



Thanking Audre Lorde

A celebration of the liberation icon of the civil rights and feminist movements **M.16**

Shambolic Shops

People are sirius-ly peeved at the the Shambles **P.11**



Nouse



Est. 1964

The UK's best designed student newspaper 2018

Tuesday 30 October 2018



University and City of York prepare to commemorate The Centenary of Armistice Day on 11 November

University purchases Hes East college shares

Joseph Silke
EDITOR

THE UNIVERSITY OF York has become the sole owner of the accommodation in Constantine College on Heslington East, after acquiring the second half of the shares in a deal finalised this month. The deal, worth £9.8 million, sees the University take full control of the 622-bed estate. There are also plans for the University to purchase the remaining privately-owned shares of Goodricke College and Langwith College.

The University had been a 50 per cent shareholder with the Evans Property Group since the College was constructed. The College opened in September 2014 and is the University's newest college. The Heslington East campus consists of Constantine College, Goodricke College, and Langwith College. It was built as a £750 million investment.

The project, which won three prestigious architecture awards, was undertaken in partnership with the private company: the Evans Property Group. The company

had held a 50 per cent equal share with the University. Evans had been sharing in the profits of the accommodation while it retained a 50 per cent share.

Many universities across the UK engage in such joint ventures to raise capital for investment in their campuses. The University's Finance Director, Jeremy Lindley, said: "The University will continue to work with Evans in its plan to transfer its 50 per cent share of the two other colleges on Campus East, namely Langwith and Goodricke."

The issue of accommodation has been a pressing concern for the University and YUSU, with many students forced to live off campus in private accommodation due to the shortage of places and high prices on campus. The Heslington East colleges are some of the most expensive non-catered accommodation with premium undergraduate rooms in Goodricke costing £149 per week, Constantine costing £162 per week, and Langwith costing the most at £163 per week.

Tackling the problem of accommodation shortages has been a priority for the current YUSU Sabb team. Commenting on the news of

Continued on P.4

Black liberation flag raised for the first time on campus

- The flag was raised to commemorate Black History Month. The theme for York's celebrations is "Celebrating Great Black British Achievers"
- This is the first time the flag has been raised on campus. Other flags that have been raised in Greg's Place include the Rainbow Flag for gay pride

Chay Quinn
DEPUTY EDITOR

THE BLACK LIBERATION flag was raised in Greg's Place to commemorate Black History Month at the University of York on 24 October. The flag is a tricolour design with three horizontal stripes of red,

black and green in descending order. The colours, according to the Universal Negro Improvement Association and African Communities League (UNIA-ACL) stand for the blood that unites all people of Black-African ancestry, black people whose nation is affirmed by the flag and the natural wealth of Africa respectively.

The flag was first adopted by the Universal Negro Improvement

Association and African Communities League (UNIA-ACL) in 1920, in response to a racist song which openly mocked the fact that "every race had a flag" except black people.

This gesture comes at a time where there are calls to put pressure on universities across the country which have benefitted from the institution of slavery to pay reparations to the families of slaves.

The raising of the flag comes

as part of the University of York's series of events to commemorate Black History Month, which runs for the entirety of October in the U.K. The theme for the events at the University is "Celebrating Great Black British Achievers". The first event held was an open lecture with Canon Margaret Sentamu on 16 October. More recently, there was a workshop held on the impact of the recently-deceased Aretha Franklin

on Black British gospel music.

The commemoration of Black History Month comes at a time when, at the last count, the percentage of offers given to black students to attend York was just 1.8 per cent of the total number. This number was particularly close to the 1.5 per cent figure for the same metric at Oxford and Cambridge which MP

Continued on P.6

CONTENTS

NEWS

- Centenary events P.3 ●**
York prepares to mark
The Armistice Centenary
- UCU strike ballot P.5 ●**
UCU will not strike after
low turnout in vote

FILM & TV

- London Film Fest M.14 ●**
A round-up of the biggest
films at LFF 2018



IMAGE: @YORKVISION ON TWITTER

POLITICS

- Khashoggi murder P.16 ●**
Spotlight on Saudis after
embassy murder
- Nouse Explains P.17 ●**
We talk single markets
and customs unions

GAMING

- Pre-ordered games M.17 ●**
Is pre-ordering video
games worth it?



IMAGE: FLIP BOSSUYT



IMAGE: ELSA DORFMAN

FEATURES

- Audre Lord M.16 ●**
A look into the life of Audre
Lord and her work for Black
History Month

COMMENT

- Celebrating Yorfess P.10 ●**
An ode to the
shitposting platform
- Vision controversy P.11 ●**
A look at the formerly
great student papers' fall.

TRAVEL

- North-East coast M.18 ●**
Exploring the towns on
the Northeastern coast



IMAGE: APRIL BRADY

SPORT

- Tour de France P.25 ●**
Team Sky confident of
victory after route rival
- 50@50 challenge P.27 ●**
York Sport Head tackles
charity challenge



Est. 1964

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR...

Dearest reader: when I first joined *Nouse* as a fresh faced, or not so fresh faced, fresher in first year, I never anticipated that I would become the Editor of this University of York institution. This is my first Editor's Note and frankly, as a result of all the chaos of trying to put this edition together, I have barely had a moment to reflect on what to write here. What the recent weeks have taught me, however, is that becoming Editor of *Nouse* is a huge responsibility. It is a huge responsibility not just with regard to the excellent current team producing fantastic content, but absolutely critical too that the proud history of this paper is safeguarded.

Nouse is the University of York's oldest student society. It has existed since 1964. That was the year that Yorkshireman Harold Wilson first became Prime Minister of the United Kingdom; the year that the historical epic *Zulu* was released; the year Ian Fleming published his final James Bond novel before his death, *You Only Live Twice*. The alumni of this paper have gone far and wide, and I know that many former York students still retain a place in their hearts for their student newspaper. It is the responsibility of each Editor to ensure that the legacy of their dedication and passion is protected.

I wanted to dedicate this paper to Oscar Bentley and Izzy Moore, but it was a struggle to do so in a way which didn't seem like they are dead. They have passed on to a more peaceful place, a place without final checks and pulled news stories, but thankfully they are still around. Oscar insists on being designated senior correspondent in his articles. Consider yourself exposed, even though you probably deserve it. Izzy hasn't made such a request at the time of print, but she can rest

assured that her legacy will live on when we plagiarise her great Freshers' Magazine design for future supplements.

I cannot leave out thanking our indomitable former Technical Director, Owen Hurford, who was always on hand to solve the problems of our borderline technologically illiterate editorial team, and who helped keep our website online out of the kindness of his heart. I would also like to thank Jacob Phillips for his many long nights and hard work which has ensured that I have inherited a paper in a far better state than other publications one might name.

James Hare was credited as Director of Morale in his last edition of *Nouse*. That tells you most of what you need to know about him, and he's from Yorkshire. Yorkshire. Lastly, there is Finn Judge. Leather jacket and all. We reported together from the election Question Time spin-room as then-Editor and then-Politics Editor, surrounded by Laura Kuenssberg, Boris Johnson, and others, with snipers positioned on the roof. Such an environment was an interesting place to begin a friendship but since that day, Finn has always been indispensable.

It is these relationships between people in a society such as this which have kept *Nouse* running since 1964. Later this academic year, the paper will celebrate its 55th birthday. It is my hope that the current team will continue to inspire and encourage the next generation, so that the paper makes it to its own centenary and beyond. *Nouse* should always remain a source of immense pride for all who have been involved with it. Chegwin demanded that I mention him at least once.

Joseph Silke

The opinions expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect those of the editors, writers, publishers, or advertisers. Contact editor@nouse.co.uk with letters and complaints.

EDITOR
Joseph Silke
DEPUTY EDITOR
Chay Quinn
MUSE EDITOR
Andrew Young
DEPUTY MUSE EDITOR
Saskia Starritt
MANAGING DIRECTOR
Amelie Rothwell
DEPUTY MANAGING DIRECTOR
Elliott Vice
DISTRIBUTION DIRECTOR
Jan de Boer
SOCIAL MEDIA DIRECTORS
Niamh Carroll
Callum Tennant
TECHNICAL DIRECTOR
James Bithell
CHIEF

SUB-EDITOR
Maddie Thornham
SUB-EDITORS
Annie Wood
Charlotte Rogers
DESIGN DIRECTOR
Emily Taylor
PHOTO EDITOR
Jay Dyer
DEPUTY PHOTO NEWS EDITORS
Luke Snell
Niamh Carroll
Eloise McMinn Mitchell
DEPUTY NEWS EDITORS
Michael Maitland-Jones
Lily Robertson
COMMENT EDITORS
Patrick Walker
Matthew King
DEPUTY COMMENT NEWS EDITORS
Jonathan Wellington
Maisie Le Masurier
POLITICS EDITOR
Callum Tennant
DEPUTY POLITICS

Sebastian Shaddick
Peter Jacobs
Maddie Pitt
SCIENCE EDITOR
Jay Dyer
SPORT EDITORS
Patrick Hook-Willers
George Cook
DEPUTY SPORT EDITORS
Virginia Stichweh
Alex Woodward
FEATURES EDITOR
Seren Hughes
DEPUTY FEATURES EDITORS
Rosemary Evans
Jodie Sheehan
ARTS EDITOR
Stella Newing
DEPUTY ARTS EDITORS
Hope Jennings-Grounds
Fiona Wong
FASHION EDITORS
Daisy Wallis
Eilidh Hide
SHOOT EDITORS
Kat Oliver

Sofia Bielli
MUSIC EDITOR
Beth Colquhoun
DEPUTY MUSIC EDITOR
Helena Senior
Alex Thompson
FILM & TV EDITOR
Malu Rocha
DEPUTY FILM & TV EDITOR
Lydia Hallsworth
Eddie Kaziro
TRAVEL EDITORS
Lena Winkler
Lily Abel
GAMING EDITORS
Jan de Boer
Joseph Higgins
SOCIAL SECRETARY
Oscar Bentley

Printed by Mortons of Horncastle Ltd, Media Centre, Morton Way, Horncastle, Lincs, LN9 6JR, UK. For back copies, contact the JB Morrell Library. Front images: Jay Dyer, Elsa Dorfman, Barbara TP; Back Image: Baluga Photography, Chay Quinn, Kirill Venediktov, UYVC

Commemorations organised for The Centenary

Chay Quinn
DEPUTY EDITOR

WITH THE CENTENARY of the end of the First World War fast approaching, commemorations of the armistice which ended the four years of conflict in 1918 are upon us. The University of York will be hosting three public lectures on events surrounding the conflict both on and off-campus.

The first lecture will take place in the Piazza Building on Campus East on 14 November, three days after The Centenary. It will focus on the discovery of letters from the wives and mothers of men who were missing or killed during the First World War. The talk will be led by Dr. Roisin Higgins of Teeside University.

The second lecture will be on the deadly “Spanish Flu” pandemic of 1918 which killed between 50-100 million in the final months of the war. The epidemic, which claimed more lives than the global conflict that was concurrently raging, will be explored in relation to the personal stories of its victims. The lecture will be delivered by Catharine Arnold, a journalist and author, on 21 November.

The third and final lecture will be on the role of music in the Anglo-

American forces during the war. William Brooks, Patricia Hammond and Matt Redman will deliver the lecture in the National Centre for Early Music on Percy’s Lane on, 27 November.

When asked about YUSU’s plans to commemorate the Centenary, YUSU president James Durcan responded: “As is the normal practice, we support any student group wanting to put on events for any purpose they identify, and this results in hundred of events every term. This year there is a free event being hosted in the YUSU Lounge which is a performance piece “My Tender Trench”, a play about life in the trenches and the difficulties faced by a young soldier.

In the lead up to the centenary, students will be able to purchase both red and white poppies from YUSU venues.”

In preparation for The Centenary, a York alumnus has made an interactive map which details the residence and stories of the fallen soldiers from York and the surrounding area. The map features 70 homes of 158 men from or with close connections to the St Lawrence’s parish who were killed in the 1914-1918 conflict.

The map was created by Iain Milne of York’s St. Lawrence Parish Church as part of their commemorations of The Centenary. When *Nouse* spoke to Iain about his motivations for creating the interactive

map, the former History undergraduate spoke of his studies as a factor of the creation of this deeply personal resource: “When I was an undergraduate (BA History, York) I was quite struck with Marc Bloch’s stress on the importance of history as a study of people, and so, in a way I also found it a good and interesting way of re-examining what the War was like, freed from preconceptions”.

Iain created the map using sources from the ‘Lives of the First World War’ project at the Imperial War Museum and online record of the King’s Book of York Heroes, which currently resides in York Minster. He found difficulty in finding addresses of the fallen and

ended up, he admitted with “information on many more men than I have an address for”.

When asked about his motivations for creating the map, Milne stated that the “enormous list of names [of the fallen] in church every week” inspired guilt in him that their youth was cut short and that he lived. This stirred a desire in Milne to “do something for them”. He also stated that he hoped the map would help people “reconnect” with the true meanings of loss and human cost in a way that has slipped out of memory. Ultimately, Iain wanted to “get beyond a long dry list of names to the humanity underneath”.

Nouse asked Iain if there were any particular stories that stood out to him, to which he responded: “Two I personally think of a lot are Richard Ferry and George Betts who both left mothers’ doors from each other in the terraced houses of Arthur Street - they joined different regiments, but transferred to be in the same regiment. It is only guesswork but I imagine that both they and their mothers knew each other. They were both killed in April 1917 in the trenches. One left a mother living in my house.”

The Centenary of the Armistice takes place on 11 November at 11am, marked with a two minutes’ silence nation-wide, to remember the fallen from the conflict which claimed between 15 and 19 million lives.



IMAGE: TUKU

Stand Up to Racism ratification denied by YUSU

Eloise McMinn Mitchell
NEWS EDITOR

IN THE LATEST round of society applications for ratification, the Stand Up to Racism Society was denied being officially duplicated as a university society. This was in part caused by the “reputational risk” of the organisations that this group is affiliated with. The YUSU Sabbatical Officer team raised their concerns via the Activities Officer, Finn Judge at the meeting. The Societies Committee then rejected the application as a result of the argument voiced by Finn Judge.

Stand Up to Racism, as a movement, has gained attention from all levels of engagement. The national conference in October of 2017 had 1300 activists attend, with speak-

ers including MP Diane Abbott, the Muslim Council of Britain’s Talha Ahmad and Moyra Samuels. Samuels is an activist currently working with the Justice4Grenfell campaign. Stand Up to Racism has been labelled a “front” for the Socialist Workers Party by various left-wing commentators. Lancaster University’s Student Union faced backlash in March 2018 for promoting student engagement and attendance at a Stand Up to Racism event, where they supported two students to go. LUSU stated that they did so with the “best intentions” and were revisiting the processes that led to the commitment of resources to similar external conferences.

The Socialist Workers Party (SWP) in the UK was started in 1950, initially under the name “Socialist Review Group”, which changed to the “International Socialists”, before adopting the cur-

rent name in the 1960s. At present, they have no representatives in either the Lords or the Commons, nor Local Government or European parliament. They have a revolutionary socialist newspaper called the Socialist Worker, which calls the SWP “Britain’s largest revolutionary socialist organisation”.

The SWP faced a scandal commonly referred to as “Comrade Delta” in 2013, when minutes were leaked from the party that detailed allegations of sexual assault committed by a leading figure in the party, Comrade Delta. Accusations against “Delta” had been reported from as early as 2008, but the party did not consult the police and instead chose to deal with the issues internally, where they were dismissed by senior members of the SWP. A victim who was assaulted in 2011 was pressured not to go to the police, and told that Delta would be

suspended from the party. Although she went to the Internal Disputes Committee of the SWP, the line of questioning she was subjected to requested information about her personal sexual history, and whether she or the assaulter had been drinking at the time of the incident. They claimed it would “be different if he was drunk”, according to the victim’s interviews with various media outlets.

A York University Stand up to racism spokesperson told *Nouse*: “In a world of Bolsonaro, the anti-semitic Pittsburgh attack and the far right Tommy Robinson on the march here, it’s a real disappointment that YUSU have missed the opportunity to permit a Stand Up to Racism society. Stand Up to Racism is the largest anti-racist movement in Britain. Our President is Diane Abbott MP and we have the support of every major trade union, faith

organisation and civic society organisation. Our conference 2 weeks ago was attended by 1,400 people including Abbott, John McDonnell and various MPs. We hope to continue our anti-racist activity on campus regardless.



IMAGE: GARRY KNIGHT

NEWS IN BRIEF

Oxford University Twitter gaffe

The University of Oxford suffered online embarrassment when they tweeted a photo of the city walls of York and York Minster in a tweet asking about people to think about graduate study at Oxford. The iconic photo replicated in many York students’ Instagrams featured centrally on Oxford’s website.

Buskers told to defend the mic

Buskers in the city of York have been warned that they must stop allowing stag and hen parties to sing on their microphones, as it has been disturbing the local residents. As stag and hen parties descend upon York over the weekends, the buskers throughout the city have been warned to ensure they defend their microphones.

Mega-pumpkin to sail the Ouse

An enormous pumpkin weighing 619kg is going to sail down the River Ouse. The owner of the overgrown fruit, Tom Percy, will shape the pumpkin into a boat for the voyage. The pumpkin will sail from the King’s Arms and float before being towed back to Queen’s Staigh and transported to feature at the York Maze.

Winter is coming

Last weekend saw the beginning of the bitterly cold winter, anticipated by all as snow showers fell on the morning of 27 October, with snow flurries in York as late as nine in the morning. This heralds the beginning of what is predicted to be the coldest winter in a decade. *Winter is coming* - but Game of Thrones is months away.

Constantine shares acquisition

>>> Continued from front

the acquisition and the plans to purchase the remaining privately-owned shares of Heslington East colleges, Union President James Durcan said:

“For many years YUSU has argued that private investment into University accommodation increas-

£163

The cost of premium rooms in Langwith College per week

es the overtly commercial interests of private finance - thus contributing to fast rising accommodation costs and not necessarily improvements in standards. In that sense we were pleased to see the University buy out the private stake in

Constantine.

“Since entering office, we have demanded meetings with senior staff at the University to discuss its current property portfolio, in order to reassess its rent structure and how rooms are allocated. In theory the recent purchase reduces the extent to which the University can use private interests as a reason why it can't have a fairer rent proposition for our student members. Thus, we hope this opportunity will help us to build on the progress already made.

“However, we remain cautious in that a significant amount of property remains with private money and interests, indeed the new accommodation for Campus East is based on private investment and we are nervous that the acquisition of Constantine is with a view to clawing back the investment aggressively through continued premium pricing or even through the later resale of the private stake. Overall

this is a modest positive step, but we are challenging the University to come up with a clear, honest outline of the future housing stock that better meets the needs of our students.”

The University has submitted plans for the construction of two new colleges on Heslington East, designed to provide 1 421 new rooms for students. The yet unnamed colleges are currently designated as a North college and a South college, with a central hub planned as a social space for students. The development is part of the University's masterplan for the future. The plans say that the University guarantee accommodation for first year students and international students.

In the last edition, *Nouse* revealed that the plan for two new colleges on Heslington East involved building on ecologically sensitive land. The proposed developments are to be constructed on a wetland inhabited by protected species.

YUSU Bars' expansion criticism



IMAGE: EMILY TAYLOR

Chay Quinn
DEPUTY EDITOR

YUSU BARS' ACQUISITION of D-Bar and Vanbrugh Arms in the summer was a major change of the on-campus bars landscape. Whilst before, D-Bar and Vanbrugh Arms were owned by the University and leased out to external companies, the move brought all licensed venues on campus under the management of YUSU Bars.

The most noticeable change was the implementation of Yo-Yo, the point-based payment system, to all bars which replaced the traditional chip-and-pin machines - an attraction for Vanbrugh Arms and D-Bar in days gone by. Yo-Yo rewards pounds spent with points which can be redeemed for prizes such as chip stacks and pitchers of beer. Despite the obvious benefits of Yo-Yo, the rewards were not ready for the first two weeks of term, leaving students having to use the more-complex system of payment without being able to reap the benefits of it. This is compounded by the fact that the only location with ATMs on

Campus West is Market Square.

The change has been criticised by student patrons as they bemoan the inability to pay without the use of a phone. This sentiment was echoed in the first weeks of terms in multiple Yorffess posts which criticised the move. Speaking to a Masters' student who did their undergraduate at York also shared their opinion: “Whilst Yoyo across campus seems like a good idea, those stranded without phone battery are definitely worse off.”

The MA student then went on to criticise the change in products the bars offered becoming relatively standardised across the licensed venues that YUSU Bars now run: “University-owned bars had previously offered different pints. The drink deals various societies had are no longer being honoured; as someone that was two drinks away from a free Blackthorn at the Vanbrugh Arms, I'm fairly upset.”

Criticism of the takeover has not been limited to the bars which have been acquired with the service at The Courtyard also came under fire from students who have noticed a drop in the quality in the service since a number of new staff were employed in the wake of the takeo-

ver. YUSU President James Durcan noted that the Union were cautious not to hire “too many staff” and thus they only increased the regular intake “slightly”.

Harry Clay, a second-year Philosophy student, took issue with the new staff at The Courtyard, saying: “it feels like the staff aren't trying to work quickly, and I've seen a handful of people receiving the wrong order and lazy service that would easily be corrected with more effort”.

Despite the criticism, Durcan noted that the “initial feedback on the venues has been really positive”, an assertion that is evidenced by the testimony of Nick Meadowcroft-Lunn, a fourth-year Physics with Philosophy student. Lunn believes “since the takeover, V Bar and D Bar have provided better service, more pricing and a more welcoming environment. In particular, V Bar is a much more interesting place to drink, a friendly pub vibe as opposed to the grim bar of yesteryear.”

YUSU have since begun advertising for Bar Assistants in the last days, indicating that the management of the bars have recognised that there are still insufficient staff numbers working in the newly-mopolised campus bars.



IMAGE: ILOVETHEEM

NUS criticised for anti-Brexit coaches

Lily Robertson
DEPUTY NEWS EDITOR

ON SATURDAY MORE than 700 000 people travelled from all corners of the country to march on the Houses of Parliament demanding a second Brexit referendum. The event was attended by many anti-Brexit politicians and celebrities including Mayor of London Sadiq Khan, Steve Coogan, Delia Smith and Deborah Meaden who all gave speeches in Parliament Square

University students who attended largely ended up coming by buses funded by NUS, who spent £20 000 funding the transport for students up and down the country, including those at the University of York.

This caused controversy, especially within the NUS. The NUS campaign for a People's Vote is being directed by Amatey Doku, the NUS Vice-President for Higher Education but some of the NUS members have criticised the NUS' actions.

Laura Lunn-Bates questioned the source of the funding, and Eva Crossan Jory, NUS Vice-President of Welfare, disapproved of the source of the money in relation to the lack of money that was needed to “Repeal the Eighth” campaign which stood to change the Irish constitution to allow abortion in the Republic.

Riddi Viswanathan, International Students' Officer at Manchester's Student Union, added:

“Without doubt, the People's Vote Campaign is extremely important to amplify the voice of young people to have a final say on Brexit.

“It's great to also note that the NUS has secured funding to cover the costs of SUs paying for minibuses and coaches. But, what would be better is more transparency around where the £20k came from”.

£20k

Amount of money NUS spent on coaches to People's vote march

The criticism has also been seen from students some even encouraging people to use the event bus to visit London's attractions instead.

Nevertheless, University of York students have taken advantage of the coach service provided with a reasonable number of students from the Our Future Our Choice student group using the coach to attend the march.

In response to the criticism around the source of the funding used to put on the large amount of transport needed to ferry the students to and from the march, an NUS spokesperson stated that “we are working collaboratively with a number of organisations to secure a final say on the Brexit.”

“As part of those efforts, we are promoting funds that have been made available through our campaigning partners.”

UCU pay strikes will not go ahead

Niamh Carroll
NEWS EDITOR

THE POSSIBILITY of lecturers going on strike has been diverted after the University and College Union (UCU) failed to reach the turnout required in the ballot to allow the action to go ahead. The proposed strike action follows a pay dispute with the Universities and Colleges Employers Association (UCEA).

A ballot on whether lecturers would strike over the pay issue closed on Friday 19 October. While 69 per cent of members who voted in universities were in favour of striking, the turnout was less than the 50 per cent threshold required by the trade union law to allow any strikes to go ahead. In York, 414 of the 923 lecturers entitled to vote did so, making the turnout 44.9 per cent. Out of those who turned out 66.2 per cent supported 'industrial action consisting of strike action'.

This latest ballot comes in the wake of widespread strikes by lecturers over the last academic year. On that occasion, the strike action was held following disputes with the UCEA over lecturers' pensions. The strikes went on for weeks and

caused widespread disruption to teaching hours. The strikes also saw some York students support their lecturers' cause by joining them at the picket line, and a memorable occupation of Heslington Hall. The action also resulted in a widely shared petition by students demanding to be reimbursed for the teaching hours lost during the strikes.

The UCU criticised the trade union laws which impose the 50 per cent threshold, stating that such laws are 'frustrating the wishes of members who voted for strike action over pay'. The dispute which caused the lecturers' union to propose strike action began in May, after pay talks which ended in the UCEA made a final offer of a 2 per cent rise. The UCU argue that this is out of line with inflation and that lecturer pay has declined in real terms by 21 per cent since 2009.

While the proposed strikes on pay will not be going ahead for now, this ballot demonstrates the latest intense relationships between the UCU and employers. For students, this could mean the possibility of their lecturers going on strike in the future, given the discontent among many university staff. For now, it is business as usual for lecturers, but it is unlikely the row will go away.

Police release CCTV images of Campus West bike thieves

Niamh Carroll
NEWS EDITOR

NORTH YORKSHIRE Police are appealing for information after releasing CCTV footage of two men who stole bikes on the University campus last month. Two bicycles were stolen on Wentworth Way on Sunday 9 September between 2pm and 4.30pm. Due to the location of the crime, it's likely that the bikes were property of students or staff who were working or studying on campus at the time.

CCTV footage shows the thieves taking two bicycles from campus; police have released their pictures and asked for help in identifying the two young men. North Yorkshire



IMAGE: NORTH YORKSHIRE POLICE

Police have released the images on their website (shown below).

Commuting to and from the University on bike is a popular mode of transport, with a large network of cycle paths across campus and the city. With cycling being so popular among students and staff at York, those who travel by bicycle would be concerned if the theft in September was to become a regular pattern. While this particular theft appears to be a one-off incident, bicycle theft is a common crime in many cities, as criminals see it as a low-risk and relatively easy crime. There are an estimated 400 000 bike thefts, equating to approximately one every 90 seconds, in the UK every year, with London, Oxford and Edinburgh being hotspots for the crime.

Although York is a low-crime city, cyclists are still advised to take precautions to prevent their bikes from being stolen. On its website, the University advises students and staff, "although York is a safe city, you should still take steps to protect your bike." The tips they give include locking both the wheels and the frame of the bike, taking note of the serial number of your bike, and using two different types of lock so that if thieves are equipped to break one type they may not be able to break the other.

Commenting on the thefts, York Sports' Union President Zac Sheppard expressed optimism about the return of the bicycles: "I hope they get the bikes back." Sheppard also dispensed advice for students on how to protect their bikes: "If you're leaving your bike on campus make sure it's securely locked in the appropriate place, also consider getting it tagged at one of the Bike Doctor sessions so it can be easily located if taken." The next Bike Doctor session will take place on campus outside the Ron Cooke Hub on Thursday 29 November.

The police have asked anyone with information to contact them on 101, select option 2 and ask for PC 1189 Hayley Atkinson, or email Hayley: atkinson1189@northyorkshire.pnn.police.uk.



IMAGE: NORTH YORKSHIRE POLICE

Wellbeing Officer launches survey after sign criticism

Lily Robertson
DEPUTY NEWS EDITOR

NEW SIGNAGE AND wayfinding, the investment project by the University of York has been met with heavy criticism and questioning as its redesigned signs are deemed unsatisfactory.

As of May, the university decided to undertake a comprehensive review of wayfinding and signage on campus. They aimed to create a better experience for campus users and visitors navigating a continuously developing site and improve efficiency for delivery drivers and emergency services.

The concept and strategy was that the Campus would be divided into ten coloured zones across Campus West, Campus East and King's Manor, allowing users to create a mental map of the University and their journey from arrival to destination. But the concept seems not to have translated effectively in reality.

There was a survey sent out by YUSU to see how the signs have been received, and the feedback was overwhelmingly negative. This will not come as a surprise to the people on bicycles who have collided with

the disguised signs.

According to YUSU Community and Wellbeing Officer, Steph Hayle: "We've had almost 200 responses to the survey, which is designed to review the accessibility of the new signage across the University. Whilst some signs look great, a huge number are completely inaccessible due to the small fonts, lack of visibility strips, and material they are constructed from. This is not acceptable. I will be using the responses to the survey to draft a report



Number of serious collisions with Alcuin sign

which I will be taking to the Director of Campus Services, asking that the Estates team urgently reviews the signage and takes into account the student feedback when creating any new projects of this nature." So we are assured that this would not happen again in the future.

Nevertheless, in relation to progress made on changing the current signage soon with the help of the University, there is not a clear answer as to what the future holds. Effy tells us: "The signs were a mas-

sive (if misguided) investment by the University, so realistically they will not be removing or redoing the signs. I have been in touch with the Director of Campus services to arrange a meeting to discuss the outcomes of the survey. Hopefully he will hear what our students have to say, and we can work to develop some changes within them to aid their accessibility, but the ball is in the University's court on this matter. My aim is to get some form of visibility strip installed on the standing signs, and assurances about font sizing for any future signs that have not yet been created."

As for comments from people dissatisfied with the signs or those unfortunately injured as a result of poor visibility, there are no official comments, and Effy tells us that "I am afraid that I cannot provide direct quotes from individuals, but the lack of visibility strips has proved to be a consistent problem in the student feedback and we have had collisions with signs reported, not just from students with disabilities but able bodied students as well." So take care when cycling around the campus meanwhile, especially around the Alcuin sign, and remember to check the campus map online rather than relying on the signs overall.



IMAGE: STEPH HAYLE

Black liberation flag

>>> Continued from front

for Tottenham, David Lammy, accused of having a “social apartheid”.

Acting Vice-Chancellor, Saul Tendler, who will take over temporarily from outgoing VC Koen Lamberts on 31 October, noted that this was the first time the flag had been raised at the University. The former Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Provost added: “It’s a visible statement of our commitment to Black History Month and equality.”

James Durcan, YUSU Presi-

dent, echoed Tendler’s sentiment: “The first ever raising of the Black Liberation flag is the first important step in symbolising the huge amount of work to be done on black liberation here on campus and wider afield.”

“This landmark occasion, like the first ever raising of the Rainbow flag many years ago, must be a catalyst for continual dialogue and action to challenge inequality, to be more inclusive and take real action to improve the lives of minority groups.”

Blue Plaque unveiling

Eloise McMinn Mitchell
NEWS EDITOR

YORK CIVIC TRUST will be unveiling a Blue Plaque to celebrate Laurence Sterne (1713– 1768). Sterne was an Irish-born author and Anglican clergyman with strong connections to York and the Yorkshire region. Descendant of an Archbishop of York, Sterne was the author of “The Life and Opinions of Tristram Shandy, Gentleman” and “A Sentimental Journey Through France and Italy”. He died of tuberculosis at 55 years of age.

Born in Ireland and living in both Ireland and Yorkshire, the Cambridge graduate worked in the Church for many years before dedicating himself to writing. Sterne was a prebentary of York Minster Sterne’s dabble in political journal-

ism by supporting Sir Robert Walpole, who is widely regarded as the first Prime Minister of Britain. His novels were popular across Europe.

Blue Plaques memorialise the connection between the building or location and a famous person or event. England Heritage started installing Blue Plaques which generally referred to places in the Greater London area, but many similar schemes now exist which also install similar Blue Plaques. The original programme is thought to have begun in 1866. The York Civic Trust installs plaques commemorating both influential people and places, and does so using funds provided by donations.

The Plaque will be unveiled on 5 November at 11.00 at 35 Stonegate, close to the Evil Eye bar. Laurence Sterne already has a Blue Plaque dedicated to him in Coxwold where he was a vicar for many years. This Plaque is on the wall of Shandy Hall, where he lived.

YUSU Course Representative elections receive low turnout

Niamh Carroll
NEWS EDITOR

OVER A QUARTER OF this year’s Course Representative positions have not yet been filled, with 75 of the possible 295 positions remaining vacant. Some of these positions have multiple Reps. There can be up to 407 students acting as Reps; however, currently there are only 278 Reps in place.

The Course Rep role is one of three Academic Representative positions within the YUSU structure. Course Reps are responsible for one year of students, taking one course. There are also Department Representatives, who are responsible for all students within the department. Above Department and Course Reps are three Faculty Representatives. Course Reps are recruited by YUSU. They are expected to perform a representative role for their fellow students.

Their job involves gauging the opinions of students on their

course and feeding back to their departments. Students are encouraged to speak to their Course Reps if they have an issue with their course or if there is anything that they would like to see improved or changed.

YUSU says that: “Course Reps are the voice of their cohort and help improve the academic experience for students at the University. By gathering student opinion, Course Reps become specialists in course-based issues, helping to identify and tackle problems that arise.”

Initial Course Representative elections took place in Week three, with students being asked to nominate themselves in Week two, putting forward a short manifesto. Fellow students were then asked to vote for the candidate they thought most capable of the role on

the YUSU website. In many cases, there were no nominees for certain roles.

A second round took place in Week five, with students getting another chance to put themselves forward for vacant roles. YUSU have indicated that a process of co-opting Course Reps will now begin; something which happens each academic year.

Academic Officer, James Hare, commented that he was satisfied with the situation. “We’re quite content with the current number of vacancies, considering that the process of selecting Course Reps will continue on until the end of this term,” he said. “Additionally, the majority of the vacancies are for courses with small numbers of students such as postgraduate and combined courses, which are therefore harder to recruit reps for.”

Hare added: “I would say that I feel Course Rep elections have been relatively successful this year, and look forward to working with a new team of fantastic reps moving forward. Of course we will review the nomination process as we do each year, but we do not feel any action we take is likely to increase the number of applications significantly.”



COURSE REP

IMAGES: YUSU

York Minster Grand Organ has £2m refurbishment

Joseph Silke
EDITOR

YORK MINISTER is undertaking a monumental, once-in-a-century restoration of its prized Grand Organ. The immense instrument, parts of which date to 1834, comprises of 5 403 pipes with some as long as ten metres, and some as small as a pencil. It is the first renovation of its scale since 1903 and has a £2 million budget, made possible by a £1 million private donation. Nearly all of its pipes will be taken to organ specialists Harrison and Harrison in Durham for both repair and refurbishment. The project is expected to be completed by the summer of 2020.

This month, a team of eight specialists from the Durham firm have been working to dismantle the Grand Organ. The instrument is one of the largest in the country, weighing approximately 20 000 kilograms. Due to their regular use,

organs require small scale cleaning every fifteen to twenty years; larger repairs every thirty to thirty-five years; and major refurbishment like this every century.

Once the Grand Organ is dismantled and the pipes are transported to Harrison and Harrison in Durham, they will be cleaned and restored. The mechanism of the organ will be replaced, and minor changes will be made to improve the release of sound once the organ is relocated back to its place and how it looks. The aim is to restore it to the condition it was in during the 1960s.

The grandeur of the instrument makes it a popular attraction for musicologists, tourists, and those of faith alike. For the duration of the refurbishment, the Minster will host an electronic organ and will make use of a concert grand piano. Visitors will also be able to witness the work as it occurs inside the building during the dismantling and the re-assembly.

Robert Sharpe, Director of Music at York Minster, commented on the Grand Organ’s refurbishment:

“The organ plays a key part in the Minster’s services, providing the heartbeat at the centre of daily worship within the church. This once-in-a-century refurbishment will ensure the instrument’s reliability for

the next 100 years.”

The specialists required to complete this massive project are in short supply across the country. The York Minster Grand Organ had to wait behind the organs of Peterbor-

ough and Canterbury for the musical craftsmen to be available for the project. The organ of Salisbury Cathedral is set to follow after work on the Grand Organ at York Minster is complete.



IMAGE: MATTANA

Lord Nelson's marriage register to be conserved

Chay Quinn
DEPUTY EDITOR

THE MARRIAGE REGISTER of Vice-Admiral Horatio Nelson and Fanny Nisbet will be conserved by experts at the University of York, after spending over a century in the Caribbean.

The 190-page document has been exposed to the humid conditions of the Caribbean, and is in dire need of conservation lest it be lost forever.

The document arrived at the University on 18 October, just three days before Trafalgar Day, the commemoration of the British victory over the combined French and Spanish fleets in 1805. In this battle Nelson gave his life, for which he is remembered as an influential figure of history.

The Borthwick Institute for Ar-

chives was chosen to help conserve this important document of history, because of its experience in conserving church documents. This has included helping to conserve registers up to 800 years old.

The Diocese of the North East Caribbean and Aruba gave their permission for the document to make the journey to York. Their agreement came due to their recognition of the need for the im-

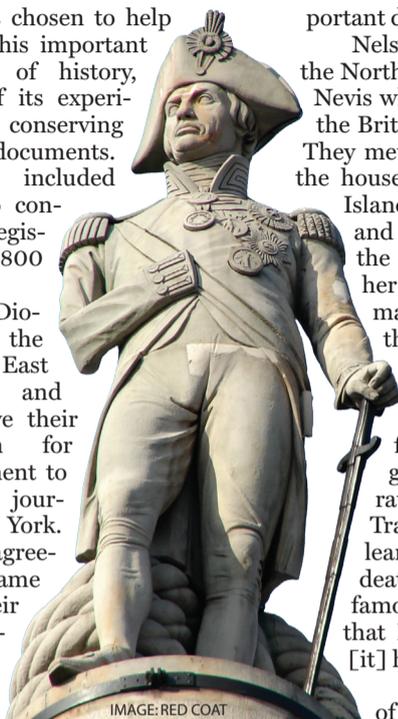


IMAGE: RED COAT

portant document to be conserved.

Nelson met Fanny Nisbet in the North East Caribbean island of Nevis whilst he was commanding the British warship HMS Boreas. They met each other at a party at the house of the President of the Island of Nevis; Fanny's uncle and her protector following the death of her parents and her first husband. They were married on 11 March 1787 in the same house that they met.

Vice-Admiral Horatio Nelson is best known for the column in Trafalgar Square, commemorating the heroic victory at Trafalgar. When George III learned of the victory and the death of the Vice-Admiral, he famously cried before stating that England "lost more than [it] had gained".

Chris Webb, the Keeper of Archives at the Borthwick

noted: "We are honoured to have the opportunity to preserve this historic document which marks an important moment in Lord Nelson's life."

Once the conservation work has been completed, the document will return to its home in the Caribbean.



IMAGE: UNIVERSITY OF YORK

Environmental PhDs receive extra funding

Eloise McMinn Mitchell
NEWS EDITOR

THE UNIVERSITY OF YORK has been allocated a sum of £100m in funding from the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) in order to help prepare a new generation of environmental scientists. The process will boost the funding of 14 new PhD students per year, principally in the fields of ecology, evolution and conservation. This comes as part of a Doctoral Training Programme (DTP) under the Adapting to the Challenges of Changing Environment (ACCE) section.

The ACCE Programme incorporates academics from the University of Liverpool and University of Sheffield as well as resources from the Centre for Ecology and Hydrology and the Natural History Museum. ACCE is the only DTP that focuses on the "biological component of environmental research". The programme's aim is to train PhD students who will be performing "cutting edge research and tackling environmental science questions of global significance".

This programme is not targeting solely biology PhD applicants and students. ACCE's website focuses on a union between analytical chemists, archaeologists, biologists, engineers, geoscientists, mathematicians and policy experts. Due to this, the programme will be beneficial to students who are applying to the Departments of Archaeology, Biology, Chemistry and Environment and Geography.

There will be 17 DTPs in re-

sponse to the 2018 campaign that will host PhD studentships funded by the NERC grants. Studentships are PhD scholarships. There was a competitive process involved in the selection of the host DTPs at various institutions. They were chosen after a peer-reviewed application process that was as transparent as possible. The resulting levels of excellence were assessed, and the hosting DTPs were selected. The University of York and University of Leeds have recruited upwards of 100 postgraduate students over four year groups since 2014. These students worked with five departments at Leeds and the Department of Chemistry at York.

The studentships that are supported by the NERC are fully funded – covering fees and a stipend. They are not available to international students, but are to UK and EU students who have been resident, in the UK for the three years before the studentship. Candidates that apply send in a CV, transcripts of their degrees to date, a statement of their motivation, academic references and – especially if they are from outside of the UK – their English language level so they are sure to meet the project's language requirements. The students with the strongest applications are then invited to interview. As of 2018, there were three new students at the University of York's Department of Chemistry as part of the NERC DTP.

The PhD students that graduate from these DTP schemes will be vital in analysing and understanding the continuing effects of climate change, and ways to mitigate it. They ensure the UK remains active in its role as a leader in research associated with climate change.

Students and sabbs zorb on Campus Lake for RAG

Niamh Carroll
NEWS EDITOR

STUDENTS AND SABBS will have a chance to zorb on the Campus East lake on Wednesday 31 October, with the event taking place as part of RAG Week. RAG Week is taking place in Week six from the 29 October to 4 November.

While it may not be advisable to swim in the Campus lake, some students will get the chance to experience the next best thing, with zorbing taking place on Campus East. Zorbing involves moving across a surface (in this case the Campus East lake) by rolling in an orb, which is generally made of transparent plastic. The event will take place from 10am to 5pm with students having a chance to purchase tickets from £10, or a cheaper Early Bird price of £7.

Zorbing is not the only RAG event taking place on Halloween day with Sponsored Dog Petting taking place in Vanbrugh Bowl in the afternoon. There is no set cost for the event, but it is suggested that students who meet the very good doggos make a donation.

YUSU Activities' Officer, Finn Judge, expressed excitement for zorbing and the other upcoming events this RAG week: "With zorbing on the lake and dogs in the Vanbrugh Bowl, I hope our Vice-Chancellor realises what he's walking away from on his last day at York." RAG is a wing of YUSU dedicated to Raising and Giving for international, national and local charities. While events for RAG

take place throughout the year, RAG Week is the most intensive week of fundraising activity. The charities being supported this RAG Week are Snappy (Special Needs Activities and Play Provision for York), World Child Cancer, and Action Against Hunger.

The week presents an opportunity for students to learn about the charities being supported as well as taking part in fundraising events. Activities Officer Judge says: "RAG Week is going to be huge and I can't wait to see students learn about our beneficiaries, choose charity partners for their student groups, and raid with us on Saturday."

Other highlights of RAG Week

include: Enigma on Monday 30; an event which involves students boarding a coach to go to a mystery city (Sheffield) for a night-out; Musical Bingo in D-Bar on Tuesday night, and RAG Conference and theFair in the Spring Lane Building.

Zorbing on Campus East lake will undoubtedly provide a memorable, enjoyable experience and spectacle for students. It is just one of a wide range of events taking place on Campus over RAG Week. The week not only provides an opportunity for students to take part in fun activities but also an opportunity for learning about the charities that RAG supports.



IMAGE: HEATHERTON

Government vows to tackle rising grade inflation

Joseph Silke
EDITOR

THE GOVERNMENT IS bringing in measures to tackle the growing issue of so-called grade inflation at universities across the UK. The proportion of top grades being awarded to students has soared over recent years, with statistics from the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA)

41.8%

The proportion of students at Imperial College London who received firsts in 2015/16

indicating that it is now more common for graduates to receive first class honours than it is to receive a lower second class honours. Some universities now award first class honours to more than a third of their students. The Universities Minister, Sam Gyimah, has vowed to address the problem using the Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF), the government's own rating system, to discourage lower standards for high grades.

Universities award their own degrees and have autonomy over the grades they give out to their students. The TEF was introduced in 2017 and ranks universities by class-

ing them as either bronze, silver, or gold. The TEF is designed to put pressure on universities to maintain high standards when awarding top marks to their graduates amid fears that students have been marked up, meaning students are leaving with disproportionately high grades compared to previous years. Judges will factor in the number of firsts or upper class seconds a university awards when deciding which designation to award the university, as well as by looking at student experience and the quality of teaching.

The think-tank Reform has criticised the trend of grade inflation, commenting in June that the "rocketing" grades risk undermining the credibility of British higher education. The organisation said that its research found that the proportion of firsts awarded almost doubled between 1997 and 2009, with the number of firsts increasing by 26 per cent in the last eight years from 2010. Commenting on the problem, Sam Gyimah said; "When you look at what makes our universities so prestigious, it comes down to the value of our degrees. The value of those degrees is threatened by grade inflation and that is a problem for students, employers and the universities themselves."

A spokesperson for Universities UK, the organisation which represents higher education institutions across the country, said: "It is essential that students, employers and the public have confidence in the ongoing

value of a UK degree." Nick Hillman, head of the Higher Education Policy Institute, said that despite this, "There are people who think the system isn't as robust as it might be. It can all be a bit cosy - you ask someone you know to be an external examiner. A comparison would be if schools could decide how many A grades to give in A-levels - it's a big incentive for grade inflation."

Research completed by Lancaster University in 2014 indicated that rising degree classifications may be a result of increased ability, rather than lower standards, showing that improvements in degree grades were in line with the rising quality of the intake, as shown by A-level grades. Their research also indicated that grade inflation is a bigger issue at the most prestigious universities where 8 per cent were more likely to award higher degrees than they were in 2005, even after factoring in the improved student intake.

One Russell Group professor responded in *The Guardian* this week to the plans by the government to crack down on grade inflation: "The latest cohort of university students are the product of 13 years of relentless assessment at primary and secondary school, driven by the ever-greater pressure of league tables which, owing to financial incentives, headteachers are largely powerless to resist. Do you think that is perhaps why today's students are better at doing assessments than their predecessors?"



IMAGE: JOHN WALKER

Number of part-time students more than halves

Chay Quinn
DEPUTY EDITOR

A SHOCKING NEW statistic has revealed that the number of part-time undergraduate students has fallen by over half since 2010.

The drop between academic years 2010-11 to 2016-17 in part-time undergraduate numbers has also been understood in the amount of part-time degrees of any type being undertaken in the UK during the same period. The number of part-time undergraduates fell by 51 per cent by part-time degrees of all types fell 37 per cent.

The figures were quoted by Universities UK (UUK) in a report on part-time learning. The report conducted interviews with more than 830, participants who had considered part-time learning, but ultimately decided against it. The main barrier that needed to be removed, before these people would consider part-time education again, was what was being perceived as high tuition fees. The high rate of tuition was selected by 59 per cent of the 830 as a barrier that needed to be removed for them to consider

part-time learning again.

This main barrier was followed up with significant numbers of participants stating that there is a lack of so-called "flexible courses" to fit around other commitments that post-18 learners may have. Also, there is insufficient support for liv-

ing costs causing major barriers for those considering part-time education.

At the heart of what UUK are trying to evidence is the lack of opportunities for people wishing to attend university in order to facilitate a different career path.

Matthew Fell of the Confederation of British Industry (CBI) criticises the fact that universities often are seen to be just for those entering at the age of 18, but "adult education and lifelong learning matter just as much."

The CBI's policy director then

51

Percentage fall in number of part-time undergrads in the UK from 2010-2017

added that "universities need to play a critical role in responding to the changing world of work by offering education and training for learners for whom a three-year bachelor's degree doesn't quite fit their circumstances".

As the pace of technological advancements ever-increase, the need for workers to retrain grows as jobs are rapidly becoming obsolete with the development of AI and intelligent robots that can do a more efficient job than human worker's. This is why Professor Lyndon, of the University of South Wales, believes that "the economy need[s] more skilled people in the workforce" than it currently has.

The government is currently conducting a review into tuition fees and funding, announcing it shortly after the 2017 General Election, in which Labour took swathes of the youth vote following a promise to "look into" the wipeout of existing student debt and abolishing fees.

The results of this review are expected to be released in 2019.



IMAGE: UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM

N COMMENT



IMAGE: NUMBER 10

Let Theresa May get on with it or risk no deal

The Prime Minister has one of the most unenviable tasks imaginable and sadly, she's all we've got

Oscar Bentley



I'm going to say something I never thought I'd say: everybody needs to back off Theresa May a little. I am a long way from her biggest fan, a long way from liking her, and longer away still in liking Brexit. But, not to sound like a broken record in repeating everything she's being saying for months, she needs to be allowed to get on with the job at hand.

The UK is set to leave the EU on the 29 March. That leaves just five months to get a deal, write the legislation, and get it through both the European Parliament, as well as Westminster. The deal was originally meant to be done and agreed on by the EU27 leaders at a summit on the 17 and 18 October in Brussels. That went out the window when it was concluded that not enough progress has been made. Our Prime Minister's "Chequers proposal" was rejected, she was humiliated, and she was carted off before dinner had even started. Then there was

supposed to be an emergency EU summit in November to pass any deal – but again, it's expected that not enough progress will have been made for that to be possible. An EU summit on the 13 and 14 December is reportedly the last resort. BBC Political Editor, Laura Kuenssberg, floated on 5live's Brexitcast (which is excellent by the way, check it out) podcast, however, an emergency summit could even be called in January.

Basically, she hasn't exactly got it easy on the EU side. The Irish border remains the crucial sticking point, and despite May saying that a deal is 95 per cent done, EU Parliament Brexit head, Guy Verhofstadt, said that until this problem is solved, effectively zero per cent of the deal is done. The EU are pushing her to give more and more ground.

She hasn't got it easy on the home side either, with the Brexiteers within her own party pushing her to not give a single extra millimetre. She's being held to ransom by the DUP, despite Arlene Foster's proclamation that they are doing no such thing, who are threatening to break off their confidence and supply deal with the Tories. Even her own cabinet still won't say explicitly

that they support her plans, see Ester McVey, Penny Mordaunt et al.

Again, I'm not trying to praise her or say she's even a little bit competent, or that it's not all her fault, (to be fair, it's mostly Davey C's.)

May's been backed into the smallest corner possible, with killer sharks everywhere she looks. In office but not in power. But, at the

She's backed into the smallest corner possible with killer sharks

moment, she's the best we've got.

If Labour were to take over and try and negotiate a softer Brexit, then yes I'm down. Even better, if Labour wanted to come out against Brexit and say they'd keep us in the EU, then I'm quadruple down. If another Tory voice could offer something other than hard-crashing-out-with-no-deal-Brexit, then I'm also down. But no one is really offering an alternative.

I'm no fan of May and would

have been fully behind ousting her before, providing she were replaced with a Greening, Rudd, and Soubry cabal rather than one of Boris, Davis, and Mogg.

If the Tories wanted to oust her, however, they should have done it immediately after the Chequers summit at the beginning of summer, rather than messing about with it now. There just isn't the time. There is no time to replace her and conduct a protracted leadership battle. There is no time to come up with a new plan, without extending the Article 50 process. I'd be more than happy to see happen, but the strongest Brexiteer voices that are against her in her own party and millions of Brexit voters naturally recoil at the suggestion, for fear it endangers delivering on the result of the referendum. If Brexit is determined to go ahead – and again, I'd support stopping it and staying in the EU in a heartbeat – there is no time left to do anything other than support the Primer Minister in getting a deal.

The alternative is crashing out, and not even on WTO terms as the Brexiteers have waxed lyrical for months would be acceptable or even rosy. Several WTO members last

week moved to block Britain's fast-track WTO membership bid. No deal isn't a pie-in-the-sky fantasy any more, it's a very real danger. The government has released reams of notices about how to cope with no deal. The Transport Secretary is actively planning to turn the M20 and M26 into a lorry park. Plans are being drawn up to charter ships to bring in essential food, medicine, and supplies. This is all fucking nuts.

Brexit is the biggest act of national self-harm in post-war history. So, can you imagine all of that amplified by crashing out without an exit deal in place? And remember, this is just the exit – none of the future relationship deal has been done yet, all that is waiting in line, ready for the 21-month transition period – and that's assuming there is an exit deal and no crashing out is done.

The Tories, the DUP, everyone just needs to let her get on with the task at hand. And, unless the exit deal contains something that is so blind-sidingly unacceptable, the whole House – Labour included – must vote it through. Theresa May might be one of the the worst Prime Ministers we've had in decades. But, for now, she's all we've got.

The world of Yorfess: An Ode to Shitposting

Yorfess isn't just simply shitposting, but also a way for the University campus to better connect as a student body

Julian Outram



Yorfess is not a place, it's a state of mind. The sort of mind that's in such a state from the events of last night's drinking that it just has to spill its contents all over the internet. That's right, Yorfeff is a Facebook page dedicated to posting the most absurd, embarrassing and hilarious stories of York resident students. Like a filthy priest who

It's pretty wild at York, especially for a place that's essentially just a pond with mallards and vicious geese ”

gets his kicks from listening to the salacious sins of layfolk in the confession box, you too can sit down to a list of raunchy, embarrassing, and downright cringeworthy confes-

sions from your penitent peers. It's pretty wild at York, even for a place that's essentially just a pond with mallards and vicious geese.

You've got the "Badger Hill Wanker" and his love of public indecency. Derwent's chronic asbestos woes, immortalised by way of meme. Every college has a couple of signature jokes strapped to it. Halifax is on the edge of the world, Alcuin is a depopulated desert, Constantine is basically a gentlemen's club, and Wentworth Wing is home to the academic geriatric. Koen Lamberts, the historical Vice-Chancellor, has reached a conspiratorial, dare I say illuminati-esque meme tier. Why did he leave? What did he know? Who is the man behind the meme? To top it all off, there's even lively competition be-

tween Yorfeff and Durfess, the spicy sister page that turns a long history of academic rivalry into a meme war. Yorfeff keeps it light hearted but juicy, sometimes even swooping in to leave a sassy comment here or there.

Some say the centre piece at York is the ugly spaceship at the heart of our great hub, but I say the heart is that which is often experienced but rarely divulged: the hilarious, ugly secrets of the students of York. Yorfeff offers respite for those hard workers who need five minutes from their studies to enjoy a moment of levity.

But it's not all comedy.

Yorfess is also a space where students come to voice their concerns about university life on a platform which gives them anonymity, while still allowing them to speak. For example, many of the issues with the on-campus healthcare, by Unity Health, have been expressed by frustrated users. Disgruntled students play a political role in holding the power of YUSU accountable to the people, by way of anonymous submissions. Experienced students have used the platform to provide frank advice during Freshers' Week to new starters so that they can make the most of their time here. It has even become an ad-space for students to seek accommodation, or a place to host PSAs about University facilities. There's comedy in spades, a touch of frustration, and the occasional wise word. It's the whole package, and I keep coming back for another look. It's easy to see why the page has over 6600 followers and rising.

Anonymity is the keystone to

making Yorfeff great. You'll get more honesty out of someone when they think no one's listening. And arguably we're starving for honesty. If you're a fresher or a third year, you've probably felt at times like people aren't giving you the whole picture, and it's refreshing to hear stories that puncture the veil of perfection tangible at universities of repute. Instead of saving face, let's dabble in disgrace and debauchery. It's human to show our vulnerability by sharing our mistakes.

So, maybe you've got a few stories you wouldn't mind keeping a secret but sharing with the world? Maybe you want to talk about your experience at York? Maybe you'd like to ask some advice on a question you can't get an answer to on your own? Or maybe you're in it for the laughs? Whatever it is, Yorfeff might make you feel at home, while you avoid the impending doom of work you still haven't done yet, and another night out you know you can't hack. At least, by the searing light of tomorrow's post-lunchtime sun screaming through the crack in your curtains, you can confess all your sins, to everyone and all, right?



IMAGE: JJ HARRISON

A first-hand account of the People's Vote march

The People's Vote march was for more than just disgruntled students; the people's voice needs to be more widely recognised

Kit Taylor



On Saturday the 20th of October, I had the privilege of being part of the second-biggest protest this century. Nearly 700 000 people turned out in London's Park Lane to march to demand a People's Vote, and let me tell you, it wasn't just people who voted to remain the first time round.

I spoke to so many people from different age groups who had been on either side of the referendum, back in 2016. Many told me that they did not feel informed when the referendum took place and that the people should be allowed to change their minds. There was anger at the severe lack of understanding everyone had before going in to cast their vote.

That being said, it was a relatively calm protest. The most noticeable action was the sounds of chants and songs, which, in themselves, were not the most aggressive thing: "EU, EU, we love the EU..." to the tune: "The Lion Sleeps Tonight",

and so on.

Another thing to note about the crowd was the enormous presence of students and young people. At the University of York, a group of students were able to take an

The most noticeable action was the sounds of chants ”

externally-funded coach to London so that everyone who wanted to go had the opportunity. Aside from students, many teenagers and children wanted to go and stand up for their future.

A controversial issue regarding the referendum was the minimum voting age of 18. The argument stands that if something is going to affect their future, why shouldn't individuals of 16 and 17 be able to vote?

I stand by the idea that if young people are expected to study and take exams, then they should also be

able to make informed judgements and vote. I had turned 18 months before the referendum, but can safely say that I distinctly remember seeing a sign during the march, which read: "Young, dumb, and angry at choices made on my behalf".

On the note of signs, amongst the funnier ones plastered in EU puns and song lyrics, were the more poignant messages. One stated, "Look. This is real democracy! Listen to the voice of the people."

Of course, only time will tell whether the march itself makes an impact on Brexit. However, it is clear that we have learnt some very specific things about the people of Britain:

1. Young people are rising to take control of politics. It is our future, and we deserve a say in it. The arguments for lowering the voting age have soared since the referendum.
2. The power is in the people. With the second biggest demonstration since the start of the century, we have proven that people of all ages and demographics will come together to stand for what they believe in.
3. Brits are excellent at making signs.

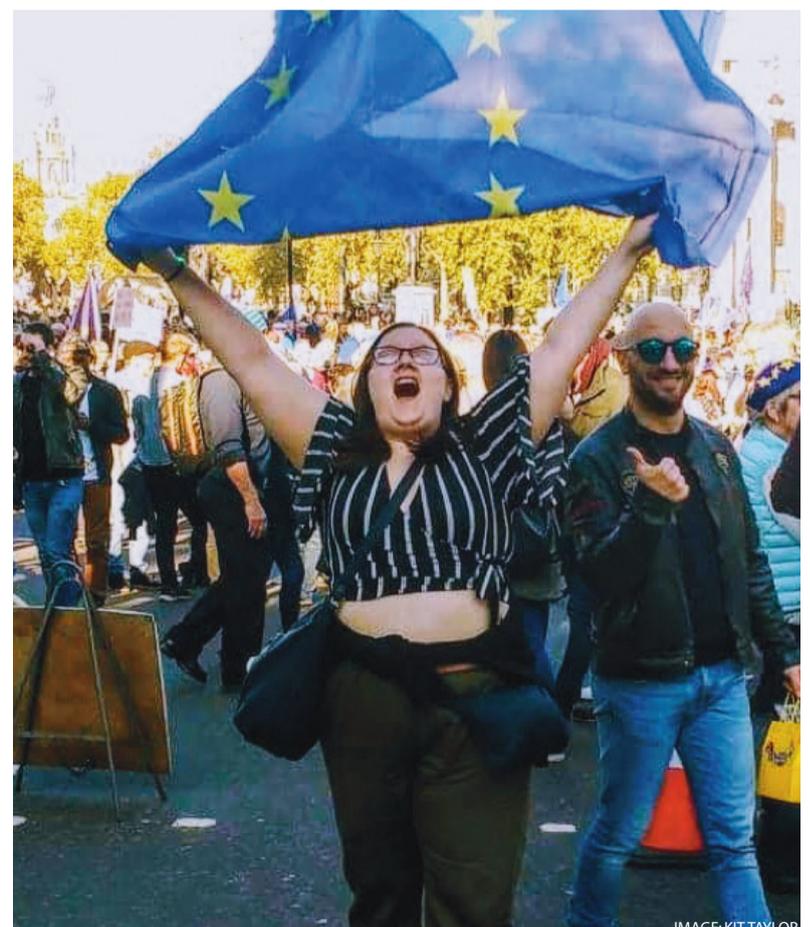


IMAGE: KIT TAYLOR



IMAGE: JAY DYER

I'm sick of all these Harry Potter shops on the Shambles

These horrid tat shops are Weasleying their way onto our historic street

Joseph Silke



York's most historic street is being defiled by the dark arts. The Shambles, which is recorded in William the Conqueror's *Domesday Book* of 1086, is a street which has held its current layout since the fifteenth-century. Until the 1800s, the Shambles still had many of the butchers shops for which it was famous. In modern times, bereft of any meat-vendors, the Shambles now hosts a total of four Harry Potter shops. Four shops, York? Four!? That's insane!

This takeover has taken place over a strikingly short period of time. It began in May 2017 with the opening of The Shop That Must Not Be Named. The public were clearly spellbound as the opening was accompanied by ample interest, with frequent queues out the door into the characteristically narrow cobbled streets. The invasion isn't a case of dedicated Potterheads living out their fantasy, although I'm sure a lot of the actual staff enjoy their jobs for that reason. My quarrel is certainly not with them. Good luck to them if they want to wave sticks at each other shouting made up words.

The creators of two of the later shops, The World of Wizardry and The Boy Wizard, are the business-magnate Singh family. The same family also run tartan kitsch retail outlets in the Scottish capital of Edinburgh, including in the city's prestigious Royal Mile. It is a simple cash-grab.

Now, I understand the appeal of having just the one shop. It is

claimed that J.K. Rowling was partly inspired by the Shambles when she created wizarding street Diagon Alley. It makes sense: the Shambles is a truly magical location. Within just a year and five months, however, the street has been transformed faster than you can say: "transfiguration".

The Shambles has become the Harry Potter street and it has lost its original charm. The result is that one of York's most iconic locations has been reduced to a cheap gimmick.

The Shambles has long been famous for its unique and quaint attractions, yet it is quickly becoming consumed with commercialised tat. Before you think that might be li-

bellous and start calling the Singh's up in anger, one of the family quite happily admitted: "Where the public want to buy tat we put tat".

Once the wait had died down outside the original shop, I finally decided to take a gander and I was surprised that so many had Siriusly bothered to queue for so long in the wind and rain, so typical of your average day in York.

The shrine of Saint Margaret Clitherow; the chocolatiers; the jewellers; shop facades that are centuries-old. All are becoming drowned out by the hordes of Hogwarts robes and mass-produced sticks. Of course, it will always be a tourist hotspot, but that tourism had originally been generated by

an organic appeal which has been cultivated over hundreds of years of history. This is a new Disneyfied form of tourism that has been fabricated based on a tenuous link with a little wizard with round glasses that just won't die.

Perhaps I am wrong to question the wisdom of the market. If the demand is there then naturally the supply follows. I am a capitalist, after all. But I am also a conservationist, and the problem is that I fear that once the Shambles has established itself as a Harry Potter zone, the effect will be to drive many people away from an important historical landmark.

This will ultimately damage the overall economy of the street when muggles are driven away, as well as simply making it less accessible for locals. The local council have really butchered this internationally-recognized butchers street's meaty reputation for authenticity.

These sorts of hotspots are better kept out of the way, and certainly away from places of great historical and local significance like the Shambles. That way the Potterheads get their escape from reality and the general public get their escape from them.

The Harry Potter attraction at London King's Cross station works perfectly. It attracts vast masses of fans queuing in the hopes of getting their picture taken with half a trolley in a wall. Yet, it's never a nuisance because it's, well, just a trolley against a random wall away from any actual platforms.

That being said, I know what the probable response is to saying that the heart of Yorkshire ought to take lessons from London. It's likely to be a lot more strongly-worded than Avada Kedavra.

Vision's death is not cause for celebration

The fall of the paper does not reflect its history as a student journalist's Fleet Street

Jan De Boer



Many people will know that *Nouse* has been operating within the University of York since 1964. For the last 54 years, this paper has been publishing between one and three editions every term. We at *Nouse* estimate anywhere between 250 and 480 editions have been produced over the years. As part of my new role in the paper, I have the wonderful opportunity to look at how the newspaper has evolved, and what it has taught me is how professionalism in student journalism is a good of the University. It is unfortunate to see, however, how that concept has been slipping, with our rivals on campus, in recent months.

We can forget how much effort has to be put into newspapers on campus. In an edition from 1974, a team of 10 lamented having to produce the paper by themselves. With a team of over 60 today, I can barely imagine the stress that those people would be under to produce a paper, but they did it. To produce something like *Nouse* or *York Vision*, a massive amount of time and care needs to be taken. On the whole, it is shown that the editors of the past understood their task and undertook it with the greatest journalistic integrity. That is why I am shocked by how that standard has slipped in *York Vision*. Their decisions over the past two years of attempted publications bewildered me, as they do not reflect the high-esteem that their past editors had for what they were doing. Particularly of the values that made *Vision* award-winning. The *Nouse* archive has various editions of *Vision* (in-

cluding from the year they falsely declared themselves "the most award-winning student newspaper") and I see a dynamic, hard-hitting paper that was the voice of student revolt. It is a shame that in 31 years of printing, their editorial team do not treat the newspaper with respect. Turning from the rebel yell of campus, to the bargain basement of Fleet Street.

Vision should expect the worst consequences for what was the naive, stupid and, in many ways, dangerous decisions made in their last edition. I signed the letter calling for their deratification, not because I want them condemned to the history books, but because I think that the only way to solve the systemic issues within the newspaper is for them to, quite literally, start all over again. In my university life, I have never seen *York Vision* in good health, and looking at their previous editions, I think that is a tragedy.

Alumni of the paper will know its true potential, but sadly this cannot be said for current students. I have had the opportunity to see the legacy that the current *Vision* team inherited and I am truly disturbed. Every decision we make at *Nouse* is taken with the knowledge that 54 years of media heritage is riding on our backs. I can safely say this is lacking in *York Vision*. To those who cannot access the archives, they will be remembered for what they have done in the past three years.

To third years they will be the paper that spluttered and died. To second years it was the newspaper that wasn't afraid to publish a white chair as its front page (then declare it a joke, then declare their declaration a joke, so on and so forth). To first years it will be known by the two words that doomed a newspaper: "send nudes".



EDITOR'S OPINION

"The Controversial"

Jonathan Wellington



As we begin another edition of Comment, with a brand-new Comment Editorial team and a new set of student opinions to be heard, I'm asking: should we be scared of the controversial? Controversial is defined as "causing disagreement or discussion" by the Cambridge Dictionary. With that definition it can be seen as a key part in human development.

Without discussion and disagreement, no tools would be left to further societies or facilitate change. Key changes in civil rights all around the world can be attributed to key controversial figures. How controversial was it for Rosa Parks to sit at the front of the bus? Any instance where the human race has developed itself comes down to a paradigm being broken; the arguments and discussion which follow result in change.

There seems, however, to be a different, more stigmatized side to the controversial. Individuals can now, given the right platform, deliberately wield the "controversial" for the sheer purpose of self-gain. The well-known saying "there's no such thing as bad publicity" is increasingly relevant; the line between being famous and being infamous is increasingly blurred as individuals hijack the idea of being controversial in their selfish endeavors.

Recently on National Health Day, Piers Morgan published a tweet controversially advocating that we start referring to mental health as "mental strength" in a bid to "teach our kids the power of resilience". Piers wasn't doing this as a genuine contribution to the mental health campaign, he was doing it to ruffle the feathers of society. Manipulating our desire to

seek the controversial in society, he turned our attention away from the relevant and instead towards his smug face. Not only is this twisted, but it's dangerous in the way it belittles mental health. His form of the controversial wasn't facilitating change or providing debate, it was simply damaging and disrespectful to the incredible mental health campaigns currently going on.

If, however, we can pride ourselves on having an ounce of regard for others and an ounce of integrity, we're not going to be controversial in this sense. It is possible to be deliberately controversial, and not in a bad way.

I'm advocating that we embrace the controversial, it's what the comment section is all about. Views on big political events with the controversial takes on them, make for good reading.

Let's celebrate the controversial in the political institutions around us, but let's celebrate the controversial in the mundane too. What's your particular dialect's way of describing a "bread roll"? In what way should you eat a KitKat? Does mayonnaise belong anywhere near chips?

Whether you're writing or reading, let's look for "the controversial" in the world, whether that's within government policy, university policy, or whether it is just how people put ketchup on their chips.

Let's debate, discuss, and most importantly re-claim the word from the typically ascribed "controversial character" who seeks to misuse the term "controversial", not for the betterment of humankind, or even for our general entertainment, but instead for their own self-gain.

We, as journalists, must be able to identify and classify what type of controversial we are seeing/reporting. Is it controversial because it's being used as a force for positive change? Or also because it's turning the mundane into a lively discussion and a jovial debate?



IMAGE: YUSU

First, go fix your bad service

The faults of our University's bus service need to be addressed

Matthew King



It's three in the morning - Merchantgate; I'm cold, I'm tired, I'm drunk, but most importantly - I'm hungry.

The bus comes around the corner. With me I take my six chicken nuggets from McDonald's, ready to eat in bed at home. The bus driver demands that the nuggets be disposed of, I comply; sacrificing the nuggets for entrance on the bus.

Despite being accused of hiding the nuggets in my pants, which I hadn't, I entered the bus and sat down.

While I am sitting there - lamenting my loss - I see a young woman enter, she has been drinking and can't quite understand which bus ticket to buy, or where her money is. The bus driver, rather than helping her, imitates a high-pitched voice and refers to her as a "little girl". I was appalled.

I can just about get over the chicken nuggets, but not so easily bad service and public misogyny.

This is what has underlined my distaste towards First Bus. However, this is only one item on a list of quarrels I have with First Bus.

I have been late to meetings, three gym inductions, and nearly missed a train home because of the dishonest bus timetables and general tardiness of the services.

Additionally, not only have I overseen the experience regarding the young woman above, but I have also seen drivers drive off and ignore passengers trying to enter the bus, which could have drastically affected their day.

But, what do I know? I'm only a fresher. Yes, I have only been at

York University for a month. But surely this just emphasises how bad First Bus' service is. I have only been here a month, yet have already seen questionable behaviour from a driver and have received a mostly-unreliable service.

Now, I can fully appreciate that driving a bus full of drunken and loud university students at three in the morning isn't the most enjoyable thing in the world (I know I personally couldn't do it) therefore, I do respect the drivers and the company for running the night service, especially as this helps students get home safe, whilst removing the need to use expensive taxis.

I believe greater effort, however, should be made to ensure

I can, just about, get over the chicken nuggets, but not bad service and public misogyny

passengers are, at all times, treated with respect and that buses are, of course, on time - which in my opinion does not seem too much to ask. I feel the night buses in particular should take steps towards ensuring a sense of wellbeing towards vulnerable students; these are buses specifically catering to those on nights out. Whilst no bus driver should ever have to tolerate utterly inebriated or blatantly anti-social students; slightly drunk, rowdy and/or hungry passengers are arguably to be expected on buses transporting clubgoers to and from town in the early hours of the morning.

I believe this context surround-

ing night buses should be encapsulated into the approach taken by drivers towards their passengers.

A little understanding and sympathy for the poor soul who's lost their friends and found a burger would be, I believe, greatly appreciated by the student body, and I do believe that this would also minimise the disrespect that some students have towards the drivers. Mutual respect, in my opinion, is the way to make our bus service both more comfortable and reliable.

As someone who has worked in retail for two years now, I understand how annoying customers are, and despite the awful comments I have had made to me, I have never belittled or shouted at a customer. It can't be too hard for some bus drivers to do the same. At the end of the day we are paying for these buses - is a smile too much to ask?

Just to finish off I think I have to mention my second largest pet hate with this service: the bus timetables.

I think anyone who has ever used the bus service has probably gone through this same problem; you're sat at the stop, the timetable says the bus is coming in three minutes, which would be great, if that wasn't a heap of utter lies.

The bus is "coming in three minutes" for something like nine minutes, and then after this the time inevitably changes at least four times, from a reasonable three-minute wait, to most likely something around twelve.

I understand that buses are going to be late, and that traffic and other hold-ups are sometimes unavoidable. However, if the bus is going to be late, I would rather be notified of the hold-up than be continuously lied to. That way I can plan my journey better and provide a more accurate estimation of my arrival time. Come on First Bus,



CARTOON BY JACK ROWE

"Getting your teeth stuck into the controversial"

An end to Kleenex Mansize is not a huge issue

Those condemning “snowflake feminists” misrepresent the long-term goals of the feminist movement

Niamh Carroll



Last week, Kleenex announced that they'd be binning their Mansize branding from its boxes after sixty years, and instead replacing it with the term: “Extra-large”. This followed criticism from some customers on Twitter that the Mansize branding was exclusionary and ought to not be used in 2018. Kleenex thanked customers for the feedback, and duly pledged to change the branding. This decision prompted ridicule and backlash from others on Twitter and in other sections of the media, who alleged that this was PC gone too far and that people were far too quick to be offended by relatively minor things.

The original tweet which sparked the change was from a mother named Lisa Hancox who posted a picture of the Mansize branded tissues and wrote: ‘Hi @Kleenex_UK. My 4yo son asked me what was written here. Then he asked, why are they called mansize? Can girls, boys & mummies use them? I said: I don't know & yes of course. He suggests you should call them “very large tissues”. It is 2018’.

Despite the move being apparently prompted by the musings of a four year-old child, many social media users assumed that feminists

had been the driving force of the change. The view among many on Twitter was that this was another sign that feminism was past its sell-by date, with some Tweets branding feminism as “cancer”. When there's so much going on in the world: wars, politics, poverty - perhaps those offended by a pack of tissues should simply dry their eyes?

While I have not personally shed a tear over Mansize tissues, I do find myself frustrated with unnecessarily gendered products that

It's not feminists who are overly offended, but those taking issue with the change ”

ought to be unquestionably used. For example, companies seem to think making razors pink and sticking a “feminine” word on the branding (think along the lines of “curve”, “goddess”, “silk”) warrants making shaving products targeted at women significantly more expensive than the “male” equivalents.

Aside from hiked up prices, gendered products can carry depressing messages about expectations for both men and women. Last year, Clarks faced a backlash after releasing their new range of school shoes; the boys' shoe design

was decorated with footballs in the insole and were branded Leader, whereas the girls' shoe design had heart designs on the inside, and called Dolly Babe. Companies have a responsibility, especially when it comes to products aimed at children, to not portray potentially harmful messages about gender expectations and roles. Whether it's the implication that boys are “leaders” and girls are “babes”, or opting to put a children's science kit in the “Boys” section of a toyshop; companies ought to be aware that children are highly impressionable and will often internalise the norms around them. Branding may seem inconsequential but it can contribute to societal expectations of how women and men should act, which is restrictive and unfair to all genders.

When it comes to the Kleenex Mansize case: I don't see it as being on the same level of perpetuating damaging gender norms as some of the examples I've given. It's not branding I particularly care for, but to be truthful, I think that anyone getting seriously angry about this has a definite lack of perspective. But, what many of those angrily condemning “snowflake feminists” on Twitter don't realise, is that no-one is really getting angry over tissues. As far as I'm aware, there were no marches demanding a change of the branding, no boycotts of Kleenex; what some on Twitter called a “feminist campaign” consisted of a few surprisingly effective tweets

from some slightly pissed-off people.

Despite the claims of Twitter users, this does not indicate feminism's invalidity and lack of focus. Global gender inequality is still a pressing problem, and it will take a long time to remedy. Feminism continues to try to tackle major issues like sexual harassment, FGM, and the

tissues has been addressed, it does not mean that feminism has lost its purpose. We cannot fix major global problems instantly, but why not try to do what we can.

After Kleenex's announcement last week, the usual buzzwords of “snowflakes”, and “libt***s” were banded around. However, I'd like to suggest that it's not feminists who are overly offended, but those taking issue with the change. Why is it that a company deciding to change their branding after some customer feedback is an issue? If you are really wasting your energy writing a vitriolic reply with the word “feminazi” to a mother who tweeted about her son's remark, then I suggest you are the petty one. Don't worry though, you can dry your eyes with Kleenex Extra Large tissues.

gender pay gap. Just because a minor issue like Mansize



The travesty of Brett Kavanaugh's nomination

The consequences of this controversial nomination will be far-reaching for many years to come in the USA

Ellie Gould



Many liberals have been left on edge after Brett Kavanaugh's Senate confirmation of 50 to 48 on 6 October 2018.

While this is open to question, some leading commentators, such as Trevor Burrus writing for CNN online, argue that Kavanaugh's appointment will not have any negative implications for the LGBTQ+ community or abortion rights. The basis for this he cites as both practical and political; that the complete reversal of gay marriage would wreak havoc over various legal implications such as tax statuses, property ownership and inheritances, and so is unlikely to be supported by the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court would not turn against rising public opinion in support of gay marriage, in fear of losing its legitimacy as an independent institution. He refers to both the

Pew Research Centre's poll on support of gay marriage with only 32 per cent of Americans opposing it in 2017, compared to 57 per cent in 2001, and also refers to the fact that in 2012 Roberts became the deciding vote in *Sibelius v. NFIB*, when he voted to uphold Obamacare. In reality, many agree that Roberts did not vote to uphold Obamacare to be in accordance with public opinion, but to restrain the Affordable Care Act to a certain tax category.

I am less convinced, however, by Burrus' commentary. There have been multiple cases in which the Supreme Court has gone directly against public opinion. For example: the Courts ruling in *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission* (2010) in which the Court went against popular opinion and struck down bipartisan reform on campaign finance; despite

public opinion shown by a Washington Post-ABC News poll in early February 2010 which found that roughly 80 per cent of Americans were opposed to the Supreme Court's ruling. Then there was also the controversial ruling on the Westboro Baptist Church in *Snyder v. Phelps* (2011) and the issue of gun control in the District of Columbia v. Heller (2008) - both of which produced recent and controversial outcomes that were seen to go against shifting public opinion. So what could the Kavanaugh appointment mean for US liberal policy?

Given the now strong conservative majority on the Supreme Court, many Texas abortion opponents have seen this as a good chance to repeal abortion law, with the

legislative director for Texas Right to Life stating: “Kennedy was our bar... he was the hurdle that we needed to clear, but now he's gone, and there's no hurdle anymore.” This would be achieved by dismantling *Roe v. Wade* (1973), a prochoice ruling that many Republicans have

Ten other states have pre-Roe anti-abortion laws still ingrained in their constitution ”

disagreed with ever since its introduction, as they claim it demonstrates an undemocratic use of the Supreme Court's power to legislate. Unfortunately, this overruling of basic women's rights would not end with Texas, as States such as Mississippi, Louisiana, and the Dakota's have “trigger laws”; if *Roe v. Wade* was ever overturned, then abortion would automatically become illegal. Ten other states have pre-Roe anti-abortion laws still ingrained in

their constitution, meaning that the rights of the LGBTQ+ community may also be in question. With the growing influence of religious conservatives, there is a very real possibility that landmark civil rights cases such as *Obergefell v. Hodges* (2015), which recognised the legitimacy of same sex marriages, will be hauled back in front of a Supreme Court that now reflects a much diminished support for the LGBTQ+ community. Cue the recent controversial case of *Masterpiece Cakeshop v. Colorado Civil Rights Commission* (2018), in which the Supreme Court upheld the right for a baker to refuse selling a wedding cake to a gay couple on the grounds of his religion.

Ultimately, what this confirmation has achieved is both the bolstering of support for Trump with his avid base supporters, and the enflamed sense of urgency the Democrat Party has to seize the Senate in the upcoming midterms, as an attempt to gain a foothold on policy making once again. With the possibility for seats to be gained or lost on either side, it is really anyone's game.





Tim Shipman
@ShippersUnbound
Is there a subtext to Zuckerberg hiring Nick Clegg? Is he planning to go into politics? A White House run perhaps? #justaskin
19 Oct 2018

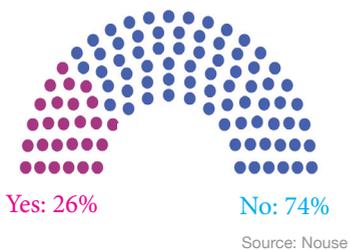
Donald Tusk ✓
@eucopresident
In response to @Nigel_Farage in EP: I don't know what the result of the #brexit talks is going to be. But I know that it is the Brexiteers, who are 100% responsible for bringing back the problem of the Irish border.
24 Oct 2018

Louis Theroux ✓
@louistheroux
Seriously the Google Home just joined in a conversation about the World Cup without anyone saying "OK Google" - began spouting match data. Is that normal?
29 June 2018

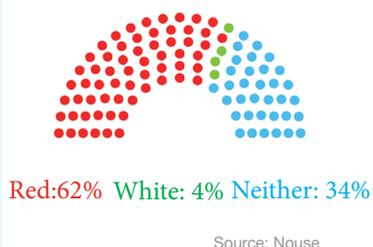
ITV News ✓
@itvnews
Police in Blackpool identify David Schwimmer lookalike suspect after appeal for information goes viral <https://bit.ly/2Q0VbWc>
25 Oct 2018

BY THE NUMBERS CAMPUS POLLS

Should referenda be used in our democracy?



What colour poppy are you going to wear?



CLASH OF COMMENTS

Should referenda be used in our democracy?

YES.

Hannah Waddilove



Only three referenda have ever been held across the whole of the UK; on membership of the European Community in 1975, on the Alternative Vote in 2011, and on membership of the EU in 2016. Regional referenda on issues such as devolution of power, road tolls and water services happen slightly more frequently. In 1989, a district in Wales held a referendum that resulted in the closure of all pubs on Sundays for seven years thereafter, in response to a vote with a nine per cent turnout. Occasional referenda are incredibly useful for solving complex, pervasive questions. Whilst I don't argue for Swiss-style referenda, nor for the closure of pubs on Sundays, I contend that offering people a say on divisive issues that transcend traditional party lines is incredibly important.

One might argue that referenda are decided by an uninformed electorate and are a blunt instrument in the face of a nuanced policy issue. However, these criticisms could just as easily be applied to elections, perceiving the voter as ignorant is patronising. Despite these weaknesses, we still perceive elections as the best method of voting, and therefore the same could be said of occasional referenda.

In an assertion likely made before Brexit became seemingly the most divisive issue the UK has faced in years, having a referendum is "an effective way to inspire debate and come to consensus". For this reason, it was vital for Cameron to promise the EU referendum, though to say he opened

a huge can of worms is an understatement. As William Hague, former Foreign Secretary warned Cameron: "You need to do this. I got killed by Europe. A Tory leader needs to nail this once and for all".

In October 2011, 10 000 members of the public signed a petition demanding a nationwide vote on EU membership and 81 Conservative MPs backed a motion calling for a referendum. This was the biggest rebellion on Europe since WW2, a pivotal moment that made John Major's Maastricht troubles, in which 41 MPs rebelled, look like a walk in the park. In Cameron's view, he had no choice but to call a referendum.

In examining the use of referenda, it is also important to highlight the ridiculous proposal for a 'People's Vote', backed by the Liberal Democrats, some backbench Conservatives, and depending on which Shadow Minister you ask, the Labour Party. The vote to leave the UK was won by over 1 200 000 votes, with the highest turnout since the 1997 election. This is the crux of why the result must be respected; people felt disenfranchised and, to ignore their voice would only further alienate them from the political process.

For the use of referenda to be effective and truly democratic, they must be used infrequently for significant issues and their result must be followed through. The 'People's Vote' campaign is seeking to reverse the referendum result before Brexit has even occurred. If 48 per cent of the country truly believe in overturning the democratic result of the referendum, then they can vote for the party promising this, the Liberal Democrats, who this week are polling at just nine per cent. Referenda are important and highly beneficial, but you can have too much of a good thing.

Evangeline Knapman



Referendums are nothing but harmful in our present system of democracy, so they should not be used.

Despite the views of the Tory government, the best way to uphold the 'will of the people' is to not lead citizens to make misinformed decisions, and for elected politicians to act in their interests with their consent.

Referendums are a huge strain on public resources, with the EU referendum costing an estimated £140 million. These huge sums of money are unjustifiable, especially considering the levels of political apathy, let alone the time put into making informed decisions.

In a supposedly historic referendum to change their name to North Macedonia, only 35 per cent of Macedonians voted. The AV referendum in 2011 had a 42 per cent turnout, with the vast majority of voters passing over the opportunity to ensure elected governments would represent their voices.

It seems to me, that in an age of austerity where vital public services are being cut, it's almost indefensible to spend such huge sums of money on referendums when a significant proportion of the electorate aren't even represented.

Secondly, in the current media, climate voters cannot be considered well-informed enough to decide on the important matters referendums are based on. I hate to bring up such an over-used example, but undoubtedly the (false) slogan on the side of the bus saying that Brexit would deliver £350 million extra for the NHS each

week, led many voters to deliver the car-crash our country is heading towards. Most people get their news from one media outlet, or from outlets with the same politics. So, inevitably, their judgement will be biased towards the ideological leanings of the newspapers they read.

Perhaps most importantly, voters often don't understand the subject of referendums. Literacy tests are not the solution to this issue, but it is concerning that most people deciding the relative benefits of the EU couldn't explain the importance of the single market and customs union. Hence, it's much better to leave pressing political questions to MPs, who have the necessary judgement and expertise to produce the best outcome.

Lastly, referendums are a mechanism of direct democracy - their use denies that we live in representative democracies. The most important function of a democracy is only a minority representation of citizens, so their interests are served, and referendums aren't necessary for this to happen. Modern societies are diverse and unsuitable to the participatory democracies of ancient Athens. While referendums may appeal to many as a revival of the political practices of the ancient Greeks, we elect representatives to make decisions in a manner which is beneficial for us. Representative democracy has many shortfalls - a wasteful electoral system and an unelected legislative body to name a few. These outweigh the value of representative democracy in Britain.

I strongly believe that for the sake of our state and others, referendums should be made redundant and unjustifiable attempts at direct democracy stopped.

#minstergram

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



@lucy_eyf Sunset (and scaffolding...) at the Minster.



@a_mum_who_loves_to_run ...raising money... in memory of my Grandad.



@uniofyork We've delved into the York Digital Library archives...

Want to write for us?

- **PICK YOUR INTERESTS** Take a look in a copy of *Nouse*, or go to nouse.co.uk, and find out which sections best fit your writing interests. We have 14 to choose from!
- **JOIN A WRITERS' GROUP** Search for '*Nouse Comment*', '*Nouse Music*', '*Nouse Sport*' etc. on Facebook, and click 'Join Group'. The Section Editor will approve your request.
- **BUY NOUSE MEMBERSHIP** You must buy a £7 membership to the society in order to write for us. Go to YUSU.org > Student Life > Clubs & Socs > Societies & Student Media > *Nouse*
- **GET WRITING!** Editors will post opportunities in Writers' Groups, and you can suggest ideas to them. They can give you help and feedback too. It's as simple as that!

Find more info on our Facebook and Twitter pages, or email editor@nouse.co.uk with any questions.

Saskia
Dep Muse

Andrew
Muse

Joseph
Editor

Chay
Dep Editor

Maddie
Sub-Editor



MUSE.

WE WILL
REMEMBER
THEM

FASHION

M9

Daisy Wallis discusses River Island's new advertising campaign, and the overdue conversation about disability in fashion

Eilidh Hide explores the resurgence of 1970s style amongst this year's new seasonal trend

9

ARTS

M6

Fiona Wong dissects the influence of Instagram on the art world

M7

Stella Newing on "adult" themed children's books

Hope Jennings-Grounds on mental health in poetry



FEATURES

M4 Niall Collingwood on the practice of remembrance as the Centenary of the WWI Armistice approaches

M8 Andrew Young interviews the stars of *That Time of Year* at the London Film Festival

M16 Naomi Sampson reflects on the influence of Audre Lorde in honour of Black History Month



MUSIC

M12

Beth Colquhoun reports York's live music scene

Alex Thompson on the perils of being a Kanye fan in 2018

M13

Helena Senior's verdict on Cher's album of ABBA covers

12

TRAVEL

M18

Lena Winkler reports her trips to several Yorkshire tourist spots

Lily Abel explores the beauty of her native Lake District

18

FILM & TV

M14

A round-up of what was on offer at this year's London Film Festival

M15

Malu Rocha on the rise of adult-themed animation on our screens

Eddie Kaziro discusses *Black Earth Rising* and the legacies of imperialism



GAMING

M17

Jan de Boer explores the benefits and drawbacks of pre-ordering games

Joseph Higgins on the resurgence of the *Call of Duty* franchise

Which Battle Royale games are the best? Our editors decide



FOOD & DRINK

M19

Saskia Starritt shares her experience so far eating a plant-based diet

A tasty Halloween-themed recipe on how to use up your pumpkin pulp leftovers

19

“We started by doing all sorts of things that you couldn’t get anywhere else. That was incredibly pleasing, to be able to do that.”



STEVE HEYMAN, OWNER OF ORGANIC FOOD SHOP ALLIGATOR, TALKS THE JOYS AND CHALLENGES OF INDEPENDENT BUSINESS

What’s it like running an independent business?

The business is very demanding, and it’s not just standing downstairs talking to people all day, dishing out food, its enormous amounts of administration to do, running any kind of business. Loads of stuff that’s done behind the scenes; dealing with tax and national insurance, doing ordering, counting stock, that keeps you busy all the time. It’s a minimum of 60-80 hours a week, just to keep the shop ticking over. If you’ve got a big turnover, you can employ people to do what I do, but we can’t.

So those are the cons, what about the pros?

We started by doing all sorts of things that you couldn’t get anywhere else. That was incredibly pleasing, to be able to do that.

There’s a little community built around us, where we have a lot of local customers who come to the shop because it’s not quite like shopping in the supermarket. We know the names of a lot of our customers. A lot of time is spent just talking. And, funnily enough, there’s all this publicity about loneliness and part of that is that historically you always knew if you went into your local shop, chances were, you would meet someone you knew. It just so happens that that is what we have done.

Independent businesses still have a human face and are able to provide information. It’s more individual, friendly, and maybe more adaptable. A lot of stuff is available that most of the big stores don’t sell. Most of the big stores seem to go by if they don’t sell enough of it, they won’t have it. And so, all the more niche things they won’t have, or will only start to have when it sells in volume.

When we opened, there was no supermarket really selling anything organic, and then slowly they became interested in organic stuff, as soon as there was a certain volume of sales. We’ve just gone on selling the organic stuff because we believe we should offer it so the public has a choice, and we believe it’s a good thing. We’re offering a choice. It might not be the most money-making thing, but it’s there so that people can choose it if they wish.

York, in particular, seems to be a haven for independent business. What do you think of this?

I’m not sure. I guess it’s variable. When I came to York in the ‘70s, there were a few corner shops, but they slowly started to disappear. I don’t know whether York has hung onto the them, I just can’t say. In places like London there are loads of little shops. In the ‘50s there were no supermarkets. There was a local shop and everybody knew each other and everybody knew the name of the shop keeper. And the largest shop was the co-op. The first supermarket to arrive in my town was Tesco, and slowly the smaller shops would disappear.

This shop was started by ex-graduates from the University of York. One of the founders of the shop was in the very first intake of the University. I also went to York in the ‘70s.

So, do you think independent businesses are a dying breed?

The demise of the small shop was the growth of the out-of-town supermarket. As soon as this happened, the town centres would die slowly, and people would travel out of town. And that’s reached saturation point, so now their answer to that is to

come in to the city and open all their local versions. And this is in danger of drowning out the remaining corner shops. And then there’s the growth of online shopping.

It’s fantastic that independent book shops survive because of the onslaught of Amazon. But that’s because there’s a whole literary community built around an independent book shop, in the same sense that there’s a little community built around us.

One of the arguments for independent, or local business, is that they are better for the environment. What do you think of this?

Well, that depends. There’s all sorts of independent shops which sell stuff that’s not particularly green. But, within any kind of small shop, supporting of the environment and being ethical is more likely to come through, because the bottom line isn’t always to make money.

Supermarkets tend to follow rather than lead. For example, plastic packaging: you’re more likely to find less packaging in a small independent store. Supermarkets are more interested in shelf life and mass distribution. But there are more and more zero waste shops popping up everywhere.

How should we promote independent businesses?

Well, if I knew that... Big shops spend loads on advertising, but small shops don’t have the budget. Then there’s social media, of course. But, in York, there’s a thing called Indie York and they are very good. It’s a whole grouping of people who run independent shops and they have a map and a website.

Interview by Seren Hughes

EDITOR’S NOTE



ANDREW YOUNG INTRODUCES HIS EMBARRASSING SELF

As this is my first Editor’s Note, an introduction seems appropriate. I am a third year English Literature student, a film obsessive and a pretend journalist here at MUSE. My hobbies include binge-watching *Brooklyn Nine-Nine*, excessive consumption of citrus fruits and wearing deafeningly loud shirts.

I should also use this column space to thank the people who helped me become MUSE Editor. That includes everyone who voted for me at the elections; I say that despite running unopposed, so in fact if you didn’t vote for me then I’d rather you never spoke to me again. Most importantly, I genuinely want to say thank you to everyone who has worked so hard on this edition and to last year’s MUSE Editors, Emily Taylor and Izzy Moore, for setting a fantastic example and encouraging me throughout the last year.

Now onto this edition which, if we haven’t majorly cocked up since I wrote this, is being released the day before Halloween. A quick word on Halloween: I like Halloween; I like dressing up; I am not a miserable git when trick or treaters knock on my door; I am not an enemy of fun. I am, however, bloody terrified of anything that makes sudden movements or comes even close to attacking me. In a train station, I move seats if a pigeon gets too close to me. I am an aspiring film critic, yet repeatedly avoid watching cinema’s horror classics. So in short, no, I don’t fancy paying to be in fear at York Mazes ‘Hallowscream’.

Now, actually onto the edition. This first edition of mine as MUSE Editor is something I am incredibly proud of - the edition is full of interesting, engaging articles by talented writers. This is headed up by our important double-page Feature on the Centenary of the Armistice and a discussion of the work of Audre Lorde, in honour of Black History Month. Rounding out the Features section is an interview with *The Killing* star Sofie Grabol and her fellow castmembers of *That Time of Year*.

Elsewhere in MUSE are pieces on diversity in the fashion industry, the perils of being a Kanye West fan in 2018 and the impact of Instagram on the art world. Deputy Muse Editor Saskia Starritt has also written a fun article on her first six months as a vegan. Saskia and I also like to think our status as the Nouse team’s professional Northerners influenced this edition’s Travel section, which visits not one, but two of the North’s beautiful spots.

My first production week as MUSE Editor has been a blast and I hope you enjoy reading MUSE as much as the team and I enjoyed making it.

IMAGE CREDITS

Cover: stainedglassartist
Opposite, from top: GeckoPress, Wikimedia Commons, BFI London Film Festival, Ömer Yigit
Q&A: Seren Hughes

THE POINT OF POPPIES

NIALL COLLINGWOOD EXAMINES THE MODERN CULTURE OF REMEMBRANCE IN THE LEAD UP TO NATIONAL MEMORIAL DAY

With the approach of Remembrance Day this November, the country is once again preparing to reflect on the sacrifice made by British and Allied services who gave their lives in the wars of the 20th century. This process now seems natural and familiar to most people living in the United Kingdom; most people our age hold memories of attaching paper poppies to primary school jumpers, of seeing local war memorials decorated with scarlet, and of listening to the haunting sound of 'The Last Post', even if only via YouTube in a classroom or assembly hall. This year, however, should potentially stand out in your memory for years to come, as next Sunday the 11th marks exactly 100 years from when the original armistice agreement was signed, finally silencing the guns which had ravaged not only the fields of France but countless other regions of the world.

Reflecting on the bravery of the men and women of Britain and its allies, therefore, has an added element of poignancy this year. 100 years ago our family members looked towards the rest of the 20th century with determination that such carnage would not happen again- that it would truly be the 'war to end all wars'- an attitude which did not mark the weary years of 1914-1917 when most had only come to expect more bloodshed. This was sadly not the case, with the preceding wars only proving again how willingly people will abandon their humanity and inflict pain on their fellow human beings.

Such sentiments will, of course, come as no revelation to most in this country, as the language of remembrance is so well learned it can often become a ritual of repetition everywhere. The line "they shall not grow old as we that are left grow old", despite our best intentions, is so deeply embedded in our national consciousness it can often have a numbing effect when it comes to reflection. How are we then to fully engage with such a sombre and important tradition if we only rely on the phrases and patterns handed to us through our schools, media and other societal structures? One way could be to consider those that did 'grow old'. As is often stated, over 700,000 British soldiers died in the First World War, compared with almost 400,000 in the Second, each one a tragedy in its own right. However, such facts often drown out the numbers of wounded in these conflicts, with 1,675,000 British soldiers becoming casualties, bearing anything from temporary injuries to those inflicting permanent, life changing trauma. Such soldiers often faced the years following the 1918 armistice agreement alone, battling mental health conditions which were barely understood or accepted by the majority of the country; few social provisions were made available to

them by the government they had fought for. These men rarely received acknowledgement

“ The language of remembrance is so well-learned it can often become a ritual of repetition

for their service. Men would sometimes be socially ostracised if their injuries were particularly disfiguring, with facial injuries being among the worst nightmares of every young man serving in the trenches. If reflecting on this side of war only compounds the discomfort you feel when the 11th rolls around again, never fear, this feeling seems fitting for the



poppy each year, you are not merely upholding a national tradition but are also funding the activities of the legion. These include providing financial aid, rehabilitation and other opportunities to British men and women affected by war. Each poppy can be seen as an effort to provide help and support to the survivors of war, those unfortunate veterans who, alongside physical and mental injuries, certainly are wearied by age. Donations to charities such as Help For Heroes has also been anchored to our perception of remembrance in the 21st century, providing care and rehabilitation to those who desperately require it after their experiences in war.

Clearly, therefore, our understanding of remembrance can easily be stretched to accommodate the wounded soldier, as few would disagree that such men and women are deserving of our thoughts and support. What then of civilians? After all, events such as the Blitz are seared into our understanding of the Second World War - images of Luftwaffe bombers wreaking havoc on London and tales of families evacuated to the countryside are taught to children as early as primary school. The enchanting world of Narnia is even introduced with the evacuation of the Pevensie children away from falling Nazi bombs. Most would agree that the civilians killed in such air raids are deserving of our thoughts during our ritual of remembrance.

What then of those civilians killed in other countries? Shall we mourn for



mined by the collective amnesia of civilian deaths (particularly foreign ones) we have undertaken in this country. Perhaps, through the emphasis on the deaths of combatants, we have decided that the death of one person means more if they had a rifle in their hand and a helmet on their head than if they were simply a civilian casualty. This is further muddied by the question of whether German civilians deserve a place in our hearts next Sunday. Those who had no part in Hitler's decision to invade Poland in 1939 certainly paid a high price when Russian soldiers ransacked Berlin in 1945 and when the RAF and USAF firebombed the city of Dresden in February 1945, killing between 22,000 and 25,000 German civilians.

This question is of course an open one: every citizen of the United Kingdom who engages in remembrance activities decides on November 11th whose death should be remembered. Many would decide that remembrance should be consigned to national borders, with each country reflecting on their own sacrifices and losses, overseeing their own rituals of mourning. The problem is that this decision may not actually be taken consciously by many people. The iconic red pop-

“ Every citizen who engages in remembrance decides whose death should be remembered

py, reminiscent of the flowers which sprouted from the killing fields of Flanders, officially remember only Allied military dead, excluding not only the dead from the opposing side but also the allied and enemy civilians. There-

time of year. Such reflections are also important when the dual purpose of the poppy is recalled: The Royal British Legion, which manufactures around 36 million poppies every year from their factory in Richmond, is which a charity "provides long support for the armed forces community - serving men and women, veterans and their families". In buying a

the Soviet civilian caught in the jaws of Hitler's invasion of their home, of whom over 13 million died? After all, the unfortunate men, women and children caught in the siege of Leningrad (which lasted for almost 900 days) endured unspeakable conditions in the same war Londoners had to suffer through. The notion of remembrance illustrated by the image of rows of uniform crosses in the cemeteries of France clearly symbolises that every human life, regardless of rank, social status or age was equal and was represented by identical stones. However, this noble idea is clearly under-

fore, even if you do believe in a purely national form of mourning, the red poppy does not remember the 40,000 British civilians killed in the Blitz.

Enter the white poppy. Contentious to many, the symbol is produced by the Peace

The sense that memorialisation is only represented by a paper poppy can distract us from other forms of remembrance

Pledge Union and officially states its aims as representing all victims of war, acting as a commitment to peace and challenging militarism in the modern day. As the oldest secular pacifist organisation in Britain, the group is particularly vocal in its condemnation of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, often campaigning for demilitarisation and a reduction in defence spending. As a result, wearing a white poppy has often been criticised for politicising the ritual of remembrance, of being too ardent in a time of reflection. The white poppy has also been denounced for its own inclusivity, with many arguing that it facilitates the remembrance of undesirable actors such as the German SS who died in the Second World War through its goal to remember “all” victims of conflict. Indeed, the white poppy does not necessarily play a role as active as its red cousin in contemporary society, as it does not directly benefit wounded veterans or their families. Intended more as a symbol for pacifism, it is strongly opposed to Britain’s military-industrial complex. This is a highly relevant point in light of the fact that the UK is the second highest seller of arms in the world, most contentiously with its dealings with Saudi Arabia, who in turn use these arms to carry out illegal attacks in Yemen.

Whether you choose to wear a white poppy is down to your own judgement, but regardless of this, it shows that the process of reflection, as embodied by the indomitable red poppy we are so familiar with, is not the only one offered in our society. Whether you choose red or white (or both), you should be aware that you are engaging with this debate, showing our form of remembrance to have

more variety and choice than it first seems.

Another element of the national discussion on remembrance lies with the thorny issue of the British Empire during the 20th century. Indeed, the label of ‘Great War’ would not have been retroactively assigned to the First World War without the vast colonial holdings of Britain, France and the smaller ones held by Germany. This not only brought the war to Mesopotamia, Africa and the Pacific, but also called for men from across the world to fight on the Western Front, with Australians, Indians, Canadians, Africans and others heeding this call. The Gallipoli campaign between 1915-16 is a particularly harrowing example of this, where ANZAC (Australian and New Zealand Army Corps) troops were sent to land on the beaches of Turkey and, after 11 months of bitter fighting, eventually retreated with nothing gained and 10,000 ANZAC men lost. Whilst at the time, this was hardly criticised, recent opinion of the long shadow the empire casts over Britain’s history has swung against this, looking with revulsion at an empire which would use men from foreign nations to fight in a war they never asked to be a part of. Remembrance this year should not leave out this element, as regardless of whether you personally disapprove of our colonial past, it is an unavoidable fact that these men who fought for this country deserve recognition for their sacrifice.

As anomalous as it may seem however, some small communities did not fit into the general theme of mourning after 1918. Communities known as ‘thank-villages’ had the fortune of not experiencing a single loss despite sending men to the violence of the Western Front. These communities represent another outlier case in the



paper poppy is one that can distract us from other forms of more involved remembrance.

Pulling all these seemingly disparate outlier cases together, a challenge seems to be con-

politics of remembrance, as many have argued that such villages experienced a community-level form of survivor’s guilt: feeling isolated in a country occupied with grieving after the most destructive war mankind had ever seen. Such responses showed the pervasiveness of honour and sacrifice which was (and still is) so integral to the theme of remembrance. Indeed, such communities rarely spoke out about their experience, and historians have only recently begun to fit their experience back into the grander narrative of British memorialisation.

With all these examples of the horror of war, it would also serve us to understand the way in which people in the 20th century carried out the early forms of remembrance we take for granted today. The process of remembrance in small British communities was carried out in a surprisingly autonomous fashion. Communities often raised money to construct local war memorials or even funded the creation of local amenities and institutions which were dedicated to those who did not return. Some hospitals, for instance, owe their existence to these efforts, and memorials have even taken the shape of church clocks and community centres. A five-minute walk from our very own train station will take you to the York Memorial Gardens, opened in 1925 in memory of those who fell in the First World War. Clearly then, the modern sense that memorialisation is only represented by a

structed against the safe and comfortable routines we carry out every year on 11th November.

Whilst the process of buying poppies and undertaking a two-minute silence is certainly important and respectful, attempting to understand where our culture of remembrance has come from, as well as its limits and flaws, can give us a more complete picture of the real feelings of grief experienced after the outbreaks of vio-

Attempting to understand where our culture of remembrance has come from can give us a more complete picture

lence in the 20th century.

Looking forward into this century however, remembrance in the form that we have come to know it is certainly a familiar feeling for many of us, but we must not allow ourselves to forget why we carry out these rituals. Every action performed in the build up to and on the 11th is done so with consideration of the issues mentioned, and understanding these will certainly provide you with a more holistic experience next Sunday. So I urge you: buy a poppy (whatever colour that may be), visit your local memorial and take an active role in remembrance this centenary year. It promises to be a momentous day in the continuation of this country’s history. M



IMAGE: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

ART: A BACKDROP FOR YOUR INSTAGRAM?

FIONA WONG EXPLORES WHETHER THE PHOTO-BASED SOCIAL MEDIA APP INSTAGRAM HAS A POSITIVE EFFECT ON THE ART SCENE

A generation glued to their smartphones, under the reign of social media sites, such as Instagram, it is not surprising that art has been affected too. Has art been devalued and reduced to a background to match your latest outfit?

To those not familiar with Instagram, it is an app that serves as a visual self-branding representation, occasionally referred to as twitter in the form of photos. Figures from The Statistics Portal state that there were one billion active users on Instagram at the start of 2018, demonstrating its prominence and significance in this digital age. Since art is very much visual, it is linked to creating the perfect Instagram, where people seek out aesthetically pleasing art to match the ongoing

“

Instagram opens up a broader platform that removes the element of exclusivity of art

theme of their profiles. Many celebrities and social media influencers are continuing the trend of featuring art on their feed. Posting about art creates a well-cultured facade. Although in some cases there is genuine interest in the work, how many posts provide the artist and the name of the artwork, or relevant information about the piece? Is the art in the photo being appreciated, especially when it is not the main subject of the photo, or, rather diminished to compliment the aesthetic of the profile?

However, let us consider the positive impact of the social media site. Instagram can lead to excellent discoveries of art in our surrounding areas; for example, the Yayoi Kusama exhibition (2016) at the Victoria Miro in London.

Based in a small gallery in the North of London, I admittedly would not have visited it without seeing it on my e x -

plure page. The exhibition created a magical fantasy with three box mirror rooms (All the Eternal Love I Have for the Pumpkins, Chandelier of Grief and Where the Lights in My Heart Go) which acted as a kaleidoscope of mirrors, a wonderful photographic opportunity. Given this, I was far from surprised to see it flooding my feed. Furthermore, the aesthetic quality found in the main themes of repetition and pattern draw the eye in.

As mentioned in E. H. Gombrich's *The Sense of Order: A Study in the Psychology of Decorative Art*, "confidence in the stability of the world (without which) we could not survive." Exploring the relationship between the eyes and brain, we are engaged in patterns, seeking mistakes or disruptions. Patterns are very intriguing due to the expectations and assumptions we have of what will appear next. Our vision is programmed into a frame of order and it is in our natural instinct to want continuity. The disruption to the pattern in these mirrors are the viewers themselves who complete the artwork, with the mirror and the illusion of infinity made by the mirrors, and also a live image that becomes part of the artwork. We can see ourselves in the frame and we are fully immersed in a different world, when in reality it is a confined and small space.

Each session was timed for around three minutes, and arguably, by having shared this moment on Instagram alongside the highlights and special moments, it showed the importance of the artwork, and the impact it brought to the viewer - one worth sharing.

But perhaps art is much more to do with personal perception, and even using art as a background for photos to match outfits can be con-

sidered as admiring the art and complimenting the

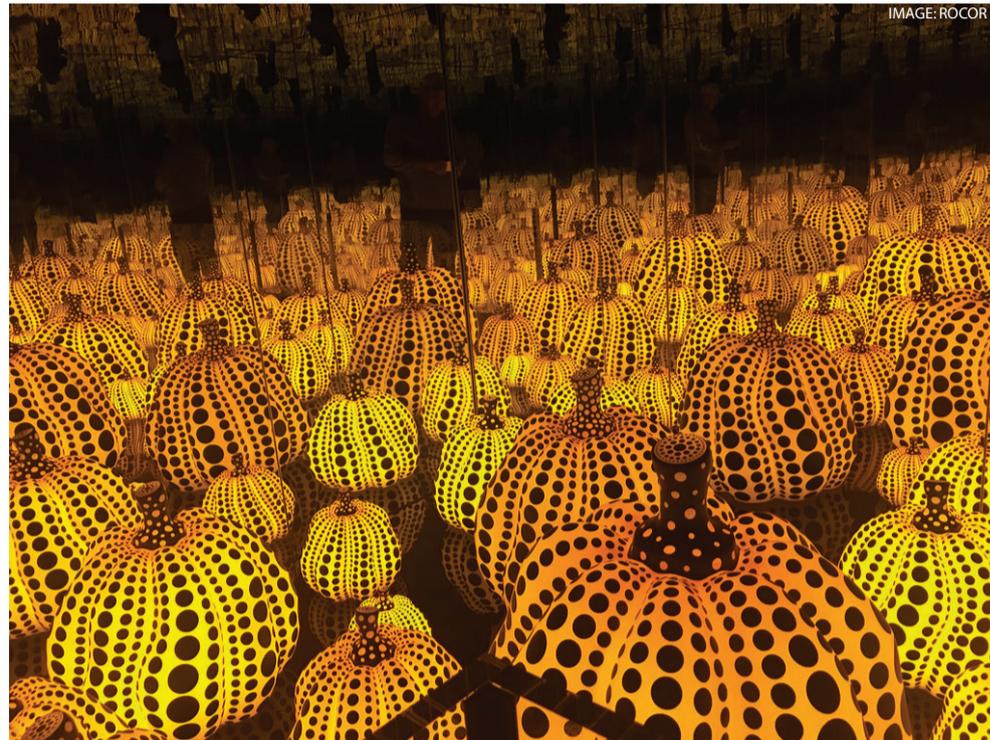


IMAGE: ROCOR

artist. This itself is creating new art, as it is a new interpretation of the piece of work.

As a History of Art undergraduate, I

“

Instagram itself, can act as one's own curated art gallery

study multiple interpretations, and Instagram opens up a boarder platform that removes the element of the exclusivity of art. There are never too many opinions, and posting about art removes the intimidating stigma of visiting art galleries. With the common attitude and response of "I know nothing about art", Instagram does not discriminate and the act of sharing just a photograph of an artwork is sufficient to show your interest in a certain artistic area. As a visual platform, we are not required to write a thesis, or provide complicated theories and thoughts. It is purely a caption that accurately describes the artwork or even the memory of seeing it.

Instagram itself can be seen as a curated collection of photos, and can act as our own art gallery. Many artists are using Instagram as a platform to share their art in order to gain recognition and followers. It attracts many photographers, especially those who use digital manipulation to create a surreal image or landscape. The photographer, Kat Irlin (@kat_in_nyc) based in New York, has a page which has gained 1.4 million followers. She photographs models and initially uses double exposure to merge the bokeh skyline of New York City to her portraits. By gaining such a large following, she was able to work with various publications including Elle and Vanity Fair. In addition to this, she has worked in campaigns for internationally, well-established designers and brands such as

Louis Vuitton and Dior.

The photo-app is able to serve as an electronic agent for emerging artists, revolutionising our input as an audience because the decision power has shifted directly to the consumers, with companies using what people already like.

Instagram has revolutionised the way in which we view art, accessibility and directly connecting artists to their audience. Art can never only be a backdrop for Instagram, even when it is not used as the main subject of the photo. The art has been chosen for a reason and reinterpreted into a new meaning. Art has not been devalued, rather Instagram has created a safe space and environment for exploring interests in art, which would otherwise be quite intimidating.

Furthermore, the key idea and purpose behind social media is to create a platform to share art, and presents itself as a golden opportunity for emerging artists to gain exposure. The question of the meaning of art is still highly debated and it is a definition that is constantly expanding, so we can see how a carefully curated feed can be considered as art itself. **M**



IMAGE: FIONA WONG



IMAGE: HEED FASHION

EXPRESS YOURSELF: POETRY AND MENTAL HEALTH

HOPE JENNINGS-GROUNDS DELVES INTO THE WAY THAT MENTAL HEALTH IS BEING PORTRAYED WITHIN CONTEMPORARY POETRY

On the 9 October, I had the privilege of going to a poetry event in York. It was a tour of the Bad Betty Press anthology *The Dizziness of Freedom*, a poetry book supported by the Arts Council and backed by the local poetry company Say Owt, who co-hosted the event.

In the book, fifty poets put their own spin on the topic of mental health and at the event we got to hear many of the featured poems.

The venue was a grand, old church which really complimented the powerful words spoken by everyone at the event that night.

Mental health is a difficult topic to talk about and it often can be considered taboo to even mention it in passing. Everyone has their own personal relationship with it and opinions can differ so much that often makes it difficult to know how to express yourself in a way that doesn't feel awkward and potentially uncomfortable. Of course, that is something that depends a lot on what sort of person you are.

The beautiful thing about the poetry I heard at *The Dizziness of Freedom* event, and in a lot of other performance poetry I've witnessed, is that it felt like a glimpse into someone else's world and that's something we often don't get to witness. All the poetry performances I have attended have been incredibly welcoming events and open to all sorts of topics which could be perceived as delicate to touch on. I've heard poetry about personal relationships, experiences of loss, reflections of

people's minds. Each poem will be as direct or indirect as the poet wishes but each and every poem still feels just as personal. In some sense, the poetry is relatable due to the pure humanity that is often found between the lines.

I think poetry events like this have somehow managed to lift the idea that people can't speak their mind as freely as they might sometimes need to. In my experience, audience members aren't there to judge and often are too focused on the poetry itself to consider the poem's relationship with the poet. Poetry slams and other similar events are so focused on connecting to the words and sharing thoughts and ideas that it almost seems to take the poet out of focus. Instead we put into perspective the whole audience's connection to what is being said, and how we connect to the piece as a collective.

Each poem reflects the poet's mind and therefore all are naturally very unique which I think, in itself, invites people to be honest and true in what they write. If you go to an event and witness a wide range of different approaches to the same art form, I personally think it's difficult not to be inspired to take your own approach to it. I also think it proves that there is no limitation to what can be covered in poetry and how many ways similar topics can be approached and spoken about.

That's why poetry is so freeing, because it's almost impossible to do it wrong. If you write down what your heart feels and what you want to express, then you're already on

the right track.

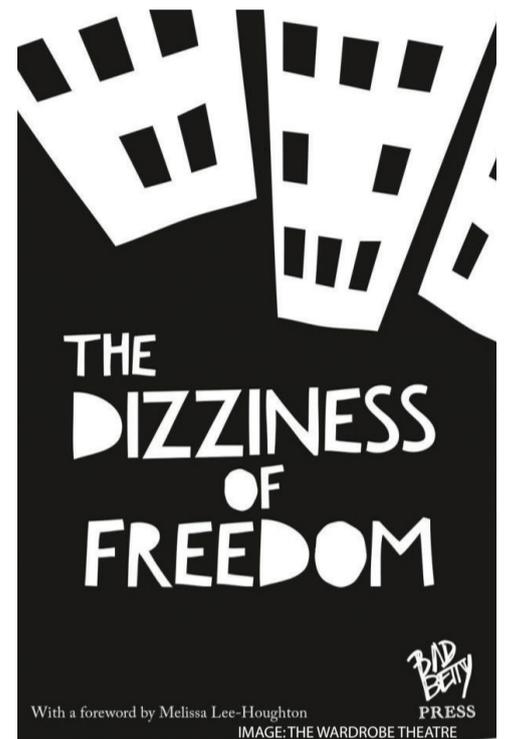
People go and listen to poetry so they can connect to others and catch glimpses of how other people think. Each poet will have their own reason for writing, I know many people who write because they feel they need to, because by writing things down they are creating a way to talk about what's going through their minds. Not only this, by writing down how you feel, either in poetry or other forms of writing, it allows you to better understand yourself and have somewhere to release all the thoughts in your head.

Another important thing poetry in relation to mental health achieves is that the poetry raises awareness for how diverse a subject mental health is, and how differently we all experience it. It highlights and celebrates the unique approaches and opinions of people that might otherwise not get the chance to speak out and make a difference.

I think for people who suffer with mental illness, art is often a brilliant way to express difficult thoughts and feelings, that might otherwise be hard to articulate. Some people really struggle to know how to go about expressing these issues, so to be able to write them down and then speak about them to a room of people - who quite possibly have felt the same before - is both amazing and liberating.

It's very easy to feel alone in a city, let alone if you are struggling to understand your own mind, but the truth is, however alien-

ated you might feel, someone else has felt the same. Art, and poetry in particular, give you the chance to connect with all of these people, allowing you not to feel quite so alone.



NIGHT NIGHT, SLEEP TIGHT, DON'T LET REALISM BITE

STELLA NEWING EXPLORES THE IMPORTANCE OF DISCUSSING RECENT SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ISSUES WITHIN CHILDRENS' LITERATURE

There are some new characters on the children's literary scene. They're not wizards, they're not the friends of monsters or talking animals- they're refugees. It's been almost three years since the migrant crisis reached its media peak, with the now famous image of Alan Kurdi, the young Syrian boy who was photographed washed up on a Turkish beach. Reactions of horror at stories such as his, and support for others facing his plight, show no signs of waning, as more and more children's writers are choosing to depict these struggles for their young audiences.

There is now a plethora of books for all age ranges that explore the reality of leaving your home and crossing unfamiliar, dangerous land to try and start a new life. One of my personal favourites is the beautiful, deeply moving picture book by Kate Milner: *My Name is Not Refugee*, in which a young boy discusses with his mother the journey that they are about to face. She tells him they will walk and walk and walk, and will see new and exciting things. Another is *In the Sea There are Crocodiles* by Fabio Geda, aimed at 9 to 12 year-olds, which tells the true story of Enaiatollah. When his village falls prey to the Taliban, he and his mother must leave Afghanistan. Enaiatollah's mother is forced to abandon him in a camp in Pakistan, and so he begins his incredible voyage across many countries, all alone, until he reaches Italy. And that's just a couple! Other titles include *Give Me Shelter* by Tony Bradman, *The Boy At The*

Back of the Class by Onjali Q Rauf, and *The Journey* by Francesca Sanna. Whether it's a picture based text for toddlers or a longer novel for teens, the choice is pretty broad, and getting broader.

In the climate we're living in, books like these are invaluable. The news is full of intolerance and anger, and literature- children's included- can't ignore it. Books such as *Exit West* by Mohsin Hamid are paving the way for a discussion about the migrant crisis and it's fantastic that children's fiction is following suit. Yes, there are arguments to be made that now more than ever is a time for escapism, and that kids should be protected from the complexities of the adult world. I'm not suggesting that someone



needs to write Biff and Chip Stop an EDL Rally (are Biff and Chip still alive?), but children's literature needs more realism.

I'd go as far as to say that these books about refugees are the most important thing to happen to the publishing industry since *Harry Potter*. They are a way in to difficult, sensitive topics that some parents might be struggling to explain, and the introduction to important conversations that children need to be having. Picture books such as Kate Milner's allow a young reader the chance to imagine a situation completely alien to them, one where a person their own age might be separated from their family or forced to leave all their friends behind to walk hundreds of miles. This encourages empathy at an early age. The novels aimed at slightly older children give them the opportunity to delve slightly deeper into the issue, perhaps introducing ideas such as terrorism or racism.

Of course, children's books have always born a certain degree of responsibility to educate, emotionally as well as academically. You'd be hard pressed to find a popular story that didn't impart some kind of moral message about compassion, acceptance, forgiveness etc. But

the possibility of framing those messages around a political crisis? That's fairly new.

This isn't to say that any children's fiction writer has an obligation to school their readers in current affairs. Neither is it to detract from the vital role that genres like fantasy can play in children's development. Ultimately, literature is for enjoyment, and if that enjoyment stems from sci-fi, or dragons, or fairy tales, then great. Any engagement with words at a young age is something to be celebrated. But I think there is space in the market for more books that deal with the troubling aspects of our current culture, in a sensitive and appropriate way. Deportation, racial profiling, every day sexism; they all sound like big scary ideas too dark for youth fiction. And yet, they have all, in one way or another been touched upon in children's literature. Just look at the rise in stories of successful girls to promote gender equality at a young age.

The refugee crisis is just the beginning; where's the child friendly explanation of Brexit? Just kidding. No one should have to fall asleep dreaming of Theresa May. But really, there is a whole host of topical ideas that could be explored via kids' books, with great effect.

So, my plea is 'More, more, more!'. More direct subject matter. More volume. More publicity. These books have the potential to do something really extraordinary in terms of the empathy, tolerance and understanding they can elicit in children.

THAT (NOT SO) FESTIVE FEELING

ANDREW YOUNG HEADS TO THE LONDON FILM FESTIVAL TO INTERVIEW THE DIRECTOR AND STARS OF 'THAT TIME OF YEAR'



IMAGE: BFI LONDON FILM FESTIVAL

Having its UK premiere at this year's BFI London Film Festival, Paprika Steen's *That Time of Year* is one of the "smaller" films in this year's programme. Nestled within the 'Laugh' strand of films, it is a low-key film about a regular, commonplace occasion: Christmas. The film takes place on Christmas Eve, when families all over Denmark gather for their annual family dinner. Director-star Steen plays Katrine, the host of this year's gathering. As the guests arrive and the ensemble builds, the drama and comedy of the film hits top gear.

The film's poster is adorned with a shiny red bauble with a lit fuse attached to it. The bomb-bauble, as we'll refer to it, is the perfect visual metaphor for *That Time of Year*. Unsurprisingly, the family's veneer of love and pleasantries is broken down and Katrine's clan become less than harmonious. Joining Steen in the cast are Sofie Gråbøl and Lars Brygmann as Katrine's priest sister Barbara, and her writer husband Torben. *Nouse* sat down with Steen, Brygmann and Gråbøl to discuss the film, family and the Danish-English bond.

“ You can't break up with your family - Sofie Gråbøl

The film's premise is a familiar one and takes inspiration from a whole host of films, including Thomas Vinterberg's *Festen*, a film that Steen herself starred in. "It was twenty years ago, but I longed for doing another ensemble movie for many, many years. So, I think I just waited until I had the right idea. I am very inspired by the 70s, by Robert Altman and *American Graffiti*, where you have a day in a life, or a week in a life. Then you put a lot of people in that, and something is

happening; in *American Graffiti* it's the last day of school, in *Nashville* it's a festival. I just love those kinds of movies where a lot of people come together and I love the movies about family." *That Time of Year*, then, was for Steen the perfect story to tackle.

As Steen points out, this is very much a film about family. Gråbøl agrees: "Basically it's more about family than Christmas. Christmas is the setting and it's just a very grateful frame to be in because everyone relates to that evening where the family are almost forced to come together, so the pressure of everyone's expectations." This idea of forced company is something Steen also emphasises and was seen elsewhere in the festival with Ben Wheatley's *Happy New Year*, *Colin Burstead*. For Gråbøl, "The whole construction of family in Denmark has really disintegrated over the last forty years, in our lifetime. Since '68 it really has fallen apart, and I think family is stronger in the UK. For us in Denmark, that one evening where all families are together is actually Christmas Eve. People move away from their parents very early and we don't really see our elderly people, so it's also maybe a look into a Danish cultural thing and that's why Christmas Eve in Denmark is actually quite traumatic for many people."

The coming together of different ages in the film leads to some great cross-generational comedy, but also, as Brygmann points out, "Is where all the tension comes from." *That Time of Year* has an affection for its characters, but also a disdain for their attitudes and behaviour around each other. This comes across from the actors too. We discuss the self-righteousness of the film's characters and sense of rivalry amongst the family. A great, biting example of this is Torben's painfully over-earnest reaction to receiving 'an African child' as his Christmas present. Steen comments that, "I think also that we are self-righteous with our families. Barbara and Torben will go home to talk about how self-righteous Katrine is and Katrine will talk with her husband about how self-righteous they are. We all say the same thing. We never

say that to our friends, only to our families." Gråbøl interjects: "But you can break up with a friend, that's the thing - you can't break up with your family."

“ You feel at home in England as actors; there's a kind of bond - Paprika Steen

The Christmas tradition is presented as a real challenge to the institution of the family by the film too: "All your values are being challenged that evening," says Brygmann. "All your life is built up on all these values and your sister or your brother-in-law is questioning these values and you kind of panic and you get quite aggressive. It brings all the bad things out of you immediately, because you fight for these values and your own beliefs."

All of this makes the film seem like a dense, serious treatise on the modern-day family, but in reality *That Time of Year* is a treat to watch. It has fantastic dialogue from playwright Jakob Weis. The script and ensemble set-up plays right into the hands of the film's talented cast. Gråbøl says that parts like these are "like being in a candy store". What Weis does so well, according to Gråbøl, is "put all these people in the room for one evening so the drama

evolves around the characters, and obviously as an actor that's luxury".

Despite the appeal of these roles, Brygmann stresses their challenges too: "When you see it, it has to be so light, so easy. It's like music; when it works it's so wonderful and you don't care how each instrument is being played, it just comes together. I love to see those things myself and when they don't work it's awful."

Brygmann, like Gråbøl, might be a familiar face to British audiences, particularly lovers of all things BBC Four. He plays Troels Hoxenhaven in the acclaimed political drama *Borgen*, whilst Gråbøl achieved fame as detective Sarah Lund in *The Killing*. Despite the overseas success of Danish television, Gråbøl points out that this was more by accident than by design. "I believe very strongly that the success of Danish televi-

sion and film has proven that when we do something very local, like *Dogme* [95, an influential film movement started in Denmark by Thomas Vinterberg and Lars Von Trier], like *The Killing*, it was never intended to travel," she says. "The more true you are to yourself as a culture or filmmaker, the more universal it becomes." This universality is keenly felt in *That Time of Year*, tackling the intensely human subject of 'the family'.

As much as Steen's film is one that can travel across the globe, the film's stars feel a particular connection to the UK. "When you work here you love it," says Steen. "You feel at home here as actors. There's kind of a bond I think." Gråbøl adds that, "It's just kind of wonderful I think as we grew up with English films and TV series and *Upstairs Downstairs* and everything. So it's so nice that something is going the other way. We have a conversation now." M

IMAGE: NORDISK FILM PRODUCTION

THE CHANGING FACE OF FASHION

DAISY WALLIS TAKES A CLOSER LOOK AT RIVER ISLAND'S LATEST DIVERSE ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN FOR AUTUMN/WINTER 2018

The problem of representation in ad campaigns is something that has haunted the fashion world for decades. Campaigns featured the same thin girls, alienating the majority of the population who didn't fit this niche image. To tackle this issue, high street brand River Island launched their "Labels Are For Clothes" campaign back in February, in the hopes that it would break the mould of unrepresentative fashion on the high street. The campaign was met with huge popularity on social media, with many calling for more people with disabilities to be represented in any campaigns that followed.

River Island are now back with their new Autumn Winter 2018 "Labels Are For



IMAGE: RIVER ISLAND YOUTUBE

Clothes", aiming to be more diverse in their selection of representatives and celebrating what it really means to be 100 per cent true to yourself. Featuring models of varying shapes, races and abilities, the campaign launched in September and is one of the first fully diverse campaigns on the high street. The campaign, which was announced on Twitter, is described as a "celebration of people who reject stereotypes and champion self-expression," and has already drawn lots of media attention for its work towards promoting inclusivity in high street fashion.

Whilst the campaign in itself is impressive, the models chosen are each unique and inspiring, all promoting self-confidence and self expression. The models include: motivational speaker Mama Cax, who lost her right leg to cancer, wheelchair basketball player Jordan Luce and plus sized model Lulu Bonfils. Another key member of the modelling team is nineteen year old Kathleen Humberstone, a model with Down's Syndrome. At only 19, Kathleen has already walked the catwalk at London Fashion Week and addressed the UN as part of an event marking World Down's Syndrome Day, all whilst studying as a performing arts student. It is clear that Kathleen is definitely one to watch in the fashion world as she continues to promote positivity and work towards greater equality. Each model is accompanied with an inspiring mantra, focusing on how important it is to remain true to yourself and not succumb to societal pressures. "Do Stand Out", "100% Flawless", "Do Not Stereotype" and "Do Embrace Curves" are just some of the accompanying statements that have been adopted by so many across social media.



IMAGE: RIVER ISLAND YOUTUBE

To spread their message, River Island have released a collection of t-shirts and sweatshirts featuring their campaign slogan, "Labels Are For Clothes", in partnership with international anti-bullying charity Ditch The Label. Ditch The Label, much like River Island's campaign, looks to challenge outdated labels by believing in a world that is fair, equal and free from all types of bullying. The charity, which is primarily aimed at young people from the ages of 12 to 25, has partnered previously with companies like social networking service Habbo and the male grooming brand Lynx to combat a multitude of forms of bullying. This campaign features slogan t-shirt and sweatshirt designs for all ages, even offering the designs in their kids collections designed from ages 0 to 5, with the same "Labels Are For Clothes" printed in metallic, eye catching lettering. The designs have been immensely popular, with the hashtag on Instagram al-

ready being used thousands of times.

The scale of River Island's latest campaign, and its subsequent popularity on social media, has proven the importance of diversity in future campaigns on the high street. As the campaign suggests, the outdated labels and stereotypes should be rejected to make the fashion we see and buy on the high street more inclusive to every individual, not just a select few. Other brands such as M&S, recently launched their children's Easy Dressing collection for children with disabilities, and ASOS announced their work with unisex brand Collusion, an affordable brand for the new coming age, have begun to show some awareness for greater diversity in the products they sell and promote. As a form of self-expression, fashion should be inclusive, free from all prejudices and diverse in nature and message. More can still be done on the high street.

WINTER FASHION: EMBRACING THAT 70'S STYLE

EILIDH HIDE LOOKS AT THE 1970S INFLUENCE ON THIS YEAR'S AUTUMN AND WINTER CATWALK AND HIGH STREET COLLECTIONS

With deadlines fast approaching, the summer's heatwave a distant memory and student houses freezing across York, we all need a little extra comfort. This season, comfort comes in the form of nostalgia. A sepia-tinged 1970s aesthetic floods the high-street and the wardrobes of campus' resident cool girls. The sequin bandeaus and neon cycling shorts sported this summer have been swapped for earthier toned turtlenecks and knitwear - this retro style is a definite winner for those of us feeling the northern clime. While 1970s fashions may not be revolutionary, the release of *Mamma Mia 2* this summer has already reignited our love for the era and the cosier clothes of colder months have allowed brands to indulge fully in the richness of the decade.

A myriad of camel tones dominated the 2018/19 autumn-winter catwalks with Sies Marjan, Chloe, Fendi, Rochas and Dior all opting for bronze colour palettes and typical 70s cuts. On social media, Gucci's Instagram feed has a distinctively mahogany hue with each post styled to showcase



IMAGE: MANGO PRESS HOUSE

the shade. This season, brown is the new black.

It hasn't taken long for these typical 70s colours to filter down into our favourite high-street shops. Mango's new collaboration with Italian photographer, Mario Sorrentino, embodies the 1970s. Their 'imagine together' collection features tan leather jackets, toffee-coloured chunky knits, brown corduroy and ginger turtlenecks. Spanish brand Zara's new 'Retro Aesthetics' trend guide also spotlights 70s chic by combining quintessential colours of the decade with more modern cuts. The collection includes khaki button-downs, ochre plaid and chestnut pleated skirts. Even Urban Outfitters, a staple brand of the 'Bristol/ Leeds girl', has filled its stores with brick denim co-ords,



IMAGE: MANGO PRESS HOUSE

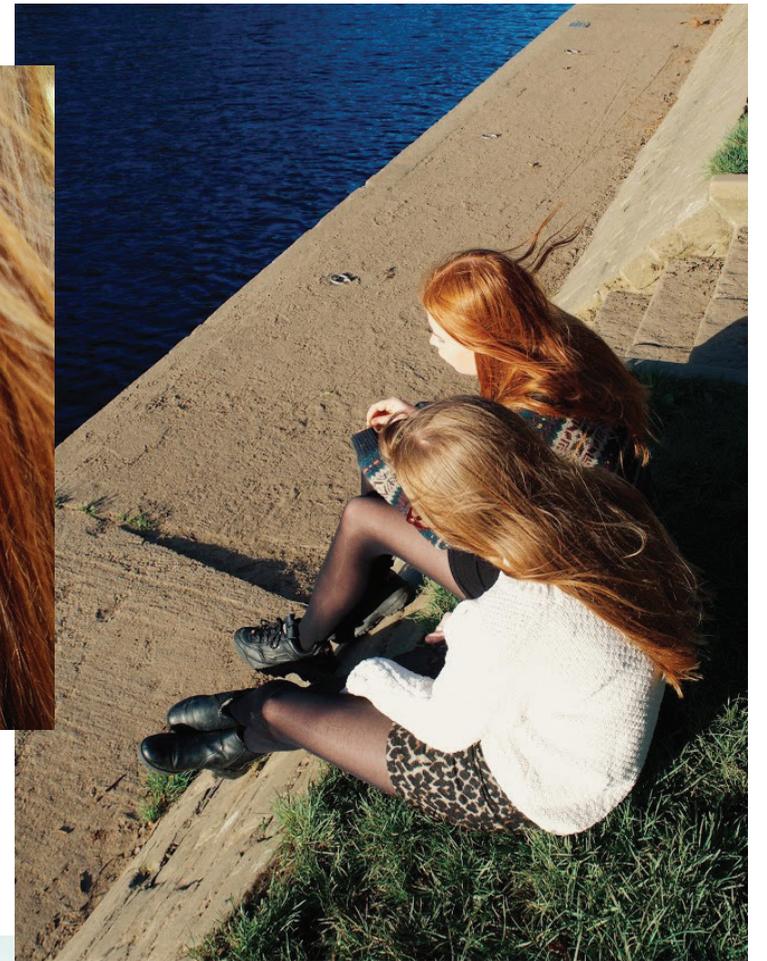
paisley shirts and mustard cardigans. No longer reserved for dowdy librarians, brown is now the go-to colour for the fashion-forward. This autumn, the high street's colour pallet has entered a time-warp.

This 1970s trend had already made its way into our wardrobes earlier in the year with flares, pleated skirts and co-ords all dominating look-books and fashion blogs. It seems these key cuts are here for the long-haul with major high street brands all refreshing their styles for autumn/winter. The flare-max trend that dominated Instagram and festival-fashion this summer has been revamped for the colder months with orange velvet and beige snakeskin fabrics on display around campus. The 'clueless' pleated skirt we

loved, HUJI'd and Instagrammed this year has also been updated for fall; Topshop now sells the cult piece in mustard yellow and forest green. The humble co-ord is now made in corduroy and leopard print with many brands swapping out the classic denim skirt in favour of bell-bottomed trousers or flares. The 1970s has had an inescapable impact on the clothes we already know and love.

1970s influenced style often re-emerge on both the catwalks and the high street for good reason. The warmth and richness of the colours and fabrics used in combination with statement cuts and shapes encapsulate the decade's charm and creativity. This season's trends embody the laid-back vibe of the 70s: invest now to enjoy a warm and cosy winter.

Shoot Editors: Kat Oliver and Sofia Bielli



OUR FASHION EDITORS HELP YOU COPE WITH THE AUTUMN SLUMP BY SHOWING YOU HOW TO TACKLE DRESSING DURING THIS TRANSITIONAL SEASON



MID-SEASON UNIFORM



With thanks to our Fashion Editors:
Daisy Wallis and Eilidh Hide

THE YE PARADOX

WITH HIS LIST OF STUNTS AND OUTBURSTS GROWING, ALEX THOMPSON DELVES INTO THE DILEMMA OF BEING A KANYE FAN IN 2018

By the time this article goes from a scrappy word document to the published article you're reading, Kanye will have undoubtedly been involved in some bizarre new controversy. Whether it's donning a "Make America Great Again" hat to meet Donald Trump, delaying his album to build a recording studio in Africa, gifting Yeezys to a homophobic dictator in Uganda, suggesting slavery was a choice on TMZ or dancing on SNL dressed as a giant Perrier bottle – Kanye's antics are clogging up Instagram feeds – and yet he shows no sign of stopping. All this madness from the man who's dropped 5 incredible albums this year.

Anyone who's ever discussed music with me over the past few years knows how much of a Kanye fan I am. I love most things about him: the controversial lyrics, the glitzy production,

the ridiculous fashion, the ego. I even love his album *808s & Heartbreak*. It's therefore no surprise that 2018 has been a somewhat awkward year for me – with constant eye rolling, flustered justification and even rapidly changing topic whenever someone brings up Kanye.

For years, I've tried to claim he's sparking debate, pushing boundaries and is often misunderstood. But is it finally time to jump ship?

It's like we're on the wrong side of history' admitted Jonah Hill in a recent interview with Pitchfork magazine:

'He's a genius but I don't know what the fuck this

whole thing's about'. Hill seems to have understood this situation pretty well. Kanye may be one of the greatest artists of our generation, but he also happens to be the most deluded one.

When his frustration is channelled into music it can be profound and compelling. West's latest solo album *Ye* was a beautiful collision of confession and apology, a self-aware side project where the rapper opened

“

It's like we're on the wrong side of history - Jonah Hill

up about his mental health and misguided faith in Trump. It was a moment of genuine honesty from Kanye who finally admitted that he's fallible, that he's fucked up.

The problem is when this confusion is

placed in a tweet or an interview, where his previous self-awareness vanishes and he becomes a ridiculous caricature, spewing rhetoric and unsubstantiated claims. His views are sliding further to the right and simultaneously further from his past self and I can't get behind the politics of the "new Kanye".

Kanye is diverging from everything he's previously stood for: the only relief is that this ideology has yet to properly permeate his music.

Whilst I may never agree with Kanye's politics, I can't help but love his music, despite my desire to separate it from his behaviour. It's like breaking up with your boyfriend but keeping his jumpers. For now I'll keep *Kids See Ghosts* in my albums of the year, even if I cringe every time Kanye takes to Twitter.

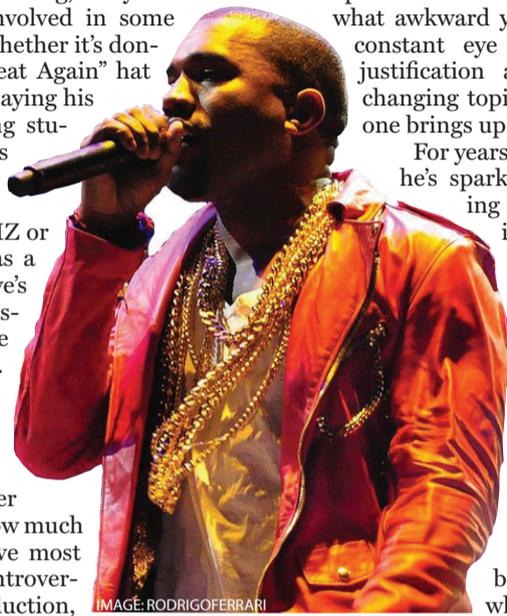


IMAGE: RODRIGOFERRARI



OFF THE RECORD: YORK'S LIVE MUSIC SCENE

BETH COLQUHOUN VISITS YORK'S FORTYFIVE VINYL CAFE, DISCOVERING THAT THE VENUE IS FAR MORE THAN JUST A COFFEE SHOP

The York music scene may not seem as extravagant as cities like Leeds, Liverpool or London. But, that is not the case. Our small antique town holds tons of hidden gems that, like the Austrian hills, do come alive with the sound of music. Since coming to York, my journey to find appropriate music scenes that satisfy my earbuds has been one full of trial and error, and some really foreboding pubs. Different to a fairy godmother, I will not turn your Halloween pumpkins into a new car, but I will turn your rag of local music knowledge to riches. You're welcome, Cinders.

If you really take a journey away from the

clubbing side of York you will find a multitude of Open Mic nights and even Live Spoken poetry, which happens the first Tuesday of every month at Dusk. Some places hold organised events that host local and small artists from around the country and even the globe, which can become something of a niche dining experience. Stripping down artists to their most basic and vulnerable state on stage exposes their talent and makes you really appreciate true talent with no distractions. The smaller the location and the cosier the gig, the more you can truly learn about your musical surroundings.

I secured this fact after a free gig at the

beautiful venue at Forty Five Vinyl Café. The café can hold around sixty people with enough room for around thirty people to sit at your table and hold a drink; whether that be their brilliantly own-brewed coffee, or their local wines and beer. Doing what it says on the tin, the café has a wide range of records for sale, something I have found a rarity in York. High-street shops only selling the latest records, charity shops selling a mass of Barbra Streisand with the occasional hidden gem, and old book shops selling classical and jazz records that almost feel like they come with a curse. It is always more secure to buy your records from the appropriate places where they have been graded, listened to and cared for, as new records can certainly be a total mess of polyvinyl chloride – as I found to be the case with many Catfish and the Bottlemen records worldwide. As a saying that I found in the café goes: 'records are for life, not just for fashion', and this café offers all your sweet music needs.

The evening I had here was truly wonderful, a night of brilliant young acoustic acts, this including University of York's very own Jess Jayne, followed by Dom Patrick and headlined by C.W. Lawson. The acts were very much on a level playing field in quality of written music, lyrics and performance.

Jess Jayne is a brilliant lyricist and finds inspiration in events that occur around her, for example, her song 'Bad' analyses a relationship with someone who did her wrong – I will say no more as I strongly recommend listening to the track that gave me the craziest chills of the evening. This was followed by the beautifully haunting voice of Dom Patrick.

Dom Patrick is a very skilled guitarist matching his music to his voice perfectly to produce original pieces that could be listened to all day. His use of acoustic music makes for a very relaxed feel, yet his voice resonates something that we have all felt.

The headlining act, C.W. Lawson, couldn't be closer to the singer-songwriter James Morrison, with very similar tones in his voice, reaching similar ranges, and paralleling his guitar playing. Lawson was clearly very well-rehearsed, with his performance reaching a very professional standard. His original songs did not share the same emotional backgrounds as the previous artists, yet his variety and original spin on his cover tracks highlight the musical skill he possesses. Each artist captured the audience and myself very well – it was a relaxing evening in a very tranquil setting.

Forty Five Vinyl Café's set up for these events is simplistic yet effective, with a performance area positioned on a Moroccan rug, surrounded by fairy lights that cast light on the performer.

Presented was subtly around the celebration of art, music and coffee that the café naturally nourished. Although this isn't the only live event that the place has produced, and on other nights performers besides those who play acoustic sets come to perform: the night I attended was sparkling, tranquil and cider filled. I would be more than overjoyed to spend my evenings experiencing this acoustic music again.

Not to mention that it is dog friendly during the day...



IMAGE: @FORTYFIVEUK

SHIT MUSICIANS SAY.

Charli XCX takes to Twitter

"I think I'm underrated."

MEET THE TEAM

DEPUTY EDITOR
ALEX THOMPSON
@ATHOMPSON_MUSIC



FAVOURITE ARTIST:
JACK WHITE
FAVOURITE ALBUM:
ENTER THE WU TANG -
36 CHAMBERS
LISTENING TO RIGHT
NOW:
SOUNDTRACK TO
MID90S

EDITOR
BETH COLQUHOUN
@BETHCOLQUHOUN



FAVOURITE ARTIST:
THE BEATLES
FAVOURITE ALBUM:
ARE YOU EXPERIENCED
LISTENING TO RIGHT
NOW:
SOLOMUN BOILER
ROOM SET

DEPUTY EDITOR
HELENA SENIOR
@HELENAATMUSE



FAVOURITE ARTIST:
FLEETWOOD MAC
FAVOURITE ALBUM:
BAT OUT OF HELL
(LIVE)
LISTENING TO RIGHT
NOW:
22 BY TAYLOR SWIFT

WHEN POP GETS POLITICAL

HELENA SENIOR TAKES A LOOK AT TAYLOR SWIFT'S RECENT DECISION TO TALK POLITICS, AND WHY THIS SHOULD INSPIRE STUDENTS TO VOTE

On the 8th of October 2018 something amazing happened, something that might just shake up the upcoming midterm elections in the US: Taylor Swift got political!

The famously apolitical country-singer-turned-pop-star posted her now iconic endorsement of two Democrats running for the Senate and the House of Representatives in Swift's home state of Tennessee. Now Donald Trump likes her music 25% less. This is a big deal. In the days following Swift's unexpected Instagram announcement, voter registration in the US boomed, especially among 18-24 year olds. This could spell huge trouble for Donald Trump and his posse of conservative white dudes.

Swift's sudden decision to engage in politics may have come as a surprise to many, but she is just the latest in a long line of musicians using their fame to encourage fans to vote. In 1990, Madonna released the first 'Rock the Vote' PSA, and in the years following, numerous celebrities from Aerosmith to Miley Cyrus

have gotten involved with the organisation. So why should we care? Young people notoriously have the lowest turnout in UK general elections, with only 57% of 18-24 year olds voting in the last general election, compared to 84% of over 70's. With Swift joining many of her peers in inspiring a whole new generation of young people in the States to register to vote, hopefully the effect can carry across the pond.

With so many students having recently moved to university, many are not registered to vote at their new addresses. It's super easy to register to vote online, and students can be registered at both their home and term time address. We may not have midterm elections looming, but with the current political climate, and increasing calls for a People's Vote on Brexit, I would encourage every single student on campus to go online and make sure they are registered to vote.

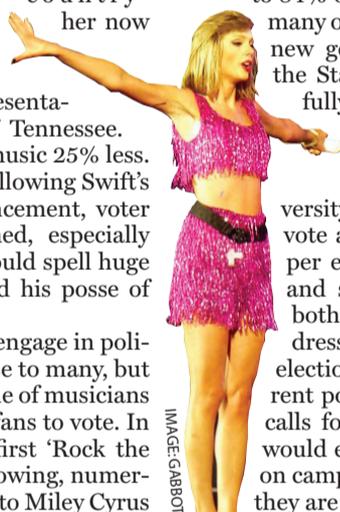


IMAGE: GABBOT



IMAGE: EVA RINALDI

ALBUM REVIEWS

CHER

DANCING QUEEN

HELENA SENIOR

7/10

Riding high off the success of *Mamma Mia: Here we go again*, Cher's latest album gives us the mash-up we never knew we needed. That's right, Cher has released an album of Abba covers and it is just as fabulous as it sounds. The ten-track album features some of ABBA's greatest hits revamped by Cher's legendary vocals. Before I dive into the album as a whole, I want to touch on my first impressions of the collaboration. Obviously, 'Fernando' - the song Cher performed in *Mamma Mia 2*, makes the cut and very little has changed from the movie soundtrack to the album, except it is no longer a duet with Andy Garcia.

The first single released from the album was 'Gimme Gimme Gimme (A Man after Midnight)' and this was what sold me on the concept of the album. Cher gives the song more of a club feel, harkening back to her 'Believe' era with the stylistic use of vocal effects. She followed this up by releasing 'S.O.S' and 'One of Us' as singles, neither of which impressed me as much, but they were both solid covers of two of my favourite ABBA songs.

The thing that disappointed me most in the run up to the album's release was the track listing itself. Naturally, there were tracks that I had expected to appear, like 'Dancing Queen' and 'Fernando', but I had hoped that Cher would shy away from predictable choices like 'Waterloo' and 'Mamma Mia'. In ten tracks it's impossible to cover everybody's favourite ABBA song, but I maintain that what the world needs right now is for Cher to do a version of 'Knowing me, Knowing you'.

The album opens with the iconic titular track, 'Dancing Queen', but it's average. I had hoped for more from the Cher brand of magic that we got on 'Gimme Gimme Gimme'. The

album follows in very much the same vein of just good covers, with a few standout tracks. 'Waterloo' definitely surprised me, as Cher somehow made the song even more upbeat than it already was, and gave it a slicker, more modern sound. 'Chiquitita' also surprised me, as it's not one of my favourite ABBA songs, but I absolutely loved what she did with it, stripping it back and giving it an almost country vibe with the guitar. 'The Winner Takes it All' has been upgraded from a boring ballad (sorry Abba) to a funky dance number. The album closes with 'One of Us', and whilst the cover is nothing special, it does beautifully showcase Cher's incredible vocal range.

Overall, I enjoyed this album and if you're a fan of Cher, or ABBA, or both, then I would definitely recommend checking it out. I just wish Cher had gone even further with these iconic tracks, and really made the whole album her own, rather than just a few standout tracks.



IMAGE: WARNER BROTHERS RECORDS

TOP 5 NOSTALGIC HALLOWEEN MOVIES

THE CRAFT

Since its release in 1996, *The Craft* has attained an unexpected cult following, becoming a quintessential 90s classic about outcast witches.



HOCUS POCUS

A festive non-scary Disney classic about three obnoxious witches from the 17th century brought back to life.



THE NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS

'Tim Burton! Tim Burton! Tim Burton!'. Yes, this artsy piece is a haunted holiday cultural favourite at both Christmas and Halloween.



INTERVIEW WITH THE VAMPIRE

A cocktail of pomp, gore and drama. A gothic, romantic thriller with a homoerotic undertone.



SCREAM

The 1996 pioneering epic thriller is a product in itself. You'll be double checking that your doors are locked.



FIRST-CLASS FESTIVAL

ANDREW YOUNG AND EMILY TAYLOR REPORT ON THIS YEAR'S LONDON FILM FESTIVAL

This October, for the 62nd time, the BFI London Film Festival rolled around once more. As can be expected from a festival of such great variety and scope, laughs, tears and adoration followed. This year's festival programmers lined up new works from directing big-hitters such as Luca Guadagnino, alongside smaller, less-known talents.

Some small trends can be found amongst this year's films. Case in point: the family. The perils of trying to maintain happy, healthy relationships in testing circumstances were explored more than once this year. Amongst these was Ben Wheatley's latest, *Happy New Year, Colin Burstead*, set at a New Year's party-gone-wrong. It is magnificent work from Wheatley, who marshals a strong ensemble cast and uses handheld camera work to unsettle his viewer, ultimately crafting a viciously funny film with a sharp emotional edge.

The family is explored in a less explosive, shouty way in Alfonso Cuarón's *Roma*. It is one of the best films from this year's festival, detailing the breakdown of a middle-class Mexican family and the society around it, as viewed through the eyes of quiet, observant maid Cleo. *Roma* starts slowly, allowing the audience to emotionally invest in its characters before Cuarón releases the big emotional blows. One particular sequence involving a protest turned violent is a masterclass in compelling, emotionally rich filmmaking. It is also worth mentioning that Cuarón served as his own cinematographer and that *Roma* is possibly one of the most beautiful films you will ever see. It's slated for a Netflix release, but please, please try to see *Roma* on the big screen.

Felix Van Groeningen's *Beautiful Boy* shows a strong father-son bond, but is primarily a film about addiction. Based on the memoirs of David Sheff and his former meth-addicted son Nic; this is an engaging tale that does not quite hit the heights it promises. Timothée Chalamet is fantastic as Nic, struggling to find a way to cope with his mental illness that is not merely drug abuse. Whilst it is a perfectly good film, *Beautiful Boy* doesn't add an awful lot to the conversation and isn't as shocking as it intended, leaving some audiences underwhelmed.

Another fascinating true story (do we have another trend here?) at this year's festival is sort-of biopic: *The Old Man and the Gun*. David Lowery's film is largely notable for giving Robert Redford his final acting role. This is a top-quality, wonderfully paced piece of storytelling about the later years of a remarkably polite, genial bank robber. The film's main flaw is the lack of development in its supporting characters, but this is the result of a keen focus on the magnificent Redford. Outrageously charismatic and suitably melancholic when needed, he bows out in fitting style.

Few biopics deserve to exist more than *A Private War*, that details the life of war correspondent Marie Colvin, who was killed in Syria in 2012. Rosamund Pike carries the film with an electrifying performance as Colvin, embodying her strength and conviction, but also the havoc her job wreaked on her mental health. Though it's a smart and sensitive portrayal of the horrors of war, it never

quite as you might expect. The documentary *Under the Wire*, about the same story, captures an intensity in the way this film unfortunately falls slightly short of doing.

Away from the many "true stories" on show was the return of Barry Jenkins. After the phenomenal *Moonlight*, all eyes were on his next film and, fortunately for all, *If Beale Street Could Talk* certainly delivers. Set in '70s Harlem, it follows the pregnant Tish attempting to prove her imprisoned fiancée's innocence. Kiki Layne gives a career-making performance in the lead role. *Beale Street* captures the tragic beauty that permeated *Moonlight*, but overall the two are very different movies. Crucially, Jenkins' new film is hilarious, as well as sweet and romantic, in a way that only goes to heighten the underlying tragedy, because first and foremost this is a film about love in all its forms.

Since *The Hunger Games* was a huge success, young adult fiction has been an attractive proposal for film studios, but recent results have been mixed to say the least. Now it's come full circle with Amandla Stenberg, who starred as Rue in

The Hunger Games, taking the lead in *The Hate U Give*: a YA adaption that shows there is still life in the genre. It has many of the beats of a typical coming-of-age drama whilst tackling incredibly pressing issues of institutional racism and police brutality - issues that this film treats with an intelligence and respect that most adult films lack. It's a film that can appeal to a wide audience and with such a ferocious message - it deserves to be heard by as many as possible.

Another interesting take on genre is the latest from Joel and Ethan Coen. The brothers have always loved their episodic story telling, so an anthology film seems like a logical next step, which is exactly what *The Ballad of Buster Scruggs* delivers. That being said, you might wish that you'd just seen a feature film of the titular Buster Scruggs - the all-singing, all-dancing cowboy psychopath. The stories vary in tone, but a sense of dark comedy runs through the whole film: from the jarring juxtaposition of the Coens' obvious love of Westerns to the senseless brutality of the real Wild West. The characters of these many stories may take different journeys, but there is usually bloodshed at the end of them.

Continuing the rich vein of comedy in London was *Benjamin*. If you ever wanted to watch a Woody Allen film but felt bad because it's, you know, a Woody Allen film, then fortunately Simon Amstell's new work provides a solution. *Benjamin* is thankfully better than Allen's recent work. Colin Morgan is hilarious in the leading role, an awkward man trying to find love in the big city. It's funny, touching and utterly relatable. Despite being fairly self-referential, it never feels self-indulgent, but rather, just an honest exploration of love. Like *If Beale Street Could Talk*, it searches for real truth without giving into a sense of grim despair. This one may not get a wide release but it's worth keeping a look out for.

The decision to split the programme into genre strands is a nice one, but this year was full of genre-crossing films. *Roma* is a heavy film, but has moments of real humour. The same could be said of many of the 2018 crop of films. If there is one thing to take from this year's LFF, it is to find humour amongst the pain.



YOUNG AT HEART: THE RISE OF ADULT ANIMATION

FROM 'THE SIMPSONS' TO 'BOJACK HORSEMAN', MALU ROCHA EXPLORES THE SPATE OF ANIMATED TV SERIES WITH 'ADULT' THEMES

What is the appeal of animated shows in the first place? Animations keep us young while helping us come to grips with growing up. These types of shows have the ability to break down complex philosophical issues into simple yet valuable entertainment. As smart as we are, our brains love simple messages. This is true of all animation to all audiences, but let's pull our focus to adult animations. These have often been overlooked, but have made an impressive and notable comeback in the last decade.

It is impossible to talk about the recent rise of animation without briefly crediting *The Simpsons*. Televised animations of the 1960s and 70s were cheaply produced and aimed mostly at indifferent younger audiences, until *The Simpsons* came along in 1989. The iconic

There is a deep irony in realising that TV's most human character is a horse

It's been quite some time since *The Simpsons* made its debut on Fox, and in the ever-changing world of animation, Netflix seems to be the one platform that has most encouraged and kept up with the trend and is therefore somewhat accountable for this change. Contrary to cable television, Netflix has the prerequisites for providing greater expansions in the range of voices and styles within adult animations. With this freedom, creators have taken risks, and they have paid off.

The most notable of the recent shows released by Netflix is *BoJack Horseman*. Achieving unexpected depth, the series expertly blends philosophical comedy, and clever visual puns with deeper existential issues. It has received critical acclaim for its brutally honest and refreshing approach to the portrayal of mental health, altogether representing a wider shift in mature comedy, where real life issues are taken seriously without losing their comedic appeal. Besides, there is a deep irony in realising that TV's most human character is a horse, and we love it. Being incredibly daring has paid off, seeing that Netflix has launched five more original animated series since *BoJack Horseman*'s premier in 2014.

It's also worth mentioning shows like *Dis-*

enchantment, the most recent of Netflix's animated fantasy series about Princess Bean, the antithesis of all Disney princesses dealing with issues of femininity, and *F is For Family*, which deals with issues of masculinity. Even *Big Mouth*, an intelligent coming of age cartoon following pubescent friends, depicts its topic in very honest and frank ways. Other shows such as *Rick and Morty* also deserve a shout out for having incorporated incredibly sharp writing and plot development, helping to stimulate the shows fanbase.

Older shows such as *The Simpsons* and *Family Guy* exist exclusively in their individual episodic realms, rarely introducing overarching storylines and character developments that can't get any clearer than pointing out that Bart and Lisa have been ten and eight-years-old, respectively, for 27 years now. But modern audiences have encouraged animators to push boundaries (to some extent due to the phenomenon of binge watching), which has led to shows like *BoJack Horseman* and *Rick and Morty* to pay close attention to their continuity.

Their character's lives are in time-line-regulated universes, where they are now capable of referencing their past selves and past plotlines.

This new focus on continuity is partly because the audience is now willing to accept cartoons

are a form of art and, partly because streaming services are increasingly trusting adult animation to keep bringing audiences back.

The series mentioned constitute a snippet of all the available shows in this developing genre, showing that 2D animation is as vibrant as it's ever been. Studios haven't stopped producing 3D animation content, they just accepted that 3D is not the only pathway to success.

This comeback can be linked to the capitalist side of Hollywood, with investment made in whatever show brings in the most money. These series are all animations produced under a (somewhat) limited budget and with a (somewhat) fast-paced timeframe, inevitably catching the attention of potential executives, producers and companies who are looking to try something new without having to invest too much.

This rise in adult animation does not look like it's going to reach a plateau any time soon. New seasons have been launched for existing series while new series are constantly being created. Netflix is looking to expand its global audience with *Seis Manos*, the company's first period piece anime series set in Mexico in the 1970s. Hulu is also expanding its library with a two-season order for *Solar Opposites*, along with Apple launching its first animated comedy series *Central Park*.

Some of the most critically acclaimed series of this decade have been praised not despite the fact that they're animated, but because of it.

We adults remain kids at heart.



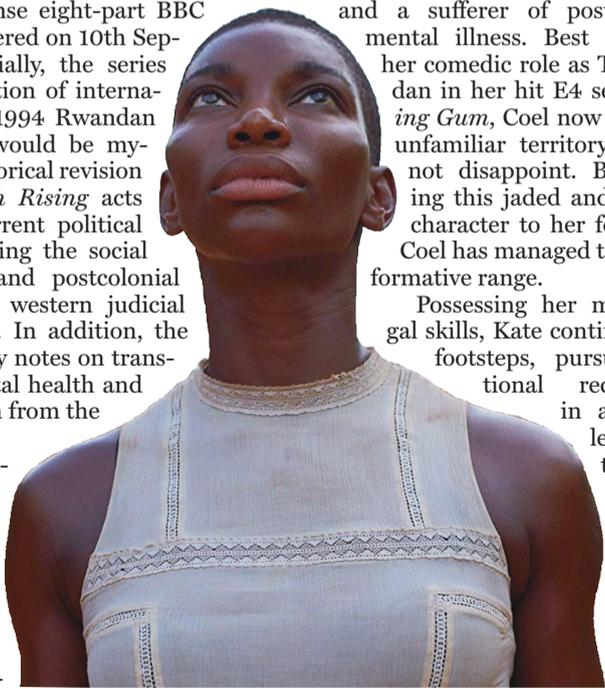
sitcom sparked a huge pop culture movement, which revolutionized the style of postmodern animated comedy. Above all, it proved that there was an audience and a space for animated adult comedy in primetime television, a darker and bleaker comedy which at the same time was being subversive and topical. These shows constitute a genre of their own and can often make you question life on deeper levels than when watching psychological dramas.

IMPERIALISM ON TV: AN OVERDUE CONVERSATION?

EDDIE KAZIRO ANALYSES THE DEPICTION OF IMPERIALISM AND ITS LONG-LASTING EFFECTS IN NEW BBC DRAMA 'BLACK EARTH RISING'

Hugo Blick's ambitious series, *Black Earth Rising* is a morally complex and highly intense eight-part BBC drama series that premiered on 10th September this year. Officially, the series reevaluates the prosecution of international wars during the 1994 Rwandan genocide. However, it would be myopic to consider that historical revision stops here. *Black Earth Rising* acts as a microcosm for current political debate, heavily referencing the social legacy of colonialism and postcolonial imperialism (citing the western judicial system as a hegemony). In addition, the innovative drama artfully notes on transnational identities, mental health and a new wave of expression from the African diaspora.

BAFTA award winning actress Michaela Coel plays Kate, whose identity possesses a multitude of dimensions: a legal investigator in the law chamber of Michael Ennis (John Goodman); a Tutsi survi-



vor; adopted daughter of celebrated international barrister Eve Ashby (Harriet Walter); and a sufferer of post-traumatic mental illness. Best known for her comedic role as Tracey Gordan in her hit E4 series *Chewing Gum*, Coel now treads into unfamiliar territory, but does not disappoint. By comparing this jaded and conflicted character to her former role, Coel has managed to edify performative range.

Possessing her mother's legal skills, Kate continues in her footsteps, pursuing emotional reconciliation in addition to legal restitution for the torturous events that have permanently affected herself and sur-

living victims. Naturally, she makes enemies and repeated attempts are made on her life as means to prevent her from uncovering the truth. Kate remains traumatised by her past, remaining the only survivor of her immediate family and whose childhood experiences (no matter how distant) left a lasting impact on her mental health. This psychological depth is made apparent at the very start of the series. Kate's British upbringing in combination with her childhood experiences colloquially humanise and vocalise the recipients of the regime. However, Kate is not a victim, but an agent who independently assesses responsibility for the atrocity. When Kate interrogates victims of the genocide the recollections of their experience are illustrated. This displays powerful symbols of suffering and effectively leaves the most explicit details of these ordeals to the imagination.

The series constantly refers to and criticises the historical relationship between Africa and former imperial powers which has ritually taken both forms of active and passive since colonialism. The effects and legacies of Western interventions linger over the aesthetics throughout, the most potent being the relationship between Kate and her mother. The

maternal link in contrast to the racial disparity reflects the African-occidental relationship that shifts between benevolence and control. The timing of the series production seems of little coincidence. In a time when more and more voices are questioning dominant historical narratives, this narrative focuses on the triggers, repercussions and the initial occidental apathy towards the genocide. The opening scene is a Q&A with Eve Ashby which quickly turns heated after a black member of the audience criticises the lack of response and eventual paternalism exercised towards the aftermath of the genocide. "African solutions for African problems?" is a memorable quote that seems to embody the underlying mantra, not to mention the motive behind Kate's relentless refusal to compromise on established legal justice. The scenario seems to highlight the complexities of historical events. For example, the very culprit that is under prosecution was the same person responsible for preventing further extermination of Tutsis of the genocide and the plot takes a slow, but necessary time to build. The cliff-hanger at the end of each episode forces the viewer to equivocate their perceptions of trusted actors who administer international institutions.

THANKING AUDRE LORDE

IN THE MIDST OF CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH THIS OCTOBER, NAOMI SAMPSON PAYS TRIBUTE TO AUDRE LORDE

October is a month of many things, from the ending of summer and start of autumn, to the participation of this month in celebrating Black history.

For many, Black History Month is a time to reflect on the work and advances Black people have contributed to society and to celebrate those contributions. For me, as a Black British just-about-adulting woman, this is important in terms of pride and representation. The spheres I have moved in, the schools I went to, and my hometown, have all been largely white populated, the education I received was also mainly white centered. Therefore, the information I sourced on Black writers, inventors, scientists and historians was limited to what my parents had time to teach me at home and their ability to take me to extra curricular Black history classes. I remember sitting in history lessons in school learning only about Black history from the colonial gaze or civil rights movement, again from the colonialist perspective. One Black "British" woman we were taught about was Mary Seacole. And yet, her contributions were only significant whilst in light of Florence Nightingale. The lack of positive representation and taught history surrounding blackness and Black people has always been something that has struck me.

However, the issues surrounding the British education system are part of a deeper conversation to be had another time. What is most significant here is the fact that Black History Month is about celebration, and how the discussion of representation can be implemented into this framework, without taking away from the positivity and celebratory nature of the month.

So from this stance, I have chosen to celebrate Audre Lorde. Lorde was, and still is, a world-renowned Black activist, poet and writer. Her words and actions have inspired and uplifted many people due to her insistence on racial pride,

celebrating the strength and beauty in womanhood, and her fight for queer rights.

“ Asserting that someone’s race doesn’t matter in fact erases the realities of that person’s existence

As a self-described ‘Black, lesbian, mother, warrior, poet’, the intersections of race, class, gender and sexuality (not totally encompassing her identity) played a huge part in Lorde’s writing and life. In a discourse Lorde had with another incredible Black trailblazer in the literary world, James Baldwin, she highlighted the need to recognise differences and not simply play coy to them. One example of such coyness would be the ‘I don’t see colour/race’ rhetoric. One can recognise the good natured intentions of this statement, in terms of saying ‘we are all equal’ and asserting that someone’s race doesn’t matter, but it in fact erases the realities of that person’s existence and indeed glamorises their existence, while ignoring their struggles. As Lorde highlights, the best way to go about being an ally or advocate for equality is to play homage to individuals’ identity and recognize that yes, we are different, but that difference should not matter in terms of the quality of our treatment of one another.

Lorde and Baldwin discussed the fight for racial equality in America and whether that would be possible in such a country, and they also discussed their ability to capture the American Dream. Within this discourse, Baldwin speaks a lot about blackness and the struggles of Black people. Lorde highlights that

although his rhetoric is correct, he is forgetting the differences in experience that Black men and Black women face. The differences in these experiences are significant, notes Lorde, because although there is a huge shared experience in Blackness there are significant differences in the lived experience of gender. For example, my experience of race as a woman is different to my (Black) father’s experience of race as a man. Even further, my experience as a Black woman is different to my friend Cally’s experience of gender, as a white woman.

In her writing, Lorde discusses the concept of intersectionality more. In ‘There Is No Hierarchy of Oppressions’, she details that as a black, lesbian woman she has to face not only racism, homophobia and sexism but also, erasure of her oppressions in her differing identities: “Within the lesbian community I am Black, and within the Black community I am a lesbian. Any attack against Black people is a lesbian and gay issue, because I, and thousands of other Black women, are part of the lesbian community. Any attack against lesbians and gays is a Black issue, because thousands of lesbians and gay men are Black. There is no hierarchy of oppression. I cannot afford the luxury of fighting one form of oppression only. I cannot afford to believe that

“ There are many facets to one’s identity but the intersections of these cannot be undone into separate threads

freedom from intolerance is the right of only one particular group. And I cannot afford to choose between the fronts upon which I must battle these forces of discrimination.” One of the most significant rhetorics I infer from Lorde’s politics is the idea that in the many facets of one’s given and self-proclaimed identity, oppression is faced in all. She demonstrates that there are many facets to one’s identity but the intersections of these cannot be undone into separate threads. Yet, as stated in Lorde’s discourse with Baldwin and as she details through ‘A Woman Speaks’ the oppressions and inequalities in these different facets and the intersections of identity can be relieved if those in these differing groups would listen and hear one another. If we acknowledged one another’s different experiences and listened to those experiences, we could work towards a better conversation on being allies for different communities and creating better changes in systems, for example education, in making them more representative of all.

Lorde’s poem: ‘A Woman Speaks’, is in my humble opinion, one of the greatest poems to have ever been written. In this, Lorde details the misconceptions that people have of her as a woman, and a Black woman at that. Dixon notes that in this poem ‘Lorde focuses on both the inconsistencies

in how Black women are viewed and her own battle to define her identity outside of society’s norms.’ Even from



the lines, boldly into this without marked by my magic is opening Lorde bounds notion hesitation ‘Moon and touched by sun unwritten.’ What I infer from these lines is Lorde’s personal commentary and societal commentary. Her personal commentary is something that could be summed up in a term coined by many Black women today – “Black Girl Magic”. In 2013 CaShawn Thompson ‘started’ the ‘movement’ of “Black Girl Magic”. This concept was created as a way to ‘celebrate the beauty, power and resilience of black women’, as described by Julee Wilson from HuffPost, and ‘to congratulate Black women on their accomplishments.’ However, some have critiqued it, fitting in with Lorde’s societal commentary from her opening lines, as a term that affirms the othering of Black women. Again, Dixon describes it as the perception of Black women ‘as both unearthly, goddess-like beings.’ Although, being described as a goddess seems positive, it magnifies Black women as above humans and constructs this idea that they can’t be soft or cry nor experience pain and emotions as everyone else does. This has led to terms such as ‘strong Black woman’ which negate space for Black women to be those things detailed above; soft, sensitive or delicate, as well as strong, without acknowledging that we can’t always be strong. Hence, ‘my magic is unwritten,’ which I infer as the lack of space Black women have been given to define and express themselves in society. Lorde ends the poem with ‘I am woman and not white’ leaving the reader with a powerful outro showing her fight for acknowledgement in womanhood and recognition of her differences as a Black woman, despite society’s othering of Black women.

Lorde has liberated me, and so many others. She has taught me that through the act of revolutionary self-love, alongside allyship; the ideal of living as a whole being can be achieved, finding existence outside our oppressions, yet still embracing our facets of identity. The table is essentially open to everyone; it is okay for us to be different, and our differences should be celebrated and acknowledged, not swept under the rug in the usual British manner. M



IMAGE: ELSA DORFMAN

BLACK OPS 4 IS THE STIM-SHOT WE NEED

JOSEPH HIGGINS LOOKS AT THE NEW GAME SET TO LIGHT UP THE FRANCHISE LIKE NEVER BEFORE

The *Call of Duty (CoD)* franchise has been a staple of the gaming landscape for the majority of the last decade. Publisher Activision/Blizzard's flagship franchise has always been popular and has had huge sale numbers, with its annual release scheduled in autumn every year since 2003. However, it's no secret that interest in the franchise has been dwindling over the past few years as fatigue over playing a new game every year with different mechanics and developers has led to less people playing and watching content related to the franchise.

Now, the latest addition to the franchise is set to rekindle the fire that many gamers once felt at the release of a new *CoD* title. *Call of Duty: Black Ops 4* has already done more than its two recent predecessors when it comes to advertising and marketing the game. A meme-fuelled advertisement campaign featuring popular artist Post Malone has added a much needed dose of celebrity star power to the launch of the game, and according to Activision's own reports has led to launch day sales doubling those of the previous year.

But is *Black Ops 4* really that revolutionary for *CoD*? Can it really be expected to enthuse a fanbase that have been fatigued from the excitement of a new release every year since 2003? Well, it has al-

ready started doing just that. Media interest relating to the game has been overwhelming. Twitch livestreaming can give a wide and important overview on the level of excitement people feel towards a game and a new *CoD* title is no different. How many viewers watching other people play the game can show whether the game has multi-media legs and will survive the entire



IMAGE: PNGIMG.COM

year-long lifespan of the game.

So has *Black Ops 4* reached a level of multi-media popularity sufficient to propel it forwards beyond the month of its release? Well, compare it to last year's title *Call of Duty: WWII*. *CoD: WWII* that was watched by around 25000 people across 700 different channels for a whopping total of 18 million hours in its month of release. Thus far, in the month of October, *Black Ops 4* has utterly obliterated those viewership numbers. In fact, just in the month of September, the Beta alone matched the figures from *Call of Duty: WWII*'s release numbers with 18 million viewing hours. The figures for October's release are dramatically higher than this. With 42 million hours of gameplay being watched on Twitch since the game was released on the 10th of October; *Black Ops 4* is already on track to beat the viewership numbers *Call of Duty: WWII* had across the game's entire lifespan in just the first few months.

Whether or not this upwards trend in the *Call of Duty* franchise is a fluke caused by celebrity marketing, or the hype surrounding the new *Blackout Battle Royale* gamemode; we may never know. But when a sequel is so popular it reaches the viewership numbers of its predecessor's lifespan in its first month it can only mean good things for the future of the game and franchise as a whole.

IS THERE ANY MERIT IN PRE-ORDERING?

JAN DE BOER EXPLAINS WHY PRE-ORDERS ARE GREAT, BUT ONLY FOR GAMES THAT RELY ON THEM

Pre-ordering games before their release is a controversial topic among gamers. Some see it as an attempt to siphon more money away from the consumer before the game has even proven its worth. Indeed, the large companies such as Ubisoft, Creative Assembly and the eternal boogie-man EA have all used pre-orders to hype up their respective games. *Grand Theft Auto 5* sold an alarming 7 million copies before it even saw the light of day. In any other medium, paying for something before it is shown to be worth the money seems like the daftest thing since calling *PUBG* "E-Sports Ready", but in many ways it is the lifeblood of the gaming industry. I am not referring to the giant megaliths that dominate the gaming industry today - they really don't need the money. I am referring to the indie projects that are on a life line before their release date.

The thinking goes that "pre-ordering" the game guarantees revenue during the cash dry months before a game is released. This is exactly the time when smaller, more indie developers feel the strain the most. Games such as *The Binding of Isaac*, *Super Meat Boy* and other titles would have been cancelled or postponed were it not for the generous investment of users dedicated to seeing the

game through. In this situation, pre-ordering games is, in part, a noble act which sustains video games by supporting



IMAGE: OMER YIGIT

them when they need it the most. This does not extend, however, to AAA games.

In order to explain why pre-ordering is

a bad idea for mainstream franchises I shall tell you a story from 2013. I have, and always will be, a fan of the *Total War* franchise. If you don't know, it is an AAA franchise by Creative Assembly, involving strategic battles with large armies and a grand strategy "map mode" for global conquest. I own every single game in the franchise, so when I saw that *Rome 2 Total War* was coming out in a few months, I made my first ever pre-order and waited eagerly for its release in September. When it did release, it is hard to describe how broken it was. A 50GB file followed by a 20 GB update on day one. AI armies suicide charging into your defenses, or standing still for 40 minutes doing nothing, with the greatest zeal I have seen in a video game. What I thought would be an epic siege of Rome turned into the battle of biz-zars as boats traveled on land and the enemy formed a single file conga line into the city. In short: a mess. The game was unplayable and pre-ordering it did nothing to remedy its quality. Indie games can be this terrible on release but Creative Assembly did not need my money to stay afloat and it still produced a terrible game. My money did not go to making someone's creative dream come alive, I was just one of the 100,000 poor souls who gave a corporation its paycheck early.

5

BEST BATTLE ROYALE GAMES

1. Cuisine Royale



Publisher: Darkflow Software
Genre: Culinary Battle Royale
Cost: Free
Rating: Bene/10

All you need to know is that you are in the map with nothing but pots and pans as protection. Be wary of men in bunny slippers taking you down in a great battle royale game.

2. PUBG



Publisher: Bluehole
Genre: 'Realistic' Battle Royale
Cost: £26.99
Rating: level 3 armor/10

PUBG is an entertaining 'Realistic' romp across a variety of terrains and maps, whacking 99 enemies and blocking bullets with frying pans or Assault Rifles. Always an entertaining time.

3. Fortnite



Publisher: Epic Games
Genre: Babies Battle Royale.
Cost: Free
Rating: 9 year old/10

The most popular Battle Royale game with a charming toon-like aesthetic. Build bases to protect yourself and your friends with farming materials all day. Then get killed by a sniper anyway.

4. Ring of Elysium



Publisher: Tencent Games
Genre: California Royale
Cost: Free
Rating: Gnarly/10

The most intense reimagined gap year of all time. ROE bring paragliding, sweet snowboarding moves and a gnarly new feel to the battle royale genre.

5. Minecraft Hunger Games



Publisher: Mojang
Genre: Original Battle Royale.
Cost: £17.95
Rating: dirt block/10

The OG of Battle Royale games. A mod for classic Minecraft. You and your friends pop out of glass cases and craft mushroom soup from the floor and hide in a hole to survive.

QUICKFIRE REVIEW BY BEN STANNARD

EXPLODING KITTENS

PLAYERS 2-5 TIME 10-15 MINS

FINAL SCORE: 7/10

Exploding Kittens is a hilarious, Russian-roulette style, card game which is short enough to play several times in one go. Each player is dealt 5 starting cards then takes turns drawing cards from the deck. If you draw an Exploding Kitten you are killed (unless you play the coveted Defuse card), it's important you make the best use of the cards in your hand

to avoid this, which usually involves stitching up your mates. The game continues until all of the Exploding Kittens have been drawn. It's easy to learn the rules and short gameplay makes it ideal for use in pubs, and can even be used as a drinking game (loser does a shot or winner chooses a forfeit). It raised over \$8 million on Kickstarter and features cute

comic drawings of cats, goats, enchiladas and watermelons. Exploding Kittens can be mixed with other games to accommodate more players. The expansion Imploding Kittens adds extra cards; adding to the unpredictable nature of the game. There even exists an NSFW version of the game which I gather includes 'boob wizards' if that's your thing!

A ROADTRIP ALONG YORKSHIRE'S NORTH COAST

LENA WINKLER TALKS ABOUT WHITBY, ROBIN HOOD'S BAY & SCARBOROUGH - ONLY A SHORT TRAIN RIDE AWAY FROM YORK

We started our trip from York and chose three destinations along the North coast of Yorkshire. Our first stop was Whitby, a charming old town that offers stunning views, lovely cafes, restaurants and historical buildings.

Whitby has a remarkable history which is told by Whitby Abbey. The remains of it are an important archaeological settlement, located on a high cliff overlooking Whitby

town. However, over the years, this old castle was more than just a settlement. It was a King's burial place, which can be recognized by gravestones around the ruin. Furthermore, it served as a meeting point for Roman and Celtic Clerics. It was also an inspiration for Bram Stoker, the author of *Dracula*. Visiting Whitby Abbey will not only give you the chance to learn more about England's rich history, but will also allow you to enjoy the

beautiful views over the North Sea. Whitby beach is famous for its blue flags which certify that it is one of the best beaches in the UK - this is absolutely true.

Moreover, I was amazed by the charming old town that offers lovely shops, restaurants and cafes. After exploring the town for two hours, we sat in a cosy café for some tea and scones before we got ready for our next destination: Robin Hood's Bay. Located around fifteen driving minutes south of Whitby, it is a small fishing village, built between two steep cliffs. The view over the bay was truly breathtaking. We spent our afternoon walking barefoot on the beach and exploring the old village that is built on a very steep street. However, there is much more to do than that, including walks along the coast and countryside, visiting restaurants, shops and many themed events on weekends. Robin Hood's Bay is a great destination if you are in need of a relaxing day.

Our last destination was Scarborough: a lively tourist town where there is something to do for everyone. The busiest part of Scarborough is South Beach Bay, due to the many kinds of amenities, shops and restaurants available. Here you can not only wander around in the sand of the beach, but also grab some delicious snacks which are offered



all over the town. However, if you prefer to be in a calm environment, there are several other beaches around Scarborough for you to enjoy: North Bay Beach, Cayton Bay Beach, and Cornelian Bay Beach.

One of Scarborough's biggest attractions is its castle. It offers 3000 years of history, including the Roman signal station and a Medieval chapel. Furthermore, by visiting Scarborough castle you get access to a stunning view of the coastline.

To sum up, these destinations are great for everyone who loves nature and amazing beaches. They're perfect places for someone needing a break from uni life. Additionally, exploring these old towns provides you with a lot of information about the UK's history. Most importantly though, you get the chance to try varieties of local homemade food by visiting different cafes, restaurants and shops.



IMAGES: LENA WINKLER

TRAVELLING FOR FREE - DESTINATION HOME

LILY ABEL CONSIDERS THE VAST ARRAY OF BENEFITS TO EXPLORING FRESH PERSPECTIVES ON AN AREA WHERE YOU ALREADY LIVE

Travel. It always seems to be focused on glorified sunny beaches or crystal white snow in faraway lands for which you need to book flights in advance and find a place to stay. Yet travel can mean literally going anywhere. So, why not start with where you live? It is common for visiting family members to have done more of the "touristy" things than yourself in your home area, simply because you are always there and take for granted the amazing things that might surround you.

I, for one, am lucky enough to live in the Lake District in the North West of the UK, yet I am definitely guilty of craving travel far and wide, when the real beauty lies right before me. Winding roads surrounded by bumpy, sheep filled fields showcase the beauty of the weathered mountains, and the countless meres and waters that offer panoramic views. Whether it is wrapping up warm in winter and braving a long hot chocolate fuelled walk through the bracken and mud, or wild swimming in the lakes, I am very lucky to live where I do.

It is revitalising every once in a while, to look at your surroundings with a fresh perspective. How will your housemates view where you live when visiting for the first time? If you were visiting for the first time, what would your initial thoughts be?

From here, you can visit local places and view them as something new. You may simply need to walk out of your house and down the road, or drive for half an hour to an area you perhaps haven't fully explored yet. This is the best way to travel on a budget, there are no or little transportation costs, no need to book somewhere to stay and it can be as spontaneous as you want. If you live in a city, there will be plenty of areas yet to explore and if you live in a village, it may be the case of

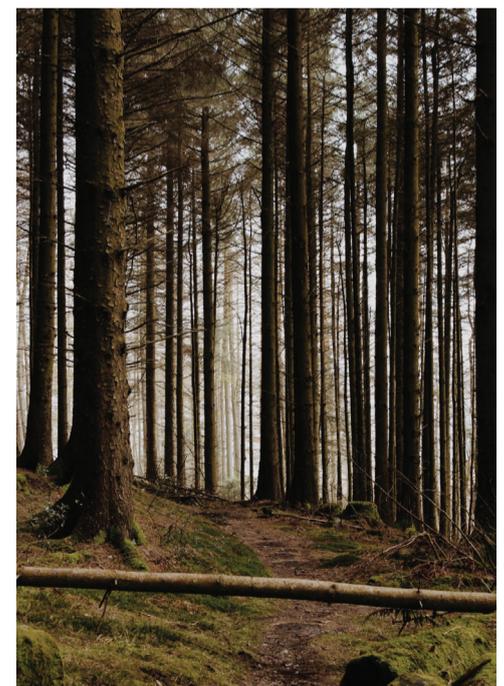
needing to hop on a bus or train to somewhere nearby that perhaps you have always travelled through, but never actually stopped to investigate.

My home is surrounded by plenty of beautiful walks, which I find are the best means to discover hidden places, camouflaged from the tourists scent. As the Lake District is a tourist trap, especially in the summer; with hordes of people taking on the hills, navigating rented boats and filling the ice-cream shops- locals tend to avoid certain areas at certain times in order to escape from the masses of people and have some serenity.

I for one have found one of the most gorgeous, scenic walks, with a view of Lake Windermere, woodland enveloped pathways and peace from the hive of tourists. This secret walk made me feel as though I was away from home, when in reality, I was only 20 minutes down the road.

Obviously I am lucky to live where I do in this respect, but this discovery can be translated to any location and become anything; a cool vintage shop or a hidden beach. Cities can hold plenty of museums, hidden "hipster" streets or intricate architecture. So, pretend to be a tourist for the day and tick some of the "things to do" in your city off.

This home-centred travel not only saves you money, but also cultivates a more appreciative mindset and encourages a greater appreciation and childlike curiosity for your surroundings. Remember, this can be done at home or at University, so you can get a group of friends together and find a new hidden café or an out-of-the-way park that you have not yet tested or explored. Travel does not have to be expensive, or long and pre-planned, it can be done simply by walking out of your house with brand new perspective.



ALL IMAGES: LILY ABEL

SIX MONTHS VEGAN: SIX LESSONS LEARNED

SASKIA STARRITT SHARES HER TIPS AND TRIPS AFTER VENTURING INTO THE INCREASINGLY POPULAR WORLD OF VEGANISM

In early April of this year I decided to adopt a vegan diet. It was a spur of the moment decision made during my weekly shop, done more so out of curiosity than any other reason. In all honesty, I wasn't far from obtaining a vegan diet, considering I've been a vegetarian for 6 and a half years, and last year realised I was

lactose intolerant, so have been since avoiding milk, cheese, and yoghurt. Nevertheless, I still indulged in chocolate most days and never checked the back of products to see if they contained milk or milk powders, whilst eggs were a staple to my diet. Although the swap may not have been as extreme for me as for

others, it still presented challenges. Veganism isn't easy, but it also is no where near as difficult as I expected. I rarely feel restricted in my diet, and when I do it tends to be when I am eating out, as it still sometimes feels awkward having to ask friends and family to accommodate to my diet.

Six months later and I am still keen to continue eating a vegan diet (I am hesitant to refer to myself as a vegan until I hit that one year mark), but there are a few key things I've realised:



ONLINE MENUS ARE THERE TO BE READ



Over the last 6 months I must have scoured every restaurant menu in my local area. It is unbelievably disappointing turning up for a meal with friends to have zero options available other than a portion of

chips or some lettuce. If someone asks you out for food, make sure to do a quick run over of the menu to see what's available, and to check that you'd even be willing to spend money on the vegan food they do have. If there's nothing for you, then don't be afraid to ask to go to a different restaurant that has more available options for you. It isn't being demanding, and increasingly more restaurants, both chains and local, are including vegan options on their menus. I've found it easier than being expected to compromise with meat-loving friends when eating out.

VEGAN CHEESE IS A RISKY GAME

I would say that vegan cheese is the most infamous of the 'alternatives'. Most cheese eaters cringe at the idea of dairy-free cheese, and I am the first to admit that they are somewhat justified in this response. Some vegan cheese is outright awful, with the most overpowering, artificial taste and rubbery texture. However, on my hunt for an acceptable toastie filling, I have found some really good options which fulfil my need for cheese.

Whilst vegan cheese does take time to get used to, I am a huge fan of Violife's Original Block and Sainsbury's Cheddar with Car-

amelised Onion, as well as Sheese's coconut-based mozzarella for pasta bakes.



IMAGE: MAXPIXEL.NET

VEGENAISE IS YOUR FRIEND

Cutting mayonnaise out of my diet was absolutely heart-breaking. I am an absolute mayonnaise fiend and I treat it as an essential accompaniment to a concerning number of my meals; apparently mayo and crisp sandwiches aren't as popular and beloved as I once thought.

I was initially very disappointed by the overwhelmingly vinegary taste that some 'free from' mayos have. However, I found a solution; Follow



Your Heart's Vegenaise is an excellent alternative. It has a great consistency and tastes just as good as any normal mayonnaise options, if not better!

Over the summer, even my meat-eating family were inclined to opt for Vegenaise, agreeing that it was a perfect replica of its eggy-counterpart. Vegenaise has proven itself to be an essential item on my fridge shelf.

LISTEN TO YOUR BODY

Swapping to a vegan diet can be an extreme transition for some people, and with it there can come some extreme side effects. A lot of the time, these are positive; I personally felt a huge increase in energy when I first adopted a vegan diet, most likely because I started eating much more veg.

Go with what feels right, but at the same time, be aware of what doesn't.

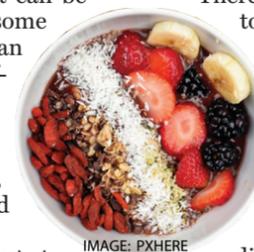


IMAGE: PXHERE

There have been times where I've relied too heavily on carbs and felt sluggish, whilst there have been weeks where vegetables have been the focus of my meals and so I haven't had nearly enough calories.

Make sure to monitor how you're responding to dietary changes; prioritise your wellbeing when trying to maintain a vegan diet, and there's no shame in admitting a certain diet isn't quite right for you.

DARK NOT DAIRY-FREE



IMAGE: URBAN WIRED

As someone who's weekly shop was guaranteed to include a Snickers or

Crunchie multi-pack, the prospect of cutting out chocolate seemed impossible. I have tried quite a lot of vegan chocolates and different supermarket brand dairy-free bars, but I've often found that they lack flavour. A lot of them end up tasting more like cheap calendar chocolate than anything else. Instead of these disappointing tastes, I have found myself favouring small amounts of dark chocolate, in particular Cadbury's Bourneville (my taste pallet isn't quite sophisticated enough for anything too dark).

UTILISE INSTAGRAM

The vegan community on Instagram is incredible. There are countless pages that share recipes as well as foods that are unexpectedly vegan friendly, the latter of which I have found really useful when trying to avoid spending ridiculous amounts in the 'free from' aisle.

Sometimes all you need to see is an aesthetically pleasing porridge bowl to inspire you to get in the kitchen, and the encouraging nature of the community is nothing but a positive influence.



IMAGE: VEGAN.AMZ INSTAGRAM

RECIPE: HALLOWEEN PUMPKIN-CHEESE PATTIES

LENA WINKLER EXPLAINS WHAT TO DO WITH THE REST OF YOUR PUMPKIN GUT LEFTOVERS FROM THE HALLOWEEN SEASON

We are approaching Halloween and everyone is preparing for a spooky night. However, the most exciting part of Halloween is the decoration - a pumpkin should not be missing there.

But the question that arises every year is "what am I going to cook with the pumpkin gut leftovers?". I have a delicious solution which is very quick and easy to make. These tasty pumpkin-cheese patties are perfect for the day after your Halloween night, when everything else seems to involve a bit too much effort.

What you will need:

- 1kg Pumpkin
- Salt, Pepper
- 4-6 tablespoons of flour
- 250g of Feta
- 3 eggs
- ½ bunch of fresh dill
- Olive Oil
- 2 tablespoons of chopped pumpkin seeds

What to do:

- Separate the pumpkin seeds from the rest of the pumpkin gut.
- Place the pumpkin gut in a sieve and salt it

slightly. Let it sit for 20 minutes.

- Squeeze the pumpkin-salt mix well to get rid of all the water and put it into a bowl.
- Spread flour over the mix.
- Roughly divide and add the feta, the whisked eggs and chopped dill to the bowl. Mix it all together.
- Put oil into a pan, place one spoon of the mixture into the pan and fry it until it is golden brown on both sides.
- Lastly, add some of the pumpkin seeds on top.
- Enjoy!



IMAGE: LENA WINKLER



Your Third Year Google Search History

- 8:39 PM Toto, Africa Koen Lamberts cover
- 9:55 PM How much caffeine before cardiac arrest?
- 10:01 PM How many times can you Facebook-stalk your ex before it's stalking-stalking? Asking for a friend
- 10:02 PM Are there really hot Russian singles in my area?
- 10:05 PM How much is the fine in the UK for killing a goose?
- 10:11 PM How much is the sue for water damage to dorm?
- 10:14 PM How much money if mortgage kidney?
- 10:16 PM Is Koen Lamberts single?
- 10:27 PM Will Nisa stay open if block door with your body?
- 10:29 PM Do hot Russian singles just want me for my body?
- 11:35 PM Can I ransom sword off the statue of Constantine for a degree?
- 11:45 PM Does pond weed count as five a day?
- 11:50 PM Can you kill a goose in the UK if it's self defence?
- 02:02 AM How many hours without sleep before hallucinations?
- 02:08 AM Is the campus lake a mirage?
- 2:45 AM York supermarkets open at 3am that sell food for 10p
- 3:00 AM Will I go to hell if join I Christian union for free food?
- 3:30 AM Is cardboard edible?



KIRSTEN MURRAY REALISES THAT SURVIVING UNI ACTUALLY TAKES EFFORT

So I'm now over a month into my first term of university and it seems a lifetime ago that I was nervously awaiting the huge change of moving away. I hoped my flatmates wouldn't be complete weirdos and I hoped I wouldn't seem like a complete weirdo to my flatmates. Slowly, I watched as the spare room became swallowed by every possible item that can be purchased at IKEA.

Strangely, even though the last two years of hell (aka A-Levels) were completed with the aim of going to university, the idea that I would ever get here didn't become a reality until I arrived at York, and sometimes I still cannot believe it now.

So after the overenthusiastic, over-happy, potentially awkward introductions, you begin to have normal conversations again that don't just consist of: "what course are you doing? What college are you in? Where are you from?" Reality and routine begin to form and you realise that yes you may have gone out every night of Freshers and somehow survived (just), but that cannot last forever. You also realise that perhaps sharing drinks with every person you met in order to seem friendly probably wasn't the best plan as you now have Freshers' flu. But are you going to swerve that night out to sweaty Salvos? Probably not. I can also confirm that Freshers' flu is not a myth and despite my "I'll be fine, I never get ill, my immune system is strong" attitude, I did get ill and just when I thought I was recovering it would rise again. Strepils became my best friend. At the point when my flatmate was swigging cough medicine from the bottle instead of vodka I knew that in retrospect I had got off lightly. Freshers' flu also meant the first week of lectures was more a battle of the coughs, than a discussion on the rise of the novel in Defoe's *Roxana*.

Another thing I forgot when coming to university was that I came to get a degree. Yeah, I think we all forgot about that in the blur of freshers, and we are now inundated with all those societies we signed up for in the heat of Freshers'

fair. (I'm pretty sure I never even signed up for the York Juba Anthology Society, but they email every week.) By Week 3 I realised, yes I may only have 10 contact hours, but I have hundreds of hours of reading, and pro-tip, if you try to read in bed, you nap. There's no avoiding it, it's inevitable. Lecturers also talk at the speed of light, hence my notes are filled with '...' as whilst writing down the start of the lecturers sentences, I miss the end; thank goodness for lecture capture... Not that that should be used as an alternative to attending the lectures. Of course not.

Next lesson: food doesn't just appear. Fridges aren't naturally full. However, don't get too carried away filling them, as only you are eating your food (unless you have a snaky flatmate) and stuff will go out of date. Trust me, out-of-date chicken is not something you want to mistakenly cook lots of, hence the amount of Dettol that was sprayed that night. Now I understand I have the luxury of the catered lifestyle, and all I can say is thank God I do, because otherwise I genuinely would forget/be too lazy to eat. Meal planning for the weekend has become an event in my week, as well as planning when to do laundry. And not just planning when to do my laundry, but using my sixth sense to predict when every other man and his dog wouldn't also be doing theirs (yes - I was that person who sat and watched my wash spin for over an hour because I was not making that unsuccessful trek back to my accomodation, after failing to find a free washing machine for the fourth time that day).

But what definitely needs a special mention is everyone's favourite place to end a night out (well maybe not if you're sober). That's right, it's Salt & Pepper: the famous chips, cheese and gravy, cheeseburgers and my personal favourite, the cheesy garlic bread. Seemingly a good idea to scoff before getting on the bus, but quickly becomes a regrettable decision. Not that any of us will ever learn.

JACK ROWE ON THE SPOOKIEST TIME OF THE YEAR...



Jamal Khashoggi murdered in Saudi Embassy

Sebastian Shaddick
DEPUTY POLITICS EDITOR

THE SAUDI ARABIAN journalist, Jamal Khashoggi, was killed in the Saudi Embassy in Istanbul on Tuesday 8 October. The writer had been a key figure in the Arab world's dissident culture, and has supported progressive social causes such as the Saudi women's liberation movement, as well as the Arab Spring.

Khashoggi's notoriety as a journalist was recently elevated after speaking against the policies of Mohammad bin Salman (MBS), the Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia. Reports say that Khashoggi had entered the consulate for the purpose of obtaining documents for the marriage of fiancée, Hatice Cengiz, who waited outside the building while he entered. He was then reported missing after not returning. For several days, nothing was heard from either Khashoggi or the consulate regarding his status. Rumours were sparked over what happened?

Until, on 15 October, a joint Turkish-Saudi inspection of the embassy was deducted. Information

was released that the journalist had been, according to a Saudi official, strangled to death during a confrontation with a 15-man team of Saudi

Interrogated, tortured, and finally dismembered ”

operatives. Allegations emerged, however, that the men actually interrogated, tortured and finally dismembered his body; cutting off his fingers, limbs, and finally decapitating him.

Turkey has said that the sounds of this horrific attack were captured on Khashoggi's Apple Watch. Overall, 18 operatives were sent to intercept Khashoggi in the consulate and, according to most, either dispense of him or extract him back to his country of origin, although their exact intention has not been identified. It is widely believed by critics of MBS and the Saudi regime that their modus operandi was to silence the journalist for his work. Although the exact series of events

are still ambiguous, the "Homeland-style" plot has undoubtedly heightened the geo-political tensions concerning Saudi Arabia, Turkey, US and the rest of the Arab world.

State leaders, including Theresa May, have already spoken publicly. The Prime Minister stated that, "The Home Secretary is taking action against all suspects to prevent them entering the UK, and if these individuals currently have visas, those will be revoked today". Erdogan, being purely cautionary on the matter, has been scrutinized over possible breaches of national security after an alleged wire-tapping of the Saudi Embassy and stated: "From the person who gave the order, to the person who carried it out; they must all be brought to account." Meanwhile, the US President, sat with his arms crossed, observing that it was the "worst cover up ever". The United

States has long been an ally of the Saudi regime and President Trump has pointed his finger at the operation, condemning it as a "total fiasco". It seems that many leaders are simply "stocking up and bunkering down" politically, waiting for events to blow over.

But the real concern lies in the relations between Turkey and Saudi Arabia. The House of Saud requested that Khashoggi's sons meet with them over the incident, but some critics have said this seemingly ended up as a cynical photo opportunity. This event, like the Novichok incident back in March this year, has deeply alarmed supporters of the international rules-based order, who decry the audacious use of force by rogue states.

MBS has attempted to craft an image as a great reformer. He has liberalised some restrictions on women in Saudi Arabia, allowing them to drive. He has also spearheaded a transformation of the economy away from oil dependency and curbed the influence of the religious police. Yet, his actions on the international stage have been characterised by ruthless aggression.

How will the benevolent powers that be, justify and navigate this attack? In the headmaster's office of the international order, which of the pupils will own up? The answer is yet to follow. Although, it can be said that The Crown Prince's premiership as a "great reformer" now hangs in the balance, as these events cast a shadow over his image both domestically and internationally.



Democrats brace for crucial mid-term elections

Patrick Walker
POLITICS CORRESPONDENT

WILLIE NELSON DUETS, frantic photo-ops, gratuitous light shows: Beto O'Rourke rallies have more in common with a country music concert than they do a political movement. Odd name aside, the Democrat contesting Ted Cruz's Texas Senate seat could not be more quintessentially progressive. O'Rourke is part of a new breed of Democrats that are fighting for Republican seats up and down the United States, while Republican concern for their mid-term prospects heighten. The Texas Senate seat is just one battleground. On November 6, the entire house faces re-election, as do 36 governors.

Six-year Senate election cycles mean that only a third of Senators are up for re-election this cycle. Republican Senators received a boost in national polls following Brett Kavanaugh's nomination, which puts

them in a strong position to retain control of the Senate for the time being. Mid-term voters, as the BBC put it, also are generally "whiter, older and more conservative". Most polling models, including Nate Silver's FiveThirtyEight, give the Republicans a chance of about 80 per cent to take the Senate overall: they

The most pessimistic expectations still predict a blue wave ”

may even pick up a larger majority, bearing in mind the four closest races (Texas, Arizona, Nevada and Tennessee) are likely to swing their way.

A more interesting story has occurred in races for Governor. Democrats in the 36 gubernatorial elections are expected to win key

races, even recouping prior losses in Illinois, Michigan, and New Mexico. The Florida race, historically well-contested also looks good for the Democrats. Republican Ron DeSantis currently trails black Tallahassee mayor Andrew Gillum by around five points. Oddly, both men are under fire for scandals: Gillum for the FBI corruption investigation into his office, and DeSantis for his use of a "racist dog whistle" when he encouraged Floridians not to "monkey this up" and elect his African-American opponent.

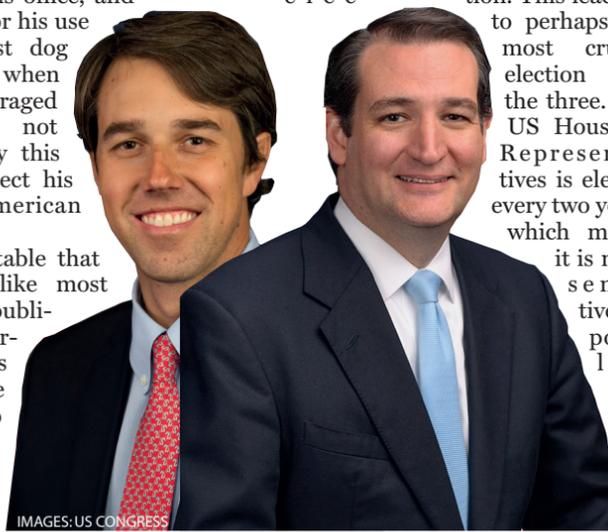
It's notable that DeSantis, like most other Republican Governors, has made little effort to distance himself ideologically from

President Trump. Democrats nationwide are making a lot of Trump's unpopularity with moderate voters, especially his healthcare bill. Discussion on healthcare implementation has all but disappeared from Republican talking points. They are at odds with the electorate, who in a recent Gallup poll cited it as the most important issue of the 2018 election.

This leads us to perhaps the most crucial election of the three. The US House of Representatives is elected every two years, which means it is more sensitive to popular

preference. The Democrats are projected by most to win here, if only by a slim margin. The most pessimistic expectations still predict a blue wave of 19 reclaimed seats, likely closer to 35, come November 6. Despite the huge lead Democrats having gained in the popular vote (around 8.8 per cent at the time of writing) their majority will be relatively slim.

The House election in particular is vital for Democrats if they want to stall President Trump; administration's legislative agenda, which will die if either chamber of Congress is taken. A flip would also allow Democrats to launch many more investigations into Trump, through their leadership of committees, both on Russia, and on Trump's alleged affairs. Polling inaccuracies have led to large prediction mistakes in the past, and most models this year are extremely sensitive to small changes in individual races. Election analyst Harry Enten put it best: "Republicans are a normal polling error away from holding the House. Democrats are a normal polling error away from a 75 or more seat majority."



GLOBAL POLITICS

Europe

The European Commission has, for the first time, told a member state of the Euro to review its budget. Italy's governing populist parties have vowed to deliver costly manifesto promises. Italy's co-deputy PM Salvini said "This doesn't change anything." That puts Italy, which has two weeks left to submit a reviewed budget, at loggerheads with the EU.

America

A 56-year-old man identified as Cesar Sayoc has been arrested and charged relating to a string of mail bombs. All the targets were vocal Trump Critics. Targets included, former President Obama and Clinton, Democrat donor Tom Steyer and a Democrat Senator. This incident comes just two weeks before the US midterms (see above).

Africa

Ethiopia's new president, Sahle-Work Zewde has become the only female head of state in the continent of Africa after assuming her new role on 25 October. The career diplomat, who has served as the United Nations Secretary General's Special Representative to the African Union, will be the President of Ethiopia for the next six years.

Asia

Afghanistan held its first Parliamentary elections in over eight years - with a dismal result. Fewer than a third of eligible voters registered and of them only half turned out to vote. The event was marred by bloody violence as over fifty people were killed in attacks by a resurgent Taliban, who had demanded that Afghans abstain from voting.

Over one million Muslims interned in China

Callum Tennant
POLITICS EDITOR

ROBERT BROWNING once wrote: "Ignorance is not innocence but sin." Unbeknown to most people, a Human Rights Committee has been told that there are reports of up to one million Uighur Muslims being held in internment camps in the autonomous region of Xinjiang, in Eastern China. Rising tensions between religious groups and Beijing have been reported for years but this would mark the most significant escalation in those tensions and would cement the theory that Beijing has decided to take a more hostile stance to religion within China – especially Islam. But who are the Uighur Muslims?

The Uighur people mostly practice Islam and speak a Turkic language; they eat different food to the rest of China and have significant cultural differences. A feeling of difference is heightened as the region rotates in and out of Chinese con-

The Uighur people and the religion of Islam in China appear to be under attack

trol. The Republic of East-Turkestan was declared as an independent state by the Uighurs in 1993. Just a year later the area was back under Chinese control. In 1944 this happened again, but five years later the region was reabsorbed by China, which was now under the control of the Chinese Communist Party.

The eastern border of the Xinjiang region is more than 1000km closer to Riyadh than it is to Beijing. In a region that is so different to the rest of China, in a country as vast as China, it is easy to see why some may not feel Chinese. It is this risk

of separation which has made relations between Beijing and Xinjiang's Uighur's population so frosty. If you search into Google: 'Xinjiang value to Beijing' it comes up with a Trip Advisor review of the Xinjiang Hotel in Beijing, the review sums up the issue Beijing faces with the Xinjiang region – "Good value but awkward location."

Xinjiang is one of the most resource rich regions of China. It is home to a fifth of Chinese oil deposits, it has the largest natural gas reserves and an estimated 40 per cent of the country's entire coal reserves. Because of this, the Chinese government has invested millions in the area to further industrialise and increase the rate at which these valuable resources can be extracted. Beijing can ill afford to let a separatist movement grow here and has responded with an iron fist, which the world has largely ignored until now. The Uighur people and the religion of Islam in China appear to be under attack, with people of the religion or ethnicity subject to a campaign of persecution. Despite being home to just 1.5 per cent of the Chinese population the area is where almost 20 per cent of Chinese arrests take place – that's not including the Muslim populations said to be housed in "transformation through education" centres.

For months, Chinese officials angrily denied that these camps even existed. However, following the UN hearing the script and tone



IMAGE: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

has changed. Completely changed. China is now fiercely defending its policy, saying that the people at these camps have been "infected with religious extremism" and that re-education is the only cure. But criticism and concerns are growing. There are reports of an excessive police state in the region, checkpoints on dozens of streets, the installation of cameras and even stories of Muslim minorities having their

passports recalled with travel restrictions.

Recent satellite images show

Reports of mental and physical violence - including torture - are widespread

that both new and existing camps have been rapidly expanded, some are suspected of being designed to hold thousands of Muslims with no charges against them - the largest being bigger than even the largest US prisons - some of the largest in the world. These camps are often surrounded with tall fences lined with barbed wire, interrupted by watch towers. Inside the classrooms, pictures show multiple cameras which watch the "students" as they work. Personal testaments say that activities include learning patriotic Chinese songs and writing

self-criticising essays, making this look like a state sponsored indoctrination scheme.

Reports of mental and physical violence – including torture – are widespread. In interviews by the Washington Post, men previously held at the camp describe how continued disobedience could lead to waterboarding, how the food was poor and the Muslim population of the camp were sometimes forced to eat pork – forbidden in Islam – and continued offenders were forced to drink alcohol – also forbidden. What was first described as a war on terror now appears to be a war on the very identity of not only the Uighur but also of any Chinese Muslims in the area.

A term being used to describe the situation by some is cultural genocide. AFP journalists who examined public documents from the agency in charge of the "re-education centres" found they have been making some alarming purchases, such as 550 electric cattle prods. This at the least raises questions about the legitimacy of Beijing's claims that it is merely trying to help people troubled by religious extremism.

At worst, China is guilty of crimes against humanity.



IMAGE: YUAN MUYE

the UK faces as we come close to a deal with the EU, or not. So, what is the difference between these two pillars at the heart of the European Project?

Both are tools of European integrated design used to further the goal of an "ever closer union" between the nation states of Europe. The European Union began as a free trade area; when Britain first joined it was called the European Economic Community (EEC). Free trade areas allow the free-flow of goods between the states inside the area. All tariffs for goods coming from inside the area are removed. This is where the Customs Union comes in.

The UK has been part of the Customs Union since it joined the project. It is the agreement between

states to apply the same penalties to goods coming from outside of the European Union. This is called the "common external tariff", which increases the prices for goods from outside the bloc, encouraging a preference for goods from inside of the European Union. Countries within the Customs Union apply the tariffs on behalf of the bloc once. Turkey is a member of the Customs Union but not a member of the Single Market. Norway, on the other hand, is a member of the Single Market but not the Customs Union.

Following in the footsteps of Norway and staying in the Single Market but not the Customs Union has been styled as the "Norway option". The Customs Union removes tariff barriers for goods between countries inside the bloc and applies

penalties to goods from outside the bloc, whereas the Single Market removes non-tariff barriers and allows the free movement of goods, but also capital services and labour. These are collectively known as the "four freedoms" of the European Union.

The removal of non-tariff barriers includes integrating professional standards and the harmonisation of regulations. All members of the Single Market must follow the same standards decided by the European Union. These are enforced by the European Court of Justice (ECJ). Failure to comply with regulations can result in nation states facing prosecution. It is these regulations that are often bemoaned by opponents of Britain's membership of the European Union. The "four

freedoms" are, however, where the immigration debate has arisen.

The free movement of people means that all citizens of member states of the Single Market are able to live and work in any of the other member states as a right of European Union citizenship. Supporters praise this as a liberating force, allowing people to prosper all over Europe. Others decry the loss of national sovereignty and border control, also criticising the strict controls on those from outside the Single Market which have followed in the UK as a result. Remaining in the Single Market would allow British citizens to retain the "four freedoms" but would leave Britain as a rule-taker of EU regulations, with no say in the legislative process which creates them.



NOUSE EXPLAINS

Customs Union & Single Market

THE CUSTOMS UNION and the Single Market are two of the major terms associated with the debate surrounding the United Kingdom's exit from the European Union. The terms are easily conflated, but are certainly not interchangeable. It is important to know what these two concepts mean as they are critical in understanding the choices

The rise of the cashless society: a threat to us all?

Joseph Silke
EDITOR

HOW MUCH CASH do you carry with you on a regular basis? Probably not a lot.

The United Kingdom is becoming a cashless society. Data shows that fewer of us are carrying notes and coins, opting instead to pay with cards and phones. In 2017 the percentage of transactions completed by debit card surpassed that of cash for the first time. The cashless revolution may herald benefits, especially for central banks, but there are also reasons to be deeply concerned. For consumers, it could prove to be a dangerous threat.

Human exchange began with bartering, involving the trade products or services for other products or services with no cash. This system evolved during the Neolithic era. Primitive banking emerged in ancient Mesopotamia and Egypt with valuable metals judged by weight, and the first standardised coinage emerged in Lydia in Asia Minor around 640BC. Paper money emerges in China in the 9th century. Sweden became the first European nation to use paper money in the 17th century.

The Bank of England was founded in 1694 as one of the world's first modern central banks. Central banks use reserves of precious metals like gold or silver to back up coins and paper money. The use of fiat money and free flowing currency, only tied precious metals but backed up by govern-

ment guarantee, developed from the 1970s. Widespread use of cards and later electronics began in the 1990s and has increased in prevalence until now. It is this latest development which has precipitated the decline of cash after over two millennia of dominance.

Britain is not ahead of the pack. Sweden is yet again ahead of the curve, tied with France. 59 per cent of Swedish and French transactions are now cashless, followed by 57 per cent of Canadian transactions and 52 per cent of British. The USA follows Britain with 45 per cent of transactions now completed without cash. Supermarket checkouts across the country are now lined with self-service machines and transport networks like the Transport for London have abolished cash payments altogether. Cashless transactions have become so prevalent now that it is not unheard of for homeless people to accept contactless over loose change.

Some are actively working towards the removal of cash. Across Sweden, many banks, restaurants,

cafes, and transport services refuse to accept cash transactions. The change hasn't gone unnoticed and many Swedes are alarmed. The move away from cash has particularly concerned the elderly. The Swedish National Pensioners' Organisation, representing 350 000 members, said: "As long as there is the right to use cash in Sweden, we think people should have the option to use it and be able to put money in the bank."

One of the main reasons people support the transition to a fully cashless economy is to reduce crime. Criminals rely on the anonymity of cash transactions to fuel their activities. The supposition is that the end of cash will cut off the supply of funds to criminal activities, especially drug trafficking, prostitution, and terrorism. In the wake of the November 2015 Paris terror attacks, the European Central Bank decided it would stop producing €500 notes, nicknamed the 'Bin Laden', due to its connection to terrorist activities. It is also true that not carrying cash means your money is more secure

on your person.

The other obvious benefit is that it is more convenient to pay without cash, which also spurs the economy by reducing transaction costs. It is much easier to tap your phone on a reader than fumble around with coins. This convenience, however, has been shown to lead to more reckless spending. A 2001 study out of MIT showed that electronic spending reduced the sense of loss for the spender, encouraging them to spend more.

The big fears are, firstly, an end to transaction privacy. Whilst it is true that criminals use cash to remain anonymous, most people still concern themselves with privacy surrounding some of what they buy. In a cashless society all transactions would be recorded, not just for your bank but also potentially for the state too. It is likely that the cashless society would be the big break that cryptocurrencies like Bitcoin are waiting for to make it into mainstream use. Consumers will turn to the decentralised online currencies to maintain their privacy from pry-

ing bankers.

The second big fear for consumers, but the big hope for central banks, is negative interest rates. The basic interest rate is set by the central bank and the rate is adjusted to either encourage spending or encourage saving. Whilst rates can currently be realistically set from zero per cent or higher, creating more incentive for saving as the rate of return increases, negative interest rates would penalise people for saving by charging them instead. This would be excellent for central banks but, with no way to withdraw money in without spending it, would be devastating for consumers.

There is also the risk of cyberattack, for individuals and for entire countries. A cashless society could leave the United Kingdom and other countries vulnerable to hostile action from rogue state actors like Russia, China, and North Korea, as well as non-state actors like terrorist groups. Such disruption could also be achieved by domestic problems such as militant trade unions holding the economy to ransom by threatening the energy grid, or by a simple power cut in a local area.

The cashless society seems like the logical next step in human trade. This next step is already becoming a reality as more and more people turn away from cash in favour of electronic transactions. There are reasons to believe that this can bring benefits to society, but there are also reasons to be deeply concerned. These concerns will need to be resolved before it is too late because, like it or not, the cashless society is just around the corner.



How deindustrialisation is changing in the East

Lauren Eagles
BUSINESS CORRESPONDENT

THE WAY COUNTRIES are deindustrialising has changed. This is because the economic climate of the world is very different to what it was when Britain deindustrialised in the 1970s. The old export-oriented growth model is no longer the norm, and some economists believe that some countries may be deindustrialising too early based on their economy.

Let's start at the beginning. Export-oriented growth is how we generally view the transition from a manufacturing industry to a tertiary, service filled industry. Manufacturing jobs grow to be a large proportion of the workforce, between 30 per cent to 40 per cent, making it easier for a country to export and bring money into the economy.

These manufacturing jobs breed corporate interest groups, which leads to high level of investment in the country. This investment goes towards infrastructure

and education of the workforce, which eventually causes an increase in wages, the emergence of a middle class, and economic growth. The country will shift to a service sector economy as it is no longer cheaper than other countries to manufac-

Developing countries are reaching peak employment in manufacturing prematurely

ture due to the increase in wages - this is deindustrialisation.

So, what's happening now? Economists, such as Dani Rodrik, are concerned with "premature deindustrialisation". This is when developing countries are reaching their peak employment in manufacturing much earlier than developed

nations did before they deindustrialised. There are a few theories as to why. The first is that there has been changes in supply chains, due to better transport, and shifts to lower productivity economies spreading manufacturing jobs thinly around the world and making it harder for individual countries to sustain high levels of employment in manufacturing. This is backed by the fact that global employment in manufacturing, as a proportion of GDP, has barely changed in the last 40 years.

Another theory is the increase in technology. There are more machines and automation in manufacturing than ever before. In fact, most of the robots in the world are in China, a low wage manufacturing economy. They replace the workers in industry, and therefore there are no longer incentives

for companies to invest in the infrastructure and educating people. These countries are deindustrialising when their workforce moves out of the

manufacturing sector.

Are these different types of deindustrialisation all bad? Can countries still grow if they deindustrialise early? Economic paths of the future may differ from those of the past, but they can still lead to growth. Take India as an example, they've been driving their economy with different forms of growth. They've had an increase in service sector growth by developing their call centres, effectively exporting services instead of goods. India have also invested within their own economy, creating trade between regions and driving internal growth.

The overall picture, then, is one of a changing landscape of deindustrialisation compared to the experience of the process here in Britain and the rest of the West. The East is doing things differently due to a number of factors and economists must develop new theories in response.



The secret ingredient is... nationalisation?

Elliot Kidney
BUSINESS CORRESPONDENT

THE PRIVATISATION of state-owned industries has always been a divisive political issue. Post-war Britain was dominated by the public sector. Economic policy was defined by a consensus between Conservatives and Labour, with nationalisation of the utilities at its heart. This was called the 'post-war consensus'; it also involved strong trade unions and a large welfare state. This remained in place from 1945 to 1979.

The period was famous for large state-run companies like British Telecom, BritishGas, and British Airways. The experimentation with popular nationalisation ended in the 1970s, in the midst of large scale industrial action and a three-day week, with the election of a radical new Conservative ministry. When the government, led by Margaret Thatcher, instigated a series of revolutionary supply-side reforms, many thought that the liberal economy had won the debate.

Despite this, if polling is anything to go by, support amongst the British public for renationalising water, energy and rail is as high as it's ever been. According to the Legatum Institute, renationalisation is

favoured by 83 per cent of the population for water, 77 per cent for electricity and 76 per cent for rail.

This support, however, is by no means universal across all industries. The nationalisation of airlines is only backed by 27 per cent, and car manufacturing by just 24 per cent. So why do water, energy and rail stand out in particular? The fact that these industries have

previously been under state management may be a factor, but primarily they are driven by increasing prices. In January of this year rail fares were 20 per cent higher in real terms than they were in January 1995.

There certainly seems to be a perception that renationalisation would help to lower costs for consumers. YouGov polling found that the two most common reasons for supporting rail nationalisation are a belief that the service would be more accountable to taxpayers and that rail fares would go down.

It probably is not a coincidence that the Labour Party promised to nationalise these three key industries in their last election manifesto, reversing the shift away from central planning under Tony Blair. Whilst we cannot say for certain whether this policy above others helped Labour to unexpectedly

increase their vote share, it certainly could not have damaged their electoral performance.

The 2017 election results reveal a massive generational gap in voting patterns. Labour captured the vote of 66 per cent of those aged between eighteen and nineteen, compared with just 19 per cent of over seventies. Interestingly, this generational divide is not replicated

at all in attitudes towards renationalisation.

The Legatum Institute's polling found that renationalising both water and gas is slightly more popular amongst over sixty-fives than it is for those aged eighteen to twenty-four. In fact, support remains consistently high across all age brackets. Even most Conservative voters now back renationalising water, energy and rail.

It may be worth questioning, however, whether every respondent who backed the public service over the private service in these questionnaires is genuinely ideologically wedded to renationalisation. It is perfectly conceivable that many people simply want a better train service, irrespec-

ability for such issues can be difficult, particularly when the different organisations involved are keen to blame each other or the responsibility for, say, a collision with an animal depends entirely on the animal involved.

The evidence shows that the British public are not happy with the status quo.

at all in attitudes towards renationalisation.

ability for such issues can be difficult, particularly when the different organisations involved are keen to blame each other or the responsibility for, say, a collision with an animal depends entirely on the animal involved.

The evidence shows that the British public are not happy with the status quo.



Sir Philip Green named in #MeToo

Pheobe Bendall
BUSINESS CORRESPONDENT

SIR PHILIP GREEN, the retail tycoon at the head of a vast empire of high street stores, is no stranger to public scandals. The high street tycoon is chairman of the Arcadia Group, which includes: Topshop, Topman, Evans, Burton, Miss Selfridge, Dorothy Perkins and Outfit.

His reputation was severely tarnished after he sold failing retailer BHS for £1 in March 2015. Following this went into administration, leaving a pension fund in deficit and many employees facing redundancy.

The financial uncertainty he inflicted on thousands of employees stood in stark contrast to Sir Philip's lavish lifestyle, lived out on luxurious yachts and private planes. He has been mired in further controversy for registering his businesses under the name of his wife, Tina who, as a resident of the tax haven Monaco, ensures that the billionaire avoids Her Majesty's Revenue and

Customs.

Sir Philip returned to the headlines last week, when he was named by Lord Hain in Parliament on the 26 October as the businessman who has been at the centre of a British #MeToo scandal. He faced allegations of both sexual harassment and racist abuse. Sir Philip defended himself saying: "There has obviously from time to time been some banter and a bit of humour, but as far as I'm concerned, there was never any intent to be offensive."

Lord Hain, a Labour peer, used parliamentary privilege which allows members to speak freely without fear of prosecution for defamation, to do what he considered his duty: "Given that the media have been subject to an injunction preventing publication of the full details of a story which is clearly in the public interest," he said. The revelation will only serve to further damage the public standing of a man who has already faced vitriol from much of the public.

When *The Telegraph* tried to report on this case, it was blocked from naming Sir Philip by a temporary injunction issued by the Court of Appeal on 23 October; this over-

turned an earlier ruling by the High Court that naming the businessman was in the public interest. It is alarming that our relatively free media could not report on a harassment case involving such a high-profile individual, at the helm of a company that employs over 20 000 people.

The #MeToo movement took off following the flood of allegations against Harvey Weinstein, prompting widespread investigation into his sexual misconduct and empowering victims of harassment to come forward. The allegations against him were silenced by payment of settlements which were granted to victims if they agreed to sign NDAs.

This is exactly how Sir Philip Green resolved the accusations of sexual and racial harassment against him: with the payment of substantial sums to former employees to sign NDAs. These agreements are typically used to protect matters of commercial confidentiality; in many instances, however, they are used by wealthy and powerful individuals to cover up possible wrongdoings.

Labour MP Jess Phillips commented last week in Parliament

that: "It seems our laws allow rich and powerful men to do what they want as long as they pay to keep it quiet." Theresa May responded that the government would tighten up on the unethical use of NDAs.

Lord Hain has come under fire for naming Sir Philip, with former Attorney General Dominic Grieve labelling him "arrogant" for intervening in the judicial process. The potential for NDAs to facilitate abuses of power lends support to Lord Hain's use of parliamentary privilege to do what our media was not allowed to do. Only by allowing Sir Philip's name to enter the public domain might others to come forward with information. This ancient right can act as an effective check against the power of wealthy individuals to avoid public accountability and thus persist in unacceptable behaviour.

This allegation against Sir Philip is the biggest development in the #MeToo scandal to take place within the world of British business. The naming of the business magnate is likely to have ramifications in offices across the country as women continue to empower themselves within the world of work.

WEEK IN NUMBERS

Digest of the week's most important figures.

£3.8 bn

The wealth of Sir Philip Green, named by Lord Hain (below) as the man *The Telegraph* were gagged from naming



5%

Percentage of pension salary contributions workers have to pay from April, up from 3 per cent

£1.5 bn

The reported boost for small high street retailers in this week's budget



2500

The number of workers Asda may lay off in staffing restructure

1.2%

The slump of the Dow Jones amid last Friday's global markets sell off



7%

Plunge of Saudi Arbaia's stock markets following Jamal Khashoggi's murder

Poaching is driving vulnerable species to the brink

Jay Dyer
SCIENCE EDITOR

AFRICA IS STILL in the midst of a poaching crisis, especially in the case of the African Savannah Elephant (*Loxodonta africana*) and Southern White Rhino (*Ceratotherium simum simum*). Although from 2001 to 2007 poaching levels were extremely low (in some cases less than seven rhinos poached a year), both elephant and rhino poaching rose dangerously high in 2008 to 1215 rhinos in 2014, and are still high this year at nearly 1100. The elephants fare no better as the U.N. reported that every day 100 elephants are being killed by poachers in Africa. In 1969 there were estimated 1.3 million Savannah elephants alive in Africa. Today there might be less than 400 000, (with around 20 000 African elephants being killed by poachers each year).

Rhinos and elephants are poached for their horns and tusks respectively. Although the international trade of ivory was banned in 1989 by many countries, recent years have shown the demand rise on the black market once more. Rhino horns and elephant ivory have two main uses: traditional use in Chinese medicine, and ornamental use (such as the use of rhino horns for making ornately carved handles for ceremonial daggers). However, as both rhino horn and

ivory are becoming more rare, they are quickly becoming status symbols, both in the sense of individuals being able to afford the contraband, and being influential enough to not have it confiscated by authorities.

Nowadays, fewer rhinos than elephants are being killed. Up until August this year, 506 rhinos were poached in South Africa alone, which is nearly 200 fewer than last year. At the same time, incursions into the national parks where these rhinos dwell increased to over 1850, from 1700 last year.

However, these statistics are not positive. If poaching raids in Africa are more frequent and the amount of successful kills are becoming rarer, the truth is just that there are fewer rhinos left to hunt. This means poachers have started turning towards the African Elephant.

Poaching is not the only threat to these magnificent megafauna. The cost of keeping rhino on privately-owned land has significantly increased over the last few years of the poaching epidemic, as the animals require a lot of protection. This means a lot of private owners are selling the animals. Civil war and habitat loss are also issues for both these animals which require large areas of land to roam in. Elephants are in particular danger of conflicting with human settlements, as they are very strong and can be very destructive, uprooting water pipes, destroying livestock fences and damaging buildings.

Elephants are huge mammals with long lifespans, and therefore take a long time to develop. African elephants stay in a baby stage, still feeding off the milk from their mothers, until reaching up to ten years of age. The adolescent age lasts until they have reached around 17 years of age, where they reach sexual maturity, but do not begin to mate until they are at least 20 years-old. The gestation period of an African Elephant is almost two years - 22 months. Herein lies the problem. This, along with the long growth period, means that elephant populations replenish very slowly. In addition, it is usually the larger females that are shot for ivory, as they have the largest tusks. This can be devastating to herds, as elephants are matriarchal, with the largest female often leading the group. With her killed, herds often

become fractured and even more destructive, causing increasing conflict with human settlements. And that's not the only human conflict. As these animals come closer to extinction, poachers are coming into ever increasing con-

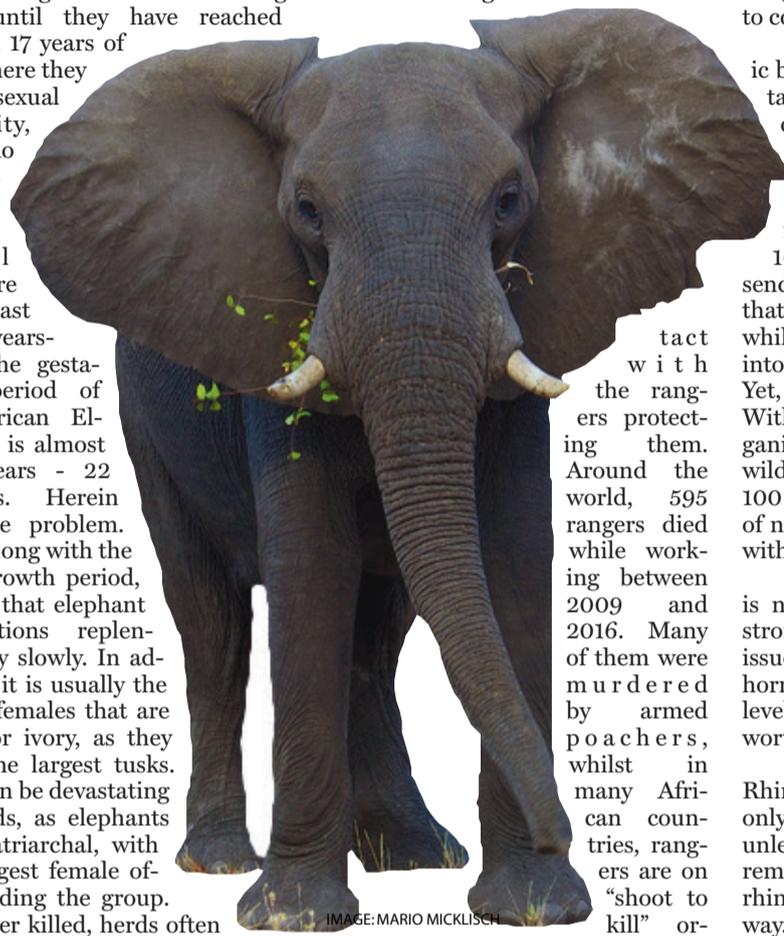


IMAGE: MARIO MICKLISCH

ders when dealing with poachers. Operations such as the Akashinga, a group of all female, militaristic, rangers in Zimbabwe are trained and armed to military standards. Even with admirable groups like this, the problem of poaching seems to continue unabated.

As poaching increases, the topic becomes more and more important to governments and agencies worldwide. Lots of African governments have thousands of tons of confiscated ivory in storage. In 2016, Kenyan president Uhuru Kenyatta set ablaze 105 tonnes of ivory in a pyre to send a clear statement to the world that the ivory trade was condemned, whilst Botswana turned some ivory into artwork as educational tools. Yet, just last month, Elephants Without Borders, a charitable organization dedicated to conserving wildlife, reportedly found almost 100 elephant carcasses in an area of national park in Botswana, most with tusks removed.

Poaching is a problem that is not going away unless there is strong international response to the issue. Trade of both ivory and rhino horn must be condemned at every level, making the ownership of ivory worthless, and not a status symbol.

Already, the Northern White Rhino is functionally extinct with only two surviving females and, unless action is taken quickly, the remaining species of elephant and rhino in Africa may go the same way.

Why you shouldn't buy a lionfish apparently

Alecc Bubertry
SCIENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE RED LIONFISH, *Pterois volitans*, has a striped complexion, feather-like pectoral and dorsal fins, making them a majestic addition to any marine aquarium. Packed full of personality, and with an explosive jaw, makes feedint times interesting. However, their venomous spines and tank-busting size (adults can reach around 50cm in length) mean these fish can prove tricky for even the most experienced aquarist. And in that lies the issue.

Many people have bought these fish thinking they could manage *P. volitans*' size and feeding requirements (they prove stubborn when accepting any food that isn't live), only to discover that they are too much to handle. Thinking there is no other option, some thoughtless hobbyists have released their fish into the water. This has led to *P. volitans* becoming a highly invasive species in the Caribbean. With no natural predators, the population has boomed to an unprecedented level. Living up to the concept that

if a fish can fit in its mouth, it's going to eat it, this alien has decimated local populations on the reefs. *P. volitans* are capable of eating fish much larger than that mouth appears. When a prey fish comes near the mouth of this predator, the Lionfish is able to extend its jaw a considerable amount and engulf the unsuspecting victim whole. Because of this, biodiversity on the reefs has declined greatly. It truly is a force to be reckoned with. Or so was thought for a long while.

There have been attempts to reduce the population of these predatory fish over the years. Some divers took to the water armed with spear guns, targeting these fish and collecting large quantities of them in small nets. However, this didn't make a dint in the overall number. It seemed that this invasion was going to continue.

Then came a spark of ingenuity. If these fish had no natural predators, could we not make one? I don't mean by playing God to create a whole new species in a lab, I mean training the other carnivorous species on the reef to eat the Lionfish. The Caribbean reefs are teeming with other, larger predators who, with some effort, could be trained

to add something alien to their diet. *P. volitans* shares the waters with species of sharks; such as the Caribbean Reef Shark, *Carcharhinus perezi*; the Nurse Shark, *Ginglymostoma cirratum*; and Tiger Sharks, *Galeocerdo cuvier*, just to name a few. Along with these, there are many species of Moray Eels, such as the Green Moray Eel (*Gymnothorax funebris*) and the Spotted Moray Eel (*G. moringa*). If all the other predators on the reef could

be taught to predate upon *P. volitans*, then this could go a long way to reducing the number. And that is exactly what some people are trying to do.

Once again armed with spear guns, divers have taken to the water. This time they aren't removing the corpses. They are keeping them in the water and enticing predators to come and take a bite. This new method of control is proving promising. Videos have surfaced online

showing different species of sharks and eels being fed Lionfish. If this behavioural adjustment is successful, then we could see a significant decrease in the numbers of *P. volitans* on Caribbean reefs. If this happens, then other species of reef fish can replenish their populations, creating a healthy and thriving reef once more.

The moral is: don't dump a fish in your nearest water. Better yet, don't buy it in the first place.



IMAGE: PIXABAY

Are we watching the same game? Science says yes!

Chay Quinn
DEPUTY EDITOR

A UNIVERSITY OF YORK study has found that supporters of the same football team engage their brains in similar ways whilst watching matches. There are also notable differences in the way that rival teams use their brains when watching a match.

The partisanship of football fans is a well-worn trope of the beautiful game. Liverpool's petition to have the 2018 Champions League final replayed because of a 50/50 challenge between Mo Salah and Sergio Ramos to see this. The study supports the idea that two sets of fans can watch the same match, but experience it in different ways. This often culminates in a different perception about the fairness of decisions in the match or of the quality of a team's performance.

The phenomenon can be summed up with a classic retort to any piece of sporting analysis: "are we watching the same game?!"

The study mapped the brain activity of a set of Manchester

United and Chelsea fans using an MRI whilst they watched a match between the two sides. They concluded that despite the old adage about not "seeing the same game", the regions of the brain involved in sight showed similar activity in both sets of supporters with no discrepancy between the two groups in this

regard.

But, as Professor Tim Andrews from the Department of Psychology puts it, "in the frontal and subcortical regions of the brain – including areas known to be active in reward, self-identity and control of movement – there was a correlation between supporters of the same team,

but significant differences between the groups. This is what allows fans of rival teams to develop a different understanding of the same game."

The nucleus accumbens, an area that is important to the brain's reward system, was a particular area of difference between the two sets of supporters. The team behind

this suggests that the link between group bias and reward may explain the ease and rapidity with which humans form groups and favour in-group members.

In a press release about the study, Professor Andrews stated: "The results of our study offer new insight into the neural basis for group bias and the human tendency to feel comfort and reassurance when part of a group, alongside distrust of outsiders and rivals."

The psychology professor then added: "The regions of the brain that showed the biggest differences between the groups of supporters – the subcortical regions positioned in the middle of the brain – are believed to have been conserved during evolution – this supports the idea that group mentality may reflect one of the more primitive human instincts".

Ultimately, it remains to be seen as to whether this will influence football fans to check their own bias. One imagines that the terraces of Old Trafford will not be musing on their own brain chemistry the next time Manchester United play, but who knows? All I can say is "group bias" will be very hard to fit into a chant.



IMAGE: ALEKSANDR OSIPOV

Microplastics: are they as bad as we feared?

Oscar Bentley
SENIOR CORRESPONDENT

MICROPLASTICS MAKE the news regularly – just last week they made headlines when it was discovered that they are in 90 per cent of table salt, and made the front page of last Tuesday's (23 October) Daily Mail when a study discovered that they had recently been found for the first time in human faeces. Most news stories, and the prevailing ideology around microplastics decries them as harmful, entering and destroying the food chain and the marine environment. While polluting nature with a man-made material is never ideal, a new study by the University of York has concluded that there is no evidence that microplastics are harmful, and that microplastics most commonly come from products you might not expect.

Let's start at the beginning. Microplastics are small pieces of plastic, less than five millimetres in length. The majority of microplastics are secondary, where a larger piece of plastic has degraded in the environment into much smaller (micro) pieces. Most of the research into microplastics so far however has centred on primary microplastics, or pieces of plastic which were designed to be that big in the first place, most predominantly found in cosmetics.

The study, co-written by Alistair

Boxall, Professor of Environmental Science at the University's Department of Environment and Geography, was a major literature review of 320 research papers into microplastics and their effects.

Sitting down with *Nouse*, Professor Boxall explained that from reviewing all these papers, it was overwhelmingly clear that the impact of microplastics on the environment is, well, unclear. However, while there is no conclusive evidence that microplastics cause harm to either the environment or to humans, there's also no counter evidence that they don't cause harm – it could always be discovered that they do in a future study. So, as a compromise, Professor Boxall suggested remov-

ing microplastics from everyday products and that consumers avoid products that contain microplastics, but not to the extent where a focus is directed away from other, much more environmentally threatening pollutants.

As aforementioned, most of the research into microplastics so far has centred on primary microplastics, such as microbeads found in cosmetics, but microbeads only account for three per cent of the microplastics found in the environment. There's also been a high focus on polystyrene, however it is also only responsible for five per cent of the microplastics in the environment. Microfibres are responsible for the majority of microplas-

tics found in the environment; a study in Denmark included in this review showed 0.9 per cent of microplastic emission to the aquatic environment coming from primary microplastics, while 60 per cent of the total was expected to come from microfibrils from tyre dust.

Lab experiments have also so far focused on extreme conditions, such as those found in Waste Water Treatment Plants (WWTPs), which are a major contributor of microplastics to the environment, rather than the more mild conditions typically found in the environment, and have also focused on larger pieces of microplastic, instead of typical pieces which are many gradations smaller.

So, what needs to happen? Well, more research needs doing. The research needs to focus on those microplastics found in the environment – secondary microplastics; microfibres – to find out whether they do pose any form of threat. Knowledge gaps need plugging, and while Professor Boxall doesn't see a problem in legislating against microbeads, as was done in January when the government banned the manufacture of cosmetics with microbeads, he's worried about the precedent set by legislating on what he describes as "bad science".

He's also worried that negative press against microplastics may do harm in the long run. Products such as acrylic clothing provide a societal good, and can be more durable and in cases environmentally friendly than alternatives. There's a cost/benefit analysis that may need to be considered, and, bar redesigning every washing machine in the world, there's little that can be done to prevent the emission of these microfibres, and boycotting them would have little affect on the concentration of microplastics in the environment.

Would environmentalist efforts be better focused on reducing other pollutants scientifically proven to genuinely have an adverse impact on the environment, such as toxic chemicals from pharmaceuticals, or agricultural fertilisers, which cause eutrophication of the water systems – rather than focusing on the "red herring" of microplastics?



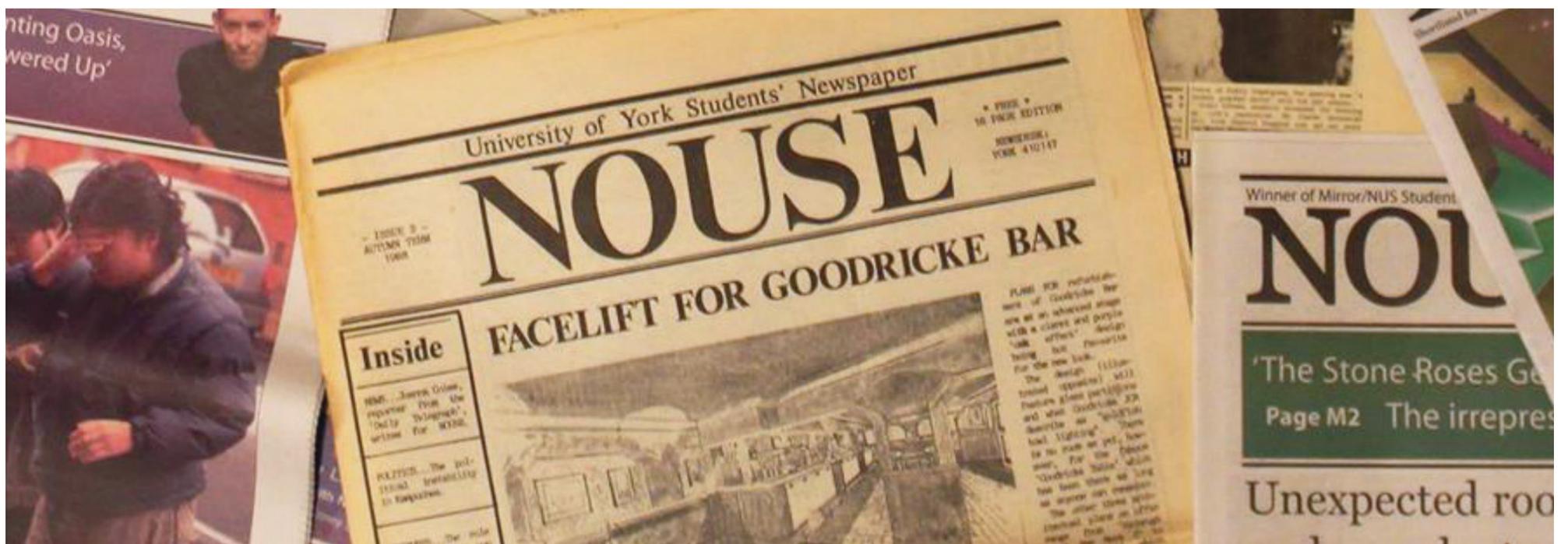
IMAGE: DOLOVIS

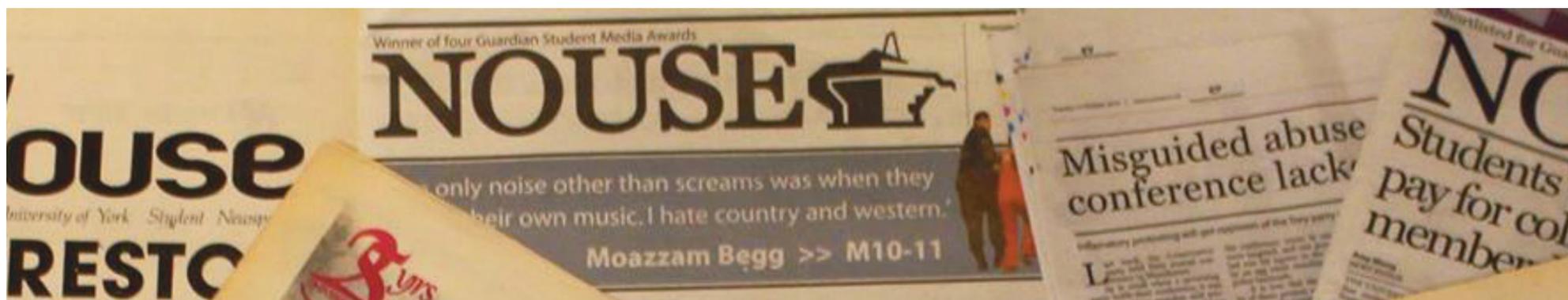


Join Nouse

Come down to P/L/001 on Thursday 08 November at 6:30PM with a one minute speech and join York's best media society!

Sub-Editor x2
Technical Director
Deputy Sport Editor x2
Business and Finance Editor
Deputy Business and Finance Editor x2
Deputy Science Editor x2
Food & Drink Editor x2
Online Editor x2
Video Editor x2
Illustration Editor x2





Advertise with Nouse

Nouse is the oldest society at the University of York. We distribute print copies of our newspaper across campus to hundreds of students per edition,

and can be found everywhere from D-Bar to the 66 bus. If your business is looking to reach out to the heart of its demographic, or perhaps find a new

one, look no further. Our price ranges fit budgets large and small, and loyalty is rewarded. For all requests and queries, email editor@nouse.co.uk.



NOUSE TRIES... Aerobics

George Cook learns that Aerobics isn't actually all that easy...



George Cook
SPORT EDITOR

MY FIRST TRIP as a Sport Editor saw me visit the Aerobics Club for this edition's *Nouse Tries...* I've seen Aerobics classes going on at the gym as I've wandered past and always thought it looked pretty easy. Loud music, a chance to practice your dance moves and a bit of clapping here and there. There's no way this was going to be hard.

The warm-up lasted ten or so minutes, with some gentle marching on the spot and a lovely stretching routine. By the end of this, I was feeling really fresh, and felt convinced I'd ace the rest of the session. After a quick water break, I assumed we'd then move into some star jumps, maybe a few burpies to slightly push ourselves. How utterly wrong I turned out to be.

We began the main part of the workout with a squatting-like exercise, which immediately made me realise this was not going to be easy. Besides being the only boy there, my complete inability to do this simple task made me stand out even more. As if this wasn't embarrassing enough, my sheer lack of coordination was highlighted to me soon after. Attempting to perform the moves in time with the rest of the group without falling flat on my face made it apparent this would be just as much of a mental challenge as a physical one. Non-stop high knees, endless leg raises, side-to-side moves while doing God knows what with my arms - it was a long ten minutes before we had another break.

After a few minutes defending my appalling effort so far and admitting that this was actually a lot more difficult than I envisaged, we were back at it again. Most of the exercises we did in the first section would feature, again, much to my

disappointment. I'd like to think I got gradually better (or less awful) as the session went on, although I'm sure anyone who participated around me would offer a strong opposing argument. Some new exercises did emerge, like the body rotations and arm thrusts, which I simply couldn't keep up with. I decided I'd settle for doing half the exercise, whether that be the legs or the arms, as it was beginning to be a bit of an information overload.

After bopping along to the music and doing my very best for 35 or minutes so, the workout was eventually over. We were told to each get a mat out: so naturally I assumed we'd have a relaxing stretch for the remainder of the time to loosen off any tension we'd developed over the session. Unfortunately, this wasn't the case, and an added floor workout soon began. If there was a part of the session where I wasn't the worst person in the room, potentially it was the sit-ups and press-ups I just about managed, but the stretching afterwards I certainly did not. I think it will be a long time before I can drop straight down and do the splits, which is probably a good thing. With that, my one-hour session was over, although most of the class had already done

an hours HIIT workout before.

I left the James Hall in pieces, which was more than deserved considering my utter naivety coming into this. Aerobics is definitely not something to be mocked. There are very few times where I've finished a sporting activity and ached in pretty much every part of my body. This was one of those times. The class was run by Adam Hexley, a fourth-year studying French and German student at York. His enthusiasm for aerobics was clear to see, and was clearly contagious in all of the other participants. What was so interesting was that Adam and I were the only men there. In a time where guys are so passionate and keen on fitness, it really seems odd that none of us choose to attend Aerobics.

Next Friday, the Aerobics Club are hosting a 'Bring a Boy' event, to try and encourage more of us to get involved with the sport. On top of this, some of the money raised will be going towards mental health charities, providing a nucleus of a solid evenings' workout.

Society President Lucy Waldren was kind enough to allow me to attend the session for free, but attendees certainly get their money's worth. Membership is just £7, and sessions cost a staggeringly cheap £1! For non-members, the price is £2.50 per session. It's fantastic to see the drive Lucy and her team have for expanding the Aerobics society: a fantastic workout in a room of friendly people, for an incredibly cheap price. Aerobics is definitely something I'd recommend attending - and you might even see me there because I'm definitely going back.

To get involved with Aerobics yourself, email them at aerobics@yusu.org



EDITOR'S COMMENT

Patrick Hook-Willers
SPORT EDITOR



IN MY FIRST EVER Editor's comment, I feel it's only right that I introduce myself. My entire life essentially revolves around sport, so taking on the responsibility of one of the best Sport sections in the country (we were nominated for an award, don't you know?) is a pleasure.

I support Tottenham Hotspur Football Club with every fibre of my being. I love a round of golf and have appeared on the pitch with the England national team more times than serial loser and West Ham captain Mark Noble ever has or ever will. I'm also very partial to Snooker, so next month is going to be a fucking whirlwind for me when the UK Championship tournament rolls into York for the eighth year in a row.

For this month though, it's a whirlwind for you, our beloved readers, with quality content for you to pretend to read, if you're even reading this.

To start with, over to the left

we have my new editorial partner, George Cook, taking on the first *Nouse Tries...* of his career, where he demonstrates a terrible lack of flexibility trying out aerobics.

My oldest and dearest friend, Will Pearson, gives the lowdown on the Men's 1s Lacrosse team down below, while Alex Woodward and George discuss Julen Lopetegui's terrible tenure at Real Madrid, along with the Tour de France's controversial route announcement over to the right.

Overleaf, I report on York Football 1s poor run of results, which continued with a heavy defeat and a disappointing cup exit. George reports on his monumental afternoon watching the University Badminton teams face off against Durham, as well as the Men's Volleyball side sweeping away Sheffield Hallam.

I hope you enjoy this first full edition of this new, depleted Sport team. If you have any interest in writing a comment piece about anything Sport related: reporting on a match, or even becoming a Deputy Sport Editor, drop us an email at sport@nouse.co.uk, we'd love to have you on board (and hopefully you can do *Nouse Tries...* MMA)

Nouse love,
Pat

TEAMMATES

Nouse talks to Men's Lacrosse star Will Pearson

Name: Will Pearson

Position: Midfielder
Course: Archaeology
Year: 3

Biggest Rig: Ross McDonald - if he's not ripping bins at terrified goalies, you'll certainly find him in the gym sacrificing himself to the bod God.

Fastest Player: Joseph Lansbury - Blink and you'll miss him. I heard he could run the 100m in eights back in his prime, but am yet to see it. Come on Joe, give us what we want.

Most Dedicated: James Claytor - every week he literally takes a battering in goal, using any part of his body to stop those balls.

Biggest Lightweight: Jamie Holmes - get a pint or two in this man and he loses all morals, transforming into a glorious hurricane of debauchery.

Best Motivator: Alex Harrison - never in my life have I heard a speech more stirring than one from this guy. A true bastion of love and support.

Biggest Flirt: Oli Blake-Najid - this housemate will literally flirt with anything that breathes or drinks gin.

Star Man: Mack Craighead - when he made his way over from the Atlantic, it was like the second coming of Christ. He is an icon.



IMAGE: UYLC

Lopetegoing? What's been happening at Real Madrid?

Zidane stepped down and Ronaldo bailed out but could Julen Lopetegui soon be forced out of the door?

Alex Woodward
SPORT CORRESPONDENT

JULEN LOPETEGUI IS on the verge of being fired by Real Madrid just 4 months into his tenure. The former Spain head coach has seen his club go a club-record 481 minutes without scoring a goal and drop to seventh in the league table. So why is a manager that was just hired in June looking this unstable in his job?

The issues for Real Madrid started right after the Champions League final win over Liverpool. Straight after their third European title, Ronaldo and Bale both stated that they were ready to leave the Bernabeu before the new season started. Both were beaten to the punch by Zinedine Zidane, who stepped down as head coach just five days after winning the Champions League.

This was odd to see, as he is the first head coach since current President Florentino Perez took over to then completely dictate his own exit from the club. During his final press conference as manager, Zidane said: "I want to win and if I don't see clearly that we're going to keep on winning, then it is best to change and not do anything stupid". This

was a small sign of what he thought was coming up for Los Blancos.

The next step for Real Madrid was hiring a new manager, something that they felt had to be done quickly. The main candidate to be reported at the time was Spurs manager, Mauricio Pochettino, however, it became obvious very quickly that this was never going to happen. There were similar reasons for removing other names from the list: Jurgen Klopp was not for sale, Antonio Conte's messy situation at Chelsea made a deal impossible, while Juventus boss, Massimo Allegri, told Madrid that he had no

18

The number of managers Real Madrid have had in the last twenty years

interest in leaving his very stable job with the hottest seat of all in Real Madrid, especially with the players that could be potentially leaving.

They finally came to Julen Lopetegui, the Spanish national team manager, who was relatively low down on the list of managerial replacements. Lopetegui was preparing to lead the Spanish national team into a World Cup, in which they stood a reasonable chance of

winning. However, the temptation of managing the club he had spent six years with as a player was just too much. Two days before the World Cup, he accepted the job, hoping to take over after the World Cup had finished. This was not acceptable for the Spanish Football Federation, who sacked him one day later, on the eve of the World Cup. He had lost his chance.

It didn't take long for pre-season to get off to a negative start at the Bernabeu. 18 days into the reign of Lopetegui, team lynchpin Cristiano Ronaldo announced his €100 million move to Juventus. It had been clear over the past few seasons that Ronaldo had been the central figure for Real, replacing him was going to be tough.

The signings of Mariano and Vinicius, as good as they were, could not be a like-for-like replacement. The second issue that was

raised a week before the season occurred with the signing of Courtois from Chelsea. This meant that

Lopetegui had to decide between the new goalkeeper and Keylor Navas - a goalkeeper who had won three Champions Leagues with the club, and was very popular within the dressing room - and the fans for the starting place. No answer would be the right one.

The big issue head coaches face when joining Real Madrid is that the board doesn't give them their confidence from the get-go. It must be earned. This was something Lopetegui couldn't achieve after losing 4-2 to rivals Atletico in the Super Cup. Real Madrid's first loss in 10 European finals.

Despite getting 13 points in five games in La Liga to go through with a convincing 3-0 win over Roma in the Champions League; this wasn't enough to get the confidence of the board. The poor run of form has only confirmed to the board that Lopetegui is not the right man for the job.

It has been reported that the board have already decided Lopetegui will go. After Sunday's huge defeat by Barcelona, Lopetegui's job is far from safe.

Lopetegui was sacked on Sunday night, after the lay-up of this article.

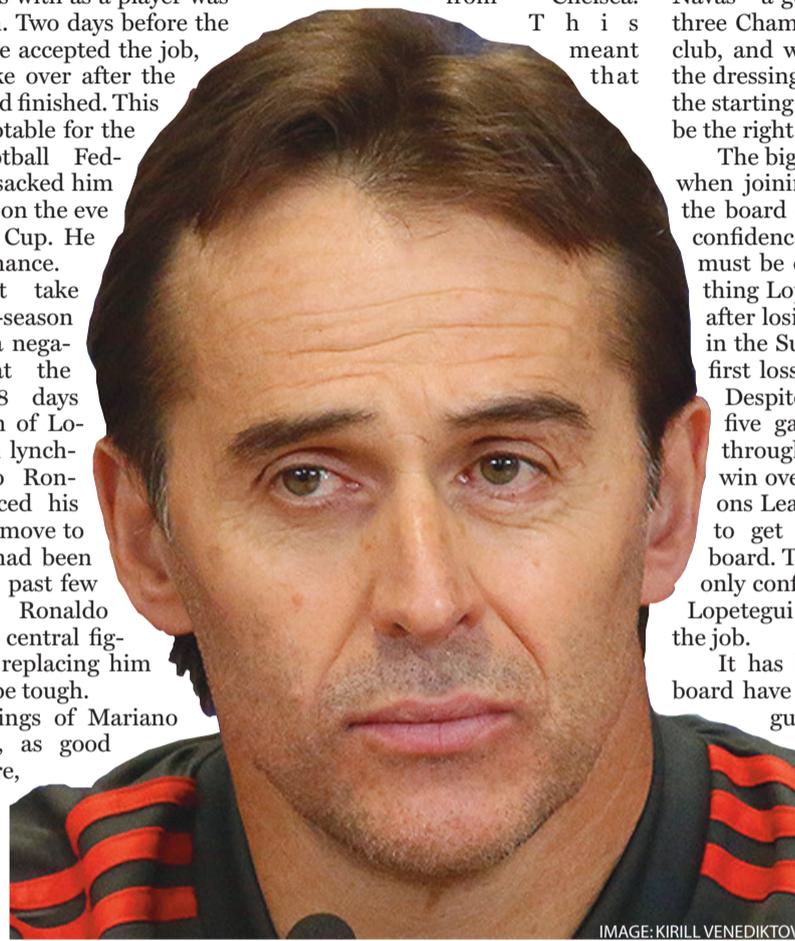


IMAGE: KIRILL VENEDIKTOV

Team Sky confident of victory after route reveal

Tour de France announces 2019 route which features Europe's highest road, as Sky seek defence of 2018 title

George Cook
SPORT EDITOR

THURSDAY 25 OCTOBER saw the announcement of the 2019 Tour de France's route at a ceremony in Paris. Brussels will host the 'grande depart' on 6 July, to commemorate the 50th anniversary of cycling legend Eddy Merckx's first Tour win. Bradley Wiggins won the overall Tour when Belgium last hosted the opening stages in 2012. 2019's route will be "the highest in the history", featuring a staggering 30 categorised climbs. The Col d'Iseron, which is Europe's highest paved road at 2,770m, returns after a 12-year absence.

Although recent tours have seen more of the most difficult climbs (hors categorie), this year's tour features significantly more Category Two climbs. These aren't as steep, but the sheer volume of them will still provide ample opportunities for attacks to be made by the GC (Grand Classification) contenders.

Team Sky appear spoilt for choice over who they select as their preferred target for victory next

summer. Geraint Thomas won in 2018, despite Chris Froome being the overwhelming favourite at the beginning of the race. Froome seemed excited about the prospect of getting himself focused: "It's a race I'm really looking forward to preparing for now." Team Sky have made it their business to completely control the peloton, and with such a large amount of climbing in next year's edition, they'll hope to do the same again. Given how strong their team is and how they base it entirely around winning, it's hard not to consider them as favourites.

Tom Dumoulin, last year's runner-up, was not as pleased with the announcement. He issued a statement: "More time trial kilometres would have been good for me, this course is not ideal." It's not a given that Dumoulin would take time out of his rivals if there was more time-trialling though, as he beat Froome by just one second on a 31kilo-meter route last year.

One man who will be relishing in next year's race is Colombian Nairo Quintana. The Movistar rider has performed below his potential in recent years, but Thursday's announcement doesn't suit anyone better than him. With an array of



IMAGE: FILIP BOSSUYT

long climbs, it allows him to get into a rhythm, where he can be dangerous. The Colombian showed flashes of his past form on Stage 17 last year, powering away to win by 30 seconds.

Other notable riders who Sky will be weary of include French favourite Romain Bardet, who is also a fantastic climber when he is at the top of his game. However, Bardet and 2014 Italian winner Vincenzo Nibali will perhaps be disappointed

with the lack of strategic descending opportunities. The two are up there as some of the best descenders on the circuit, but there are a few notable descents towards the end of stages where they may be able to punish the other GC riders. Britain and Mitchelton-Scott rider Simon Yates was victorious at the Vuelta a Espana in September, so will be full of confidence going into the 2019 season. He is certainly not one to be disregarded next July, nor

are the Lotto-NL Jumbo riders Primož Roglič and Steven Kruijswijk, or BMC's Richie Porte and Ireland's Dan Martin.

The 2019 route includes Europe's highest road, the Col d'Iseron, the Col d'Izard, and the infamous Col du Galibier. Stage six finishes at 'La Planche des Belles Filles', synonymous for some standout Tour moments over the last ten years. Chris Froome won the stage here in 2012, when he finished runner up overall to Bradley Wiggins. He was beaten here in 2017 by Fabio Aru, although Froome did take the overall Yellow Jersey that year. Vincenzo Nibali won here in 2014 when he wore yellow for most of the journey to the Champs Elyse's. What's different this year is that the finish line will be a further kilometre up the road, adding just that little bit more climbing. Whoever has ended the day in the overall lead when the Tour has visited this finish has gone on to win the Yellow Jersey.

The 2019 race will be underway on the 6 July in Belgium and has the usual iconic 21 stages. With so many top riders set to battle it out for the Yellow Jersey, excitement is already building for cycling and one of sport's greatest races.

Men's 1s Football crash straight out

York's 1s outclassed and outfought by East Yorkshire counterparts Hull 2s in 0-5 Cup defeat

Patrick Hook-Willers
SPORT EDITOR

BUCS WEDNESDAY LAST week brought with it a Yorkshire Derby between York Men's Football 1s and Hull 2s in a big cup match. It took only a couple of minutes for the game to have its first meaningful action, a scramble in the York penalty area, which left a York defender floored after taking a shot to the head, a move which ended with a Hull cross from deep being headed narrowly over. York struggled early on to create any chances of note, taking pot-shots from range as they tried to get some sighters away to build some pressure on the opposition defenders.

Despite York's long-range attempts, it was Hull who were on top in the early stages, claiming three corners and striking the crossbar from one of them, the closest either side had come at that point. The goal scare rattled York, who resorted to playing it long in an attempt to bypass the resolute Hull back line, and as a result struggled to keep a hold of possession. After eighteen minutes, York worked their best chance of the half, a shot inside the area being sliced well over the

bar. This was the best testament of York finally finding their feet in the match, settling down and preparing to build a platform to push on in the game.

After twenty-five minutes their platform was shattered when Hull took the lead through a sublime twisting volley from the Hull forward, who struck the ball across goal from over his shoulder following a rebound off the crossbar, finding the bottom left corner of the net sweetly. The dynamic of the half didn't shift once the goal had gone in, Hull remained on top and York resorted back to long balls and long shots once again, as this spurned several opportunities to break on the counter, due to the long style of play. The first half ended with the hosts 1-0 down, still with hope of going through.

6

The number of games York Men's 1s have gone without a win, running back to February

Any hope that York would come flying out of the blocks, after the break, was dashed when Hull swept in a second from the edge of the box, a goal which York responded to well, putting pressure on Hull for a brief



IMAGE: LUKE SNELL

spell, temporarily turning the game into a midfield battle of attrition. Hull had a good chance of putting the game beyond York, were it not for a big double save from the York goalkeeper, the only thing keeping home hopes of advancing to the next round intact.

The keeper couldn't be the hero for all occasions, Hull scoring a third in spite of his efforts when a save parried into the path of an onrushing Hull attacker, who dutifully tapped in to put Hull 3-0 up. It was only once that goal had gone in that York released their shackles and began to play, but the absence of clinical edge kept showing, hav-

ing an effort saved and the lobbed rebound being cleared off the line, the closest York came to scoring.

Although York rallied to find some late rhythm and were the better side in the latter stages, it proved to be too little, too late. Hull added two more goals late on, including a spectacular Di Canio-esque scissor kick volley seconds before the final whistle, the pick of the bunch. As the final whistle went, so did York's place in the cup. Next is a trip to Newcastle tomorrow.

They sit 6th, the only team below York in the Northern 2B League, so a win is absolutely vital for the York side.

Mixed emotions for Badminton sides

Men progress in cup with convincing win but women struggle against strong Durham side

George Cook
SPORT EDITOR

LAST WEDNESDAY YORK'S Badminton teams took on Durham in YUSU's dedicated "One to Watch" fixture for Week five.

The Men's 1st team faced Durham's 2nd's in the cup, whilst the Women's 1st team also faced the Durham 2nd's in the league. The game had some added excitement and pressure, with YSTV live streaming the night's proceedings. The men came into this game in good form, having beaten Newcastle at home on 17 October and earned a good point away to Leeds the week before.

They began very well in this fixture, taking both opening doubles matches with relative ease. James Southwell and Jai Chandarana played some lovely dropshots, at times really humiliating their Durham opponents. The first round of singles matches came next, with the hosts and Durham taking a game each. This put York in a brilliant position, as Durham would have to win all the remaining

four matches to progress through to the next round. The second section of doubles matches were even more exciting, especially the game on Court A. York and Durham had each taken one match each, so it went to a deciding game. The two teams pursued each other back and forth, swapping the lead seemingly every three points. But it was York who would eventually prevail, taking it by 28 points to 26, courtesy of an excellent Giles Hepworth shot. Those commentating for the YSTV live stream were rightly jubilant, as were the players and the many who turned up to watch. The victory was perhaps made even sweeter given the fact one of the Durham squad used to be a member of the University of York team. The exciting victory in the final doubles match also secured the overall vic-

tory for York, as it was now impossible for Durham to claw back with just two singles games remaining. The visitors perhaps restored a bit of pride by taking one of these matches, but the home side took the other, ensuring a comprehensive win. The team will rightly be extremely happy with this result, given that Durham are one of the country's top sporting Universities. Leeds Beckett are up next for the men on the 31 October, where a win could see them go top of their Northern 2B league.

The story from the women's match was unfortunately not as good. They have had a difficult start to the 2018-2019 season.

In the previous two weeks, they have suffered defeats at the hands of Leeds and Liverpool, so were itching to try and discover the quality they displayed several times last season. To their disappointment, it wouldn't be found today. However, from speaking to some members of the team and the wider Badminton group, they can still

take positives from this performance. Durham University have some extremely talented play-

ers in their ranks, and the 7-1 score does not accurately reflect the evenings events. York were able to earn a point in one of the doubles matches, ensuring Durham didn't return with all of the bragging rights. The singles match, featuring Izzy Eastwood, also came agonisingly close, going to a very tight deciding match. With the women's fixture being a league match, they will have the chance to enact revenge on Durham at the end of January.

Last year, they gained an impressive away win there, so hopefully they can replicate this again. Next up for them is Edge Hill next Wednesday, who are the only other team in the Northern 1A league not to register a win. After this, they face a tricky away trip to 2nd place Northumbria, so a win next week really is needed to get them off the bottom of the table in the highest regional badminton league in BUCS competition.

The star players of the evening were Jai Chandarana and Dan Martyres. Both played excellently against strong Durham opponents, delivering important points for York at crucial times throughout the cold October evening.



Performance pathway teams announced

York Sport President Zac Sheppard revealed to *Nouse* that Rowing, Fencing, Men's Rugby and Women's Rugby have been selected as "Performance Pathway" teams. With added support for these sports clubs over the next three years, it offers a fantastic opportunity for them to develop and further establish themselves as forces to be reckoned with in University sport.

"This Girl Can Week" 2018

BUCS "This Girl Can Week" will take place from Monday 19 to Sunday 25 November. The focus of the week is on getting more women involved in sport, whether at a competitive level or simply for basic fitness. The University will be hosting several events to mark the occasion, with the standout event on Thursday 22 November. "Yorkshire Mums" who released the book "Four Mums in a Boat" will be on campus for a screening of their documentary, with a Q&A session afterwards. The quartet became famous by successfully rowing across the entire Atlantic, becoming the oldest all-female crew to do so, breaking a World Record.

York set to host BUCS Indoor Rowing Champs

The BUCS Northern Indoor Rowing Championships will take place at the University on Saturday 10 November. University of York Boat Club (UYBC) will hope to impress on home soil.

Nutrition Partner Named as Scitec

As mentioned in the last edition of *Nouse*, several University sports teams are now being sponsored. Scitec will provide advice and assistance to advance the success of the University's top teams.

Free Swims a Success

The free swim sessions at the York Sport Village proved popular with students, according to York Sport President Zac Sheppard. It is unclear whether these will run again.

Join Nouse Sport

Nouse Sport has two vacancies! For details email sport@nouse.co.uk

Volleyball Men's 1s easily dismantle Sheffield Hallam

Men's 1s take advantage of an early Sheffield Hallam injury to record an excellent 3-0 win over their Yorkshire rivals

George Cook
SPORT EDITOR

THE MEN'S 1s VOLLEYBALL team recorded a convincing win over Sheffield Hallam in the Sports Arena last Wednesday, with a comfortable 3-0 triumph.

Having never played the Hallam 2's before, the York boys were not sure what to expect from this match. The visitors came to this fixture off the back of a defeat to Sunderland and a win against Durham. York were looking to get their season going after losing to bitter rivals Lancaster, with a result of 3-2, in an agonisingly close game on 10 October. Hopefully this won't be the same when the teams meet again later this year for Roses. The match against Lancaster was the first match broadcast live on YSTV. In the commentary box was both Academic Officer and *Nouse* alumnus James Hare and Deputy Editor Chay Quinn.

The men began very well, comfortably racing into a 10-3 lead, with some fantastic serving from President Kristians Butins. Powerfully and perfectly placed, the Hallam returns were barely getting to

the net. With York leading the first game 12-6, there was a very lengthy delay to proceedings, as one of the Sheffield Hallam players suffered a nasty injury. Bizarrely, they had brought no substitutes with them to York, which meant they had to struggle on with a far from fit player. Almost immediately afterwards, a controversial decision went against the visitors, perhaps setting a precedent that it wouldn't be their day. However, these two incidents seemed to really fire them up, and they pulled off some excellent shots to keep York on edge. It wouldn't be enough though, and York took the first game 25-17.

Sheffield Hallam came out much better in the second game, gaining an early lead. York were not rattled by this whatsoever, and soon won two of their best points of the day. The visitors set themselves up for what looked to be an ideal spike, only for York's frontmen to exquisitely block the shot. Hallam had assumed they'd finished the rally and taken the point, so it was even more satisfying for York to steal it.

The home side then followed this up through a really lovely play, finished off with a huge smash by Nico Muyimba. York's number 14 was well aware of how good the shot was, and happily embraced the ad-

miration of the rest of the team afterwards.

Sheffield Hallam then lost several points in quick succession. There was some really quite poor serving, and a few total mix-ups which saw the ball simply drop over the net completely unchallenged.

A decent crowd had now assembled on the middle Arena, with Durham's badminton team taking quite an interest as they waited for their own fixture. Another few errors meant York ran away with the 2nd match, winning it 25-19. A huge comeback was now required if the York boys were to be defeated here.

Credit must rightly be given to Sheffield Hallam, who once again came out powerfully in the third match. With a fully-fit visiting team, this match would definitely have been closer. They took the opening few points, with a few mishaps that York will no doubt be frustrated about.

However, York rallied back, and took a large quantity of the next points to take the game to 16-9. This seemed to finally knock the confidence out of the away team, whose heads really dropped. Very little was offered by York's opponents from here on in. At 20-11, Sheffield Hallam made an attempted dig,

which went the complete opposite way to where it should have. Unfortunately, this pretty much summed up the day's events for them. York powered on home, taking the third and final game: 25 points to 11. This ensured a comfortable 3-0 win, and their opening victory of the season.

Regardless of whether Sheffield Hallam suffered an injury or not, the York team still played some fantastic volleyball. They worked brilliantly as a team, and thoroughly enjoyed the game. With some excellent defenses, powerful serves,

and impressive blocks, it seemed all aspects of their game were on top-form in this fixture. Nico Muyimba was *Nouse's* man of the match, pulling off some shots which Sheffield Hallam simply didn't get anywhere near. There was a gulf in quality between the teams.

York now sits 3rd in the Northern 2B league, three points behind Sunderland and rivals Lancaster. The team will want to build on this and will hope to pick up another three points with a win away at Durham next week.



Senior sport figures take on 50@50 challenge

York Sport Union President and Head of Sport take 50@50 challenge in aid of cancer and mental health charities

George Cook
& **Patrick Hook-Willers**
SPORT EDITORS

YORK SPORT PRESIDENT, Zac Sheppard, and Head of Sport, Keith Morris, have set themselves the challenge to try out fifty university sports during the 2018/19 academic year, in support of two charities close to the hearts of the pair. The number of sports has been set at fifty in part to mark Keith's upcoming fiftieth birthday. However, there is also a sadder undertone to this: Keith sadly lost a dearly close friend in February of this year. Dan Porter was the Head of Sport Services at Sheffield Hallam, and tragically lost his ten-year battle with cancer. Keith Morris spoke to *Nouse* about Dan, speaking of him in the highest regard, saying that "over a decade, Dan fought cancer four times and raised hundreds of thousands in support of his own foundation's support of cancer sufferers."

As a reward for his fantastic charity work, Dan was made an MBE in mid-2016. Dan leaves behind a wife and two children, who will grow up without a father, something no child anywhere should have to do. In memory of Dan, a charity has been set up, called the

Joe and Ben Trust. Morris, who is involved in the charity, explained: "the establishment of the Joe and Ben Trust to support his two young boys and to continue his fundraising legacy seemed a natural thing for me to be involved in." Hopefully, this charity can achieve close to the success that Palmer's did, ensuring huge contributions to the ongoing fight against cancer.

Zac Sheppard is also going to be raising money for his own designated charity through the 50@50 initiative. His chosen charity, York

67

The number of sports available to students at the University of York

Mind, is one which many students at the University of York are already highly familiar with. Zac told *Nouse*, "I knew that I wanted to include York Mind as my charity. Mental health is extremely important. It affects everyone all the time, so it's important we all do our bit to promote positive mental health and support those who help people in times of need." For those who aren't familiar with York Mind, they are a local charity; they are always in need of donations to support the

work they do. Just like Keith's chosen charity, Zac's pick ensures vital health services can be maintained to benefit students and citizens of York.

Keith and Zac are setting themselves up for an exciting and busy year trying out such a high number of sports, especially taking into account the number of working weeks remaining. At this rate, the pair will need to be trying out three sports every week to reach their goal! From speaking to them, it is clear that the less common the sport, the better. The likes of Aikido, Kendo and Octopush can certainly expect a visit. Hopefully, sporting societies with few members will be able to attract new interest through the publicity of this challenge.

We can expect to see each of them at training sessions very soon, as the enormous workload of sport has got to be played out before the year is done. More details will emerge over the coming weeks, regarding when specific sports will be tried out, and more importantly we will find out how to donate to their chosen charities.

It's a really lovely fundraising effort from Keith and Zac, displaying how sport is so much more than just fun and games. Regardless of whether you're playing to win or just to try something new, sport has

the power for wider cultural significance in a wide variety of ways. For individuals and societies that wish to donate and get involved, Keith and Zac are more than happy to discuss matters.

We wish them both the very best in their challenge, in what is a

highly touching way of remembering a dear friend, as well as raising a large sum of money for worthwhile causes, bringing two of society's biggest ailments to the forefront of people's thoughts in the sporting world of York, and hopefully further afield.



Nouse Tries

George Cook gets his flex on with Aerobics P.24



Lopetegoing?

Alex Woodward questions Julen Lopetegui's place at Real Madrid P.25



Volleyball Victory

Men's Volleyball continue fine season P.26



N SPORT

Shortlisted for Best Sports Coverage, SPA Awards 2018

Tuesday 30 October 2018



College Sport Review expected to bring changes

Patrick Hook-Willers
SPORT EDITOR

A WEEK AGO, YUSU released their College Sport Review Survey, advertising it far and wide across University Facebook groups, Twitter feeds and outcasted Bebo walls. The review has been designed specifically to assess a wide range of opinions related to the success and failings of College Sport here in York. Upon the closure of the review window, which is expected to run for up to three weeks, the research collated will highlight shortcomings

that can be rectified in a potentially wide-reaching reform of the College Sport system. Reform is firmly on the agenda of York Sport Union President Zac Sheppard, who told *Nouse* at the launch of the review: "the current system is disjointed", particularly when disciplinary procedures are required. Complaints often lost in a series of 'replication', being directed towards YUSU, rather than to the individual colleges, so should be the case.

One of the major failings of the College Sport system in its current guise is the extent of college inequality, particularly in terms of the funding and subsidy of College training and pitch fees. To put things into

context, students in Vanbrugh College have access to sporting sessions and training which is totally free, while students in other colleges have to bear the cost of training and playing on their own. Recently, the captain of the Alcuin Hockey team was forced to pay a fee in the region of £1000 from his own savings in order to allow the club to train, a reality which Sheppard described as "unfair" and earmarked as a priority for the Sport Union.

Improving equality of financing and training subsidy between colleges has a direct influence on another area of importance for the Union, which is increasing accessibility of College Level sport to those un-

comfortable playing at competitive environments. The College Sport's format, as it stands, places a heavy emphasis on having a competitive element, pitting colleges against one another in a myriad number of sports. Although this is excellent for increasing accessibility to those who wish to play below BUCS and university level, it has shut out those who wish to solely play casual sport. In response to this, Sheppard felt that there is a "greater need for social sport" at York.

This feeling is reflected in the review questions, with the Union asking responders whether they "consider College Sport to be a social environment" and whether students

would "prefer to take part in a low-commitment-activity programme", in a similar, more frequent version of the highly successful 'Give It A Go' sessions.

College Sport reforms have clearly been at the top of the priority list for this year's Sport team, with the introduction of a new college sport app at the start of the year. (*Nouse* gave details of this in our edition at the beginning of this term on the 02 October.)

Regardless of the result of the College Sport Review Survey, it is a certainty that changes to the system are firmly on the agenda, for both Zac Sheppard and the York Sport Union for this year.