse droppings on food, the safety of the restaurant was deemed terrible. Although known for his strong views on healthy eating and revolutionising school dinners, Oliver appears to have a laissez-faire view on cleanliness.

A similar instance occurred with *Kitchen Nightmare's* chef Gordan Ramsey, who had a mercurial relationship with his restaurants; frequent closures and a recent loss of two Michelin stars from his flagship New York restaurant resulted in Ramsey breaking down in tears.

Celebrity chefs may benefit economically from these short-lived media campaigns but in years to come, will the public remember them for their talent or the fact that their face was on the packet of stock cubes?

Baker Procrastinator: Italian Strawberry Tart

Deborah Lam

Instead of running home worrying about the train wreck that were your exams, buy a punnet of strawberries and bake your troubles away. I couldn't tell you what it is that makes this tart Italian, nor why it's called a tart - the recipe avoids the painful process of kneading, resting and impatiently waiting for the dough to 'relax.' However, what I do know is that when you Google image search 'Italian Strawberry Tart', there are enough pictures resembling mine to be vaguely reassuring.

Ingredients:

210g plain flour
170g caster sugar
85g butter, softened
2 eggs
1 ½ teaspoons baking powder
¼ teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon cinnamon
2 tablespoons milk
1 punnet of strawberries
icing sugar

Method:

1. Preheat the oven to 175 °C
2. Butter an 8-inch cake tin.
3. Combine the flour, salt, baking powder and cinnamon until fully incorporated.
4. In a separate bowl, beat the butter and sugar until the mixture is light and fluffy.
5. Mix the eggs and milk into the butter and sugar.
6. Add the dry ingredients, mixing until just incorporated. Too much mixing will result in air being knocked out of the cake, and the tart losing its fluffy texture.
7. Pour the mixture into the cake tin. Halve each strawberry and lightly press each one on top in a circular pattern.
8. Bake for 30 minutes. Test if the tart is cooked by inserting a knife into it - if it comes out clean then the cake is cooked. Remove from the oven.
9. When cool, remove the tart from the tin and dust with icing sugar.



Putting the 'odd' in Vodka

Erin Rodgers speaks to premium vodka brand **ODDKA** about putting their twist on the popular spirit

Every wondered what might happen if you crossed Willy Wonka with a global brand of super-premium Polish vodka? No? Nor did we. But it's happened and it's marvellous.

ODDKA was launched in the US in 2012, and the label's unique qualities quickly captured the imagination of vodka lovers here in the UK, as it arrived in supermarkets just last year. With flavours such as Salty Caramel Popcorn, Fresh Cut Grass and Electricity, ODDKA pushes the boundaries of this staple student spirit, and does so with such charming eccentricity that it's hard not to feel intrigued by the creative masterminding behind the brand.

We spoke to Global Assistant Brand Manager, Jonas Gustafsson to find out more about ODDKA's inspiration.

Well, first of all, we love all the odd things in the world!

If you think about it, we all have something odd in us: a taxi driver sits in a car all day, driving around people that he or she does not know; a boat captain's working day takes place aboard something that weighs over 60 tonnes and still floats! Quite odd if you ask me. We would like to encourage people to be curious and experimental. The human instinct to seek something new and find out 'what would happen if I do this' has led man to fly to the moon, sprint 100 meters in 9.58 seconds and ODDKA to create a great tasting flavoured spirit.

We love students and students love ODDKA. By the way, being a student is quite odd too if you think about it. First you read, read, read all day and then party, party, party all night!

My ideal ODDKA customer would be hard to pick. Celebrity or not - I would love to see all people over the legal drinking age enjoy an ODDKA drink. If I were to choose just one, I would like to make Liam Gallagher a Salty Caramel Popcorn drink. I hope he would not look back on it in anger...

Wit Oddoski, the charming character on ODDKA bottles, has humble origins. In the 15th Century, the Poles were some of the first people in the world to produce vodka, or 'little water' as it directly translates. It was in the 19th Century that vodka spread to the rest of Europe and our character, Mr. Wit Oddoski, is a tribute to all the Poles that made this possible. Wit is

actually a 2D line drawing, so it is no big surprise that he looks at things quite differently. He finds inspiration for his flavour experiments everywhere - places he visited, people he met and dreams he dreamt.

We have to thank the curious minds of all our inspiring consumers for giving us new flavour ideas, whether we meet them on the street, in the bar or on Facebook. We always try to involve our fans in the flavour development. In the UK for instance, we recently ran a campaign 'Survival of the Oddest' in which our fans voted on which new flavour they would like to see on the shelves in the UK. When we come up with a new flavour idea, we imagine what it would taste like and ask ourselves 'would we drink it?'. If 'yes', we roll up our sleeves and start to distill.

ODDKA is different from its sister brand ABSOLUT. Even if we both work with a variety of flavours, we have different target groups and missions. ODDKA is mainly consumed by party people in their 20s, whilst ABSOLUT has a slightly older consumer group. When it comes to flavours... If ABSOLUT were to produce a strawberry flavour, we would go more 'odd' and make a strawberry milkshake flavour, for instance.

ODDKA has found particular success in the UK, maybe due to its stereotypically eccentric

nature. The UK is ODDKA's lead market. I think the quirkiness of the brand and the British sense of humour make a great fit. We are about to launch a new flavour in the UK, keep your eyes open.

There are many ways students can incorporate ODDKA into their budget lifestyles. If you want something quick and easy, Twisted Melon mixes great with lemonade and Salty Caramel Popcorn goes perfectly with Coke. If you want to experiment a bit more I would suggest 'The Big Oddoski': Salty Caramel Popcorn with Kahlua, butterscotch, milk, Coke and salt - a crazy drink that tastes deliciously odd! Also, in Oddka Electricity there is a tingling sensation - a feeling of licking a battery. It is also slightly flavoured with ripened raspberries. You can find this recipe amongst others on our website.

If you have a favourite alcoholic drink beverage then it's time for a change. Try something new and escape old habits. I am certain you will enjoy ODDKA's oddness. Go odd.

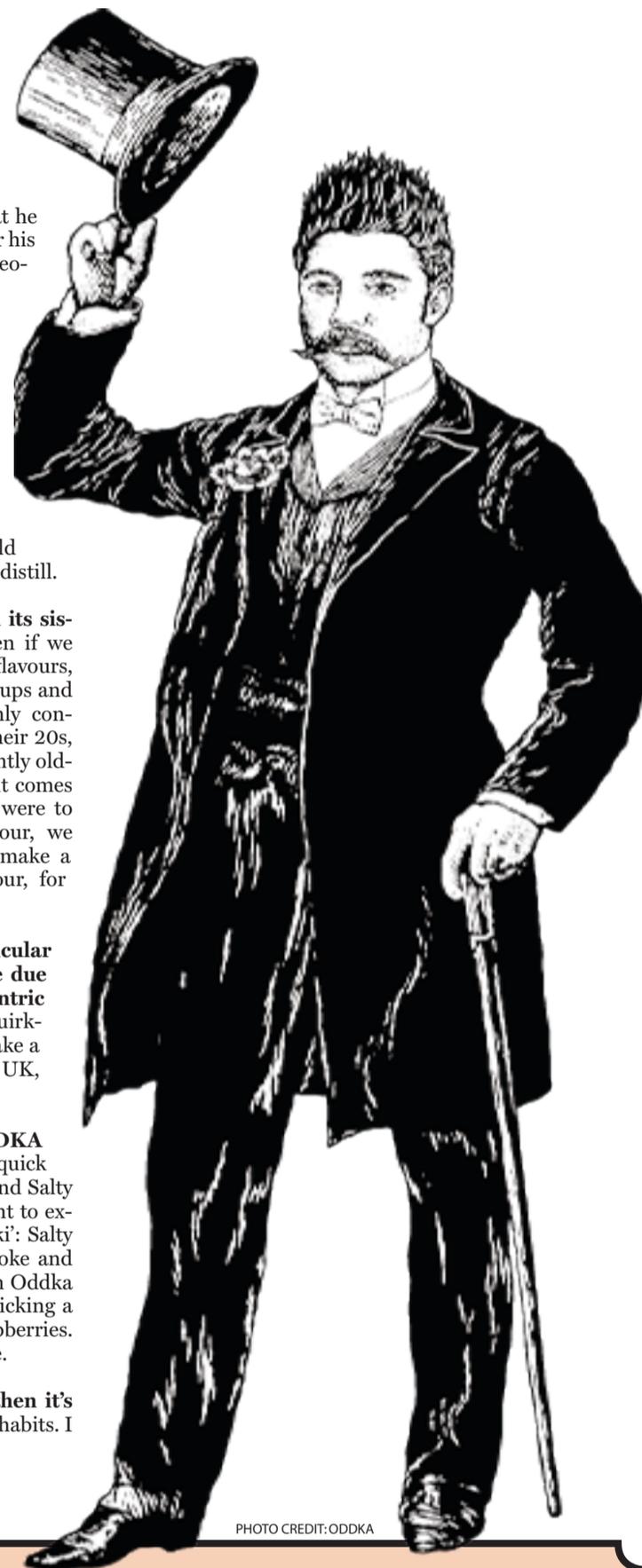


PHOTO CREDIT: ODDKA



"I would like to make Liam Gallagher a Salty Caramel Popcorn drink"



An odd couple of cocktails

The Peachoid

Ingredients:
2 measures ODDKA fresh cut grass
2 measures peach schnapps
fresh lemon juice
Sugar and water

Sugar syrup is an essential ingredient in the cocktails we buy, preventing them from becoming too sweet. To make it, combine one part water with one part white sugar in a saucepan. Bring to a boil, stirring until all the sugar has dissolved. This should take a couple of minutes. Leave to cool. Shake all the ingredients together with ice cubes. Strain the cocktail with a shaker. Try switching the peach for apple sourz and replacing the lemon juice with lime for something different.



Dirt Dog

Ingredients:
2 measures ODDKA Salty Caramel Popcorn
Pink grapefruit juice
1 tbsp lemon juice
2 tbsp sugar syrup
Soda water
Sea salt

Pour ODDKA, lemon juice and simple syrup (see 'The Peachoid' for recipe) into a glass filled with ice. Top with grapefruit juice and soda water. For an easy alternative, you could add pink lemonade, which is inexpensive to buy from supermarkets. Stir all ingredients together, then finish off with a sprinkling of sea salt to serve. Add a shot of rum for an extra alcoholic kick.

Life on the road



PHOTOS: (THIS PAGE) K SUNGWON (NEXT PAGE TOP) EL TREKKER VIAJANTE (NEXT PAGE BOTTOM) MOYAN BRENN

The Manx Moddey Dhoo Motorcycling Club talk to Fiona Parker about the highs and lows of living in a biking community

On Saturday, the Isle of Man's 95th Tourist Trophy Race began. The first race was held in 1907 and the Trophy was for many years the most prestigious motorcycle race in the world. Each year, the two week motorbike racing event sees about 25,000 people travel to the small Island which ordinarily can only boast of a population of 85,000. What makes the T.T race so special is that many of its competitors are amateurs who see the T.T as a chance to experience the thrill of racing across the open road by an incomparable mode of transport.

The T.T course itself, which runs around the island, is both complicated and unforgiving, with 264 corners that can cause unexpected pile ups of both racers and mounted spectators alike. Every year, without fail, riders both watching and racing die on the Manx road. In fact, since the Tourist Trophy began 240 people have lost their lives, with 21 deaths since the turn of the century.

Despite improving health and safety regulations, it seems

the much-loved annual event cannot help but be marred by tragedy. Last summer, I could not imagine why the event would continue to be loved unconditionally by those who participate and watch from both the side lines and on two wheels of their own.

The temptation of glory in victory seemed to me, though daring, a near-rational reason to take part. It was the attitude

“You have to be a rebel to be a biker”

of the spectators who rode without the temptation of victory and leaned into the bends, which I could not understand to be anything other than suicidal. In order to understand this I would have to understand the Island's motorcycling culture.

Last summer, the members of the committee members of the Manx Moddey Dhoo Motorcycling Club were happy to an-

swer my questions. Brian Corrie, a biker since the tender age of sixteen is Chairman of the Moddey Dhooos, an MCC founded in 1993. The club was named after a mythical black dog, which according to Manx folklore, haunted Peel castle, a monument found on the West coast of the Island.

“Outside biking I'm a trained mechanic”, Dave Andrea tells me. Married couple, fellow Moddey Dhooos and self-confessed “rock ‘n’ rollers” Marie and Dave, moved to the Island from London. Dave, brought up in a family of bikers since his birth in 1949, was part of an MCC in London and was drawn to the Island due to its biking culture. Marie, whose whole family was “brought up on bikes”.

“It's exciting being a woman in this environment”, Marie tells me. “It's a family and we look out for each other. If a lady's partner is away, everybody looks after the woman. I'm treated with respect.” Marie confesses her love affair with biking has been life-long and has influenced every part of her life including her relationships. “Ever since I was younger I couldn't see

myself being anything other than a biker. I only ever went out with biker boys." Marie met Dave when she was fourteen. The rest is history.

The club is based on the Isle of Man and I wanted to know the extent to which biking is a part of Manx life. Last year, Allan Bell, the Island's chief minister claimed that the biggest threat to the Isle of Man was its aging population, which is expected to grow by 75% over the next 20 years. The Moddey Dhoos, however, claim that the Island is not the peaceful haven it may appear to the mainlanders in all respects.

"If you're from the Island, it's very hard to not be in some way involved in bikes", Brian tells me. "We have a problem where some people buy houses on the course and then complain bitterly when there are bikes riding past during T.T week. But the event shouldn't be seen as

Safety will, one day, call a stop to the T.T.

Everybody seems intent on making bikes safer. Motorcyclists must wear helmets, which Brian claims save thousands of lives each year. There are crash bars and airbag-fitted biking jackets – "You can imagine how amusing that could be," Dave tells me, "You go to put your jacket on and it blows up like a balloon". Helmets have been built which, upon hitting the floor, release an "airbag hood" in order to protect the biker in a similar manner as the car driver.

On the T.T course itself, areas have already been prohibited to spectators, as a result of accidents which include bikes going into the crowds. "The problem is you can never be 100 per cent scientifically sure where a bike is going to end up when it crashes at 180mph," Brian tells me. "However, it's im-

"At the end of the day we're all going to die, whether we are bikers or not."

an inconvenience – it's part of the Island and people should know that before moving here."

In 2012, 9000 bikes were brought to the Island during T.T fortnight. But the Island's bikers are not all to be found in racing leathers. Brian tells me about the different types of bikers who I could expect to meet. These groups of people are not simply motorcycling "commuters", who view their vehicles as a way of getting to and from.

If you're a true biker, it's not the same as simply saying you take the bus, it is a way of life. There is only one obligation, according to Brian.

"You have to be a rebel to be a biker. The whole point of being on the bike is to have a bit more freedom. You can do a little more than anybody else. You travel more dangerously. I mean in terms of biking history it was only in the seventies where if you walked into any pub with a biker's jacket on they wouldn't serve you."

Brian goes on to list the categories. "You have your Sports Bikers in their full-suit of leathers – they just want to ride fast. Then there are the Dirt Bikers, they ride off road. There are also Cruisers and Retro-Style Bikers, we ride for the pleasure of riding. We are the kind of riders who just want to keep things as standard as possible."

It's this kind of mind-set which prompts bikers such as Brian to worry about the increasing influence technology is having on the T.T. "More and more you see racers adjusting their bikes through their laptops rather than in the garage. You can't just go back in the shed and do things old-school. It is a worry because it means grassroots racers cannot afford to compete because new technology is making it so much harder for non-team members."

I ask Brian whether he worries this is making the T.T race an elitist event. "Of course", he replies.

But there are other aspects of biking which are changing. Along with an increasing number of houses being built on the Island, Brian fears that the giants of Health and

portant to remember that outside the T.T course, the majority of bike accidents do involve cars".

At this point Brian tells me of people he personally knows who have lost their lives on their bikes. He tells me of a club member who was killed nine years ago when an elderly driver failed to see them while overtaking. Another couple, Tony and Sarah, were separated when the two were involved in a pile-up. Both were sent to hospital, but only Sarah survived the ordeal.

The Dhoos have all experienced their fair share of close shaves. "I've come off at 110mph and I've walked away" Dave tells me. "The fatalities are very harsh but you learn to expect them. People do fall off bikes. Yes we've had the accidents, we've had blood-spills, but we'll never give up. At the end of the day we're all going to die, whether we are bikers or not."

The bikers are a community, but for Marie and I expect many others, it's also about the chance to take full responsibility of your own life. The thrill does not just lie in sharing time with like-minded people and being part of a "family" but also enjoying your own presence.

"It's an incredible community, but it's also about being with yourself. You may be riding with people at the time but you are also simultaneously completely on your own. You can be thinking about whatever you want to at the time. That's you, that's your space. How you deal with it is entirely your choice."

The club members were very kind to me and Dave even took me round the T.T course on his own beloved bike. I was offered a glimpse of a thrill of what the MCC live for.

Biking is about the biking family and the biking culture, but it is also about the biker's own decisions and their self-experience. It is not only the freedom of feeling the wind in your hair, but in the freedom of taking your own risks. It is by understanding this that I could understand why riders effectively choose to place their lives on the line each time they reach for their leathers. **M**



E3 Preview

Adnan Riaz gives the low-down on what to expect at the Electronic Entertainment Expo 2014

The Electronic Entertainment Expo, better known as E3, is the event that has the attention of the entire gaming community. This is where the 'Big Three' (Sony, Microsoft and Nintendo) will reveal the content gamers are yearning to see. However, this will be the most crucial E3 in almost a decade, specifically as the next-generation consoles (mainly the PlayStation 4 and Xbox One) were released in 2013, and this offers a platform for the companies to showcase the games coming to these consoles. Here is what *Nouse* is expecting to see at E3.

Sony will be entering E3 with confidence, considering the PS4 has already shipped more than seven million units in under a year. With the company achieving monumental success early on in the PS4's system cycle, they now have one simple objective: demonstrating to the consumers why they selected the right console. For Sony to do this, they will be calling on support from their renowned first-party studios. *Uncharted 4* and *The Order: 1886* are expected to feature at the press conference, but the idea of *God of War 4* making a surprise appearance can't be ruled out.

Sony will have PlayStation Now as a focal point at their conference—this is a service which offers users to stream PlayStation content straight onto their PS4, PS Vita and any other product which Sony is supporting. This is a fundamental feature for its ability to offer backwards compatibility with previous PlayStation titles.

Bungie's first-person shooter *Destiny* featured at Sony's conference in 2013 and the title will once again reappear before its release in September. Hideo Kojima is expected to be at E3 with the next chapter in his illustrious series, *Metal Gear Solid V: The Phantom Pain*, with Sony's conference potentially hosting his latest trailer.

Microsoft had emerged from E3 2013 rather embarrassed after Jack Tretton, former President and CEO of Sony Computer Entertainment of America (SCEA), ripped into the company for the initial and controversial features integrated in the Xbox One. The Xbox One has not reached the same level of success that Sony is currently enjoying, but the company has confirmed a price drop on the console and E3 is looking like an event which Microsoft is putting their full attention to.

Microsoft is expected to bring its long-standing franchises to the conference, with *Halo 5: Guardians* set to appear and also Black Tusk Studios first entry in the critically acclaimed *Gears of War* series. Developer Remedy Entertainment is expected to return with *Quantum Break*, a title that was

revealed last year and excited fans with a new title. Activision will also return to this conference and reveal further information (and possibly a trailer) on *Call of Duty: Advance Warfare*.

Nintendo has recently been quieter at E3 than its competitors, with the company confirming that they will remain by their position last year and not hold a press conference. The Wii U has struggled to attain similar success to Sony and Microsoft, and not taking advantage of the publicity on the press conference floor will be a blow for the company.

However, Nintendo will be showcasing titles for both its home console and handheld, with *The Legend of Zelda* and *Super Smash Bros.* confirmed for the event. *Pokémon Omega Ruby* and *Alpha Sapphire*, the remakes of *Pokémon Ruby* and *Sapphire*, have been a major talking point, and Nintendo may reveal further details at the event. President Satoru Iwata has been under pressure after Nintendo faced a disappointing fiscal year in 2013, and now one of gaming's oldest companies needs to reposition itself as a dominant player in the market.

E3 is not just about the 'Big Three' making their presence heard, as third-party publishers host their conferences, such as Ubisoft and Electronic Arts. Ubisoft stunned an E3 audience in 2012 when they unveiled their latest title, *Watch Dogs*, a title which has now been released after several delays, and did the same in 2013 with Tom Clancy's *The Division*.

No doubt Ubisoft will have another ace up their sleeve for this conference, but one of the company's long-standing franchises will make an appearance: *Assassin's Creed*. The fifth installment in the series, subtitled *Unity*, will be the first entry on the Xbox One and PS4, with the expectations high after the success of *Assassin's Creed IV: Black Flag*. EA will take the stage and reveal further entries into their sports related franchises, but attention will be centred on a game that fans have been screaming for quite some time: *Star Wars: Battlefront 3*. Additionally, a glimpse at the highly anticipated *Mirror's Edge 2* will be a likely appearance at EA's conference.



E3 Moments: Best to Worst

Sony – Jack Tretton Rating: 5/5

Sony emerged victorious at E3 2013 because of the impact of this man's speech. He spent under two minutes humiliating Microsoft by taking apart their initial features in the Xbox One. But the power of Tretton's speech went even further than just embarrassment, as it eventually had Microsoft make a U-turn on Xbox One's development.

Nintendo – Reggie Fils-Aime Rating: 4/5

Reggie Fils-Aime arrived at Nintendo's E3 press conference in 2004 and made this comment: "My name is Reggie. I'm about kickin' ass, I'm about takin' names, and we're about makin' games." Does more need to be said?

Nintendo – Wii U Music Rating: 3/5

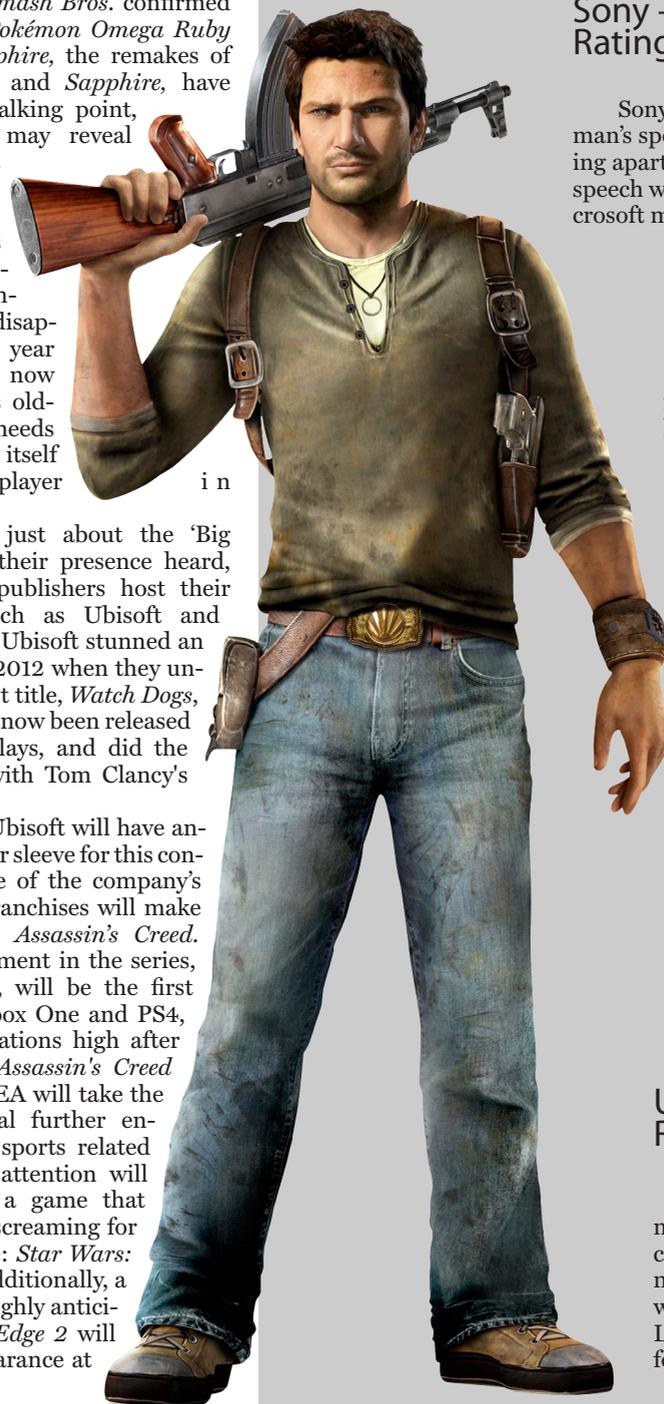
In 2008, Nintendo presented *Wii Music*, which has no doubt scarred both Nintendo and the gaming community. DJ Ravi Drums—yes, that is his actual name—performed a drum solo using the Wii remote, with legendary developer Shigeru Miyamoto warming up the crowd beforehand. One word to describe this: disturbing.

Konami – Ninety-Nine Nights II Rating: 2/5

Tak Fuji's appearance at E3 with *Ninety-Nine Nights II* has become infamous for how terrible and hilarious it was—the best part is that he's left us with YouTube clips and gifs to send to each other. Delivering lines like, "You will be sucked" and "One million troops...WOW" were so bad that it would have prompted people to buy *N3II* expecting the dialogue to be the same.

Ubisoft – Mr. Caffeine Rating: 1/5

Aaron Priceman, aka Mr. Caffeine, was a revelation that Ubisoft must still regret. Not only did he adopt an absurd stage name at the conference, but the memo which mentioned this was a conference, not a stand-up comedy, must have been lost on the way to him. He went on to pronounce their distinguished franchise as "Tom Kallancy's" Ghost Recon and continued to say "Doodily doodily doo" for some reason.



My shit week so far

You'd think that in the midst of exams and a looming research proposal I'd have had an even shittier week than usual. You'll be pleased to know (I'm sure you know this by now) that I've had an equally mediocre week as every other to date. Shock, horror.

The highlight of my week has been exercising my civil right to vote. I decided to vote by post back to my home constituency because I'm not going to vote for a representative in a part of the country that I don't live in half of the time, and won't live in at all when I inevitably have to sign on next summer.

It has been entertaining, however, to see the whole furore over Ukip and their quasi-racist discourse around the 'non-nationals'. Worryingly, there are similar stories of manic xenophobia that my mum comes out with, which is hilarious considering that she married an Irish immigrant. That doesn't count as justification for your blatant racism, mum.

As for me, I bloody love immigrants! Our native population of island-dwelling layabouts is simply too scared of losing jobs to foreigners who happen to do those jobs better, epitomised brilliantly by the Premier League. I don't care how good a person's English is;

as long as my plumbing works, I'm really not bothered.

Britain's inability to do a good job of anything was highlighted by two things this week. Firstly, by my English window cleaner, who I'm pretty sure asked one of my housemates "to get his cock out". Secondly, by my postal ballot paper, which didn't even fit in the fucking envelope. Of course I'm going to tick the box for the Sod It, We'll Take Anyone party when even our electoral services can't even print the right size paper. The name of that party also happens to epitomise my love life.

As for the rest of my week, I finished one exam and celebrated in true student fashion by going out and getting absolutely shit-faced. It ended up with me sitting with my best bud Beth at a taxi rank for over an hour before we finally decided to give in to our British idleness and call one ourselves. Inevitably, a taxi rocked up as soon as we finished booking one.

Beth will think that she's cool for getting a mention in this, but I hasten to add that she reads a book about giraffes whenever she feels lonely.

I decided to be a bit more cosmopolitan in my celebration of handing in my research proposal by going shopping in true man-shop-

ping style. This involved me going into a shop, picking up the shirt that I wanted in my size, and buying it.

Then I managed to get lost in Marks & Spencer's labyrinthine escalator system. After walking up one floor, I naturally went to the nearest lift, which took me back down to the floor I'd just been on. It took me more time to get to the menswear department than it did to actually buy the shirt.

And, of course, it pissed down on my way to the bus stop, so I nipped into Topman to shelter from the rain in a bid to stay edgy, which was difficult with an M&S bag in my hand.

Ten minutes of tie-dye later, current fashion trends had made me sick enough to stand in the rain and wait for my bus, where I sat at the back and played Pokemon on my Game Boy in a bid to look edgy again.

Some of the 'lads' who were chatting about



CARTOON: KATE MITCHELL

'footie' near the back of bus certainly gave me some disparaging looks as they tried to work out whether I was about ten years behind everyone or simply ten years old (but if they knew that I was 20, it would have meant that I could be both! Haw, haw).

Either way, the last laugh is on them; their conversation moved on to how parts of Bambi should have been censored. Like the nation as a whole, lad culture has clearly gone to the dogs, and I'm going to get drunk again to forget about it. All roads lead to Willow. I think Constantine said that.



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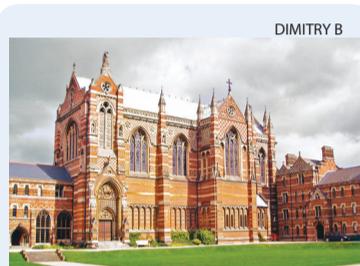
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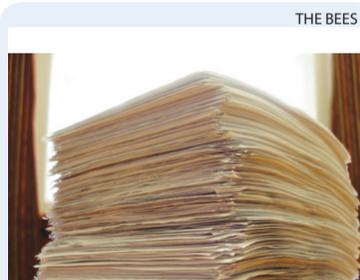
DIMITRY B

Students at the University of Oxford have voted to leave the National Union of Students. The vote, passed by a very small majority, has divided the University with many Student Union officials hoping to reaffiliate in the future.



PRACHATAI

The president of vice-chancellors' group Universities UK (UUK) Professor Sir Christopher Snowden, in a letter to the Times, argued that leaving the EU would hurt British universities which are national assets that contribute £73 bn to the economy and growth.



THE BEES

A survey of over 15,000 students found that most no longer feel as if they are getting value for money. The Independent reported that the number of those who rate their University course as good value is 41 per cent compared to almost double that in Scotland.

Security in the Baltic Sea and Crimea

Yvonne Efstathiou
POLITICS EDITOR

On 13 May, the Politics and the Estonian Societies hosted Dr Ainus Lasas, Lecturer at the University of Bath in European Politics. Dr Lasas talked about security in the Baltic Sea region and after Russia's occupation in Crimea.

More than 100 people from different backgrounds and nationalities attended the talk contributing positively to the discussion, posing interesting and challenging questions.

Dr Lasas talked about security in the traditional realist view of securing the state against any attacks and the systematic changes, or in other words the changes in relationships between actors and states.

The talk underlined the limited economic impact on the Baltic Sea following the Russian intervention and the militarisation of the region. Nato has increased its presence from four to twelve jets, while it also plans to create an air base in Estonia for air policing. At the same time Sweden is said to increase its defence budget from £7.1 bn in 2014 to almost £8.2 bn by 2024.

According to Dr Lasas the most important systemic shift comes from Finland and Sweden which during the Cold War regarded neutrality as a key concept for surviving,

and now view Nato's as the right policy for the future. This can be regarded as a response to the perceived threatening regional Cold War, or a growing mutual distrust. On the one hand Russia views the EU as an economic expansion of the Nato, while on the other hand the West and the Baltic states see any Russian movement with suspicion.

The lecturer in one of his answers, during the questions and answers session, said that the future of Ukraine is not clear. He argued that it is not easy to say how Russia will react. In an answer concerning individual action, he suggested to people to write to newspaper and let the rest of the world listen to their voices.

The Chair of the Estonian Society, Kadi Tamjarv, agreed with the President of the Politics society, that "it was a great opportunity to have Dr Lasas at our university to talk about security in the Baltic sea, especially at this period of time when the future of the region is at stake". "We would like to thank all the people who attended the event. We hope that they found it both enlightening and intellectually inspiring".

For the video of the talk visit the Politics Society's website.



ASTHOSIA

STUDENT POLITICS

PolSoc and the Estonian Society hosted a talk about security in the Baltic

Santos: 'This war has sucked our blood'

Dilan Gurgur
POLITICAL REPORTER

Colombia's presidential election will likely go into a closely fought run-off in which opposition candidate Oscar Ivan Zuluaga is locked in a statistical tie with incumbent President Juan Manuel Santos.

The elections took place on 25 May. In the event that no candidate receives a 50 per cent majority a vote will be taken again in three weeks time.

Colombians will head to the polls on Sunday with the leading candidates for president separated by a shrinking margin that has suddenly made the race too close to call.

Instead of a shoo-in for the centrist incumbent, Juan Manuel Santos, the campaign has turned into a bitter "dirty war" over the handling of a peace process with Marxist insurgents of the FARC (Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia) that could finally end one of the world's longest running armed conflicts.

The latest opinion polls show Santos in a dead heat with his main challenger, Oscar Ivan Zuluaga, the chosen candidate of Santos's former boss and now nemesis, former president Alvaro Uribe who is barred by the constitution from running again.

According to the poll, while Santos would lead the first round of the election on 25 May with 27.7 per cent of the vote, against Zuluaga, with 23.9 per cent, the survey by Cifras y Conceptos showed.



CENTER FOR AMERICAN PROGRESS

THE AMERICAS

Colombia's Presidential election will likely go into a closely fought battle a poll revealed last Thursday

Barring an extraordinary late-minute surge, neither contender is expected to clear the 50 per cent threshold needed.

Right-wing Zuluaga, the chosen candidate of still-popular former President Alvaro Uribe, would win the second round with 34.2 per cent of the vote, against the center-right Santos' 33.6 per cent, according to the survey.

Santos and Zuluaga differ little on economic issues, both favouring investor-friendly policies so the choice for many voters is likely to come down to the candidates' position on ongoing peace negotiations with Marxist FARC rebels.

In a bid to end five decades of

war, Santos began talks with the FARC at the end of 2012.

Santos has said his re-election is vital to completing the negotiations in Havana, where representatives of the FARC and the government have so far reached partial agreements on two of the five agenda points.

Zuluaga has said he would demand concessions, including a ceasefire, from the rebels before continuing talks, a condition FARC leadership has rejected. He has also talked about scrapping the negotiations.

Both campaigns were jolted by the resignations of key advisors last week, after allegations of bribery and spying prompted investigations by authorities.

Support for each of the other candidates in the contest—the Green Alliance's Enrique Penalosa, Clara Lopez of the left-wing Polo Democratico and the Conservative Party's Marta Lucia Ramirez—was at or below 10 per cent.

The proportion of voters who plan to choose none of the candidates on the ballot fell to 11.5 per cent from 16.8 per cent in the last poll.

Campaigning has turned negative in recent weeks, souring voter support and risking high rates of absenteeism.

Judging by the current situation and past events the race might not end on Saturday but go on to a second round on 15 June.

An explosive climate in Turkey

Marie Poupinel
DEPUTY POLITICS EDITOR

Erdogan crystallised the endemic carelessness so commonly attributed to the Justice and Development Party (AKP) in Turkey. With a brutally truthful speech. He summated Soma's coal mine catastrophe into bundled up, aggregate numbers, polished with a sententious throwback to the immemorial lessons of the past.

"My dear friends, in China in 1960, 684 people died due to a methane gas explosion. And in Japan in 1963, 458 died, again due to a coal dust explosion. In India, 375. In 1975 some methane gas caught fire, and a mine roof collapsed and 372 died. "These are ordinary things. In literature, they talk of "work accidents". They are inherent in the creation of these structures: there is no such thing as "there can never be an accident."

Two hundred miles away from Istanbul, this Tuesday, within the confines of a mine cluster in Soma, an electric fault sparked an explosion causing the death of at least 151 miners- with death tolls expected to flare up as hundreds remain trapped. Reeling from its worst mining disaster since 1992, when a gas explosion led to the death of 243 workers in the Black Sea province of Zonguldak, Turkey is veiled in the sombre swathes of mourning.

Under the declared three days of public mourning, Turks have honed the coal mining outfits of their peers and were seen spelunking helmets in the streets, in a move to demonstrate the inbred

solidarity bounding them in times of woe and grievances.

Shying from the implacable burden of responsibility and blame, Erdogan expressed a simulacrum of condolences in a coldhearted, negligent fashion, exhibiting the shallow compassion he bears for his peoples.

The refrain is invariably the same - deny that the facts are the facts, blame some other party, and cite incorrect information or things that are laughably out of context in order to defend grossly objectionable behaviour.

Despite rising concerns regarding safety regulations in the Soma district which were put on the table during a Parliamentary debate no less than two weeks ago, the AKP's repeatedly staved off the appeal. The AKP has also previously been

“Heckled by the teeming mass bombarding him with a cascade of insults”

criticised for its lack of attention to earthquake preparedness, even when it claimed to be making it a priority following a massive earthquake in 1999.

As such, Erdogan's prevailing blind eye casts light on a seemingly never-ending string of events since 2002, which have underpinned the government's essence: fecklessness.

The methane gas released that triggered the explosion has not



TURKEY

Reconciliation agreements between the factions have been reached in the past but were never implemented

solely led to the suffocation of hundreds, but poisoned and stifled the Turkish political atmosphere.

The stain of the coal "accident", or "massacre" (as parliamentary adviser with the Republican People's Party (CHP) blatantly described it on the grounds that the AKYP was "playing with people's lives") adds up to Erdogan's crisis-ridden balance sheet. On Wednesday, cancelling an overseas trip, Erdogan waded through the jeering crowds of Soma's disgruntled families.

Heckled by the teeming mass

bombarding him with a cascade of insults such as "murderer" and "thief", lucidly put into relief Erdogan's- and more generally- the AKP's withering valence. Too late, Erdogan's increasingly egregious and patriarchal modus operandi of politics with the weathering of mass protests in Gezi, allegations of rampant corruption and obvious fraudulence in recent local elections, meshes particularly well with Freedom's House's 2014 report.

The Washington-based research institute which gives an ac-

count of the overall freedom of a country (political and civil liberties), brought to the fore the deteriorating state of democracy in Turkey, as it slid from "partly free" status to "not free" status.

The Turkish presidential election this year will be held on August 10 with a potential second round on 24 August. With the upcoming presidential elections, who knows, perhaps the AKP's nemesis is nigh - and wouldn't that similarly be a mere "work accident", inherent to the routine of "ordinary" politics?

Saudi Arabia sentences blogger for discussing religion

Vee Wells
POLITICAL REPORTER

Raif Badawi, a blogger from Saudi Arabia, was arrested in 2012. In July 2013, he was sentenced to seven years in prison and six hundred lashes, but he lost his appeal. Now, he has been convicted of "insulting Islam" through electronic means, resulting in being sentenced to 10 years in prison, 1,000 lashes, and a fine of one million riyals (£133,000).

The sentence seems harsh, but does the West have any place to critique other culture's judicial practices? What exactly did Badawi do, then, to deserve such harsh punishment? In short, he co-founded a now-defunct website called the Liberal Saudi Network, which enabled online debate. Amnesty International has denounced his sentence, designating him a prisoner of conscience, "detained solely for peacefully exercising his right to freedom of expression".

Saudi Arabia is a Muslim country where the separation of Church and State is not an issue, as the absolute monarchy (and subsequent authoritarian government) rules according to its interpretation of



MIDDLE EAST

Raif Badawi from Saudi Arabia was sentenced to 1000 lashes

the Qur'an and Sharia law. Under Saudi law, it is illegal to insult the Prophet Muhammad. Even worse is the crime of apostasy, or renouncing Islam, which carries with it an automatic death sentence. Though Badawi was cleared of his 2012 apostasy conviction, the message the law carries is clear: a Muslim is

a Muslim until death.

Apostasy is a crime in other countries too, such as Sudan, where Sharia law has been in force since the 1980s. As recently as this month, a Sudanese woman was convicted of apostasy and sentenced to death due to her marriage to a Christian man. However, treating apostasy as

a crime is in direct violation of the UN Declaration of Human Rights. Article two states: "Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration without distinction of any kind, such as [...] religion". From a purely mechanistic standpoint, then, punishing people for their religion or lack thereof is wrong, without any moral or Western imperialist thinking behind it. To kill someone for peacefully having beliefs different to the authorities is not acceptable.

It is impossible to critique foreign governments without being accused of critiquing their cultures, though. While Sharia law is a sensitive issue and tightly bound up in religion, it is the country's governments which are implementing it so stringently. Crimes and punishments have remained the same for hundreds of years, leading to punishments which seem disproportionate to secular eyes.

Despite this, Sharia law has been updated - the Qur'an says nothing about the legal status of discussing Islam on the internet, after all. If it is possible to update law to keep track of modern technological developments, it should be

possible to update it with regards to ideas on human rights. Amnesty International called Badawi "the latest victim to fall prey to the ruthless campaign to silence peaceful activists in Saudi Arabia."

Others who have spoken out against Islam in Saudi Arabia have also been punished, such as Saudi journalist Hamza Kashgari, who was imprisoned in 2012 for writing insulting tweets about the Prophet Muhammad. Kashgari was released in 2013 after making a public apology, having spent a year and a half in prison.

Here, we see that it is not Sharia law specifically which calls for Badawi to be punished, but the government which claim to be following it. It is not necessarily Sharia law, but the Saudi interpretation of it to undermine human rights. Using religion as an excuse to rule despotically cannot be abided, as it cheapens both the legitimacy of the government and the faith which predates it.

The question remains of who really hurts Islam's integrity more: those who question it, or those who use it to justify heinous punishments.

Politics

Ukraine: Memorandum of Peace and Consent

Allie Nawrat
POLITICAL REPORTER

On 20 May, the Ukrainian parliament, Verkhovna Rada, passed and ratified the 'Memorandum of Peace and Consent' with a majority of 26 votes.

The memorandum aims at restoring law and order in the country and stop the bloodshed, through the withdrawal of the army to their permanent bases, and at bringing to justice those responsible for killing civilians during mass protests.

It dropped the criminal charges against protest activists as well as the provision to grant amnesty to self-defence forces in the East.

The memorandum introduced constitutional reform that would lead to more autonomy for regions. It is likely this was in response to two Eastern regions holding referendums and opting for independence on the 11 May.

It retained the state language as Ukrainian but committed to guaranteeing the rights of minority languages, particularly Russian. Finally, it declared that Ukraine may only join a political or economic inter-state union through a nationwide referendum.

The Russian response to this memorandum is crucial for the tensions. Grigory Karasin, Russian Foreign Minister, acquainted his ministry with the Memorandum claiming that if Ukraine implements all of the reforms then it will finally be responding to the Moscow's call for the de-escalation of the conflict.

Karasin also claimed this Memorandum would be the first step towards realizing and adhering to the



The Ukrainian parliament passed the Memorandum of Peace and Consent which should restore order in the country

17 April 2014 Geneva agreements and Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) which Russia had been pushing for since signing the agreement.

The agreement urged national dialogue on constitutional reform and ending violence, extremism and provocations.

The Memorandum shows an urge by the Ukrainian government to try and ease tensions and adhere to this agreement that Ukrainian

diplomats have signed.

In response to the advent of dialogue between Ukraine and the Eastern rebels, Putin ordered the withdrawal of troops from the Russia-Ukrainian borders.

So far, no troops have been moved according to the White House. However, it has only been a few days since Putin instructed his Defence Minister to organise the withdrawal so it is too early to question both his motives and whether it

will actually occur as the US and the EU have already started doing.

Ukrainian Presidential election, are scheduled for 25 May, a date set in February by the regime change in the Verkhovna Rada who stripped President Yanukovich of his powers and amended the constitution.

Given the clashes between federalists and nationalists in the South and the East of Ukraine the result will be interesting.



@irenerojas
Northern Virginia multimedia producer and editor.

With so many coups, it's almost like that's become Thailand's standard govt practice

22 May



@emeyersson
Assistant professor @ SITE, SSE

Meanwhile, the public opinion in #Sweden has almost universally turned against the AKP government in #Turkey

22 May



@freddiethekat
@RTRSTechquity @ReutersInsider.

North Korea artillery fires at South Korean navy ship, and misses

22 May



@simondenyer
China Bureau Chief, The Washington Post

Vietnam, Philippines denounce China's maritime moves. Xi warns Asia against military alliances with "third parties"

22 May



@sherwiebp
U.S. Correspondent, South African Broadcasting Corp.

In defending Veto, Russia Amb says Libya referral did not bring peace, says USA shows road to ICC for others but not member itself

22 May

the YORK UNION

16th June 2014

What's left after same-sex marriage? The unfinished battle for LGBT equality



Peter Tatchell political campaigner, best known for his work with LGBT social movements, will be speaking to the *York Union* on 16th June regarding the continuing struggle for LGBT rights in Britain and across the world. An event not to miss.

This event will be hosted in collaboration with Derwent College, University of York.



"York breeds the best minds- I should know, I'm one of them..."
-Tanya Byron

www.YorkUnion.co.uk
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Nigeria: #BringBackOurGirls

Yvonne Efstathiou discusses the situation in Nigeria with regards to Boko Haram and the abduction of more than 250 girls

STUDIO D'XAVIER



More than a month ago, on 14 April, Boko Haram kidnapped 276 girls from their dormitory in Chibok, a village in northeastern Nigeria. Boko Haram, is Nigeria's infamous militant Islamist group which has caused havoc through a wave of bombings, assassinations and now abductions.

Since the incident the Nigerian government has been accused of being too slow in its response to the kidnapping with residents at the village being furious with the government for failing to take action and aid them.

"What about us in living in Chibok? Are we not people too?" they wonder while concluding that they have been abandoned just because they live in villages.

But locals are not the only ones who have raised their voices against the Government's incompetence. Amnesty International has been blaming the government too for inaction as well and failing to respond

to warnings received before the abduction.

More precisely, the human rights organization is said to have been informed from credible sources, which are not yet available, that the Nigerian government was notified of an impending attack four hours before it happened but did nothing.

In response to these accusations the government expressed its uncertainties on the report but has committed to an investigation.

In a video released by the Islamist group, it seems obvious that getting the girls back will not be an easy task. Negotiating with Boko Haram comes with a heavy price that the Nigerian government does not seem willing to pay. The group will want substantive concessions and government's reluctant is indeed anticipated. Both the US government and the UN have been actively discouraging governments from paying ransoms to proscribed

terrorist groups.

On 14 May the Nigerian president said there is no question of swapping any of the girls kidnapped by the violent Islamist group, for prisoners of the insurgency held by the government. However, as days go by any scenario seems possible.

Away from Nigeria, celebrities, politicians as well as common people have launched a social media campaign #bringourgirlsback. Among the more than one million tweets, come those from Angelina Jolie, Malala Yousafzai and Michel Obama who stated that both she and the US President, Barack Obama see their daughters in these girls.

These events come two years after the US refused to classify the group as a terrorist organization, after Boko Haram carried out a suicide bomb attack on the UN building in Abuja.

The US has now condemned Boko Haram, labelling them as a terrorist group.

Who are Boko Haram?

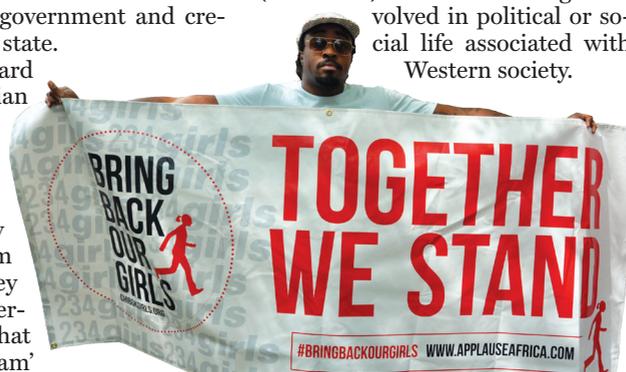
Boko Haram is Nigeria's infamous militant Islamist group notorious for its bombings, assassinations and abductions.

It was founded in 2002 by Mohammed Yusuf and succeeded by Abubakar Shekau. Their official name is Jama'atu Ahlis Sunna Lidda'awati wal-Jihad, which in Arabic means "People Committed to the Propagation of the Prophet's Teachings and Jihad". Their nickname; Boko Haram in the local Hausa language means 'Western education is forbidden'.

Boko Haram aims at overthrowing the government and create an Islamic state.

They regard the Nigerian state as being run by non-believers, even when the country had a Muslim president. They promote a version of Islam that makes it 'haram'

(forbidden) for Muslims to get involved in political or social life associated with Western society.



Timeline

15 April- Parents and some girls who escaped say more than 200 students were seized from their school in Chibok by gunmen overnight. A local government official confirms the incident.

23 April- Ibrahim Abdullahi, a lawyer in Abuja, sends the first tweet using the hashtag #BringBackOurGirls.

30 April- Hundreds march through Abuja to protest at government "indifference" to the mass abduction. It is said that the girls may have been taken to neighbouring states and forced to marry militants.

4 May- President Goodluck Jonathan make his first public comments since the abduction, saying his government is seeking assistance; the US and other world powers would help in dealing with Nigeria's "security challenge".

5 May- A video is released where Boko Haram leader Abubakar Shekau states that his group were behind the abduction of the girls and threatens to "sell" them in the market as "slaves". The US says it has information that the girls may have been moved into neighbouring countries. Chad and Cameroon deny any involvement.

7 May- The #BringBackOurGirls hashtag hits 1 million tweets and US First Lady Michelle Obama joins the online campaign.

12 May- Boko Haram releases a new video claiming to show around 130 of the abducted girls, who he said have converted to Islam. They stated that they will not free the girls until authorities release all imprisoned militants.

14 May- Nigeria's president has said there is no question of swapping any of the girls kidnapped by the violent Islamist group for prisoners of the insurgency held by the government.



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Science

Lab Notes

1. The remains of a teenage girl found in an underground limestone chamber in Mexico are hoped to shed light on the origins of the first Americans. She was found to share common DNA with modern Native Americans.

2. 3D printing has been used to model shark skin, showing how tiny teeth, or 'denticles' aid with swimming. Emulation of this texture has, in the past, been attempted in the development of swimming suits and racing cars. It would seem that, like the surface of a golf ball, the generation of turbulence near the edge of a moving object decreases the amount of drag.

3. The superiority of the 'Mediterranean diet' has been explained by the combination of olive oil and leafy salad. These two food-stuffs together have been shown to form blood pressure lowering nitro fatty acids.

4. A proposed £55 per share takeover bid from American company Pfizer, was rejected by UK pharmaceutical company AstraZeneca last week. It would seem interest continues in the controversial move which has caused concern over the future of many UK science jobs.

5. A study has suggested the idea that warmer temperatures and more garden water containers may be drawing mosquitos into urban areas. Thankfully thus far, these insects based in the UK are disease free.

Sarah Pryor

Revealing the limits of life

Georgina Hill
SCIENCE REPORTER

Hendrikje van Andel-Schipper was once the world's oldest and healthiest woman. Born in the Netherlands, Hendrikje was born prematurely and there were doubts that she would survive. Mentally alert but increasingly frail, she lived until the age of 115.

She stated that the secret to her longevity was a serving of herring everyday and drinking orange juice. At the age of 82 she agreed to leave her body to science, allowing us to uncover the secrets of her extraordinary life.

Recent research has focused on looking at age-related genes and life-extending interventions in order to find the 'cure' for aging yet analysis of Hendrikje's DNA has revealed that the key to immortality may lie in replenishing blood stem cells.

By definition, stem cells have the capacity to divide infinitely.

However, when scientists studied mutations in the mature blood cells of Hendrikje's system they found that the white blood cells remaining in her body originated from just two stem cells. Most of the blood stem cells Hendrikje had early in life had died.

The DNA in the white blood cells had dramatically worn-down telomeres – protective tips that reduce each time a cell divides. This process, coined 'stem cell exhaustion' is where the number of active stem cells reduces and their telomeres shorten to a point at which the cells can no longer use the DNA to make new cells.

White blood cells are required to fight disease and infection by digesting harmful invaders and producing antibodies. With a reduced number of functioning blood stem cells, the body cannot keep fighting disease.

The study concluded that for healthy blood in ageing body systems stem cells, saved from early life, could be injected into the

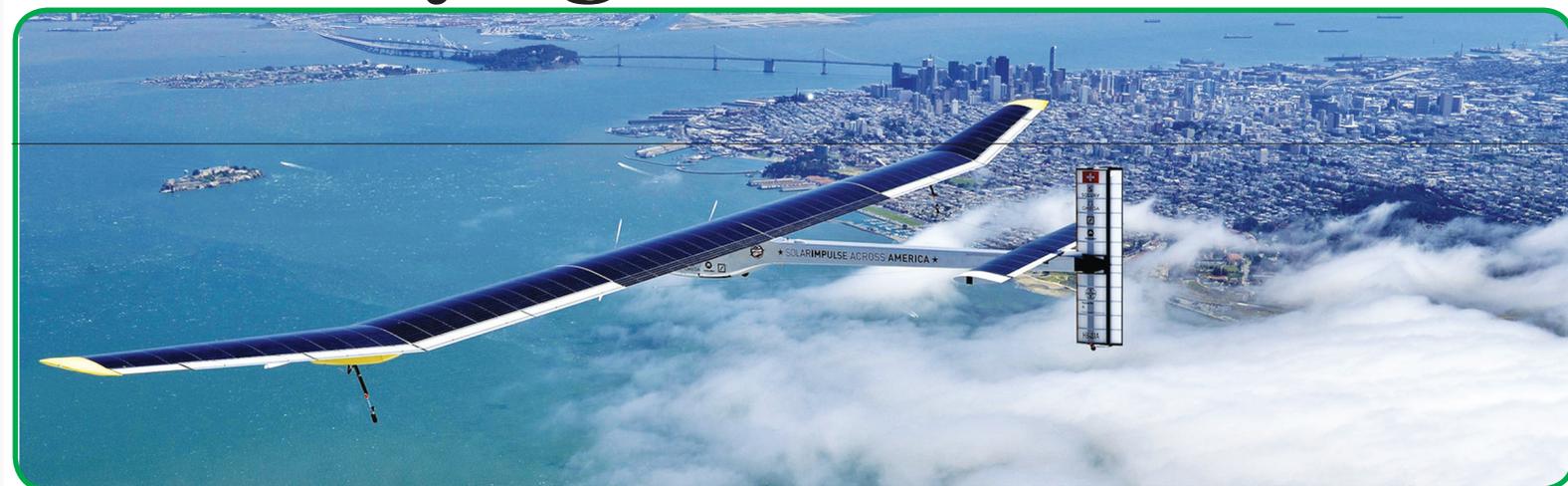


Will research into the causes of aging find the answer to immortality?

blood stream. However this is yet to be tested in humans. It is suggested that these stem cells would be fully

functional with long telomeres replenishing stem cell populations thus restoring eternal youth.

Come fly (guilt free) with me



The solar powered plane, Solar Impulse, on a test flight before setting off around the world in 2013. Unfortunately, tickets aren't for sale yet.

Matthew Wells
SCIENCE REPORTER

Over the course of the last decade, there have been a number of exciting developments in the aviation industry.

A great deal of research has been invested in replacing kerosene as the main fuel for aviation; the hope being of course, that this will enable us to continue to jet off to exotic locations regardless of the world's dwindling fossil fuel supplies. Attempts have also been made to facilitate a more sustainable means of producing the aircraft themselves. Great news then, for plane and holiday lovers alike, that both these areas of research have recently come to fruition.

Only last week it was announced that researchers from IBM's Almaden Research Centre had found a way to make a durable thermoset plastic in a recyclable form. What this means is that,

unlike common plastics which can be fragile and brittle, those produced here by Dr Jeanette Garcia can be made both strong and flexible. Similar materials are currently used both in the manufacture of cars and aeroplanes, however, until now it has not been possible to produce these plastics in a recyclable form. Dr James Hendrick, the man in charge of the research, states that "the ability to rework saves a tremendous amount of money and mitigates waste." Clearly, in applications such as these the potential for waste reduction is huge.

As with all great discoveries, this plastics came about by complete accident. In an experiment intended to involve three components, Dr Garcia fortuitously managed to omit one of them. Upon investigation of the resulting product she found she had stumbled upon an elegant solution to a problem that has existed for many years. As the same plastics can also be made

into "self-healing gels", a host of applications could be available outside of the transport industry such as cosmetics, paints and drug capsules to name a few.

Exciting developments have also been made in the pursuit of alternative fuels. The end of April saw a light aircraft take to the skies above Bordeaux, powered purely by electricity. Although in this case the two 65kg lithium battery packs used were only required to power a small two-seater plane, made primarily of lightweight carbon fibre, the same technology could be used in the development of hybrid airliners.

Unfortunately, as is so often the case with battery power, the all electric aircraft was limited to a flight time of one hour. An obvious, albeit somewhat challenging solution, would be to use photovoltaic solar cells; this happens to be the idea behind the Solar Impulse 2, a project recently unveiled by a

Swiss engineering team. Rather than a short flight over Bordeaux, the Swiss team intend to perform a complete round the world trip courtesy of some 17,248 solar cells.

But there are drawbacks to this idea. In spite of having a wingspan larger than that of a Boeing 747, covered in solar cells; Solar Impulse 2 cannot yet afford to carry passengers for fear of introducing too much weight.

To the same end, the pilot's seat doubles up as a toilet and the autopilot functions are sparse at best. As a result, in order to complete its voyage, a single pilot will be required to fly the aircraft across the entirety of the Atlantic Ocean over the course of a week, without a break.

Clearly, there is a long way to go before any of these developments will be seen on your average BA flight, but they do offer a glimpse into the exciting future of aviation.

Battling to redefine the science geek

Prior to his much anticipated York Union lecture, author and broadcaster **Michael Brooks** chats to **Auriane Muse** and **Emily Collins** about the portrayal of science in the media.

JOHN DUNCKLEY

Michael Brooks is a science author, journalist, broadcaster, and a consultant for the magazine *New Scientist*, and as a weekly column writer for the *New Statesman*.

Isn't it intimidating and scary to write a book about science? You have to mention truthful facts but surely there are risks of writing these facts wrong?

The truth is you do get things wrong sometimes. People will point out things you get wrong. Getting input and feedback will always result in something wrong being pointed out to you. Some of the complexity of science can only be gotten across by simplifying it. If you didn't do this then nobody would read on. "The act of simplification is the act of getting it wrong", and that's acceptable.

Do you find you lose out on important information?

You can't convey everything. If you tried to, most people would be bored. If you think about how many people are into or interested by science, it isn't the majority of people. When I am writing science I am trying to reach as many people as possible. I am assuming nobody knows anything about science. When I write for the *New Statesman*, I know most readers aren't scientifically minded.

What is the most challenging aspect of writing about science?

Finding the topic that won't turn off most people. Granted you can write an article about anything if you know how to funnel people in.

Porridge for example?

If you can funnel peoples' attention and continue to hold it then you can interest them in reading

something, even about porridge. It can be done.

Which topics gather more public attention?

Health science, cancer research. People have a personal connection to cancer through dealing with it directly or knowing someone who is dealing with it. Surprisingly quantum physics too- it blows peoples' minds! When the search for the Higgs Boson was going on, there was a huge interest in its discovery. People will surprise you. There is lots of engagement in animal related articles. Writing about physics and String Theory is harder. No one ever wins awards for writing about physics, especially general awards.

On your blog you mention Hanke Korpershoek's study on the nerd stereotype of the male science student, do you believe this image?

There is this problem with science and the 'geek' image, of the nerdy inhuman scientist science has created for itself, however, there is anecdotal evidence that introverted kids go into science and extraverted kids turn to other subjects outside science.

Did you ever consider yourself to be a science nerd?

I am into science, I have a job relating to science which I enjoy, but I am not an obsessive scientist.

Why do people not go for the scientific view over another?

Scientific views demote us. People want to believe that they have special psychic links with somebody. It's something human about the same sense that has created religion. It is a more comforting thought than everything being random in the universe.



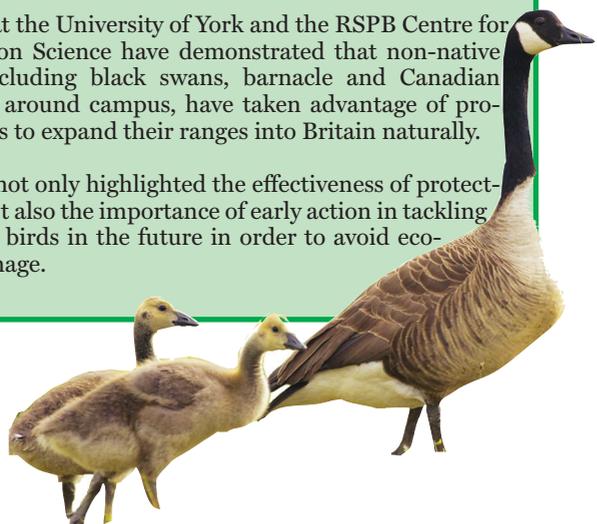
What do they get up to when we're gone?

With lectures wrapped up for the term and students pacified by the onset of exams, we look at what your lecturers get up to while you're not keeping them busy.

Immigration of the Feathered Kind

Scientists at the University of York and the RSPB Centre for Conservation Science have demonstrated that non-native species, including black swans, barnacle and Canadian geese seen around campus, have taken advantage of protected areas to expand their ranges into Britain naturally.

The study not only highlighted the effectiveness of protected areas but also the importance of early action in tackling non-native birds in the future in order to avoid ecological damage.



Fungi Over Fertiliser

Dr Michael Shultze and his team within the Department of Biology have been studying the symbiosis between fungi and the roots of *Medicago truncatula* in the hopes that they can find a way to use a plant's natural relationship with fungi as an alternative to fertilizers as a way of increasing crop yield.

Dr Shultze said that, "We envisage that the mycorrhiza-specific proton pump could be an interesting target for plant breeders in an effort to increase crop yield with minimal input of fertilizers."



Jetsetting Environmentalists

Environment lecturer, Dr Andy Marshall, is embarking on a trip to Sumatra following the birth of three critically endangered tiger cubs at Flamingo Land. With only 440 individuals remaining in the wild, Dr Marshall hopes to investigate the potential for further protection of the species in the wild.

Business



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BUSINESS IN BRIEF

Parcel Wars

The Royal Mail has issued a warning that greater competition could lead to lower profits, as competitors are pushing for the online delivery contracts.



Housing Fears

Mark Carney, the Governor of the Bank of England, has warned that the booming housing market poses a threat to the UK's long-term economic recovery.



Pfizer Backs Off

Pfizer, the US drug company, has had its final bid to buy AstraZeneca rejected. The deal was worth £69bn, but the AstraZeneca board felt that it undervalued the company. There had been fears that the deal would lead to job losses in the UK.

Ebay Hacked

Ebay, the online auctioneer, has revealed that the personal details of 145 million users were stolen during a cyber attack three months ago. This has raised fears that other companies could be targeted.



Cost of UK Debt

The cost of servicing the UK's debt is forecast to reach £1bn a week as the overall debt pile has risen to £1.27 trillion. Borrowing has been higher than expected as the Chancellors budget cuts have failed to cut the deficit.

Edward Rollett

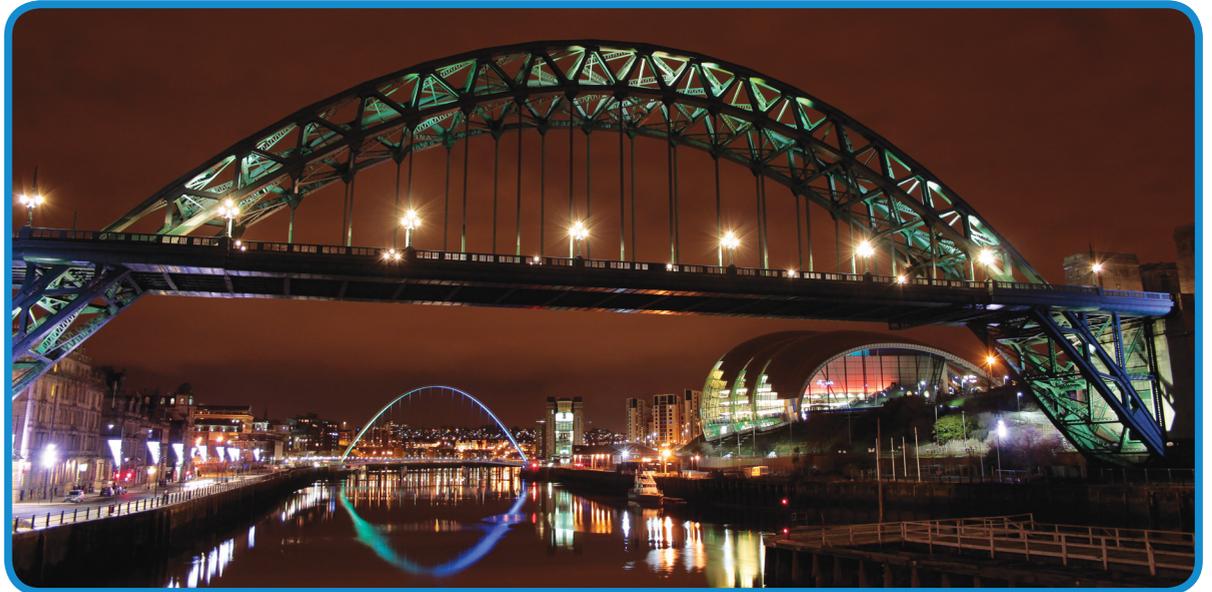
The north-east: England's Detroit?

Alastair Ellerington
BUSINESS EDITOR

A controversial article has been published recently in the *Guardian* which compared the fate of England's beleaguered northerly reaches to the heartland of America's old Rust Belt, an area too well-known for having not quite recovered from the decline of traditional industries, and arguably no viable solution offered either. However, Detroit has become a byword for a void of economic hope, of simultaneously an incandescent present and a bleak vision of future prospects.

This has caused a fierce backlash in a proud region, where authors have pointed out the charms of a region contrasting to its American friend, which – the quip goes – used stock footage to present a post-apocalyptic version of itself for film, editing not needed. A backlash entirely justified. Even beyond the haunting beauty of the Northumbrian coast, the windswept North York Moors and the twee towns and villages of Yorkshire, the area has economic prospects any region would be proud of.

Aside from the primary problem of generalising a region that stretches from Kingston-upon-Hull to Berwick-upon-Tweed – in the author's apparent definition anyway – the article has economic flaws too. The economist magazine recently, itself in sweeping generalisation, derided Middlesbrough and Hartlepool as Britain's own Rust Belt, in ironic ignorance of Britain's largest car manufacturing plant (operated by Nissan) just to the north in Sunderland. Meanwhile, the old ICI plant at Middlesbrough towers



The cultural development of cities like Durham in the North has brought further investment into the area

both over the Vale of Mowbray, and in its being one of Europe's largest research & development sites for the chemistry-based process industries. Newcastle & Sunderland now boast a thriving start-up scene too, and new businesses are continually moving into the area.

Of course the area has had problems. The closure of the mines and the decline of traditional industries left the area without jobs or economic prospect. It is true too that the area has been in economic decline for the better part of the last half-century as a result. Gross-Value-Added is one of the lowest in the country, unemployment rates are some of the highest, and those employed are more reliant on public-sector jobs than elsewhere.

However, this is due to no fault of the north-east's, that should be clear. It is no fault of the region that each successive government in this

period has failed to provide a viable economic alternative to recovery. Behind each of these figures lies that the north-east receives some of the lowest government spending in the country. Londoners receive twenty times more per head in infrastructure spending (as of December 2013).

However, the difference between the real north-east and the area it's made out to be (though the low-spending persists) is that the North-East is strong, and only going stronger. The North-East has found its way back. In the 1980s, the Georgian houses around Newcastle's Bigg Market were boarded up; now the area has Europe's largest shopping centre. Instead of the Durham mines, it has GlaxoSmithKline, Quorn Foods, and the largest teabag factory in the world. Even Darlington has gone from the world's first public passenger railway to Orange,

American engineering firm Cummins, and the Student Loans Company.

PWC report the economic recovery is broadening, seeping out of London to the North. Just last month saw record employment growth figures for the North-East, earlier this year reports of the fastest growth of any region in the UK, and the area now has the highest graduate retention rate outside London.

The North-East may be richer in natural (if not cultural) beauty than in finance, but more for a seemingly desperate ignorance of its plight in the South than for a lack of economy, or indeed its growth.

The north-east remains strong, and Yorkshire alone has an £80 billion economy serviced by 5 million people, comparable to Ireland, Norway and Singapore. The area is hard-done by, but far from Detroit.

Can the UK escape an energy armageddon?

Gustave Laurent
DEPUTY BUSINESS EDITOR

As early as 1956, geologist King Huppert predicted that modern societies would inevitably run out of oil. More than half a century later, Huppert's peak oil theory seems to have lost momentum as vast deposits of shale gas and natural gas were found across the world, especially in the U.S. However, recent research carried out at Anglia Ruskin University has found that the UK only has five years of oil remaining, as well as four and a half years of coal, and three of gas.

Are these dramatic figures another alarmist whistleblowing move from environmental actors or veracious claims? The answer is a bit of both. On the one hand, it is undeniable that the UK, along with most European countries, is experiencing a real energy crisis. The crisis in Ukraine has highlighted how Europe is dependent on Russia with Gazprom stating that its exports to-

wards the West had increased by 15 per cent since last year. This energy dependence is not sustainable in a scenario of quasi-total exhaustion of the UK's energy resources.

One possible solution is fracking, although this is controversial. Although it is of limited impact compared to the incredible dependence on oil and gas production, it might enhance the kingdom's energy mix and independence.

However, the potential impact on the natural environment, let alone local disruption from other sources of pollution – such as noise and smell – has caused great discontent and protest against many attempts to start-up fracking in the UK.

The UK could also increase its partnerships with France's nuclear industry to generate electricity; with French firm EDF investing in UK nuclear plants, and nuclear deals already in place between the two countries regarding collaboration on resources and information.

Alternatively, it could invest much larger amounts of money in development projects in the North Sea with Sweden, Denmark or even Iceland, a notable leader in geothermal energy. There are already two multilateral agreements on the development of wind energy plants in the North Sea, such as Dutch and Scandinavian firms working on plants to feed into the German national grid.

Regardless of the UK's endeavours however, it is highly likely that the country will continue experiencing inexorable rises in energy bills, underpinned by a much more volatile global market marked by geopolitical instabilities and energy interdependence, despite vague promises by political leaders to bring down energy bills.

There are more positive outlooks. The interconnectedness of today's energy markets, both physically and financially, especially with the unprecedented growth in commodity futures and options since

the early 2000s will enable the UK to be supplied with energy.

Moreover, as the shale gas and liquefied natural gas (LNG) industries experience high rates of growth, one may hope that the UK, through its privileged relationship with the USA and its geographical position, might gain from global trade relations in LNG perhaps even developing larger facilities to process such resources, thus securing its energy supply.

As American thinker Jeremy Rifkin suggested, it is time to shift to the "Third Industrial Revolution" and – with England's leading financial sector and entrepreneurship spirit – there is little doubt that investment for this will lack.

Both this shift towards a greener energy mix and the prospect of energy exhaustion also emphasise the sclerotic nature of British politics, failing to implement structurally effective policies and incentives to strengthen their energy independence and supplies.

Women's futsal thrash Middlesbrough

York 11

Middlesbrough 1

Lewis Hill
DEPUTY SPORTS EDITOR

It was a demolition job for the York women's futsal firsts who took their Middlesbrough opponents apart in the Tent last Sunday.

Anty Cole was the starring player, scoring the pick of the goals and setting up her team mates with chances to score numerous times throughout the match.

Sophie Jermy got York underway with the first goal within the beginning five minutes of the match.

Soon after, Maria Davies and Jermy combined down the left wing, passing the ball around their Middlesbrough opponents in a series of one twos before Davies squared the ball right to Jermy who slotted home her second goal of the afternoon to give York an early 2-0 lead.

Davies then got herself on the score sheet with a nicely placed long shot before Cole grabbed her goal. After a nice first touch, Cole swivelled round and volleyed the ball side on past the opposition keeper to give York a 4-0 lead.

York captain Jessica Craig then set up Davies for her second. Craig pulled back a corner from the right into Davies' path who struck a fierce shot which rocketed into the back of the net to give York a fifth goal.

Cole then bagged her first assist of the day with a neat pass from the right wing, into the path of Jermy who struck a low, powerful shot past the Middlesbrough defender to make the half time score line 6-0 to

York.

Middlesbrough managed to catch the York defence off guard straight after half time to steal a goal, but the York girls soon made amends for their brief lapse in concentration with a flurry of goals.

Craig slipped the ball under the Middlesbrough keeper to bag her second goal and had a chance to seal her hat trick moments later but missed the target.

Cole then created another goal, this time for Rhiannon Roy Cole played Roy in on goal who decisively fired home York's eighth.

Ellie Whittaker then played her hand in the next two York goals. The first she scored with a confident finish, whilst she pulled the ball back into Silvia Swan's path who finished calmly, for the second goal, making the overall score line 10-1 to the home side.

The final goal was scored by Helena Delgado-Nordmann who finished with a nice lofted shot to make the final score line 11-1.

After the match, Jessica Craig, York captain, spoke to *Nouse* briefly saying, "It was a really fantastic performance, we worked really hard as a team and we are really looking for-

Team:

Anna Cook, Emma Pick, Rhiannon Roy, Maria Davies, Savannah Green, Carys Allsop, Anty Cole, Silvia Swan, Sophie Jermy, Jessica Craig, Helena Delgado-Nordmann and Ellie Whittaker.

Goal Scorers: Sophie Jermy (3), Maria Davies (2), Silvia Swan, Anty Cole, Helena Delgado-Nordmann, Rhiannon Roy, Jessica Craig and Ellie Whittaker.

Player of the match: Anty Cole



After an epic first season competing in BUCS, York continued their excellent in their second post-season friendly



Ellie Whittaker beats her opponent as she helps secure the win for UYFC





YORKSPORT RACE DAY

FRIDAY 13TH JUNE
YORK RACECOURSE



YORKSPORT UNION
DINNER

SUNDAY 15TH JUNE
ROGER KIRK CENTRE

yusu.org/tickets

Sport

PARK LIFE

Jamie Summers
SPORTS EDITOR

Some people say that Twitter is the only cage in the world where birds have trapped humans and are laughing from the outside. I disagree – there's also the JLD.

As of today, York's notorious strip of Astroturf is replaced by a younger, better model and the current one is retired and penciled in for demolition after 18 years of service.

The chances are that the JLD won't be missed by many, but it's been part of the fabric of sporting life here.

Away hockey teams come to York and groan at the sight of a pitch that's just a little bit past its sell-by date; when I say little, I obviously mean considerably so, and it has earned a fabled reputation.

Ask any student sports reporter, and they'll have their own tales of strange escapades on the JLD. Because of its nature, the JLD has

“Ask any sports reporter and they'll have their own tales of strange escapades on the JLD”

its own little quirks that make the experience of being there unique.

Firstly, there's the hallowed 'JLD bounce' in the College Cup, where the ball skews off in any direction and is the cause of at least one utterly ridiculous goal every year; I think there's less gravity on that pitch than there is on the moon.

Then, there's the glare – the bane of every photographer's life.

Even in cloudy weather, the light seems to bounce down onto the pitch and reflect off the surface, turning everything into a sandy haze of misery.

This is all compounded by the realisation that when there, you're stood in a giant cage and the legions of geese gathered outside are staring in with a piercing look of satisfaction.

One day, they will get their comeuppance when a football is kicked over the fence and thumps a goose on the head, causing an awkward scenario of avian homicide.

Leaving, the running track has to be navigated, which has become nothing more than a giant, muddy sandpit full of weeds.

Then the sportsperson/reporter, already scarred by spending time there, has to steadily make their way down the hill, desperately trying to avoid going arse-over-tit and face-planting into a heap of goose faeces.

So, as the death knell rings, I'll give the JLD this: we might even all be glad to see it go; but one thing is for sure – it's certainly unique!

JLD, 1996 – 2014. Rest in pieces.

Bayern, Bowden and Basketball

The Nouse Sport Team looks back on all of the sporting action to take place on campus in the last week

Good Week

Women's futsal

The University of York Futsal Club's women's team thrashed Middlesbrough Ladies 11-1 in the Tent on Sunday, after they waltzed past Sheffield 17-3 the previous week. The women's futsal team were only founded this year and finished second in their inaugural season the BUCS Northern 1B division. They will certainly be one of the teams to watch next year!

Bayern Rug Munchen

Jonny Gillbanks' interestingly titled 'Bayern Rug Munchen' team in the Nouse Fantasy Football League currently sit top with over 200 points on the board so far. All of the top four points scorers so far feature in Gillbanks' side, including the prolific James firsts strikefore of Matt Singleton and James Davies. With a commanding lead roughly half way through the competition, it's definitely the Goodricke captain's title to lose.

Derwent's strikers

Anyone who had any of Derwent's firsts or seconds team strikers in their Fantasy team will be laughing this week. Derwent seconds stuffed Langwith thirds 9-0 this week with attacking midfielder Alex d'Albertanson netting a hat-trick and two assists (that's 18 points in one match!) whilst striker Sven Sabas claimed five goals, an assist and man of the match (that's 22 points). First team strikers Josh Bew and Eddie Fotheringham also picked up a goal each in a 4-1 win over Alcuin firsts. However, James striker James Davies three goals and three assists last week; a Cup class between Derwent and James will certainly be a spectacle.

The weather

And just when you thought that summer was here, the Nouse Sport curse struck again. As our resident ginger readied himself for the rays of sunshine by bathing himself in suncream every hour, suddenly the heavens opened and our week turned to misery again. Just as the JLD is getting demolished, as well. It's almost like pathetic phal-lacy.



Guy Bowden

Last year's UYAFC's seconds team captain and Halifax's first-choice right-back made a bit of a fool of himself on Friday. He was stood on a bench on the JLD touchline (as you do), watching a College Cup match. When the ball went out of play and straight towards him, Bowden tried to control it. Unfortunately, if there was one thing lacking, it was control. He tipped up the bench, sending himself flying into the fencing behind, much to the amusement of the gathered crowd. The bench is said to have escaped unharmed.

Nouse's basketballers

We refer to them being basketballers because they were actually trying to play netball at the time; not that you'd have been able to tell. Features Editor Charlotte Wainwright was playing in the position of goal shooter and was surprised that she actually scored a goal. Deputy features editor Erin Rdgers aggravated a long-term injury and needed "the man with the ice pack" to help her out. A poor showing from the both of them. We're only joking, girls.

Bad Week

University team dominates netball Cup

Zoe Thomson
SPORTS REPORTER

THE UNIVERSITY'S netball and James College firsts teams continue to top their respective groups after the fourth round of netball College Cup fixtures.

In the first match of Group B, the University seconds team dominated the score line to beat Halifax seconds 20-1. Halifax came out strongly and attacked well but the strong communication of the university team proved their downfall as they attacked hard and ended the first half leading 15-0.

Despite a change in shooters within the University team during the second half, Halifax were unable to bridge the university team's 15-point advantage but did hold them to only another five goals as well as scoring one of their own to end the match losing 20-1.

In the second match of the afternoon, Goodricke were forced to call time on the match early following a knee injury to Vice-captain Emily Dobson who had to be carried from the pitch early in the second half.

Although both teams had fought hard during play up until this point, it was James who had the advantage and led 14-9 at the time of the injury.

Alcuin firsts defeated a determined Derwent firsts 12-0 in the final match of Group B. While the score line would suggest that Alcuin dominated play Derwent fought hard and made Alcuin work for the points.

They defended strongly, but Alcuin's strong communication and

shooting skills meant that they allowed Derwent little opportunity to attempt to score themselves.

Derwent firsts avenged the seconds' defeat in the first match of Group A when they defeated Alcuin seconds by 19 points to 3.

Derwent opened strongly to take an early 3-0 lead, although Alcuin were quick to fight back and score a point of their own. However, the Derwent side soon began to prove their dominance and edge away from Alcuin to end the first half with an eight-point lead, winning 9-1.

Alcuin came out strongly in the second half but were unable to convert their early attempts as Derwent scored the opening goal of the half.

Although Alcuin did manage to score two points during the half, the pressure exerted by Derwent prevented them from bridging the gap and the game ended with Derwent leading 19-3.

In the second match James seconds were soundly beaten by the University 1 team 23-0. The University team made a quick start to score the point.

Although James responded immediately, the strength of the University team's defence prevented them from equalising and began to dominate the game.

James made some good defensive efforts but were unable to stop the hard University assault and ended the half down by 12 points, 12-0.

During the second half, James continued to fight with some impressive interceptions but the University team remained dominant and continued to extend their lead, not allowing James any opportunity

PETROC TAYLOR



In the fourth round of fixtures, the both of the University sides fared well, as did Derwent and James firsts

to score. The match ended with the University team winning 23-0.

Langwith and Halifax fought hard in the final match of the afternoon, although it was Halifax who came out victorious, winning 21-6. Langwith opened the scoring,

quickly taking a 1-0 lead.

However, Halifax responded with a score of their own before taking the lead. Both teams defended strongly and maintained pressure, but Halifax began to edge in front, ending the first half leading 7-3.

although Halifax's dominance had begun to assert itself, taking the first eight points of the half. Langwith were able to claw back three points but this had come too late and Halifax ended the match in front, winning 21-6.

UYFC reach FA Futsal Cup semi-finals

PETROC TAYLOR



York finished second on goal difference in their quarter-final group

York 6

Baltic Alliance 4

Jamie Summers
SPORTS EDITOR

THE UNIVERSITY of York's men's futsal club has made it through to the semi-finals of the futsal FA Cup which will be played in London, qualifying in second place of the quarter-final mini-league after a comfortable 6-4 against the Baltic Alliance on Sunday.

York's opponents are based in Leicester, but refer to themselves as the Baltic Alliance as they are made up of entirely Eastern European players. The match started in a characteristically high-paced manner, with the Alliance looking dangerous down the left but with the Black & Gold also looking threatening.

The first goal came after York had a good spell of possession and playing brilliant futsal; the ball fell for man-of-the-match Rob Hiza, who scored a great goal in off the post.

This seemed to set York up nicely, but Jonny Sim also had to pull off a handful of good saves. The away

side managed to grab an equaliser out of nowhere, with their keeper sending a powerful shot from far out into Sim's net.

The Alliance then took the lead against the run of play with a scrappy shot which found its way past the York defence. Nevertheless, the home side responded brightly and Alex Tringham's good cross was bundled in by Shin Murata to equalise on the stroke of half time.

In the second period, York started brightly and Tringham had a powerful shot well saved by the keeper. The away side had no substitutes, and York took full advantage of this to tire their opponents out. After some excellent build-up play, Alli Arnarson broke and squared the ball to the onrushing Tringham, who slotted home to make it 3-2.

Hiza was running the show at the back, and York looked comfortable in possession and most likely to score next. Indeed, just moments later, Maurizio Polverini and James Briars tested the keeper, who was wearing no gloves, with stinging shots, before Briars slotted home into an empty net with the keeper stranded in no man's land.

Sim then almost got in on the action, but his goal kick rattled the

crossbar of his opposite number and went out for a goal kick at the other end. A nice team move soon resulted in York extending their lead, as Polverini passed the ball to Mark Howarth, who found the net.

The Baltic Alliance pulled a goal back with 15 minutes remaining after a scrappy ball found its way past Sim at the back post, but York restored their advantage almost immediately as Damian Miranda's threaded ball was slotted home by Hiza.

Alliance got the last laugh in the closing moments as a ball fizzed across the area and was bundled over the line, but it was not enough and York made it through to the semi-finals from a game which, in reality, they never looked like losing.

After the match, delighted York manager Junior Roberti told Nouse, "There was some really hard work in the quarter-final league, but these boys showed that they can do it against the best teams in the country."

"We've played different games with different situations, including today against a good side. We worked hard, got the three points and we're going to travel to London to play the semi-finals now."

College Cup 2014: so far

GROUP A								
Team	PL	W	L	D	F	A	GD	Pts
Derwent 1sts	3	3	0	0	14	2	12	9
Vanbrugh 3rds	3	2	1	0	3	3	2	6
James 2nds	3	1	1	1	6	5	1	4
Alcuin 1sts	3	1	1	1	5	7	-2	4
Wentworth 3rds	3	0	2	1	1	5	-4	1
Langwith 2nds	3	0	2	1	0	9	-9	1

5

Matt Singleton and Sven Sabas have scored five goals each so far.

6

Alex d'Albertanson has provided his team with six assists.

1

James firsts are the only side to not yet concede a goal.

GROUP C								
Team	PL	W	L	D	F	A	GD	Pts
Goodricke 1sts	4	2	0	2	11	5	6	8
Halifax 3rds	4	2	0	2	5	2	3	8
Langwith 1sts	4	2	0	2	6	5	1	8
Vanburgh 2nds	4	2	2	0	9	10	-1	6
James 3rds	4	1	3	0	9	7	2	3
Wentworth 2nds	4	0	4	0	5	11	-6	0

GROUP B								
Team	PL	W	L	D	F	A	GD	Pts
Derwent 2nds	3	3	0	0	21	1	20	9
Halifax 1sts	3	2	0	1	7	2	5	7
Vanburgh 1sts	3	2	1	0	8	2	6	6
Alcuin 2nds	3	0	1	2	2	5	-3	2
Goodricke 3rds	3	0	2	1	2	14	-12	1
Langwith 3rds	3	0	3	0	0	0	-16	-16

KATE MITCHELL

GROUP D								
Team	PL	W	L	D	F	A	GD	Pts
James 1sts	3	3	0	0	18	0	18	9
Wentworth 1sts	3	2	1	0	4	4	0	6
Goodricke 2nds	3	1	1	1	4	3	1	4
Halifax 2nds	3	1	0	2	2	10	-8	3
Alcuin 3rds	3	1	0	2	2	10	-8	3
Derwent 3rds	3	0	1	2	3	6	-3	1

Wentworth narrowly miss out on points in tense match

Wentworth 2s 0

Halifax 3s 1

Tom Fennelly
SPORTS EDITOR

HALIFAX THIRDS temporarily moved to the top of Group C after a Chris Forrest goal proved to be the only difference between the two sides in a game that could have gone either way.

Both teams started playing fluidly, passing football that both colleges are renowned for but, as the half went on, Fax slowly took a foothold on possession and looked the much stronger side.

Wouter van Ravenhorst did have a shot for Wentworth when

they attacked on a rare break, but Halifax were enjoying the majority of possession as their central midfielders continued to dictate play.

After Percy skied another chance to give his side the lead with ten minutes of the first half to play, Halifax finally found a deserved goal on the stroke of half time.

Percy worked the ball well to Christ Forrest on the edge of the D, who, for the first time in the game, was given room to pick out his shot as he curled the ball into the bottom left corner past a helpless goalkeeper.

Going a goal behind spurred Wentworth into life in the second half. Ten minutes into the half, Josh Mangham sent substitute Jon Cook through on goal on the left, but his shot was brilliantly tipped over the bar by Fax keeper George Maalouf, before he somehow blocked the ball at the near post from the resulting corner.

Chris Papoui's shot several minutes later could only be directed straight at the goalkeeper.

The postgrads continued to look for an equaliser that they probably deserved based on their second

half performance, and they were denied one in the final minute of the game in the most dramatic of circumstances.

Wentworth pushed everyone into the box, including the keeper, for a corner which came back into play in front of goal off the crossbar. Goalkeeper Matt Taylor notched his head onto it as the JLD thought that he had pulled off a miracle.

However, the ball was blocked off the line at the near post from what looked like a Maradona-esque header. However, the referee failed to award a penalty and Halifax breathed a sigh of relief when the final whistle blew seconds later.

A frustrated Wentworth captain, Josh Mangham, told Nouse, "I'm not happy with the ref. They're a really good 3's team but we played well and could have won at the end. The ref made a shit call and I'm not happy with him."

Halifax captain Jonny Stansfield said rather diplomatically of last-minute contested decision, "I missed that, I couldn't comment. But another clean sheet and we're still unbeaten; we can't really complain."

Halifax:	Wentworth:
Maalouf, Nolan,	Taylor, Ngondi
Rillstone, Kearney,	(Hulme), Lomas
Chasteauneuf	(Cook), Nicolaou,
(McTaggart),	Kosunalp, Sowdani,
Garratt, Forrest,	Papoui, Mangham
Grittiths, Percy,	(C), Townson,
Stansfield (C),	van Ravenhorst,
Sample	Banesch
Players of the match: Maalouf, Ngondi	

York Sport return to old Colours system

Beth Jakubowski
DEPUTY EDITOR

YORK SPORT have announced that they are returning to the old Colours system following negative feedback received about last year's changes.

Last year, full Colours were only awarded to an individual who had represented their sport at a national level and half Colours were awarded to players who had represented their clubs at a regional level.

Prior to these changes Colours were awarded to players who had been a dedicated member of their team for their three years at York or who had made an outstanding contribution to the development and success of their club.

Cass Brown, York Sport President, has decided to return to the original Colours system, "The York Sport Committee have decided to change Colours back to the old system mainly due to negative feedback on last year's but also to make them less elitist.

"The new system, or old, as it were, will see those students who have played for their first team or

equivalent for all three years and who have made an outstanding contribution to their club, or the York Sport Union, awarded with full colours - a system that has worked perfectly well and been well received, in the past."

Colours are awarded at the York Sport Dinner, which will take place on Sunday the 15th June. Nominations for the York Sport Dinner Awards will open soon; categories include College Sport Awards, Team and Club Awards, Individual Awards and the new Diversity Awards.

Brown spoke to Nouse about the dinner saying, "I can't wait for the York Sport Dinner - This will be my fourth and to be hosting it is such an honour. We have a hell of a lot to celebrate this year - sport at York has excelled more than ever and our clubs and athletes deserve some recognition. I urge clubs to nominate their peers and the clubs around them and I urge them to come to the dinner also!"

A new award, Contribution to Diversity in Sport, has been included at this year's dinner following the success of the Key Contacts scheme.

News In Brief

Vision: we challenge you

With York Sport announcing that bubble football will be coming to the University on the 6th June, we'd like to officially challenge *York Vision* to a grudge match in an epic clash of the titans (of student journalism, anyway). You're going to get slaughtered!

Nouse sponsor charity match

We are proud to announce that we will be sponsoring a rugby 10s tournament in support of Campaign4Rob, a keen rugby player who was paralysed in a car accident just days before he was due to take his place at the University. Please get your mates together and enter a team!

Inter-uni VX comes to York

The University of York is set to host the world's first inter-university VX tournament on the 21st June. Scouts from England's University Squad will also be coming as they look for new talent at VX's biggest event of the year. Best of luck to all involved!

Women on committee

Only two men will sit on the York Sport Committee as of July after 80 per cent of the elected positions were filled by women. This signifies a huge increase in female representation on student union committees. The committee will be place for the next academic year.

York Sport Race Day

The York Sport Union will be holding a race day on Friday 13th of June. Let's hope that it's not unlucky for some!



Langwith edge out Vanbrugh

ALL IMAGES: PETROC TAYLOR



Langwith firsts grabbed a dramatic late winner against Vanbrugh seconds, which puts them in a good position to qualify for the Cup knock-out stages

Langwith 1s	2
Vanbrugh 2s	1

Jamie Summers
SPORTS EDITOR

LANGWITH FIRSTS had an element of luck on their side on Monday, as a late goal from Matt Morton was enough to secure three points against high-flying Vanbrugh seconds, putting the Heslington East side in a strong position to qualify for the Cup.

There was a scrappy start to the game in humid conditions as neither side seemed to settle early on.

However, after Marco Basaglia and Adam Jerelle Lewis both directed shots towards Kris Cheshire in the first chances of the tie, it was actually Langwith who scored first.

After some pacy attacking play, Matt Morton squared the ball to Andy Hutt inside the area, and the latter poked the ball past Aaron Hooper between the Vanbrugh sticks to make it 1-0.

Going behind actually put the wind in Vanbrugh's sails, as they suddenly looked more composed on the ball and presented more of a dynamic attacking threat.

Lewis saw his shot fly across the face of goal after some good build-up play, before he was teed up for a second time by Connor Brennan but couldn't beat the ever-reliable Cheshire.

Vanbrugh's equaliser came just moments before half time after a period of sustained pressure, which saw a number of chances go begging.

It came in rather comical fashion, after a mix-up in the Langwith defence saw Cheshire struggle to control a header back; Liam Craine capitalised on this, lobbing the Langwith keeper and levelling the scores with a brilliant goal.

On the touchline, Kallum Taylor, YUSU president and former Vanbrugh keeper, commented that being in the 29th minute, the goal came at "the same moment as Adam Lewis' age."

The second half began much

as the first had ended, with Vanbrugh on top and edging the possession count and with Tom Siddle in particular running the show in the middle.

Brennan forced a superb reflex save out of Cheshire after finding himself in behind, before Ahmed Abubaker was perhaps lucky to get away with a slide on Craine.

Credit must go to Langwith, however, who remained in the game throughout and although mainly attacking on the counter, did look dangerous themselves.

Substitute Oliver Henn came on and looked lively for the men in yellow, before Morton and Hutt both went close.

In the dying moments, Langwith seized their opportunity to grab a winner.

Vanbrugh lined up poorly to defend a throw-in inside their own area, leaving the back post particularly exposed. When Morton's ball came in, it fell to Hutt, who smashed home to hand Langwith a 2-1 lead.

Marcus Campbell could have secured the points with a free kick

in the dying seconds, but the ball in to Arian Sarrafan bounced off the post and into the grateful arms of Hooper.

However, their lead was enough and Langwith held on for victory.

Afterwards, Langwith captain Marcus Campbell told *Nouse*, "We didn't show enough character last week but today we managed to come through, get a late goal and hold on to the lead. I'm really happy."

Meanwhile, Vanbrugh's Jack Coy commented: "Things just fell for them today. We had a lot of chances, Kris Cheshire put in some really good saves but it just didn't go our way."

Langwith: Cheshire, Chaimo, Jones, Benney, Abubaker, Parsonson, Campbell, Hegg, Morton, Farrafan, Hutt, Subs: Henn, Hemingwat	Vanbrugh: Hooper, Glanville, Frobisher, Williams, Coy, Bafaglia, Potts, Brennan, Siddle, Craine, Lewis, Subs: Sides
Players of the match: Hutt, Siddle	

This week's College Cup fixtures on the new JLD:

Tuesday 27th May

2pm: Alcuin 1sts vs Langwith 2nds
3pm: James 2nds vs Wentworth 3rds
4pm: Derwent 1sts vs Vanbrugh 3rds

Thursday 29th May

2pm: Halifax 2nds vs Wentworth 1sts
3pm: Alcuin 3rds vs Derwent 3rds
4pm: James 1sts vs Goodricke 2nds

Friday 30th May

2pm: Halifax 1sts vs Goodricke 3rds
3pm: Langwith 3rds vs Alcuin 2nds
4pm: Vanbrugh 1sts vs Derwent 2nds



Sport

Summer Term Week Six
Tuesday 27 May 2014
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The Challenge

Nouse Sports Team challenge Vision to a bubble football match

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Men's futsal

York edge their way through to the semi finals of the FA Futsal Cup

>> Page 22



ALL IMAGES: PETROC TAYLOR

York Sport unveils exciting new facilities

Jamie Summers
Tom Fennelly

THE YORK Sport Union has announced a number of sporting developments across both University campuses in the coming months.

The current JLD at the Sports Centre officially closed for business last Friday and is to be replaced by a new pitch behind the Sports Tent today. However, some college sport fixtures may continue to be played on the old JLD in the next fortnight, but without the use of floodlights.

The new Astroturf will continue to be known as the JLD, named after the father of University chancellor Greg Dyke, who part-funded the construction of the original pitch in 1996. It will be a sand-dressed surface unlike the old JLD, which is sand filled. The new facility has Olympic-standard dugouts and goals, and will be floodlit. All goals on the current JLD will then be used for club training on 22 Acres.

Furthermore, a county-standard eight-lane athletics track is to be built on the site of the current JLD, which will be used by the City of York Athletics Club as well as the University athletics club. A 500-seater set stand will also be built alongside a pavilion on the site, although the latter will not be constructed until next year.

Speaking about the development, Rob Paulson, University athletics club president, told *Nouse*, "It's a really exciting time for our club as the new track gives us the opportunity to provide top athletics coaching on-site. Next year we will be able to offer training that accommodates for students at every level. We are confident that this will help us develop our reputation."

Funding has been sourced through a joint development between the University and City of York Council with the support of UK Athletics. The council are relocating the city Athletics Club to campus, because their Huntington Stadium home is set to be demolished to make way for the York

Community Stadium, which will house both York City Football Club and York Knights RLFC.

It has also been announced that work is underway to make the Sports Tent into a permanent structure, with this development being complete in time for the Autumn Term.

York Sport has also announced further sporting developments on Heslington East. Work is continuing on the new cycling velodrome, with the tarmacking of the track currently taking place. It is anticipated that the work will be complete in time for the Grand Départ of the Tour de France, which begins

Inside >> Page 21

We assess who's on the up and who's flying low in Good Week, Bad Week

in Yorkshire on 5 July.

Meanwhile, a new social basketball court is set to be built between Langwith and Constantine colleges, with construction beginning in early June and taking five weeks to complete.

Speaking about the developments, Keith Morris, Head of Sport at York Sport, commented, "The new JLD looks fantastic, and with the new athletics track, will offer huge benefits to the sports facilities on Heslington West. The track will also mean that the University athletics club that did so well at the BUCS championships recently will not have to travel off campus to train, which is to be welcomed."

Cass Brown, York Sport President, "York is so lucky to have sports facilities that are developing so quickly. Just a few months ago I was commenting on the erection of the tennis dome and now it's the brand new JLD—It's a beautiful pitch that will be welcomed warmly by the Hockey Club as well as external hockey clubs and other sports that can make use of it. I can't wait to see UYHC christen it on Tuesday!"



Full reports from Monday's first two fixtures on the soon-to-be-gone JLD >> Pages 23-24

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