



## Tarantino Vs. Hollywood

The battle between Pulp Fiction and Forrest Gump 25 years later  
M.7

## Far From the Truth

How Disney got away with a smash and grab  
P.13



# Nouse



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Tuesday 08 October 2019

No. 488

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Extinction Rebellion York display their banner in protest of the climate emergency before being escorted out of Central Hall

## Uni divests from fossil fuels

Callum Tennant  
DEPUTY EDITOR

IN HIS INAUGURAL speech on 3 October, York's new Vice Chancellor, Charlie Jeffery, announced that the University of York had fully divested from fossil fuels. The shock announcement comes following a student-led campaign to get the University to divest. The campaign culminated in a petition with over 1200 signatures being handed to the University by former *Nouse* Editor and Environment and Ethics Officer, Oscar Bentley. The announcement means that the £217000 which the University of York previously invested in fossil fuel companies is now invested in companies whose activities are in line with the ethical values of the University.

Speaking to students the new Vice Chancellor said: "We face a global climate emergency. We have brilliant...

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## University hired a now-convicted rapist

• An investigation is now ongoing to determine how McKeown was permitted to work on campus while on trial

Maddie Thornham  
EDITOR

**This article contains references to sexual assault and rape. Reading the article may be distressing for some people.**

*NOUSE* HAS RECEIVED information from a member of the Physics department indicating that they continued to work with now-convicted rapist Joseph McKeown during the period of his trial for sexual assault. The revelation follows months of speculation concerning whether the department

knew about McKeown's trial while he was under employment.

On 12 September, The York Press published an insensitively-titled article reporting on the convicted rapist, Joseph McKeown. The title read: "Brilliant' York scientist Joseph McKeown jailed for rape'. The content of the article was also written throughout in a poor journalistic manner, with little regard for the victim. The article included sentences such as: "Instead [of studying a PhD course] the biophysicist, of Heworth, who got a first class degree with distinction, is starting five and a half years in prison for raping and sexually as-

saulting a woman."

Following the publication of the article from *The York Press* that was both printed and online, the University of York released a statement, arguing that the article caused offence to those acquainted with the University and concern regarding whether the University would allow the convicted rapist to study at York post-release. Part of the University's statement read as follows: "The article stated that references were provided by academics from the Department. "It is important to highlight that the references provided to the Court were submitted by individuals, without

the prior knowledge of the Department of Physics or the University. They do not reflect the views of either the Department or the University. We are deeply concerned by this situation and are looking into the circumstances."

Since the release of the statement, a member of the Physics Department has come to *Nouse* with information: "I'm a member of the Physics department, contacting you with information about Joseph McKeown, who was recently reported in the *York Press* as he was convicted of...

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## SOPHIE



I CAN'T BE BOTHERED RECYCLING ALL THESE. I'LL JUST ANNOUNCE DIVESTMENT FROM FOSSIL FUELS; IT'S MUCH EASIER.

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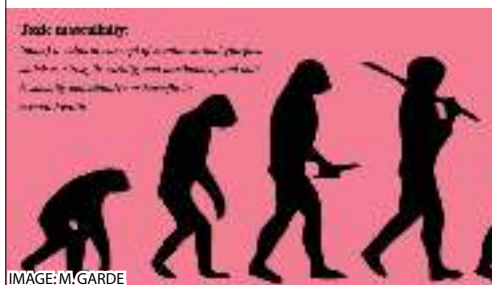
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Est. 1964

## A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR...

This is my first and last edition as the Editor of *Nouse*. I began *Nouse* at the end of first year, when I ran for Arts Editor, knowing not a lot about journalism, but with an enthusiasm for the subjects. Come September, the summer period was over and I decided that perhaps sub-editing was for me. After all, I preferred reading other people's work rather than writing my own. So for my whole second year I was Chief Sub-editor, alongside and managing my lovely sub-editors: Bex, Charlotte, Annie and Chloe. In this year I got to know the whole team from going along to the socials and full-frontally embarrassing myself every time without fail.

Moving on swiftly, I never planned or anticipated becoming Editor. It took a lot of encouragement from other members of the team to convince me that I was good enough, and that I could take on the load of everything that comes with being Editor, things I didn't know existed. How did the people before me make it look so easy?

If I'm putting it bluntly, I describe the role of Editor as being the host of your own party: when you are on the team, you are a guest, you're having fun without worry of letting anyone down. The Editor has look after all the team, be held accountable and is ultimately responsible for everything that can go wrong. There certainly have been times where things have bitten us in the bum: namely the delightful fine we received over summer for unlicensed image usage on the website, from a whole ten years ago!

But I'm in no way complaining. I couldn't imagine the person I'd be without *Nouse*. I've learnt so much from being part of a team

that is full of motivated and inspired people. People I call some of my closest friends. I can see how I've grown as an individual, and I can see how much everyone cares about the paper and one another. *Nouse* does really unite us with a common interest that we can work together on to produce something we are proud of.

The beginning of the new academic year has meant *Nouse* had some catch-ups with people from the University. This edition, we have updates from the sabbs, climate crisis updates and commentaries, and I have no doubt that we are making our own impact, even if it may be a little one, on the student-life at University, by getting out key information for students to keep up to date with news on campus and York.

Now to say a few thank yous: to all the team firstly for always pulling through, and especially this time as we are so slim after the loss of our graduates (of whom we still miss a lot). To my Deputy Callum for being a great friend and my rock when I need to be grounded. To Jonny, Alex and Pat who are far better at InDesign than I will ever be. To Patrick Walker for having a cool head and great commitment and Matt, who stayed with me in the office on Sunday night to help type-up and queued Lizzo Beating's 'Truth Hurts' song twice in a row.

Thank you, team. I still find it overwhelming to think about all the years this paper has thrived. We've worked so hard again and I'm excited for the new team to carry on the legacy that we call *Nouse*.

Maddie Thornham

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, praise and complaints.

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# Nouse

Meet our editors: 9 October 18:00 (Week 2) in P/X/001  
Full team elections: 14 October 18:00 (Week 3) in SLB/118

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: Miramax, Sony Pictures, Patrick Walker Back images: YUSU, PNGIMG.com, Luke Snell, York Sport Village

# VC inaugural speech to University

**Callum Tennant**  
DEPUTY EDITOR

>>> Continued from front

...EXPERTISE, INCLUDING AMONG our students, who are often passionate about tackling that emergency, and we have an obligation to act." Speaking later, the Vice Chancellor said that "we will see massive change here in this University." He went on to state that the University would be drawing up a detailed plan for how it will react to the climate crisis. *Nouse* spoke to the University's Environment and Ethics Officers, Merry Dickinson and Mark Matthews, following the announcement. They told us: "We're very happy it's about time, it's been needing to happen for years." The announcement was met by a large round of applause from the audience.

It was the new Vice Chancellor's first public address about his plans for the University and his vision since he arrived here a month ago. Charlie Jeffery was picked as the new Vice Chancellor following an "extensive search." Mr. Jeffery, the former Senior Vice-Principal at the University of Edinburgh. Before that he was a professor of Politics at the University of York.

Speaking to the crowd he thanked the University of York, the students and the local community for giving him and his family such a warm welcome following his move to the city of York from Edinburgh. During his speech he set out how he intended to carry out his job while honouring the University's founding principles and values. Throughout his speech, the

Vice Chancellor made references to the University's history, former students and the founders' experience and wishes.

A key component of the speech was the idea that universities should be contributing to the wider public good of the local community and the country and the planet. The Vice Chancellor emphasised that he wanted the University to do more to engage with the local communities and area, saying that not enough people feel the benefits of living near the University. Despite this, he attacked the view that universities and academics are somehow aloof, or part of a liberal elite.

Making a gibe at Government Minister, Michael Gove, the new Vice Chancellor joked that while some people had had enough of experts, he had not.

Jeffery also reinforced his commitment to internationalism and all it does for the University by making a gibe at Theresa May's famous speech, where she declared "if you are a citizen of the world, you are a citizen of nowhere." Referencing to two former students, Tom and Betty, he declared that York undergraduates were citizens of the world.

Rounding off his speech the Vice Chancellor stated that he did not only want to manage the University and prepare it for the next few years, he also wanted to think in terms of decades, reflecting a long-term vision. The speech was widely welcomed by students, and YUSU, however the real challenge is whether the goals set out in the speech can be achieved. Jeffery's entrance to York has been accompanied by a much requested policy: it remains to be seen if his future ideas are as popular with students.



IMAGE: CALLUM TENNANT



IMAGE: YUSU

# NightSafe win their bid for North Yorkshire Police grant

**Patrick Walker**  
NEWS EDITOR

A FELLOW York society, NightSafe, has been awarded a £2 860 grant by North Yorkshire Police (NYP). The money, which will come out of the Yorkshire Police Community Fund, will be used to improve the quality of NightSafe's service, and guarantee the society's near future irrespective of money provided by YUSU grants. The service is already a vital source of support for York students, and its continued existence is a positive step in securing the safety of students over the next year.

YUSU NightSafe is a volunteering project that provides front-line medical help and aid to vulnerable students out in the city of York during the night. During the daytime hours, they disseminate information and tips such as river flooding advice, as well as help for new freshers on how to party safely while at University. The organisation is unique to our city, which shows the extra level of care York students receive. NightSafe also, despite being a University of York society, offer assistance for York St. John's students, both on nights out, and in the daytime.

This support doesn't generally come cheap; the organisation must pay for its distinctive orange jackets, training for its volunteers, water bottles, blankets, flip flops and sick bags, and CCTV and radio equipment.

In order to access more funding, NightSafe were obligated to produce a bid considered by the committee who manage the Police Fund, which awarded over £100 000 last year. The money will "fund NightSafe's work with university students, purchasing vital equipment and helping us to provide professional training sessions for volunteers."

These training sessions require the input of multiple organisations, from the police to first-aiders. Without this crucial training, and without the extra funding from

Being on good terms with the police force has already proved valuable to NightSafe's operations in the city, as they later explained: "NightSafe are lucky to have a close relationship with North Yorkshire Police. At an organisational level, the Police feature in NightSafe training, teaching a session on conflict management. Perhaps most importantly, our volunteers have individual connections with the police, getting to know Officers who work in the city centre on nights out. Our work often overlaps, with NYP's amazing team taking over when our volunteers get out of their depth."

NightSafe also revealed that they are attempting to build a closer relationship with YUSU. "In the coming months, it would be fantastic to agree a permanent funding settlement. This would allow us to increase recruitment, ... and guarantee that NightSafe will be around for years to come."

In response to NightSafe's success, YUSU Activities Officer Ollie Martin commented: "

NightSafe is a phenomenally impressive and innovative student led peer to peer volunteer project; YUSU has been pleased to support their grant application to diversify their funding and we welcome this collaboration with NYP.

I know the new team have done an amazing job recruiting volunteers and are starting to put exciting plans in place for the new academic year; I'm very excited to continuing to work with them in the year ahead!"



North Yorkshire Police, the members would not be as prepared to help our students and deal with the problems they face each night they are on the streets.

NightSafe told *Nouse* that the "whole team's really excited to receive the money", and were keen to point out the importance of external grants in ensuring the continuation of the service.

"Without their help, financial uncertainty would have seriously threatened NightSafe's sustainability. It's really important that our volunteers - who have given over 2 000 hours of their time in the last year - know that people in the community really appreciate what they do."

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Library lacks books on loan

The University of York library holds a total of 995 589 printed books and 772 080 e-books. Of the total printed books, the amount of books that have been taken out less than ten times since their purchase is the surprising figure of 230 611. That equates to 23.2 per cent of the total amount of books.

### Campus bar changes

YUSU bars have made multiple changes, including eliminating plastic packaging, and upgrading the older outlets on campus. A social media post on the official Facebook read "we want to control everything that you think and do". Judging from the time *Nouse* staff now spend in campus bars, that may be working.

### York Tories site hacked

*Nouse* would once again like to draw the attention of the York Tories to their website. It now displays a series of Conservative memes that include an image of Michael Gove and the caption 'Daddy'. The York Tories have not held ownership of their website since it was initially hacked in the middle of last term.

### All scream for ice cream

Ben and Jerry's ice cream vending machines have been installed for the first time across many campus locations, including biology and Vanbrugh. The locations now serve classic favourites to York students, and will join the Ben and Jerry's freezer and machine in the newly-refurbished Nisa location: Market Square.

# Labour Students split from party Policy review opens



IMAGE: SOPHIE J. BROWN

**Patrick Walker**  
NEWS EDITOR

NATIONAL HEADLINES have spilled into campus politics, as the row continues over Labour's affiliation with Labour Students. The group, which supports local Labour clubs in colleges and universities across the UK, was disaffiliated by the party's National Executive Committee earlier last month, due to the alleged late payment of affiliation fees. The University of York Labour Club (UYLC) actually voted to disaffiliate from Labour Students last term, arguing that its democratically-elected delegates had been "barred from voting" at two conferences held by Labour Students.

For its part, Labour Students argues that its affiliation fees were paid on time and deems the decision of the National Executive Committee void. The group's chair, Rania Ramli, wrote to Labour's general secretary, Jennie Formby earlier last month, saying that Labour Students "have sought legal advice and

been informed that there is therefore no justification for any changes in the status of Labour Students as a result."

The York wing of Labour Students agrees. In a statement to *Nouse*, Labour Students BAME Officer and former UYLC co-chair Jack Galea said that regardless of the ruling, "Labour Students will continue to operate." "Labour Students remains the legally affiliated student wing of the Labour Party and has presented the appropriate evidence that the fee was paid to the general secretary and chair of the NEC, thus making the motion proposed legally invalid. Hopefully that will be recognised."

Underpinning much of the disagreement surrounding the disaffiliation of Labour Students is the allegation that the group was removed for political reasons that run deeper than an organisational mix-up. Labour Students has long fostered more centrist political views than the rest of the party, which has often set it against the leadership.

Critics of the organisation argue that it has failed to implement a one member, one vote voting sys-

tem. In a statement to *Nouse*, the UYLC explained that its decision to disaffiliate from Labour Students was due to a "failure to properly implement a democratic and representative one member, one vote system of voting, resulting in only 500 people out of a membership of over 28 000 students being able to vote in this year's elections."

Although Galea admits the flaws in the voting system, he argues that Labour Students was not given sufficient time to reform its decision-making process.

"It's particularly stinging that this occurs just as work was underway to strengthen Labour Students' democracy and rectify the disillusion that many felt during this year's election process." He also alleges that the democratic deficit felt in Labour Students is not unique to the organisation. "Lots of organisations associated with the left have questionable democratic practices ... Labour Students wishes to actually rectify their own shortcomings, yet didn't get the opportunity."

It remains to be seen whether Labour Students can re-affiliate with the party.

**Matthew King**  
NEWS EDITOR

YUSU'S POLICY Review Process has officially begun, with ideas for submission opening in week one. This window of policy review allows students to submit their own ideas for new policy, or submissions to change and modify existing Union policy. The process aims to help assuage the criticism that YUSU is uncommunicative and out-of-touch by ensuring that students have a voice in changing the organisation.

These submissions are first circulated around the student body, and mediated through student groups and societies. They are then delivered to YUSU for review. Positive consensus towards an idea will result in the idea being accepted, a negative consensus will result in the submission being rejected, although not permanently. Similar or modified submissions may be submitted at a later date.

All submissions are processed by a group of students called the PRG (The Policy Review Group). This group consisting of four elected members and a Policy Coordinator. Recruitment for the group will begin soon.

*Nouse* asked YUSU President Samara Jones for more details about the dates of the review period and how students can get involved. She told us:

"The process for idea submissions opened in week one. Consultation will open in week five. We're about to start recruiting for the Policy Review Group which will be open to all students so keep an eye on YUSU's social media for updates on how to get involved."

She also noted that YUSU would be undergoing a larger review, expanding on earlier work from the last academic year.

"This term's policy cycle will

also see YUSU consult on longer term changes to our policy process as part of the review that got underway last term. This work is underpinned by the principle that YUSU is student-led and it is central to my manifesto goals on improving transparency and putting students right at the heart of Union decision making within the Union." It is hoped that transparency reforms indicate more than simple rhetoric: almost every YUSU President over the last ten years has run on the promise of more transparency. While Impact Reports are published regularly to educate the student body on the actions that YUSU carry out, and the successes of the year, engagement with the Union as a decision-making body.

The Policy Review Process is one of the ways in which students can have more say and enact change in how our Union operates beyond simply voting for sabbatical officers, or becoming one themselves.

The process came under extreme scrutiny last year when it was temporarily suspended following a complaint against the Policy Coordinator, Josh Mackenzie. The complaint argued that due to Mackenzie's role in York Vision (which at the time, had yet to be suspended) it would be unethical for him to hold such a prominent role in YUSU politics.

This in turn would raise questions about whether it was the right of the president to suspend the process. Alex Urquhart seemed to think so, citing by-Law nine which states that the President "takes overall responsibility for running the Policy Process fairly and in such a way as to broaden involvement and ensure those most affected have a say."

It remains to be seen whether the drama of this year's policy revision process will echo previous years: *Nouse* encourages all to submit as soon as possible.

# Bogged down: legal battle over York's prehistoric bog

**Callum Tennant**  
DEPUTY EDITOR

THE FUTURE OF York's hidden natural treasure, Askham Bog, is once again possibly at risk as a housing developer has launched an appeal.

The developer was blocked from building 516 homes on adjacent land after a petition gathered over 7,000 signatures and the City of York Council rejected the proposals. There were fears that if the development had been allowed to proceed then the construction work and subsequent land use would have caused a lowering of the area's water table.

The building of new houses would decrease the overall permeability of the ground causing high run-off which in turn could have

caused the prehistoric bog to dry up, leaving Yorkshire without one of its oldest hidden gems. Prominent figures in the local area have stood up to oppose the proposed plans, arguing they are unsustainable and not a part of York's planned 'green' future.

Each has raised concerns from the local council, to Sir David Attenborough, to the MP for York Outer Julian Sturdy. The MP would ask the very first question in Boris Johnson's Prime Minister's questions, asking why the British Government had not done more to combat unsustainable development in York. He also hit headlines by inviting Prime Minister Boris Johnson to join him in lying in front of any bulldozers that tried to start development: a tactic that Johnson once proposed during his campaign to stop Heathrow's second runway.

Askham Bog formed over 15,000 years ago when melt water

from the last glacial ice melt filled a hollow dip in the land. Over the last 15,000 years multiple layers of organic matters have formed and the bog today is now home to multiple varieties of peat.

The centre of the bog is noticeable for its acidic poor-quality nature which has enabled moss growth and the establishment of peat, while the outer areas with their supply of rich base water are where the majority of the fen grows.

While the developer has insisted that the development would not have any impact on the area's water table, local activists remain unconvinced. The developer has appealed the decision insisting that the new homes are needed as part of a push to ease York's housing crisis. With the two sides now at an impasse it appears that this case is likely to drag on into the future.

Askham Bog is located just in-

side the A64 ring road. Students can get to the prehistoric bog from Campus West via a fifteen minute car ride or via a three hour round walk.

The site has information signs dotted around and does operate guided tours at certain times.



IMAGE: MALCOLM TEMPLE

# Joseph McKeown continued

**Maddie Thornham**  
EDITOR

>>> Continued from front

...RAPE AND sexual assault.”  
The member went on to allege that: “What was not reported was that he was employed in the department as a summer student, where he worked closely with a female student.” The source from the Physics Department went on to clarify, however, that “The relationship seemed purely professional.”

It later emerged that McKeown had been working “Specifically in the Photonics group”, as told by the member of the Department.

The member did note that there is “No evidence for anybody knowing about the trial [within the Physics Department] but there certainly were people that did - cannot safely give specifics”.

Currently, the case “is not being discussed in any capacity - it feels like people want it to be forgotten”, stated the member.

Following the information given by the Physics whistleblower, a spokesperson from the University of York gave the following information in regards to the case:

“The matters raised are of deep concern to the University and are being investigated as a matter of urgency. As the investigation has

not yet concluded it would be inappropriate to comment further.

“We take cases of sexual harassment and violence extremely seriously, and the safety and well-being of our staff and students is of paramount importance.”

*Nouse* has reached out to the Students’ Union to clarify what their position is following the article that came out from the *York Press*, regarding the issue of the convicted rapist that may be permitted to study at the University of York post-release. This is an issue that Steph Hayle, the Students’ Union Community and Wellbeing officer, took in true severity:

“To imply that a person with known sexual violence convictions could be allowed back into the University and given a role with an element of power and responsibility is unacceptable.

“Given all the work the Union has been doing to lobby for better support for victims, better reporting services, and an all around safer University environment, the alleged statements made by University staff made about McKeown’s return post release show there is still so much more to be done for people to comprehend the true severity of this issue.

“We firstly condemn the recruitment of staff with a past sexual violence conviction, and hope the University would do the same, and also request a formal apology from

the *York Press* for their abhorrent coverage of this issue. A perpetrator’s intellect is in no way relevant to this situation, and the coverage has only harmed the narrative around sexual violence by phrasing the perpetrator’s intelligence as more important than the horrific impact this crime has had on his victim.”

The Students’ Union has also responded to the case, by saying:

“We must ensure that everyone at York can live without fear and is suitably trained to make bystander interventions as suggested by Universities UK. It is essential that York is a safe space for our students and that the University and authorities use the full force of their power to remove anyone who threatens or perpetuates sexual violence.”

While the University is vague on the subject, the Students’ Union is clear on its stance.

*Anyone who has been affected by this article, or who has concerns about sexual violence, seek support by using these links or contacting these helplines:*

*Employee support from the University: [york.ac.uk/admin/hr/browse/health-and-well-being/employee-assistance](http://york.ac.uk/admin/hr/browse/health-and-well-being/employee-assistance)*

*Student support from the University: [york.ac.uk/students/health/advice/sexual-violence/](http://york.ac.uk/students/health/advice/sexual-violence/) Visit the Rape Crisis website at: [RapeCrisis.org.uk](http://RapeCrisis.org.uk)*

*Or call: 0808 802 9999*

# The reality behind the #skipgate scandal

**Maddie Thornham**  
EDITOR

IT RECENTLY emerged on *YorFess* that the library was allegedly throwing away valuable books in a skip in the Alcuin car park. *Nouse* would now like to correct that record, once again reminding readers that they should treat any news developing on *YorFess* with a healthy amount of scepticism.

A student from the University responded to the news of the thrown out books, by saying: “I pay them £9 250 a year to buy books,” adding that he will “continue to be poor and pissed.”

Steve Plews, who works for the library and archives at the University, was keen to point out that the University was not, in fact, throwing away books that it believed might have a value to University students. “This is something that all libraries do, when stuff has built up or if there are pages missing they get thrown out”

Plews went on to add that the library had finite space for books.

“We have limited space so once we get updated textbooks in we add those editions and throw the old ones out.” The departments lead this process: if they believe there is value in the books, they sell them or lend them to students or charities.

The library is hosting an event soon that appeals to current students: Treat Your Shelf is an event that will be held by the Morrell section of the University of York library, from 12-2 pm tomorrow, 9 October.

This is an opportunity for current students to come and collect free, second-hand text books that have been kindly donated by recent graduates. The event will be in support of the charity Mind for mental health.

A University spokesperson at-



IMAGE: PATRICK WALKER

tempted to clarify matters on the skip, saying that the process was completely normal.

“The library was disposing of outdated books that were no longer used by staff or students. They had been stored in the basement while staff worked to re-house them through charitable networks. The remaining books ... were then gathered and sent for recycling.”

# Accommodation works until 2020

**Matthew King**  
NEWS EDITOR

A MASS of intrusive scaffolding and disruptive construction work has taken over large areas of both Derwent and Vanbrugh College, particularly surrounding Block M and the outside area of Courtyard in Derwent, and Block B in Vanbrugh.

Construction work on Block A Eric Milner in Vanbrugh was carried out last year, and was completed before this year’s freshers arrived. However, it seems as though the University has not finished in its efforts to carry out repairs on the older accommodation blocks.

These repairs, while being important in sustaining the quality of student accommodation, have a highly pervasive effect on student life: something that good, or even basic, student accommodation should not be burdened with. *Nouse* contacted the University to ask whether students residing in these blocks were given any compensation or any discount on their rent prices, due to



IMAGE: MADDIE THORNHAM

the inconveniences the construction works will likely cause. A representative of the University confirmed that:

“Students will not receive a discount in their rent as a result of this work, as their tenancy terms and conditions stipulate that improvement works can be carried out by the University in areas where they are in residence.”

We also spoke to one of the residents of B Block in Vanbrugh who said she was: “Not particularly thrilled to not only be in the wrong college, but also one that’s being worked on.” She had placed Vanbrugh as her second choice of accommodation, and was already disappointed regarding her allocated room, and was further disap-

pointed due to the unruly scaffolding and construction work which surround her block.

According to a representative of the University, students were warned about the construction works prior to arriving at University as: “Information about the disruption was sent to residents when they received the email revealing which room they had been allocated.”

However, this information was not relayed to students before they were able to make their room choices. This information would have allowed students to be fully aware of the current state of the accommodation before they chose it which, given that students in Vanbrugh can pay up to £6 000 per year in rent for their living quarters, is information that should have been provided prior to receiving their room allocations.

The University is not sure when the construction work will finish entirely, due to the “nature of the works”, however their representative told us that: “The works in Vanbrugh and Derwent are to carry out essential window repairs and are part of a long-term schedule of repairs. At present, we’re expecting these to be completed around Easter 2020.”

# Cycle of crime looms

**Alex Thompson**  
SENIOR CORRESPONDENT

RECENT FIGURES show that bike thefts on campus have seen a dramatic increase in recent years. A Freedom Of Information request reveals a rise of 168 per cent since the 2016/17 academic year with 59 thefts reported last year.

The worst for reported thefts is along University Road, outside the JB Morrell Library and the carpark on Vanburgh Way, where more than 10 thefts have been reported since January 2019 (as of September 2019). According to figures, most remain unsolved with no suspect identified. This follows a *Nouse* investigation earlier this year which revealed that over a fifth of CCTV cameras on campus are not in operation due to compatibility issues.

A spokesperson from the University has told *Nouse* “Security staff have conducted a review of cycle thefts and identified a number of cycle sheds on campus that have been damaged by unknown persons potentially trying to gain unauthor-

ised entry. Repairs are being carried out on any cycle shed that is not secure. High visibility patrols are being conducted on a regular basis and joint patrols are taking place with local police teams.”

“Security have a stand at all University open days and at Freshers’ Fair to promote safety and security where they advise staff and students about safe cycling and securing cycles. They work jointly with the police and host events at the university colleges where students can get valuables like bicycles property marked.”

This increase in cycle crime is not solely confined to campus. North Yorkshire Police’s crime map shows that most thefts occur within the city walls, with 45 reported in August 2019.

Hotspots include Clifford Street, The Shambles and around York College, where the highest density of incidents have occurred over the past few months.

North Yorkshire Police recommend using two locks to secure your bike as well as getting it security marked and registered while Campus Security suggest D-Locks offer a greater challenge to potential thieves.

# Samara Jones on apathy, colleges, and transparency

“We will be asking for a lot of student input and working out how we can really get people on board.”

**Does the University need to support colleges? You were big on it in your manifesto, but what are the specifics of that?**

The first thing is working out where the colleges are going to sit, because there have been a lot of changes over summer. The staff team structure has changed quite a bit, so I think that is going to help because it is more streamlined. I'm hoping to work with the college committees this term to work out where they want support and then I will be working with the college managers to try and know who sits where, work with them and know what they want as it changes each year. We want to help them run events and great stuff for the students here.

**You've said that you want to improve communication with the student populace about what YUSU is and does. What do you see as the Union's most crucial role?**

At its core, a Students' Union is a group of students. The Union gets more people to buy into it if students have an idea of how they think the Union should be: come talk to us, send us a message because we're willing to change. Just because something happened one

way last year, doesn't mean it has to continue that way. This year we will be writing our strategy because it finishes at the end of the academic year; we will be asking for lots of student input and working out how we can really get people on board. How do people feel more

included, how do they feel part of the Union? That is what our big strategy is going to be. We've done the Big Student Survey each year, so we want the students to decide that, and everyone should feel comfortable to have their say; even if it is to say that something's not working, or to say if something is working and what should continue. Hopefully our Facebook updates (sabbs in short) will keep communication from our end, but I want people to communicate back, I want a two-way conversation. Keep an eye out over the next few terms as there will

be lots to interact with in the new strategy.

**How would you go about trying to tackle student apathy following the low voter turnouts in last year's referendums and YUSU elections?**

The University of York is in the top ten for student voter turnout for Student Union elections, and we've had a lot of other Unions ask us how we get such a high turnout. In perspective, we do exceptionally well in our turnout. In the referendums we will aim for visibility and to be engaging. There's always more we can do, so we want to make it such that everyone who wants to engage with this can and knows how to, to try and make the process easier. But we actually do quite well and we will start the promotions now to get people involved.

**All the YUSU sabbs say and stated**

**in their manifestos that they're going to increase transparency, how are you going to do that?**

With the colleges, I've already started monthly college catch-up emails, to try and bridge the gap between us and the colleges, keeping them up to date on what I'm doing, and also to celebrate what is going on their end and that should be going out to people in the University as well. So it is not only us and the colleges collaborating, it is also championing the University and what they do. That is one step that we've taken and they can filter that down through their revenue streams. As well as that, we are keeping on with the weekly updates and trying to shape those, we are trying to get sabbs in Short starting soon and just be a bit more visible and keep interacting with students. I'd like to think we've seen a lot of them already because we've just done the welcome talks for over 5000 freshers. It won't happen overnight but it's lots of small steps over years that get more people engaged, on board and again, getting students to engage with our strategic plan. The thing that would help most is if students want to engage with it. If they want this change to happen then it'll happen a lot easier than us just

trying to make it happen. **You want to create a drop-in session once a week with the sabbs where people can come and speak to you, how is that going? Is it implemented?**

I'm planning for drop-ins to be on both campuses - I'm still trying to work out exactly what to do. We've got the new horsebox, so we are hoping to do a few YUSU on-the-move things using that, because that's a great space. You'll have probably seen it outside central hall selling tickets for freshers' week events. The office is always open, it's a glass box so you can always come and find us, but there will be plans to get stuff sorted as soon as we can. **You talked about improving student life in your manifesto. Is it the Students' Union or the University's responsibility to lobby the city to keep clubs open?**

I think it's everyone's responsibility - not just the Union or University's, it falls to everyone in York. We've already been talking to the new people in the University about how there need to be more things on campus, we want to keep performance spaces, we want to have live music. If we are going to lose space in the city we need provision on campus.

*Interview by Maddie Thornham*



IMAGE: YUSU

# Giang Nguyen on careers, work stress, and study spaces

“Lecture capture's not a substitute for learning - it's complementary... I'm trying to make students aware of that.”

**In your manifesto, and in your election campaign, you placed a high precedence on careers. How are you going to improve the scope and visibility of existing mentorship schemes?**

At the moment there are about 25 mentorship schemes organised by the University, the departments or by alumni. So, in terms of departmental mentors I'd love to see more mentoring schemes in departments. Politics recently have one thanks to our politics department reps and I've also been working closely with Careers to improve the York mentoring profile as well. So, they have exciting plans ahead for the academic year so watch out for that.

**Following from what you've said in your manifesto, what extra measures will be put in place for helping students de-stress and stay productive beyond what is already available?**

The first thing is that we run a study smart campaign in week six. In that campaign we have mental health support while at uni, and me and Effy will be working closely together to ensure that any session or workshop we do has a significant value to students. Secondly, in all our messages from me or other sabbatical officers we really emphasise how important mental health is, and we always refer students to using the advice support centre. We also have to look at the bigger picture, for example assessment feedback; do we assess students just for

the sake of assessing? I have been lobbying a committee to rethink the guide to your assessment feedback, to actually think about whether assessment is diverse enough, whether assessment has been giving students the opportunity to overview what they are studying rather than just assessing for the sake of assessing.

**Departments such as English have their own study spaces, would you like there to be a specific study space for social sciences? Where would this be, and in what departments?**

In the summer I have been going around talking to departments and heads of departments, there is a strong consensus not only from humanities but also sciences, that they want their own study space because this is where we foster academic community. But, and any other sabbatical officer will agree, the thing is that there is a massive problem about space. There is so much space in this uni for study spaces but no one knows about it, so I think this is a very big piece of work that the Student Un-

ion and University is working on at the moment and I completely understand.

**Nouse reported back in August that the University had drastically lowered the grade requirements for clearing students in certain subjects, especially in subjects such as PPE, what's your view on this?**

I have been aware of these issues. Many universities, not just York, have decreased their entry requirements through clearing and according to an article on WonkHE. I think up to half of people going into University go through clearing. So, I think this issue is not just one of our University or the PPE department or any department, it's more the UK's higher education system's issue. And secondly, I don't think there's a risk that our teaching and learning quality has been decreased. I think it's maybe a reaction to a very rapid change of higher education at the moment with Brexit and changes in funding, and the fact that clearing is more prominent across the sectors, but if there is any sign of decreasing quality please come and talk to me.

**What are your thoughts on some lecturers opting out of using lecture capture? Do you think it should be something that should be available in all lectures, especially for those with hearing difficulties?**

So, the Uni already has a policy on lecture capture and it is now an opt-out system rather than an opt-in. I'm aware that some departments such as History of Art, and TFTV have some lecturers that opt out because of copyright or similar issues. We as a Students' Union are still lobbying departments. For example, one of our Maths department reps last year had successfully lobbied his department so that now more than eighty percent of lectures are captured. I do agree that lecture capture is an essential part of our learning, but I am trying to raise awareness for students and one way to do that is through our study smart campaign in week six. Lecture capture is not a substitute for your learning, it's complementary to your learning - so, I'm trying to make students aware of that fact, but I always bring the same message to all university committees that lecture capture is needed not only for students with hearing problems or disabilities, but for everyone: everyone has different learning needs. **What would you say is the biggest thing or achievement you've done or accomplished over the summer and the first weeks back?**

I think that has to be the stu-

dent rep system we've been working on since day one. Course rep training had been prepared for two months and we now have training in lots of areas such as how to handle committees and how to gather feedback. We have also looked into reorganising how we manage and support department reps, faculty reps, and course reps. It requires a lot of work from my colleagues, from our student voice, and also from other departments such as marketing and commercial services. So that's my biggest win. But obviously there's a couple of things we've been working on with diversifying and decolonising the curriculum. I've been working on equality and diversity for departments at the University. What we're aiming to do is set up a working group in each department and potentially a working group in the Students' Union itself because I know diversifying and decolonising is not just academic business but also wellbeing, BAME, and potentially other areas.

Me and Ollie, who also had a big part about careers in his manifesto, have been meeting Careers quite a lot over the summer; I think that the outcome will be much clearer when students come back because when students come the academic year begins and there are more university committees around. That will make it easier to coordinate concrete outcomes for students and actually make some progress.

*Interview by Matthew King*



IMAGE: YUSU

# Steph Hayle on Bustice, rent prices, and re-running

"I honestly don't think sabb terms should be longer, but I do believe that more people should be re-running."

## What have you been doing over the summer?

The first thing we got done was the nearly £7,000 student reimbursement from Circuit Laundry. I'm also the NUS' national lead on the Circuit campaign, and I've been writing up a lot of paperwork that has been going out to unions across the country, looking to get a national campaign to sort out Circuit. It's obviously quite difficult just being one institution, but together we have a better voice.

I've also been working on the new student health app, which is going live soon. Basically, it's a one-stop shop for all things health-related for students. It's looking fantastic, and we're in beta testing mode as we speak.

## What's happening with Bustice, your campaign to improve transport in York?

A lot of people, especially people posting on YorFess, didn't read what it was about. It's not about taking down First. That's pretty much impossible. First arrive in places, run at a loss to drive out competition, then up their prices afterwards. We have no say over First prices.

The whole purpose of Bustice is to look into our entire city's trans-

port structure. It's not just Bustice, it's roads, it's cycle paths, it's walking. It's a very intensive project: we're talking five to ten years of work here. You can't get immediate quick wins straight out of this company: we've been trying for years, but all we've managed to do is get certain prices locked, like the term pass.

## From buses to rent prices: how has rent rant been going since we last checked up on you a few months ago?

There are quite a lot of things coming in the near future. I would wait a couple of weeks and you'll see. We have to wait for a little while to announce them because obviously, if there are going to be price changes, and new freshers have just arrived who might pay more than the next year, it would be pretty awful of us to suggest to them that the next year would be getting cheaper prices.

There will be changes to pricing that will be good for certain students. The University is working on a rent-setting statement for their website that is about fair rents, and this will give them standards to be held to in future when other students want to lobby for fair rent. On the new development, I have

been very honest about my distaste for the new development plans. It's completely ridiculous.

## You've stopped short of calling for a rent strike in the past, are you willing to rule that out completely?

While a rent strike has worked in a number of institutions, the risk it has, particularly to disabled and international students, is absolutely astronomical. If I was going to do it, I would make sure it was done very, very carefully. I am not going to put any student at risk.

## I want to talk now about your tweets on the 23 June. The first one read "If you support Boris Johnson and Mark Field, I am ashamed at you." You also said supporters had "blood on their hands".

I took down the Tweet initially because I believe I could have

phrased it better. I stand by the content of the Tweet. The point was meant to be that they had been accused, but I realise that it could have been misinterpreted.

## Do you not want to apologise to many of the Conservative voters on campus?

I'm not sorry for what I said. I stand by it: I spent a lot of my degree studying victimhood and sexual violence. If I'm being completely honest, if you normalise politicians who have been accused of violence against women, assault, bigotry, hate speech, then you are responsible for that getting a platform. I am attacking individuals who have lent a toxic narrative to this country, and I stand by that.

## The part-time jobs portal on your manifesto: what's going on with that?

We were hoping to do it with

YUSU, but the new website is making it hard to implement certain tools. We already have a pitch written for it, so I'm going to take that to Careers, and discuss the potential of implementing it on their service instead. It is likely to take a long time because it is a financial issue: we have to spend a lot of money on developing it.

## You're currently running plenty of long-term campaigns: stuff that won't be seen for years. Do you think that sabb terms should be longer by default?

I honestly don't think sabb terms should be longer, but I do think that more people should be re-running. It's an interesting one because one year is a really short period of time, pretty much too short to get anything done. It's the same with rental procedures. We got wins back in June, and they won't come our for six months, because the University takes that long to turn things around. This is why you see a lot of sabb getting criticism: they often do quite a lot of groundwork, but you generally don't see any of that. It's certainly not long enough to get stuff done, but I wouldn't necessarily say that they should change the timing. Sabb should just re-run.

Interview by Patrick Walker



IMAGE: YUSU

# Ollie Martin on Freshers' week, parties, and the climate

"£3 t-shirts is not sustainable... It's bullshit to declare a climate emergency and then not lead by example"

## What have you been up to so far over summer?

The first month was a lot of training and development sort of stuff, working the rough edges of our manifestos, and starting to work together as a team. Which is quite strange at first because you run as an individual and you only interact with the others a bit, and then on the night you're told you're now in this together. It took us four to six weeks to start to gel a little bit which was an interesting period, and it's totally different to any job I've had before. YUSU have been really supportive - the staff really did care about our ideas and stuff which was nice. After this we could start to get stuff done; the first thing I got done was talking to York Parties about getting things back together again, because things got a bit loose and people got complacent about things, so I'm really pleased that it's all sorted.

## Freshers' is obviously an opportunity to show off all things society-related. What has been your plan over the past week?

Trying to make the colleges feel a bit more thanked, so we did a social with them just before Freshers' Week began and that was a real nice start, because I think they do often feel like they're on their own and not particularly appreciated for what they are doing. They're doing such hard work and it can feel like it goes unnoticed so I'm trying to tackle that, because what the colleges

contribute to Freshers' Week is just enormous in value - so much effort goes into it and I want to make sure it's recognised and make the Uni appreciate it too: everything from STYCs to the college presidents themselves.

## Your predecessor spent much of the past year with changes and revisions to the media charter being a priority. Do you feel further changes are warranted?

Full disclosure, before I came into the role I'd only ever been a consumer of student media. I think this may have been a good thing because I came in with a completely objective, fresh look - I'm still learning. We have some of the best student media in the country, and it's important we protect that: one of the things I want us to look at is how we mythbust around the media charter because from what I've seen and it's my opinion, that YUSU does try to give student media as much freedom as possible. Generally where all the censorship comes in is when it becomes a legal thing, it's something I'm going to look at, but I think it's a thing of transparency. I think sometimes people forget how much support YUSU give to student media; we have media law advice on hand for our student groups, and a hell of a lot of staff time goes into supporting it.

## Storage space was a huge priority in your manifesto. Have you made any progress on that over summer?

It's a wicked problem; it's a big one. One of the first things we did was look at the storage space we had and how we can more effectively use it. The storage situation for sport is much simpler, as it's mostly in one place, either being in the sports centre, or the pavillion - we're trying to be more dynamic with it and trying to keep on top of it. We need to keep reviewing it year on year, and not let it slip, which I think is what has happened now.

With other student groups, it has been tricky to get my head around because there's no central information source, and trying to get up to speed on that has been a bigger job than I had hoped it to be. We are making some progress at the moment but the problem is that there is just not enough space on campus - space is premium and everyone's fighting for it. We may have a solution soon though: some containers that YUSU have now can be relocated and reallocated for repurposing. It's a start, definitely, but we know that they're less than ideal, because they're leaky and cold. In the long-

term I think we have to make sure the buildings on campus are fit for purpose. We'll get there.

## The previous sabb team did a skydive to raise money for RAG. Has the current sabb team got anything like that planned?

As sabb we haven't spoken about doing anything as a group for RAG week, but at this point I don't think it's likely because I worry about the idea of us pretending to be celebrities. If students want us to do a skydive we'll do one, but right now it's not my priority; all I want to do is deliver a really good quality week, and rather than doing 30 small events that are okay, I'd like to do five or six events that will be really popular, and that people will really enjoy. Seeing what other universities do for RAG I think we're falling a bit behind, we're doing well but I think there's a lot more potential on campus to push RAG, and make more progress with it.

## We want to ask you about Viking Raid. With YUSU's newfound commitment to environmental sustainability, is the distribution of thousands of free low quality t-

## shirts a wise move?

It's a really strong point, and something we do seriously need to look at. In my manifesto, you'll see there's not a lot of environmental stuff on there, which is something I feel quite bad about. We have gone down a list of things York do really badly that we want to improve. £3 T-shirts are not sustainable; I want YUSU to lead by example and I think that means we're going to have to have some difficult conversations about how we operate. It's not only t-shirts - we handed out 4 500 tote bags full of paper and freebies. It's terrible because you can see that if a student union struggles to slow down on that sort of stuff, you can see how the big corporations have a problem with it. Because we have such great Environmental Officers to do proper campaigning, it means we have time to look at the smaller, more operational stuff, so something that I want to look at is how we can make every event that we run, I want an obligatory part of that organisation to have environmental considerations within it.

## How are you going to be reducing paper waste on campus?

Apply context to leafleting; if you're expecting 50 members this year you don't need 1,000 leaflets, they don't need to be on gloss - gloss paper looks fantastic, but it takes five times longer to biodegrade.

Interview by Jonathan Wellington

For Maddi Cannell interview turn to Sport: page 24

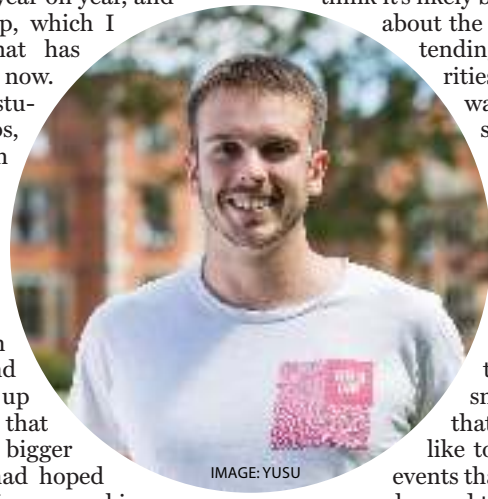


IMAGE: YUSU

# Unity Health given 'good' rating

Patrick Walker  
NEWS EDITOR

THE KIMBERLOW Hill Unity Health GP surgery provides "good" service to its visitors, according to a report from the Care Quality Commission filed early last month. The surgery, which has been criticised for long GP wait times, and questionable care, is mainly used by students from the surrounding area. The "good" rating does indicate something of a recovery for the outlet, which has been plagued with various issues since its opening in 2018, when it replaced the old surgery on main campus west.

Kimberlow Hill was let down by a number of factors, including its ability to regularly review patients, particularly those with long term conditions. It was also criticised for

problems with longer term monitoring that stopped it picking up issues like cancer through cervical screening.

The final area where inspectors looked for improvement was the quality of service provided by the new phone lines, that enable patients to book appointments and receive their initial triage without physically attending the surgery.

Kimberlow is the principle point of access to NHS treatment for York's students. It serves 23 000 people in York, across both University campuses, and the Fulford, Heslington, and Osbaldwick areas of town. 65 per cent of students are patients.

The report made clear that the surgery is designed to serve an area that rates very low on the index of multiple deprivation (10.) This makes it one of the least deprived areas in England.

Despite this, the surgery was

under "special measures" until February last year. The CQC had been reacting to patient criticism that slated Unity as "abysmal," "horrendous" and "almost laughably bad" in reviews posted on an NHS Choices website. MPs had also previously complained about the quality of care at Kimberlow, with Conservative York Outer MP Julian Sturdy, and Labour York Central MP Rachael Maskell both stepping in to attempt to resolve the problematic conditions at the surgery: even in the middle of this year, it was rated the worst in York by residents for several factors.

Unity Health now rates as "good", and has services that were described in the report as "caring", "safe", "responsive", and "well-led". The inspectors did admit that many of the measures put in place to improve the surgery were "in their infancy", and thus, hard to test appropriately.

Following this new rating of "good", the practice can now expect a visit in the next five years, and an end to the scrutiny that it has faced over the last couple of months.

Speaking to *Nouse*, Practise Managing Partner Lou Johnson emphasised the practise's desire to have a better relationship with students. "We are extremely proud of our staff, that worked exceptionally hard to achieve that level. We have worked really closely with the regular, and also Steph Hayle."

"Being able to have that link, and hear the student voice and ensure that influences our decision making is really important to us."



IMAGE: MATTHEW KING

# York research aids Brexit preparation

Patrick Walker  
NEWS EDITOR

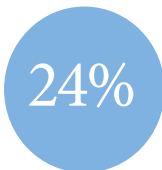
RESEARCHERS AT THE University have contributed to a study outlining how farming and fishing could be changed to emphasise employment opportunity, and decrease environmental impact after Brexit. In a press release on the University's website, researchers warned that although Brexit would enable the country's industrial vision to shift away from environmentally harmful mass production, a no-deal Brexit would compromise that opportunity due to the barriers in trade and legislation that would emerge as a result.

The outlook for a no-deal Brexit looks bleak. In the fishing industry, imposition of trade rules under the defaults of the World Trade Organisation could lead to tariffs anywhere from 7.5 per cent to 24 per cent on seafood imports. Commenting on how Brexit might affect British exports, the lead author of the study, Dr Bryce Stewart, said that the "UK would find itself under pressure to lower environmental protections and welfare standards across the farming and fishing industries to be

competitive in markets outside the EU."

Another author of the study, Sue Hartley, asked that policy makers remember the value of protecting Britain's "public goods", and recognising that healthy environments had huge benefits, both for resource extraction, and in improving the quality of life of Britain's citizens. There is also a risk that leaving the EU will weaken existing environmental protection.

The maximum tariff that could be imposed on UK fisheries



The report makes a number of recommendations, including giving a greater voice to local stakeholders, reforming farming

subsidies, introducing larger protected marine areas, and further developing the relationships between environmental scientists and the fishing industry to ensure fish stocks are managed effectively post-Brexit.

In response to a request for comment, a spokesperson for the University added that plenty of Brexit research was derived from universities. "University research, including that from the University of York, is drawn on by policy makers in public bodies and in the government." "Research from universities enables policymakers to make more informed decisions when drawing up often complex policies which then can impact on communities."

# York's mental health funding rises by half a million

Matthew King  
NEWS EDITOR

OVER THE PAST few months, North Yorkshire has been hit with a tidal wave of new funding for mental health services and charities.

In August of this year, Mental Health Minister Nadine Dorries and Public Health Minister Jo Churchill announced an extra investment of 3.3 million into 23 projects across England, five of which are based in Yorkshire.

The five projects which have been given a share of the funding are as follows: Family Action Bradford (167 000), Northpoint Wellbeing (116 000), Sharing Voices (100 000), York Mind (50 000) and Young Lives Consortium (43 600). These projects, and the extra funding, had an emphasis on providing support outside of what is currently provided by NHS services, especially for LGBTQ+ and BAME groups.

This extra funding for services within North Yorkshire coincide with the Government's current strive to improve the UK's mental health services, as a part of the NHS Long Term Plan, which is supported by an extra £2.3 billion

a year towards mental health services throughout the UK.

This funding came directly from the government within their Health and Wellbeing Fund, which will provide funding for the projects for their first year, with further support being provided by local commissioners for the next two years.

Speaking about the new wave of mental health funding, Dorries was quick to argue the importance of understanding the pressures young adults face in the home.

"We know children and young people face pressures at home and in their social and academic lives but giving them easily accessible mental health support at an early age can help them thrive later in life."

"That's why the government is investing billions every year to transform mental health care and giving more money to innovative, community led projects run by people who have chosen to dedicate their lives to supporting young people by providing them with the tools and means they need to manage their own mental health."

More recently, Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust, a trust which provides mental health services for people both within North Yorkshire and York, has received half a million pounds from local clinical commissioning groups

(CCGs) to provide further aid to mental health services in the North Yorkshire area and within York, as well as more funding to wider services such as police, ambulance and accident and emergency.

This funding will provide more support for the trust in maintaining their specialist 24 hour assessment and crisis support line.

Additionally, the increase in funding will help to expand and support the current out of

shire and York. This will also include opening a new crisis cafe in Harrogate, and a mental health first aid response service in Selby.

These crisis cafes offer support to people over the age of 16 by trained nurses and mental health experts. The Haven, York's crisis cafe, have been operating since

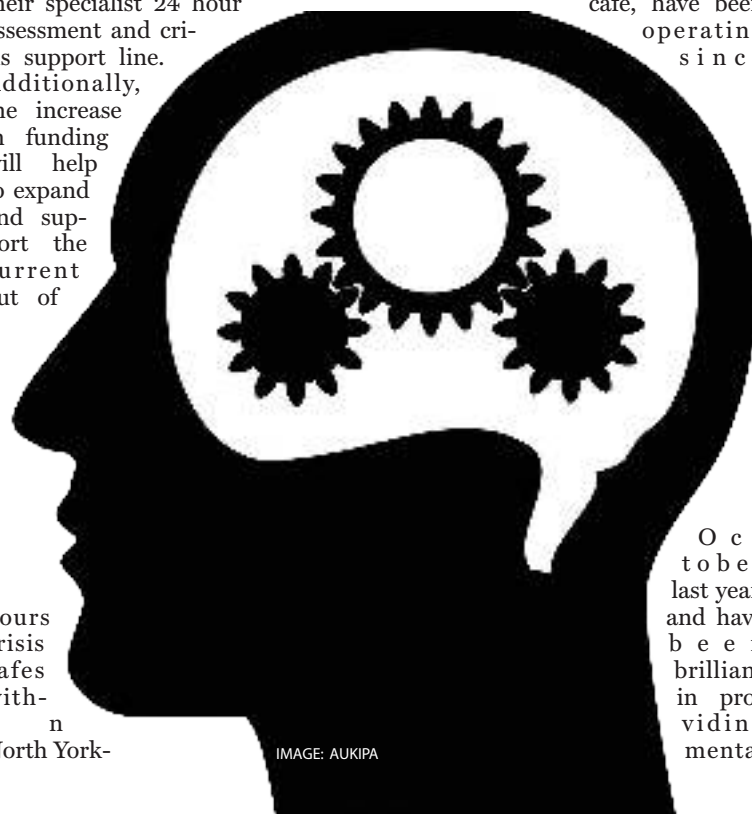


IMAGE: AUKIPA

health support for local people, by providing access to crucial information regarding crisis prevention, offering one-to-one sessions with trained mental health professionals, and directing them to other suitable services for further help. The Haven is located on Clarence Street and is open Monday to Sunday 6pm until 11pm.

The Urgent Care Pathways lead for the NHS Helen Embleton said this regarding the new funding:

"We're delighted to have received NHS transformation funding. This will help us to deliver a responsive crisis service that meets key requirements set out in the NHS Long Term Plan."

The fact that these two massive strides to provide more funding for mental health support within both Yorkshire and the UK have happened within the past few months shows the increasing importance of ensuring the outlets for mental health support are well funded. If you are in need of any support please seek help. Advice is available on the University's signposting page: [york.ac.uk/students/health/help](http://york.ac.uk/students/health/help). You can also get into contact with York's crisis cafe by emailing them at [haven.mhm@nhs.net](mailto:haven.mhm@nhs.net), or visiting them at 30 Clarence Street, York, YO31 7EW.

October last year, and have been brilliant in providing mental



# N COMMENT

## Toxic masculinity:

*(noun) a cultural concept of manliness that glorifies stoicism, strength, virility, and dominance, and that is socially maladaptive or harmful to mental health*

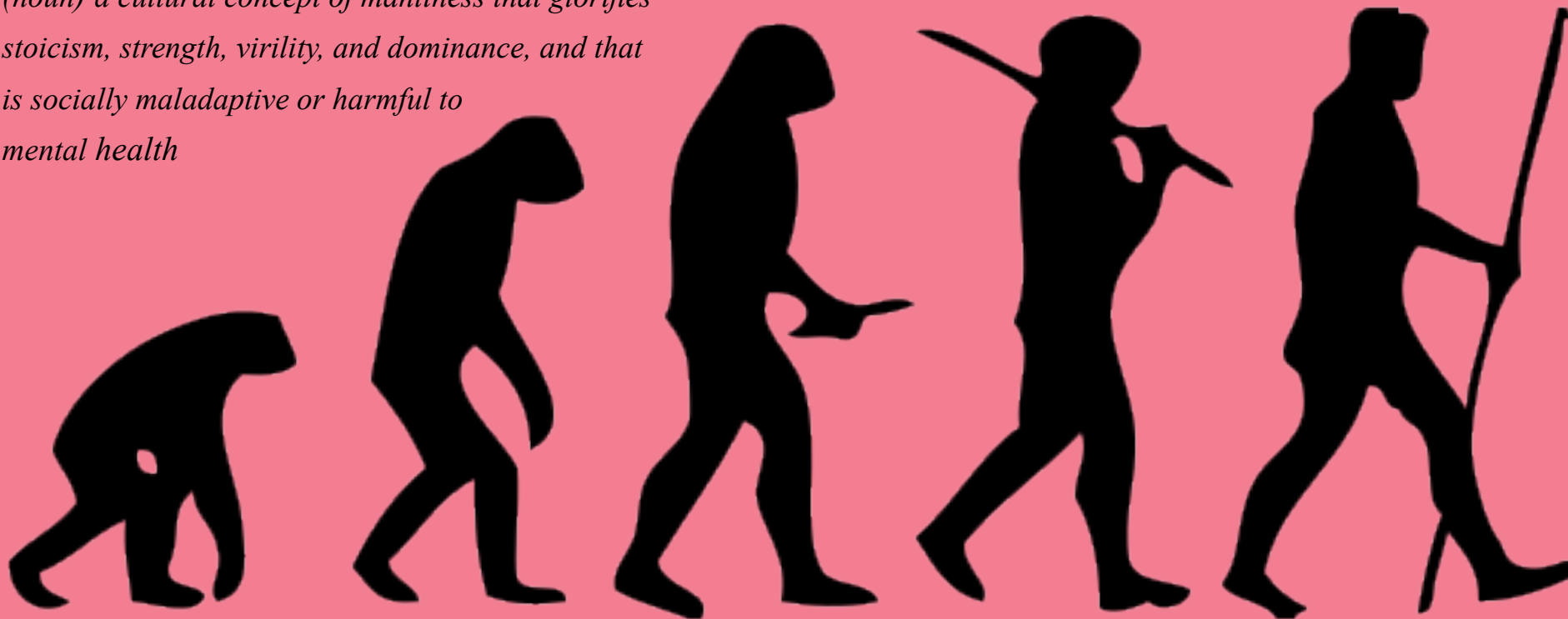


IMAGE: M. GARDE

## ‘Toxic masculinity’ is a flawed and dangerous term

The popularisation of the term generalises and harms the discussion surrounding mental health

Jonathan Wellington



There are a lot of expectations regarding what it means to be a man in 2019. The main issue with this is that the nature of different people’s expectations varies so much. Some people consider masculinity to have only positive connotations, while others believe there to be serious negative implications to the social construct. It’s my opinion that a lot of these views, both positive and negative, are now out-dated and although men must acknowledge their predetermined privilege, that doesn’t mean that they should accept it.

I grew up in a world where it was implied that men had to be strong and that we had to be able to provide for families that didn’t even exist yet. Neither of these are particularly negative and I wouldn’t necessarily object to being described as, or able to fulfil, either of them. However, I would argue that compared to the significance that they have had to previous generations, it is in fact not these supposedly necessary traits or requirements that being a man is all about. Rather, it is the effect that these expectations can have on a person that are truly at the centre of what masculinity and being a man in 2019 means.

In my house, the expression “real men don’t eat quiche” was genuinely frequent within my Dad’s vocabulary. I’m not saying that “real men don’t eat quiche” was ever said with particular seriousness, or that I ever heard it from anyone but my Dad in anything but a jokey way, but the fact remains that I’ve still never eaten quiche.

Although this example might seem abstract and irrelevant (if that’s the impact that one jovial suggestion of what it means to be a real man has had on me) it’s no surprise that narratives which are much more widespread can have huge effects on people and their concepts of manliness and manhood.

These effects, which are the culmination of thousands of messages and thousands of implications, are most importantly inevitably different. Just like any other form of identity construction, masculinity is the result of countless factors and yet, for some bizarre reason, all the negative implications which result from masculinity are grouped up using a single term: toxic masculinity. It is this term I have grown to have such a problem with.

We’ve all heard the phrase and we’ve all most likely experienced it. If you’re a man reading this then you’ve probably exhibited this toxicity yourself. In fact, anyone can. A certain night I wish I could forget in Stone Roses, centered around the punching bag and a group of locals, certainly comes to mind as

a moment where I wish that toxic masculinity had influenced me less. That ‘laddy’ culture, which is admittedly at some times less harmful than others, is most likely the first thing you associate with the term toxic masculinity and think of when you read the headline of this article. At best it’s that blokey atmosphere, fuelled by testosterone, Stella, and football, and at worst it’s the guy who identifies as a man’s man and uses that to bully and belittle others

**Toxic masculinity is most damaging where it’s less visible** ”

and their mental health.

What I’m trying to say, however, is that despite this being a big part of masculinity, it really isn’t all there is to the term and there is a lot more under the surface happening when you are looking at or considering the negative implications of the masculine identity. The danger of describing this negative behaviour with the term toxic masculinity is that toxic masculinity then in itself becomes a negative term. It becomes a term used to describe someone who should really know better and someone who desperately needs to be told to stop being such an idiot. This creates the idea

that all cases of toxic masculinity, and therefore all cases of masculinity’s negative consequences, can be solved by getting the individuals to stop acting in such a way and to think about others.

By continuing to use the phrase toxic masculinity in this way, we continue to fail men across the country. This is because in my experience, where toxic masculinity is most damaging and most troublesome isn’t in that one dick of an individual at the bar, on the football field, or in the office-places where it is most obvious and visible. Toxic masculinity is instead most damaging where it’s less visible, when it’s inside the heads of men across the country. I’m not saying to feel sorry for those men I described earlier who use their masculinity as an excuse to bully and discriminate, I’m saying emphasise with the standard person. The person who despite rejecting these ‘traditional’ masculine values still has that tiny pride-fuelled devil on his shoulder that tells him it’s not okay to cry. That tiny part inside a person that tells them it’s not okay to reach out to someone about their mental health. That tiny part that then grows in so many people across the country into something much larger. That tiny part that then leads to 6 507 suicides in 2018 with 4 903 of those being men.

I’m not saying that the term “toxic masculinity” was responsible for all of those deaths, what I’m say-

ing is that in order to properly address the mental health crisis, we need to change the language around men’s mental health. All that demonising toxic masculinity currently does is make those who beat themselves up about their mental health feel worse. Those who embrace that toxic masculine identity are unfazed by the phrase; it means nothing to them. Whereas those who do listen and reject aspects of traditional masculinity are further alienated by their own mental health. The term toxic masculinity not only ignores this separation of negative reactions to ‘masculine values’ but it also further alienates those who don’t think of themselves as ‘masculine’ or those who aren’t men. Continuing to this phrase in the men’s mental health debate essentially says to women, you could never understand the pressure and the guilt I face because you don’t identify as a man and that’s bonkers. What I’ve discussed here is typical of my experiences as a man but that doesn’t mean women can’t feel the same.

Let’s get rid of the term toxic masculinity and replace it with something that better describes the differing situations. Let’s call those who struggle to speak about emotions and mental health as a result of the messages in society one thing, regardless of gender. And let’s call those bullies who use masculinity as an excuse to treat others badly what they are: arseholes.

## EDITOR'S OPINION: A climate of speaking up

Izzy Hall

A new team for Comment, another fresher's production week. This edition tackles issues from impeaching Boris to toxic masculinity - a bold start to the academic year. I'm not new to Nouse, working as Deputy Science Editor last year under the legend himself Jay Dyer, I honed my skills and alongside Joseph Higgins and so Jemima Hill, Comment is coming at you with zeal.

This being my third freshers week I can feel the nostalgia kicking in. A lot has changed in the last two years; not just my tolerance to Fibbers and geese. Student media was never something I considered when I first came to York - being a scientist and fresh out of high school I was convinced that a lab research job was on the horizon. Over the course of my first year I realised writing was a lot less painful than lab work for me and, a good old end-of-first-year-career-crisis led me to Nouse. We've all had one, haven't we?

The last two years of politics we have seen around the world, and my own involvement in LG-BTQ+ and intersectional feminist communities has felt like an unstoppable wave of change, rendering me unable to be passive. This is what I'm hoping to bring to Comment this year: no matter where your passion lies, there will be the platform to articulate it and in turn influence others.

Speaking up doesn't make you a 'sensitive snowflake' - taking issue with change that impacts the lives of students and the wider community, articulating it and initiating action? I know that I would rather be a 'snowflake' than be inert to the chaos.

This year I want Comment to elevate voices that are far too often

squashed in not only the University community but the wider world stage of journalism. The main target of my social tirades thus far has been Instagram and Twitter, which has also been a vast source of education to me especially since coming to York. For many, marginalised groups especially, these platforms create an intense sense of community that I believe we can replicate within Comment. As much as we all bloody hate Brexit, here I am mentioning it anyway. Whichever side (there are at least five sides and possibly more by the time this hits print) you stand on, one thing we can all agree on as we approach the ominous deadline at the end of October is that turmoil brings involvement.

More so than I can ever remember in my lifetime, young people are involved and willing to align themselves politically - even if you disagree with the Tory that lives down the corridor in halls, I think we can all agree that higher participation will encourage balance and representation.

That being said, Comment is a place for the wild and the wacky. Not just hard hitting political opinions. If you have a fire in your belly for Cher's sensational Twitter account (open your phone right now if you haven't found this particular gem) or a Yorcess post that has torn your housemates apart in debate, this is the place to air it out. For the even more ridiculous, Comment in Brief will give you an insight into what's grinding the gears of editors this week. Clash of comments as usual tackles the nitty gritty, this week: private schools, providing excellence or elitist nonsense? Make sure you head to @york-nouse on Twitter to take part in the polls and have your say.

All I hope is that I live up to Comment Editor legends of times past, and give voice to the plethora of amazing minds at York. If the Comment in Brief section doesn't scare you off, come run in our election 14 October.



IMAGE: PATRICK WALKER

## On the Vedge of greatness The unveiling of Vedge - more beef than necessary?

Jemima Hill



The growing interest in adopting vegan and vegetarian lifestyles in recent years has certainly caused debate as to whether cutting out animal products is really that necessary, or beneficial, and the opening of Vedge on campus is no exception.

Vedge, being a vegetarian and vegan only cafe and as such having no meat based options on the menu, begs the question as to whether this new founded 'war on meat' is really all that necessary. Can't food outlets just have multiple veggie and vegan options to cater for those who require it?

Yes, simply having veggie and vegan options on the menu definitely gives those who adopt such diets options to choose from, while still allowing meat eaters to "go ham" for their food choices, if you will.

However, the introduction of a new vegan and veggie only cafe on campus is a step in the right direction on the path to a far more sustainable and environmentally conscious university, which York should be striving to be. Serving only vegan and vegetarian options, Vedge encourages students, vegan or non vegan, to make more environmentally conscious decisions. Cutting out meat and dairy products is the single biggest way to reduce your environmental impact on the planet, which Vedge actively encourages. A vegetarian and vegan only cafe on campus is not that far flung from the success of the Yorcess scheme, which has reduced unnecessary and non-recyclable waste, a scheme which York students welcomed enthusiastically.

Other universities have already

made such sustainable campus-based decisions too, with Cambridge banning red meat from its cafes and hospitality events back in 2016. This decision has had a significant impact on the university's carbon emissions, cutting them by a huge 10.5 per cent, which goes to show how something as simple as not serving meat can have a huge impact.

A meat-free cafe does not necessarily mean sacrifice on the part of those students who still eat meat either. Something as small as 'Veggie Mondays' or only eating meat when you're eating out are all ways

Cutting out meat is the biggest way to reduce your environmental impact

that we can be more environmentally ethical, with Vedge giving students an easily accessible option for meat-free meals. For those students who are vegetarian or vegan, Vedge provides a no-brainer for a menu that is far more extensive than the more limited vegetarian and vegan options at other food outlets on campus.

The number of people adopting vegetarian and vegan diets is rapidly on the rise, especially among students. For those who do adopt plant-based diets, Vedge is a great option to allow these people to have anything from the whole menu, rather than just a small selection of choices.

There are already some great veggie and vegan-only cafes in York city centre, such as Goji and True Story, so it is a perfect addition for

the University to have a very similar campus-based vegan and vegetarian-only café.

The state of climate emergency that YUSU have recently declared, alongside calling for the University to go carbon-neutral by 2030, reiterates the ecological crisis that is destroying the planet at an alarming rate. Our very own YUSU Environmental officers, Merry and Mark, are also big names in the climate conversation, being the fore-runners of the Extinction Rebellion faction here in York.

With adopting plant-based diets being the single biggest way to mitigate climate change on an individual basis, Vedge can make a huge difference in the ecological impact the University of York has.

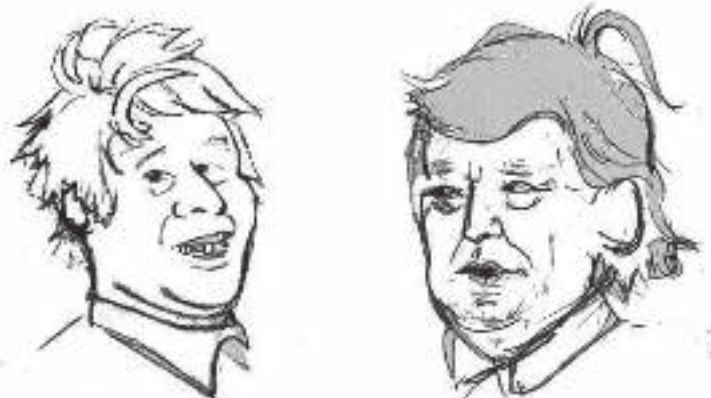
It marks the beginning of the University making active changes to reduce emissions, and with more pressure from students, even bigger changes can be made in a similar vein as Cambridge, for example.

For York to inspire other universities to become sustainable and active fighters in the climate crisis, big changes need to be made to the system which all begin in small changes like the opening of Vedge.

In short, the opening of Vedge is a great initial step for the University in taking real action in the fight to mitigate climate change. Although far more needs to be done for a real positive difference to be made, Vedge is also a perfect destination for students looking to make healthier food choices or fuel lengthy study sessions in the often more neglected Wentworth college on campus.

Eating less meat and less dairy products is a simple change that we can all easily make that can have a real impact on our planet's future.

Why not go and see what Vedge has to offer, and help the very real fight against impending climate change?



SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

IMAGE: SOPHIE IOAKIM

# Diet advertisement to be regulated on Instagram

## It's time to banish the diet products and cosmetic surgery that are affecting young adults

Chloe Lam



It's time to banish diet products and cosmetic surgery from social media. Instagram undoubtedly occupies a place on many phones, and a single tap of the screen can expose one to a myriad of alluring images, from celebrities flaunting their newest cosmetic surgery looks, to a vibrant advert for the latest diet pills.

It is paramount to protect young people ”

Such posts have come dangerously close to being normalised. Instagram's recent decision to restrict access to such content for under 18s is therefore more important than ever. With the current mental health epidemic in young people, this change has been a long time coming.

While this new system is not entirely without its flaws (users may still lie about their age to view this restricted content, for instance)

it is nonetheless a step in the right direction. By simply removing this content from the Instagram feeds of many young people, it reduces the frequency of their exposure to potentially harmful advertisements and images.

However, there is still much progress to be made. We cannot ignore the fact that Instagram's decision reflects a much wider issue within our society.

Although diet culture is nothing new, and the motivations underlying the more modern procedure of cosmetic surgery have existed for a long time, the rise of social media has made it that bit easier to access and be influenced by advertisements for these products and procedures.

Boasting over one billion users, Instagram arguably has a certain duty of care. Young people comprise a reasonably large proportion of the platform's demographic, offering companies a huge potential audience.

Yet the repeated exposure to such content can

contribute to the development of mental health issues or exacerbate those that already exist. At a time where mental health services for young people are already under extraordinary pressure – Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAHMS) are experiencing ever growing waiting lists – it is vital that all



members of society not only acknowledge this, but take a proactive role in lightening the load on the already underfunded mental health services.

Instagram is not alone in their decision. Jameela Jamil's 'I weigh' movement began on Twitter, but has since spread to other social media platforms, including Instagram. Her campaign intends to foster an environment that is more body positive, offering a safe space for anyone who wishes to partake. In lieu of a numerical weight, women are encouraged to name positive attributes about themselves, such as their favourite T.V shows, achievements and important past experiences, alongside an unedited photo.

Jamil's movement challenges the effectiveness of the Instagram restrictions. 'I weigh' is inclusive of people of all different ages. Yet Instagram restricts access to diet and cosmetic procedure related posts to under 18s only, implying that adults are less easily affected by such content. Judging by the huge response that 'I weigh' has received, this is evidently not the case.

While it is of course paramount to protect young people as far as possible, it is also important to remember that anyone can be impacted by this content, regardless of age. It is hardly as if the moment one turns 18, they suddenly

become immune to these advertisements.

Clearly, there is still much work to be done. While it would be promising to see other social media platforms following in Instagram's footsteps, arguably Instagram is the best outlet to lead this change. As a platform based almost entirely

The rise of social media has made it easier to be influenced by advertisements ”

on sharing photos, its restrictions are likely to have a huge impact. The grip of unrealistic societal expectations suffocating young people will weaken, as the platform reduces the number of posts that can reach them.

Inevitably, companies advertising diet products and cosmetic surgery will face a decline in engagement on Instagram. Yet situations like these force us to look at the bigger picture and consider what is more important: the loss of profit for lucrative companies or keeping our young people mentally healthy?

# A climate emergency is announced by YUSU

## From single-use plastics, to sustainable societies, YUSU's first step into a greener, better university

Merry Dickinson



All around the UK, climate and ecological emergencies have been declared, from giant cities and tiny towns to our very own YUSU. In words at least, people are beginning to recognise the scale of this crisis. But what's

the point of any of this? What can a YUSU declaration even do?

Well, bearing in mind that this crisis stems from an economic and social system based upon exploitation of people and planet and that we're going up against the entire fossil fuel industry, on the face of it not a whole lot. But change starts somewhere, and it starts with people making demands for radical change.

For YUSU, this declaration means a few things, such as ban-

ning unnecessary single use plastic, greening big events, encouraging sustainability in societies (and more stuff but you can read the whole declaration online so I won't bother repeating it here).

But most of all it gives our campaigns legitimacy and the full backing of YUSU (I mean, maybe not if we're occupying Hes Hall but we'll see). It means that we can begin to campaign for and demand radical and transformative climate action from this University.

Let's be real here, we may be a Student Union but the real power for structural change at 'our' university currently lies in the hands of management and faceless board members (metaphorically speaking, I assume most of them have faces).

Student-led campaigns can have power; we only have to briefly look at history to know this.

Even in our neoliberal economic system, where universities exist to maximise profit. To illustrate this point, let's go back to a board meeting I attended where I was told that the University had the potential to make all the new buildings (including the environment one - ironic right?) carbon neutral, but did a 'cost-benefit analysis' and found it was too costly. Never mind the cost to our futures or all of those cur-

rently dying and suffering due to climate breakdown, right?

That being said, our new VC Charlie Jeffery has now fully divested from fossil fuels and seems keen to prioritise the climate crisis in University policy - this is exciting but doesn't mean we don't have a lot of work to do to ensure transformative climate action happens.

So in short this is what we're

We are currently living through the sixth mass extinction ”

demanding from the University: in declaring a climate and ecological emergency. To commit to carbon neutrality with a soft target of 2025 and a hard target of 2030, and make all buildings carbon neutral to Passivhaus standards including retrofitting existing buildings.

Additionally, we are asking to decarbonise our energy supply, ban unnecessary single-use plastic from campus and green the curriculum. What does this mean I hear you ask? To make the climate crisis part

of every student's course, preferably related to their subject but you know any education about it would be great. And lastly, to improve sustainability of food on campus and stop bringing in destructive, harmful, unethical and generally terrible corporations. Now, there are many other things we want (after all, we're idealistic students divorced from reality) but this will make a good start.

The YUSU declaration is nice, but it's only the very beginning of our campaign. So apologies to those of you tired of hearing us banging on about the climate crisis, or if we disrupt your peaceful walk into extinction, but believe me: famine, floods, droughts, extreme weather and biodiversity loss are so much more inconvenient.

And to those of you who think this is pointless, or unnecessary, I suggest you get over it, educate yourself. Realistically, it doesn't matter whether you believe us or not - we are currently living through the sixth mass extinction and a climate crisis.

This is an emergency; it's about time we started acting like it. If we want to avert this catastrophe we're going to need everyone on board. People have power, but only if they unite together to use it.



IMAGE: TAKVER

# Compulsory vaccinations run risk of rebellion?

We have a responsibility to immunodeficient people, but will compulsory vaccines cause a backlash?

Robbie Allen



Should vaccinations be made compulsory? A recent article in *The Telegraph* regarding the compulsory vaccination of children with the now somewhat infamous MMR vaccine has acted as a signpost to this large question. Margaret McCartney, a British GP, suggested in the article that making these vaccinations a requirement is not the way forward in terms of grappling against what can only be described as a health crisis.

As anti-vaccine movements continue to proliferate across the Western world, I find myself drawn to the idea of a more compulsory outlook on vaccinations; a system

in which the idea of herd immunity is, more closely monitored. Surely this is preferable to watching the death of herd immunity and seeing years of global immunisation programs collapse to ruins around us?

Herd immunity is the idea that within a population if a large majority (often thought to be around 95 percent to be effective) are immune to or safe from a certain disease then that protection is in turn conferred to the other five per cent. From a statistical perspective, should one of these five per cent contract the illness, the chances of them encountering another of the unprotected group are very slim. However, some locations throughout the UK have lower vaccination rates than others, meaning nationwide

tics can be misleading. Despite the fact that across the country one in seven five year olds have not had both MMR vaccines, this skyrockets to one in four in London.

For years, herd immunity has proven true; almost all of us, by choice (we'll come back to those two very important words later) go along to our GP and suffer the sharp scratch and achy arm. The thing is, this simple act en masse pays dividends in ways many of us will never see, protecting those whose immune systems simply aren't strong enough to handle the vaccine. And now, despite all we know, their shield is beginning to splinter and crack.

This is the root of my first point: these people didn't choose to be born with a dysfunctional immune system, to live a life where measles becomes a coin flip between life and death. But still we get to choose whether we get that inoculation. For us, it's nothing, the physical harm of a vaccine is minimal. Yet more and more people are refusing, not only for themselves, but for their children too.

All of this comes off the back of 'that' paper as many in the science

community call it. Almost taboo, the paper supposedly showed a link between vaccinations and autism, a paper that has been continuously debunked, most recently by a Danish study involving 600,000 children. It's one thing to put yourself at risk of these illnesses, a choice you make, but it's quite another to make that choice knowing the vaccine will have no immediate negative effects on yourself while possibly harming

A life where measles becomes a coin flip between life and death

the life of another - someone who doesn't have that freedom of choice. It's this selfish and dispassionate attitude of a growing number of people that is creating this problem that, and a lack of topical education.

The major problem with the implementation of a compulsory vaccination system is that the government themselves are often as ill-informed as members of the general public refusing vaccination. Decisions regarding who gets medical exemptions from these inoculations and where vaccine 'checkpoints'

should be placed need to be made and they need to be fair, agreed upon by governments across the Western world and coordinated as such.

On the face of it, this seems like something of an impossibility and while compulsory vaccines may be the radical change we need in theory, in practice it may backfire resulting in many boycotting them instead. It could even exacerbating the problem beyond where it stands at present.

The alternative prong of attack is education: by educating everyone, parents and children alike, perhaps we can abolish the destructive mindset behind rejecting vaccines before it overtakes us and we're forced to watch natural selection become a far bigger part of our lives than many of us would like.

Compulsory vaccination will give us no statistical leeway to fall under herd immunity levels, but is the chance of rebellion too risky? Many think so, suggesting instead that education about vaccination in school should begin at a younger age and should extend to parental figures too.

The medical progress we have made and the knowledge we have acquired in the last hundred years is too great to give in to anti-vax ignorance - we must keep up the fight to squash misinformation. Otherwise the consequences could be grave, we have come too far to go backwards.



IMAGE: US AIR FORCE

vaccination statistics

# Enough Boris buffoonery, it's time to impeach

Bigotry, lies and Brexit disasters are not to be swept aside - the UK deserves better from our leader

Joseph Higgins



Can we talk about impeaching Boris yet? I mean, it cannot be too soon into his tenure as our Prime Minister considering all of the terrible things he's said and done in the past. The Prime Minister of this country is a man that Donald Trump himself has called "Britain Trump" which, while it makes no sense, should be a shocking indictment of how the leader of this country and our figurehead on the international stage is perceived. Boris Johnson does not represent the values and culture of the United Kingdom. The fact that he is our leader is a farce and one that should come to an end.

A lot of people know Boris Johnson as the adorable Mayor of London; the one who saved a woman from being robbed while out on his bicycle or the one that got stuck on a zipline waving union flags. Remembering only those charming quibbles about Johnson is one of the core reasons he has been able

to get away with so much rampant lying and bigotry. I genuinely do not think anyone with a decent attention span could have forgotten all of the multitude of reasons Boris shouldn't be our leader, but in case

Boris Johnson does not represent the values of the UK

you have, let's run through a few highlights:

First of all, he does not represent this country. He equated Muslim women wearing burqas and niqabs to letterboxes in a published column for *The Telegraph*. If you need a refresher on why that's offensive, then you might have voted for Boris in the conservative leadership election because to the rest of the world it's almost monstrous! Then he had the audacity to claim in his apology that it was a joke. Even if that is the case, which it most certainly is not, such a joke is so inane that it may as well not have been

written. Either way, you choose to look at it (as a sign of Boris' rampant bigotry or a poorly thought through and unfunny joke fueled by his rampant bigotry) nobody in this country can claim such callous remarks endear him to this country's 2.8 million strong Muslim population, whom he now represents as their leader. That alone should disqualify him. If it doesn't, how about him calling homosexual men "tank top bum boys", or the time he said that people of African descent have "watermelon smiles". He's clearly just racist, or homophobic, even if it's subconscious. He cannot keep his foot out of his mouth on sensitive social issues, and it's not good enough.

Second of all, he is a liar and possibly worse. Scandals featuring his lies both recent and historical are bombarding the news. There's the huge allegations of sexual assault that he's currently facing. That he allegedly lied to the Queen about Brexit. He allegedly had a sexual relationship with model and entrepreneur Jennifer Arcuri, during which he illicitly drew upon government funds (taxpayer money) to fund her presence on foreign trips she had no need or business being on. If these

high profile cases aren't enough to convince you that he's colossally inept, irresponsible and possibly criminal then check out his historical record. There's the time he was fired from *The Times* and his first journalism job for fabricating information in a front page article, then doubling down on the lie in a subsequent article on the same subject. Or the career he's made for himself as a eurosceptic at *The Telegraph* and *Spectator* in which contemporary journalists have accused him of fabricating further information about the EU to fuel his own anti-european career.

But, none of it matters. As you all well know, he's the Prime Minister now. This pathological liar with a bigoted mind and more prejudice than your nan when you announce you're getting a tattoo, is our leader. He's our leader because he's Teflon -

you can't make any of these scandals stick to him because the press and many others think he's a charming buffoon. After the letterbox scandal broke, he refused to comment but addressed the reporters with tea and biscuits so they wouldn't press him for answers, which somehow worked! But it's time to lift that veil. Boris isn't a charming buffoon, he's a very clever and calculating politician. We need to remember that, and be rid of him as soon as possible - before his bigotry and lies, masked by his buffoonery, set a precedent that we can't recover from. Please, can we stop Britain from enduring its own Trump.



IMAGE: CHATHAM HOUSE



IMAGE: LUKE SNELL

# Revolution for college sport

## Chair of James College pushes pilot for annual sports team fees

Jack Edwards



This pilot will make college sport more accessible, provide teams with greater resources, and is a price cut for many players. We have created a system that is durable for the long term and rewarding to students in the short term; being a pilot, however, there are going to be teething problems. But, I am confident this simplifies and improves on the basic tenets of college sport.

So what is this pilot all about? At its core: a single membership fee that grants universal access to all college sport, paid annually via the YUSU shop. No longer will players have to pay individual membership fees to clubs every week, with captains worrying about whether or not they have the attendance to cover training costs, at any one time being hundreds of pounds out of pocket. This system streamlines pitch bookings and makes the payment annual, making captains' jobs easier and less financially risky. It is fairer and more equitable across each College. Why should a netballer in James be paying more than one in Vanbrugh?

Generous grant funding will be made available for teams to purchase kit and equipment. More money for college teams is no bad thing, and it will mean that those that want to take it a bit more seriously will be able to do so. In James we are also doing specific James Sport events, such as our Fitness Friday, which acts as exclusive "Give it a Go" sessions for our sports members. You even get a free sports training shirt! Digital tracking of team performance and personal development programmes are also on offer as part of a wider commitment to train captains on areas like mental health and first aid. college sport is at its best when it is casual fun, but it should also be safe.

Crucially, this system will re-

tain those casual elements; if anything this system will enhance them. Want to play pool one week but try netball the next? You can. Want to dabble in some darts but then decide basketball is your bag? You can. Want to try to write another torturous alliterative pair? You can, and at no extra cost. This is not an attempt to homogenise college and university sport. It is still distinct in that it is a) much cheaper and b) far better value for what you pay for.

Initially all colleges were offered the chance to join the pilot, with James, Alcuin and Vanbrugh choosing to do so. In James, we were already planning a very similar system anyway, I was elected on a mandate to implement a univer-

### A single membership fee that grants universal access

sal fee for college sport, so it made sense to join forces with YUSU to implement this scheme. While I cannot speak for the others, I truly believe this pilot will make college sport better, and I can only guess they saw that too.

It is simply untrue to say that all college sport has always been free. For some sports, this is (and continues to be) the case. In James, for sports like darts and rugby that don't have regular training costs (one is in a bar, the other on a grass field) it doesn't make sense to charge players £30 when they clearly won't see the benefit of that. They have always been free, and under this system are still free. college sport has proven unsustainably expensive for those committees that have had it, and there is no evidence that it has helped participation. James has one of the highest participation rates on campus, yet players have always had to pay their way. Having looked at the numbers attending our taster

sessions this week, it is clear this new system is not putting anyone off, indeed the huge promotion of college sport could be increasing turnout.

The reality is that as college sport has grown, so has the cost associated with it. Eight years ago, James had two football teams. It now has six. This means they need more space to train, burdening their players with ever increasing training costs. With the discount YUSU gets on all its sports bookings (as it does with University teams), we can ensure college teams get a better deal. Specifically for football, £30 makes a significant saving for 25 weeks of the full JLD (based on a previous £2 per week charge).

I understand that there is a real concern about how students from disadvantaged backgrounds will be able to access this system. While this does mean a cut in fees for many, for some they were never able to afford it anyway. This is why this scheme is a pilot. I can promise that both myself and YUSU have worked flat out all summer to create a system that I think creates opportunities for students rather than denying them, but we understand this is only a starting point.

I'm usually the first one to stir the pot about YUSU, but on this they have been nothing short of highly professional and deeply committed to moulding a system around student feedback. When we review the pilot at the end of the academic year, there will be scope to look at captain's prices, price cuts for students on bursaries, and much more. The inclusion of other colleges will also be a priority.

I'm also not saying everything has gone smoothly this time around. With the pitch booking process in particular, we did not bear in mind the specific needs of college sport and will need to make some adjustments next year.

I strongly believe that college sport will benefit hugely from this pilot. It's better for players, it's better for captains, and it's better for college sport moving forward.

# Disney is spinning you a web of lies

## Why did fans blame Sony Pictures for the loss of Spiderman in deal negotiations?

Patrick Walker



For Disney, the plan was simple: in return for a temporary licence to produce Spiderman films, as well as permission to use the hero in their crossover offerings, they would give Sony 95 per cent of the profits from the three films in the Tom Holland trilogy. It was a good deal for Marvel, considering they still didn't own the intellectual property. Sony would finance production, while Marvel boss Kevin Feige would be a Lead Producer on the Spiderman films, giving Disney substantial creative licence over Sony's property. The deal only began to go south when Disney decided that the terms weren't sufficient. Despite this, Sony has taken the full force of the blame for the breakdown in negotiations. I don't know how Disney got away with this.

### I don't know how Disney got away with this

Make no mistake: there's only one dodgy parent in this bizarre battle for custody of Tom Holland. When Disney broke down negotiations, this time reportedly asking for a 50-50 revenue split, Sony simply asked that the current arrangement, the agreement for which Tom Holland had signed two more films, remain the same. Disney refused, and, like any psychotic parent, somehow managed to make the failure of negotiations all about their former partner.

What's most frustrating about this approach is that it worked. As the petulant creator of six of the top ten highest grossing films of all time complained about its cash-flow, hoards of journalists and fans began to defend them. "It's kind of nuts for Sony to push Disney away at this point," moaned Emmy Stefansky in *Thrillist*, "Sony didn't want to share a cut of its biggest property, obviously". It's frankly unbelievable that Sony are attracting critique for this, bearing in mind that they willingly

signed over creative and financial direction of a very lucrative intellectual property to another company in good faith.

You've got to hand it to Disney really - they picked their time well. With *Far From Home* not even out on DVD yet, and *Endgame* achieving such sweeping plot development for Peter Parker, it's easy to see why fans immediately believed that an end to the partnership would be the fault of Sony.

The company looked like it was ripping Tom Holland from his loving home at the centre of the Marvel Cinematic Universe for no good reason.

Sony's attempt to 'right the ship', tweeting that much of the media had "mischaracterised" (read: over-hyped) Kevin Feige's involvement in the franchise, was taken extremely badly by fans. The problem was, by now, that the spidey fanbase attributed everything good about the films to Marvel's custodianship, not Sony's.

Thankfully, the one good thing about Marvel being run like the mafia is that actors retain some clout in decision-making processes.

News came out earlier last week that it was reportedly Tom Holland who managed to encourage the respective companies to continue working together with their current deal: allegedly a 25 per cent cut of profits for Marvel, plus the requirement that they pay 25 per cent of production costs.

Sony is probably fairly happy with this deal too: their boss, Tom Rothman, is known to be a tough negotiator, so it was likely Disney that eventually signed up to Sony Pictures' agreement, not the other way around.

At least, in the end, the fans got what they wanted. There is now even hope that Sony may be able to develop the character in their own 'Villains' Cinematic Universe, which will continue with 2020's *Morbius*.

In announcing the successful new agreement, Feige said spidey "also happens to be the only hero with the superpower to cross cinematic

universes". We shouldn't have got here in the first place, really, but

now we're here, can we just give Sony a little of the credit for agreeing to make great Spiderman films again?



IMAGE: SONY PICTURES

# CLASH OF COMMENTS

## Should private schools be abolished?

YES.

**Callum Tennant**



Let's imagine that you are the new Education Minister. It's your job to ensure that children across the UK receive a good education. But crucially, your job is also "helping disadvantaged children and young people to achieve more." If that is your job role, then also supporting the continuation or expansion of private schools is a contradiction of your job description.

Private schools not only do not help disadvantaged children, they actually harm them. A commission into social mobility and child poverty found that 72 per cent of senior judges were privately educated, 33 per cent of MPs, 44 per cent of the Film, Music and TV industry, 36 per cent of the Cabinet, and so the list continues. These figures are alarming, considering that just seven per cent of students are privately educated. What this data shows is that if you or your family are privileged enough for you to attend a private school, you will be disproportionately more likely to get an influential job. How can we create a more equal and fair society if those at the top, those in charge of policy and those who create media narratives have benefitted from the lack of social mobility in the UK? Are we seriously saying that your chances in life, the ones you gain from your time in education, should be determined by your wealth?

In terms of morality, we've explored how private schools are unfair and preserve inequalities. And let's be clear, this cannot be an on-the-fence issue. To be undecided on whether you support abolishing private schools, in reality, means that you are undecided on whether life chances should be decided on your ability and effort, or your ability to buy yourself an unfair advantage. Now, the reality of abolishing private schools is where things get a bit more difficult, but when has making society fairer ever been easy? We do it for a better, more equal tomorrow; not because it's the easy thing to do, but because it's the right thing to do.

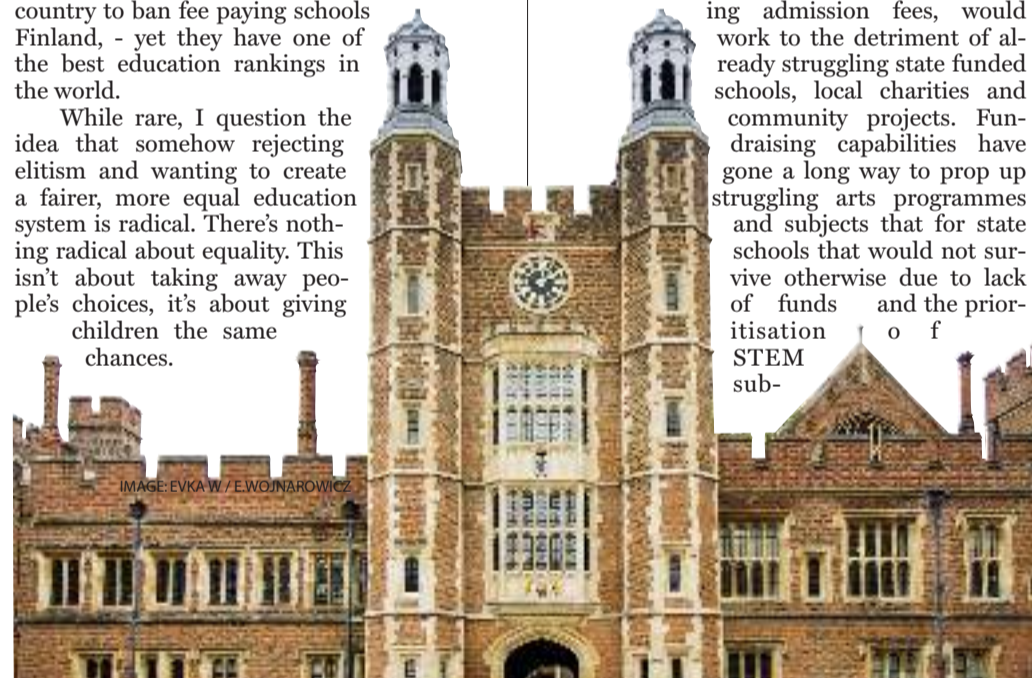
The seizure of private schools, their property, and land raises years, maybe decades of legal challenges, not to mention ethical questions. It also makes the abolition of private schools sound like a radical choice. Instead, the

abolition of private schools should be a gradual phase out, starting by making private schools less attractive. Let's take away their charitable status. Why should we be giving out tax breaks or charity status to schools which are not charities? 99 per cent of private school students are fee-paying. Let's cap the number of students from private schools that a university can accept. Let's increase teachers' pay, firstly to try and fill our teaching shortage, but secondly to enable the state sector to compete with the salaries and employability of the private sector. By slowly erasing the built-in privileges and benefits that a private education buys, we can start to lower the appeal.

The gradual conversion from private back to the state sector of students should be accompanied by an increase in education spending, back to the levels of 2010.

More investment in our education system will help make the UK workforce more productive and competitive, so this is not only the right thing to do but is also a long-term investment. Of course, abolishing private schools is not a policy that can just stand-alone. It can only happen in an environment where education as a whole is given a higher priority than it currently gets. I concede that abolishing private schools is a rare move; the only country to ban fee paying schools Finland, - yet they have one of the best education rankings in the world.

While rare, I question the idea that somehow rejecting elitism and wanting to create a fairer, more equal education system is radical. There's nothing radical about equality. This isn't about taking away people's choices, it's about giving children the same chances.



**James Abbott**



No. Labour's conference in Brighton was a declaration of war, against not only the stereotypical "ruling elite", but also many hard-working families whose only crime is to want to give their children the opportunity to get a world class education, at only their expense. Instead of pursuing petty agendas against the more fortunate, perhaps Corbyn should focus on forming a credible plan for improving state schools to a level competitive with private institutions which set the benchmark of academic excellence.

Supporters of Labour's education motion are disgruntled with specifically the government's policies to grant private schools a charitable status. They argue that tax rebates amounting to £552 million between 2017 and 2022 to public schools are being used in the preservation of privilege and inequality, through the façade of a moral responsibility towards the educationally disadvantaged. I argue, however, that the removal of private school charitable functions, and increasing admission fees, would work to the detriment of already struggling state funded schools, local charities and community projects. Fundraising capabilities have gone a long way to prop up struggling arts programmes and subjects that for state schools that would not survive otherwise due to lack of funds and the prioritisation of STEM sub-

jects in the wake of austerity and harsh Ofsted investigations. Momentum and grass roots supporters who advocate for the removal of state subsidies and the addition of VAT on private school fees, believe these measures will go a long way in decreasing the cycle of inequality that has persisted in British society 'stemming' from what school you went to. If Labour were to fail absorbing private schools into the state sector, and implement this watered-down policy, then this would work only to widen the divide. This is because with the increase in tuition fees, access to the best education would only be the reserve of the ultra-elite, whereas in its current state, independent schools have been known to encourage the admission of children from all backgrounds. This is seen through the adoption of scholarship schemes, bursaries and even housing to those students who have unstable family homes. Why then should these opportunities that can be afforded to exceptionally academic students be stripped away? Excellence in state funded schools and therefore university preference would still only largely be found in schools monopolised by students with wealthy parents, who no doubt bought homes in their catchment areas, inadvertently creating exclusive schools on the states dime. It appears that Jeremy Corbyn's Labour is eager to punish not only those just fiscally fortunate but those academically also.

NO.

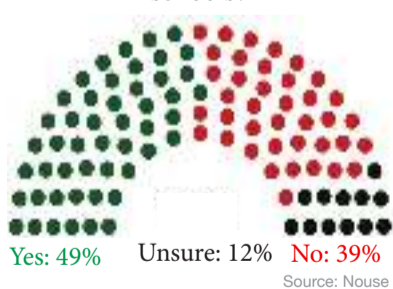
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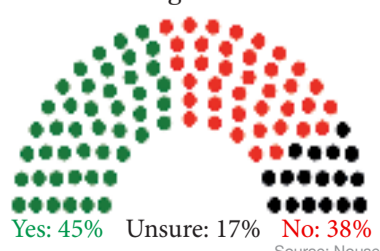
Seeing as private schools are responsible for educating so many students to a standard worthy of high intake at most Russell Group universities, surely the Labour Party should recognise them as a model to replicate for the state sector rather than trying to tear down these institutions who epitomise excellence. Efforts to maintain the quality of education integral to selective institutions have been seen by previous governments, who have sought to expand classroom sizes and places at existing grammar schools and academies, on the provision that these places go to students from low income families. But of course, to Corbyn's Labour, selectiveness and earning a place at school are paramount to privilege. In an autobiography of former Labour Prime Minister Tony Blair, the Party's preference of a comprehensive approach to education over selectiveness was criticised by him as "academic vandalism", something I fear they are doomed to repeat. Trechools.

According to the polls

Should the UK abolish private schools?



Will you be visiting the new Vegge cafe?



## Comment in brief...

**Joseph Higgins**

### MINCE PIES BEFORE XMAS?

Mince pies are a christmas snack and, as we all know, October is not Christmas. Setting aside that my birthday falls this month (you all forgot last year, I noticed), it's the spookiest of seasons. Mince pies are not and should not be a spooky food. So they shouldn't be sold in shops until after October 31. That goes for all christmas-related things, but especially mince pies: they make you think of comfort. Not the spookies that should embody October. Keep our celebrations separate guys. They shouldn't run together.



**Patrick Walker**

### WILLIE WONKA IS A HACK

Violet Beauregarde should have won the factory, in the inappropriately-named *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. Her swap to chewing chocolate to win the initial competition showed she was goal-orientated, and had a genuine passion for the product.



During the tour, she's shown to be smart, and demanding; both important traits for the boss of a branded start-up with a high research and development budget. Also, why did no one pick up on the factory's secret unlicensed foreign workforce?

**Bex Hume**

### BAKERS TRYING THEIR BEST

After initially refusing to admit that it had moved to Channel 4 and we'd all have to endure the adverts, every week I do now tune in with excitement to see what will happen in the next installment of Britain's most wholesome TV show - of course, I am talking about *The Great British Bake Off*. I am now fully on board (Sandi and Noel are a delight) but I do think that this year the judging has been harsh. Last year the Hollywood Handshakes were being given out like they were going out of fashion! This year's bakers deserve better.



# MUSE.



**“F\*CK THE  
GOVERNMENT  
AND F\*CK  
BORIS”**

A BRIEF HISTORY OF  
POP MUSIC AND PROTEST

## FASHION

**M9**

The fashion team give their guide for the best ways to shop vintage clothing

Eilidh Hide gives her top tips for styling your Uni merch

9

## FEATURES

**M4**

Alex Thompson talks music and politics as he charts the progress of protest music

**M8**

Megan Roberts discusses the marketing and branding of Urban Outfitters

**M16**

Alice Weetman reflects on the notion of banning meat



## ARTS

**M6**

Malu Rocha explores capitalism, consumerism and class in *Charlie And The Chocolate Factory*

**M7**

Jenna Luxon discusses the environmental impact of books

Jonny Wellington charts the rise of TV channel Dave and its original content



## MUSIC

**M12**

Sam Campbell explores York's rich history of music and gigs

**M13**

Alex Thompson reviews the latest album from JPEGMAFIA

12

## GAMING

**M17**

Sophie Ioakim reviews *Hollow Knight*

En Sattaur talks disruptive geese while reviewing *Untitled Goose Game*

17

## FILM &amp; TV

**M14**

Malu Rocha looks at the battle between *Pulp Fiction* and *Forrest Gump*, 25 years on

**M15**

Jamie Hudson reflects on the resurgence of American horror cinema



## TRAVEL

**M18**

Annie Wood gets harassed by seagulls in Scarborough

Izzy Hall gives her views on Krakow



18

## FOOD &amp; DRINK

**M19**

Matthew King visits York's biggest food festival

Amy Goldthorpe explains the bonding power of baking and details her cookie recipe



“I LIKE IT NOT TO HAVE A FACE BECAUSE IT’S GOING TO KEEP ON GOING: THE FACE IS THE GOOSE.”



## YORFESS, YORFESSIONS : CALLUM TENNANT TALKS WITH ITS CO-FOUNDER, DISCUSSING THE THINKING (AND BANTER), BEHIND THE PAGE

After appearing on our Facebook feeds in 2017, the anonymous confession page, Yorfeffions, has quickly become a key part of student social media interaction at the University. Originally Yorfess, the page allows users to share stories, comments and observations about uni life. Having gone viral early this year after the infamous ‘egg-gate’ scandal hit Reddit, the site has seen its fair share of controversy and been hit by several temporary bans. Early this week *Nouse* sat down with one of its creators.

### WHY DID YOU START YORFESS?

I guess we wanted a fun platform for the students. I’m not going to lie, we also saw the similar popularity on similar platforms. Started it as something fun, something funny to do. We didn’t expect it to get as big as it did. It was fun for us at the start, but then it did become a lot of work. But it’s fun for people and people enjoy it so why not continue? It was just me and a friend to start with.

### AT WHAT POINT DID YOU THINK, OKAY I NEED HELP WITH THIS?

When it was growing quite rapidly, past the first few hundred likes. We thought let’s see if there’s other people who want to join the team. We sent out an ad in May 2018, but in total we’ve had about three to four adverts. Now we’re on a team of about eight, from different backgrounds, genders, years. We don’t just want a group of, for example, 20-year-old rugby lads. Diversity wasn’t a prior-



ity, but it was a nice bonus.

### DO YOU THINK IT’S NOW BECOME A KEY PART OF STUDENT LIFE?

Yes, it definitely has. It’s cool for me. It doesn’t affect me as much as I realise. I go around uni and hear people talking about it, or maybe see them on their phone, and it’s nice. It’s weird to see how enthusiastic people are. At the end of the day it’s because it’s so fun. It’s a nice procrastination platform too.

### HOW DO YOU THINK IT HELPS STUDENTS?

Our main priority is to provide entertainment; the top posts we look for are funny posts. We do have a bit of advice posts, but when it comes to subjects like mental health we generally try and stay away from that. Because we’re not professionals, and because there are professional people in uni and we, and students also, don’t have any professional training to deal with it. But general day-to-day advice, we can allow them, and let people give advice, also because the comment section is always quite lively.

### DO YOU THINK IT CAN BE HARMFUL?

We’ve seen attempts for it to be harmful or ways it could be, but we always try and avoid that. It’s not our aim to make any controversy. If any post does come out that we deem to be harmful we’ll get that shutdown. It’s not in our interest, we are trying to provide an entertainment platform.

### ARE YOU STILL IN CONTROL OF IT, DO YOU THINK YOU’LL EVER RELINQUISH IT?

Yes, I believe once I’ve graduated, I won’t be present, and I think it’s important to be present. I hope it will be a platform that continues as long as the University

does. I do believe I will relinquish all control at some point... just not quite yet.

### WHAT’S YOUR FAVOURITE YORFESSION?

Uh... gosh. That’s a hard question. I’ve been there a while. While our main priority are funny posts one of my favourites was egg-gate. Even though we found out it wasn’t a horrible situation in the end, it was still nice to see people come together like that. And it did at the same time get a lot of attention, it was also funny to see that we were attracting a lot of Americans, seeing them chip in to a University page was weird, it provided us with a lot of laughs.

### HAS IT BEEN DIFFICULT TO STAY ANONYMOUS? HAVE YOU EVER NAME-DROPPED IN ORDER TO GET SOMETHING?

I personally do not find it hard to stay anonymous. Some of my editors do (smirk), we prefer to keep it a secret because it’s nice for the admins to stay anonymous too because the submissions are anonymous. I like it not to have a face because it’s going to keep on going. The face is the goose.

### WHAT ARE YOUR FUTURE HOPES FOR THE PLATFORM?

To be honest with you, I don’t have any big concrete future hopes. I’d like it to stay a nice community as it is. If we build a group of editors who always post the right stuff, I’m happy with that.



## EDITOR’S NOTE



### JONATHAN WELLINGTON TALKS FILLING BIG SHOES & LEARNING LESSONS

Walking into the shoes of Andrew Young and Saskia Starritt for this edition was never going to be easy. With a completely new senior team and, in Muse, a team that had been literally halved in strength by graduations, it felt like an uphill battle at times. I can honestly say Muse has provided a true rollercoaster in emotion which is most likely why this editor’s note is taking quite an emotional form. There have however been some serious, and less serious, lessons that have been learned.

Lesson 1: Pay your Adobe licence on time. Although not really our fault it still caused us no end of problems, negativity and stress. When desperate times called for me and Alex to actually take out personal subscriptions out of our own pocket, I realised just how deep the two of us were in to this *Nouse* thing.

Lesson 2: Food is important. Nisa sandwiches, take-out pizza and library paninis are not enough to get you through the week. Honestly without my nan sending me frozen home-cooked shepherd’s pies up from Loughborough for my birthday I think I would’ve struggled not to die this week.

Lesson 3: Trust no one.  
Lesson 4: Don’t give up your Spotify to the *Nouse* office. Both mine and Alex’s Spotify have now been plagued by what can only be described as absolute shite. Callum begging-for ABBA and Maddie’s insistence that War of the Worlds is the best film soundtrack of all time have left our Spotify recommended looking like a poor freshers on the curb outside of Kuda; dazed, confused and utterly fucked.

Lesson 5: Boats are fun.  
Lesson 6: Take your headshot at the beginning of prod week when you look slightly less dead (seriously I look like a corpse).

Lesson 7: The people are the best things about this job. The reality is I didn’t need to go through half of the above to learn the main lesson of the week because previous Muse editor Andrew Young had already told it to me in as many words. Our job is to make the paper as well as we can but the paper, and what others think of it, is ultimately insignificant when compared to the friendships within it. So cheers Andrew and cheers Saskia for trusting Alex and I with your baby. Thank you to the amazing team we’ve inherited, thank you to the team just starting here at *Muse*, and thanks in advance to all the people just a week away from joining this family. Most importantly thanks to Alex because without you this whole edition most likely wouldn’t have been possible. Not only that but without you this week would have most definitely been completely miserable. Oh and thanks to you the reader too, I guess.

### IMAGE CREDITS

Cover: BBC Music  
Opposite top to bottom: EdwardX, Penguin, Miramax, Public Domain  
Q&A: Yorfess, Nennienszweidrei

# 'THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGING'

ALEX THOMPSON LOOKS AT THE LONG HISTORY OF POLITICS AND PROTEST IN POP MUSIC AS WELL AS ITS RECENT RENAISSANCE

The crossover between music and politics is nothing new. Ever since the days of Bob Dylan and Marvin Gaye, pop music has been intertwined with political conscience as angst, anxieties and anger have manifested themselves in the form of protest songs. Over the past few years, however, it's been something of a renaissance as thorny issues such as Trump, Brexit, the climate crisis and immigration have dominated musical discourse. A climate of discontent has birthed a new wave of punkish energy and anti-establishment sentiment, fuelling many artists to take to the mic with one goal in mind - rebellion.

While I could go back further, I will start this article in the 30s and 40s with the godfather of political pop, Woody Guthrie. Championing the rights of the working class and with a guitar stencilled with 'this machine kills fascists', Guthrie used his unique brand of folk music to critique capitalism and fascism in the US. His songs may be over 70 years old but they still feel just as relevant and cutting as they would have on release. His music was raw and unfiltered, an angry man with a cheap guitar and strong opinions.

Around the same time, Billie Holliday left Columbia Records. The label had refused to record her latest single, a powerful and timeless song that would go on to define protest music as we know it today. She joined Commodore Records and released the song which went on to sell over a million copies. 'Strange Fruit' took the protest song and turned it into something accessible, powerful and utterly compelling. Singing about lynchings in the South was later to be rerecorded and made legendary by Nina Simone.

The following decades birthed a new model of political music, taking the blueprints laid down by Billie Holliday and Woody Guthrie and turning them into something revolutionary. Sam Cooke's iconic 'A Change Is Gonna Come' became synonymous with the civil rights movement. Released the same day as the notorious protest in Selma, Alabama, the song was written as a response to the 'Bloody Sunday' confrontation on the Edmund Pettus Bridge. Cooke was spurned to record the song after hearing Bob Dylan's 'Blowin In The Wind'. By this point, Dylan himself had already carved himself a niche in the industry, carrying on the political folk

movement kick-started by Guthrie and updating it for a 60s audience. Songs like 'The Times They Are A -Changin'', 'The Ballad Of Emmett Till' and 'Hurricane' brought political issues to the public consciousness and helped rally a new generation of young people.

The Vietnam War was a major catalyst for protest songs in the 60s and 70s. Creedence Clearwater Revival's 'Fortunate Son' is the most recognis-



IMAGE: JASON PERSE

able of the bunch, having been used in literally every single Vietnam film. There was also 'Ohio' from Crosby, Stills And Nash, a powerful song protesting about the students shot dead by police at Kent State University whilst protesting the war. Other songs are less obvious in their anti-war sentiments. The Rolling Stones 'Gimme Shelter', John Lennon's 'Imagine' and Black Sabbath's 'War Pigs' all carried the political undercurrent of revolution and protest; a direct response to America's involvement in Vietnam. Perhaps the greatest protest song to come out of this era, however, was Marvin Gaye's 'What's Going On?', a track that blends the soulful jazz influences and dark aesthetic of RnB with lyrics that tackle everything from Vietnam to US politics, poverty and crime. It's a track that defines an era of confusion and struggle, a rallying cry to a disenfranchised nation.

As the 70s rumbled onwards, punk replaced rock as the new counter-culture. Where previously the sounds of folk, blues and soul had been the most powerful vessel for politics, punk became an easy way to spread an urgent message. Everything about its sound catered to protest: the aggressive lyrics, the raw and fuzzy DIY production, even the album covers looked angry. One of the most influential bands spawned by this era was the Dead Kennedys. 'California Uber Alles', 'Holiday In Cambodia' and 'Nazi Punks Fuck Off' are dark and grimy punk tracks, rough and unfinished in all the right ways and with enough edge to take your face off. Critiquing war, capitalism and the American dream with biting satire and social commentary, the Dead Kennedys took the protest song to a new level of aggression and satire.

As with everything in the 80s, music became big, bold and a little bit over the top. It was an era of overexuberance and one of the few genres to escape unscathed was the protest song. In Thatcher's Britain, music became a unifier for the working classes in a divided country and took on a new role as important social commentary. While the reverb soaked guitar and hum-drum lyricism of Billy Bragg's 'A New England' made it an instant cult hit, the content focusing on class struggles and bleak industrial imagery made it timeless. Meanwhile Morrissey (before he went all racist) was churning out equally political lyrics as The Smiths went from small indie band to superstars. Combining socialism, patriotism, veganism and probably some other -isms, The Smiths' music managed to remain political without

sacrificing its pop sensibilities. When David Cameron said *The Queen Is Dead* was one of his favourite albums, I think he might have missed the point.

U2's 'Sunday Bloody Sunday' is another timeless example of a protest song from the 80s. Written during a tumultuous period in Northern Ireland, the Troubles, Bono's lyrics are stark and austere, echoing a bleak period during the conflict between the IRA and British Forces. Their album *War* continues this idea, drawing on pacifist ideology to create some of the decades most memorable tracks.

While indie music remained a powerful tool for discussing class, a new wave of punk music would come to define feminism in modern music. The Riot Grrrl movement of the late 80s and early 90s took the framework of punk and grunge, injected it with feminist

“ Politics are cutting, riffs are sludgy and the whole thing is coated with a grime and grit that's undeniably cool

politics and repackaged it into something revolutionary. Bands like Bikini Kill dominated the punk scene with their unique brand of fierce and fuzzy guitar music that set out to overturn the male-orientated model of rock that had previously dominated the industry. The politics are cutting, the riffs are sludgy and the whole thing is coated with a grime and grit that's undeniably cool.

The 80s also saw the rise of hip hop, a genre which would become deeply intertwined with politics and culture. Even in the early days of rap music, MCs were using their platform to express their political agenda and tackle issues of race and class. Public Enemy were one of the most prominent of the era, their politics taking inspiration from civil rights activists such as Malcom X and Louis Farrakhan. It Takes A Nation Of Millions To Hold Us Back was released in 1988, a stunning second album with a strong social conscience. Roll-

“ A climate of discontent has birthed a new wave of punkish energy and anti-establishment sentiment



'THIS LAND IS YOUR LAND' - WOODY GUTHRIE

1940

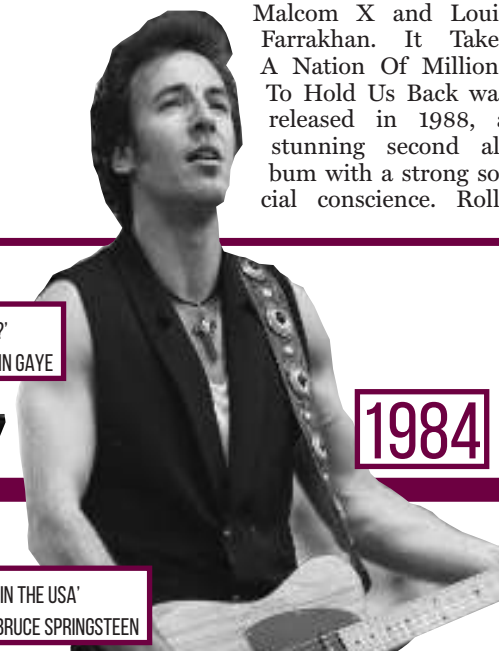


'THE TIMES THEY ARE A CHANGING' - BOB DYLAN

1971



'WHAT'S GOING ON?' - MARVIN GAYE



'BORN IN THE USA' - BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN

1984

ing Stone magazine described the project as 'Loud, obnoxious, funky, avant-garde, political and uncompromising'. The single 'Fight The Power' soared to popularity after being used by director Spike Lee in the soundtrack to his incredible 1989 film *Do The Right Thing*.

## Arguably the king of the modern protest song, Kendrick Lamar remains political while retaining a pop edge

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Hip Hop's real explosion into the world of protest and politics and the mainstream came a few years later with the release of NWA's game-changing album *Straight Outta Compton*, mostly due to the explosion of publicity that surrounded the now notorious single 'Fuck Tha Police'. Spurned by the group's experience of prejudice and police brutality, the song tells a narrative of Compton youths being the victims of beatings and racism from the LAPD. As NWA's fame skyrocketed, the group began a nationwide tour and were threatened with legal action and arrest by Detroit Police Department if they performed the song. The mad lads did it anyway and become one of the most influential rap groups in history.

By this point, both rap and rock had shown themselves as perfect canvases for politics; protest songs came thick and fast from both genres during the 90s. Despite this, there had been limited success in combining the two. This all changed in 1992 with the release of Rage Against The Machine's shocking and electrifying self-titled debut. Growing up with a Mexican revolutionary for a grandfather and a university professor for a mother, frontman Zack De La Rocha had strong political views from an early age. This angst and ideology combined with the wailing guitar melodies of Tom Morello and tight drumming gave the album a punky hip hop aesthetic that made it one of the most recognisable of the decade.

A new millennium brought new crises and a host of new protest songs. Unfortunately most of them weren't very good.

They lacked the punch, drive and energy that made the previous century's political music so electrifying. There was nothing with the barb of Dead Kennedys, the pop sensibilities of Marvin Gaye or the powerful resistance of NWA. A quick Google shows pretty sparse pickings of fairly unmemorable songs critiquing Bush, the Iraq war and American politics post 9/11. Weirdly the best

offering came from The Black Eyed Peas. To be honest, 'Where Is The Love?' is a banger. There was the well intentioned if slightly dated cover of Marvin Gaye's 'What's Going On?' featuring the likes of Bono, Nas, Christina Aguilera, J Lo, Missy Elliot and Limp Bizkit's Fred Durst. It has aged about as well as you'd expect. Green Day's 'American Idiot' also counts for some reason, not that it's particularly political or ground-breaking. Other pop punk acts such as System Of A Down also had a go at trying to get political with what I would describe as fairly limited success.

The period post 2010 saw more success in political music with mainstream rap and hip hop acts gravitating towards more socially conscious lyrics as the bling era began to wane. The return of legendary hip hop collective, A Tribe Called Quest marked a new era for the group, their first overtly political album that took their early jazz rap style and combined it with contemporary politics and social issues. It was more mature in its style and more aggressive in its politics, a hip hop album tailor made from the Trump era. Other artists were less subtle and nuanced in their critiques, such as YG and Nipsey Hussle who dropped the single 'Fuck Donald Trump' in late 2018. It's an unapologetically furious banger with all the anger of NWA and the president in its cross-hairs. Other brilliant examples of political hip hop over the past few years include Jay Z's 'The Story Of OJ' and literally anything Killer Mike and Run The Jewels have released.

Arguably the king of the modern protest song, Kendrick Lamar remains endlessly political while retaining a pop edge and distinct style. His 2015 album *To Pimp A Butterfly* is a perfect example of this, blending dense and hard-hitting lyricism with jazz, hip hop and spoken word. Songs like 'King Kunta' address the history of slavery and oppression in the USA, other cuts like 'The Blacker The Berry' tackle race relations in modern day America. 'Alright' is another powerful song with a message of optimism in a bleak political climate, an unofficial anthem of the Black Lives Matter movement. His contributions to the soundtrack for *Black Panther* further this idea of Kendrick as a significant figure in the fight against racism and prejudice in America.

And of course, how can you discuss hip hop and politics without mentioning Childish Gambino's game-changing song and video for 'This Is America', a track so dense in reference and imagery that it left the internet picking through the video for references and clues to its deeper messages. Tackling gun violence, consumerism, police brutality and race relations, it's a project packed with politics but still managing to be a catchy and accessible piece of pop-rap.

Across the pond, London MC and poet Kate Tempest released the incredible *Europe Is Lost in 2017*. Tackling issues ranging from Brexit, immigration, the class system and the NHS, Tempest delivers beau-

tifully dense and complex imagery and impeccable bars over sparse and simple beats. The album is protest poetry meets hip hop and it's endlessly compelling. In stark contrast, Nottingham hip hop duo Sleaford Mods took overwhelming Brexit Britain despair and combined it with a unique blend of punk and hip hop, making their latest album 'Eton Alive', their most politically conscious (and most aggressive) work to date.

2019 has seen an explosion of political albums and protest songs, tackling a whole host of controversies and issues that plague our current political climate. Early last month rapper and anarchist Slowthai took the stage at the Mercury Prize Awards carrying a facsimile of Boris Johnson's severed head, donning a 'Fuck Boris' t-shirt and taking the opportunity to call out the current Prime Minister for his inaction over Brexit. The act shocked social media, provoking outrage and anger from the public despite the rapper's in-

## A new millennium brought new crises and a host of new protest songs

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sistence that he was not using the platform to incite violence. His album *Nothing Great About Britain* was one of 2019's biggest debuts, a polished and uncompromising attack on the establishment. The title track details a country in crisis, an utterly bleak depiction of Brexit Britain and the panic and paranoia of recent years. He also calls the Queen a "c\*n\*t" which is certainly a bold move.

He's not alone in his feelings. "Fuck the government and fuck Boris" chants Stormzy on his explosive single 'Vossi Bop'. While it may be his boldest statement yet, the aggressive politics are nothing new. A vocal critic of the Conservative Party, a champion of mul-

iculturalism and activist, Stormzy has always used his music to challenge the establishment and discuss his experiences of race and class growing up in London. Now he's one of the UK's biggest superstars and his message is a rallying cry to millions of young people across the country. Clad in a Union Flag stab vest (courtesy of artist Banksy), his Glastonbury performance was protest pop at its finest. Dubbed as the 'banner of a divided and frightened nation', the set was a bold statement about knife crime in the UK, with one critic suggesting that Stormzy was highlighting the uncomfortable reality of "young black men living in a warzone". It was bold, powerful and inspiring - a hell of a lot more effective than slogans in chicken boxes.

It's not just rap that has been tackling these issues. Bristol based punk band Idles are channeling Brexit Britain angst into track after track of political angst and guitar grit. The band's debut *Brutalism* was a rage-fuelled attack on the establishment, their critically acclaimed follow-up *Joy As An Act Of Resistance* takes this further, taking shots at Brexit, Boris and the ever increasing price of bacon baps. It's an electrifying record that touches on feminism, toxic masculinity and a host of other issues in a series of well crafted and hilarious lyrics and punchlines that echo the great protest rock of the 80s and 90s.

In a similar vein, Streatham MC Dave's stunning *Psychodrama* had broader social issues in its cross-hairs. Tracks like 'Black' and 'Psycho' are hard hitting cuts that detail the underlying racial prejudices in the British class system, post-colonialism and our current media age. Then there's 'Lesley', a track examining the life of a woman in an abusive relationship that weaves in and out of perspectives across its hefty 11-minute run time. It's a landmark album for British hip hop, dense in politics and steeped in social consciousness.

Protest music has a long and rich history, one that stretches back decades and that is just as important an art form today as it was a century ago. It's a medium that is constantly evolving and changing, expanding on the groundwork of its predecessors and drawing attention to pressing contemporary issues. In an age of political turmoil where everything is in flux, only one thing is certain: We're bound to get some good music out of it.

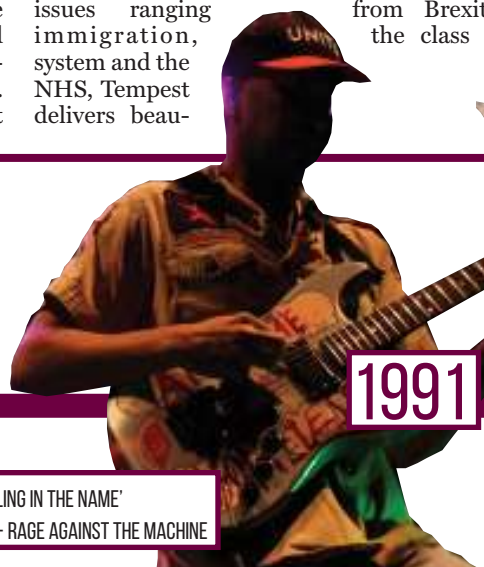


IMAGE: BBC MUSIC



'FUCK THA POLICE' - NWA

1988



'KILLING IN THE NAME' - RAGE AGAINST THE MACHINE

1991



'REBEL GIRL' - BIKINI KILL

1993



'NOTHING GREAT ABOUT BRITAIN' - SLOWTHAI

2019

# WILLY WONKA: A LESSON IN CONSUMERISM

MALU ROCHA ON HOW CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY REFLECTS GROWING CONSUMER BEHAVIOUR

Fifty-odd titles added to Netflix every month, new bestselling novels hitting the shelves at Waterstones every day, more than 500,000 active podcasts at my disposal and yet here I am re-reading Charlie and the Chocolate Factory for the billionth time. My excuse this time? Roald Dahl Day has just passed and I could not let it go by unnoticed.

Arguably Dahl's most popular novel, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory has sprung two films, a musical, and countless Halloween costumes. However, I am not here to argue that Tim Burton's version is too cartoonish or that Gene Wilder's was a better Willy Wonka than Johnny Depp. I am here to say that Charlie's story, in all of its formats, not only accurately reflects today's society and some of its perils, but also teaches us some invaluable moral lessons about ruthless consumerism along the way.

But let's start at the beginning. Before Wonka even makes his grand appearance, we are introduced to his peculiar and exquisite personality through the allure of a kick-ass marketing campaign where he invites five lucky children to his factory. I would be lying to my 10-year-old self if I said I never opened a chocolate bar pretending there was a Golden Ticket inside and hoping that a magic chocolatier wearing a purple blazer would somersault out of thin air and greet me with open arms; a perfect illustration of Wonka's mysterious charming character.

According to his biographer Donald Sturrock, as Road Dahl was in the process of creating Wonka's character back in the 1960s, his two children fell very ill. He explains that Dahl seemed to pour himself into Wonka, creating in him a character that with a 'sense of magic' and a dominant personality could overcome anything. Sturrock claims that the more you know about Dahl's back story and the circumstances in his life surrounding the creation of Willy Wonka's character, 'the more sympathetic and extraordinary Wonka becomes.'

But in a world full of Oompa Loompas, chocolate waterfalls, baffling boat rides and magic elevators, it's undeniable that a couple of aspects surrounding Mr. Willy Wonka himself remain dubious. Because of his equivocal personality, he can sometimes be misinterpreted as controlling or creepy with his many riddles being somewhat annoying. Some even claim that he orchestrated the whole factory tour

beforehand and that every child's disappearance was planned well in advance, despite him nonchalantly acting as if they were mere accidents.

Considering that this novel contains some questionable plot holes, and that Willy Wonka himself is a bit wacky, you might be wondering why on earth I am telling you to take his anti-consumerism advice as a life lesson. Ultimately it all comes down to this; Willy Wonka teaches us that good things happen to good people, and Charlie is a good person. Why? Because he knows how to appreciate the small things in life without constantly demanding more. And even though good and bad are arbitrary standards, Charlie's pure intentions outweigh all the other children's that were invited to the factory. Willy Wonka acknowledges that, and so should we.

It's no coincidence that the four other children who find a Golden Ticket represent a parade of characters who cannot help but fall into temptation that has risen from their own character flaws. Augustus Gloop is a gluttonous chocoholic whose addiction is encouraged by his parents; Mike Teavee is a lazy television buff who falls victim to his own obsession; Violet Beauregard is a demanding punk, to put it simply; and Veruca Salt is a spoiled brat who perfectly embodies greed at its worse.

Firstly, hats off to Dahl for gifting us with these marvellous character names. And secondly, the reason all of these children inevitably met their terrible fate is partly because they failed to resist temptation and partly because they were accompanied by indulgent parents. The worst thing is, when they were being eliminated one by one inside Wonka's chocolate factory, their parents immediately turned to Willy Wonka asking him to bend the rules and save their child, when in fact, they should have been saved a long time ago.

Sadly, this scenario is not exclusive

to fictional stories. Children often become the product of a greedy society because their parents blindly support and sometimes even unknowingly encourage inappropriate behaviour, not least inappropriate consumer behaviour. As the Oompa Loompas said it best, "Blaming the kid is a lie and a shame / You know exactly who to blame".

Although some parents might pride themselves in having some hint of self-control and not behaving exactly like the over-the-top characters in the novel, others might blush at the number of times they have succumbed to insane wishes and can't help but recognise the similarities between themselves and the characters when it comes to fulfilling their children's consumerist-driven demands.

Unfortunately, the encouragement of consumerist behaviour among children is a pattern that is coming up more and more often in modern children's literature. In a thesis published by the University of Vermont, Rachel Franz analysed over 30 picture books and concluded that a vast majority contained pro-consumer messages.

Whether that be through an image of a smiling kid surrounded by dozens of dolls,

or a plot driven by a puppy desperate for a new bone toy, most children's books nowadays encourage consumer behaviour. Exposing children to messages praising materialism will only ever increase consumer culture and encourage young children to wrongly think that material goods equate to happiness.

No wonder we're becoming a pervasive consumerist society; the numbers confirm it. According to recent figures released by the Office for National Statistics, consumer spending in the UK is now the highest it has been since 2005, reaching a mark of over £1.34 trillion last year. That's a lot of money spent on piles upon piles

of 'stuff'.

There is no one better to embody this mentality than the one and only Veruca Salt. The Oompa Loompas, ever so wise, refer to her as "the little brute". A walking and talking impersonation of greed, Veruca wants everything. Now.

When Wonka's campaign was announced, finding a Golden Ticket became her latest obsession and she demanded buying every chocolate bar in the world until she found what she wanted. Her father gave in to her dictatorial power and mobilised every worker in his factory to grant her that wish even though, in plain terms, it was completely insane.

When the ticket was finally presented to her, she looked at it with sparkling eyes for a few moments, before turning to her father with a straight face and saying, "Daddy, I want another pony." In a consumerist world, happiness is brief. This is a perfect illustration of the central paradox of consumption, and Veruca holds up a mirror to society making us question our own habits.

While her parents encourage her consumerist behaviour, Willy Wonka condemns it. When the factory tour reaches the Nut Sorting Room, Veruca instantly decides that she wants a cute little squirrel as a pet. In turn, the squirrels all gang up on her and classify her as a 'bad nut', sending her down the rubbish chute. This is Willy Wonka's not-so-subtle way of teaching us that greed is in fact a deadly sin and should be punished.

Willy Wonka shows us how the world can be twisted in some pretty dark ways, but it's not all doom and gloom because he then presents us with a way out; be humble and grateful like Charlie and you will be rewarded. Charlie never crossed the line, never disobeyed an order, and always maintained a respectful posture; he was guided by good intentions and good morals.

Few novels have been so revolutionary in portraying anxieties about consumer culture and its potential to corrupt young children as Road Dahl's Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. The fact that a children's book has enough narrative depth to captivate young children, cynical adults, and academics alike speaks for itself. And the most magical thing of all if you ask me: the lessons it teaches us are applicable to everyone.

At its core, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory is a classic rags-to-riches story about a humble boy who becomes the owner of a marvellous chocolate factory not by giving in to consumer culture and being greedy, but simply by being a good person. And at the end of the day, I believe that all Roald Dahl is trying to teach us is that being nice will get you much further in life than any material goods ever will. And if that's not a life lesson to live by, I don't know what is.



IMAGE: PENGUIN



IMAGE: PENGUIN

# WHY WE SHOULD ALL TRY TO READ GREENER

JENNA LUXON TALKS ABOUT THE OFTEN-OVERLOOKED ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF BUYING AND PRODUCING BOOKS

At the end of September hundreds gathered in York city centre to call for more action to be taken on climate change. This is not an unusual sight; climate protests are something we have become accustomed to not only in York but across the country and indeed the world. Extinction rebellion is now a household name, as is Greta Thunberg whose school strike back in August last year has sparked a global movement.

The one group in particular who are charting the course on environmental issues however, is the youth of society. The NUS estimates that 91% of students in the UK are 'fairly or very concerned' about climate breakdown. With YouGov polling too showing that almost half of 18-24-year olds choose environmental issues as one of the nation's three most pressing concerns compared with only 27% of the general population.

Yet while the environment may appear to be a 'student issue' what many of us fail to realise while we catch the bus to campus, drinking from our reusable cups and loyally toting around our bags for life, is that there is another often over-looked planet killer and it is hiding in our reading lists.

While the effect of deforestation is widely spoken about in society, when it comes to the environmental impact of producing books this factor is just the tip of the (quickly melting) iceberg. There is a myriad of other factors in the book production process that too hold grave implications for the planet. From

the collection of raw-materials to transportation, energy consumption, the waste created, packaging, the list goes on and on. And while I am not a scientist and will freely admit to not fully understanding all of the science behind this, I believe those who do understand such things when they tell us our planet doesn't like it.

It is because of these factors that we need to find ways of reducing the number of books being produced. Whether that be by sharing print books through libraries, buying second hand or whether we opt to go digital. And for academic texts both these options are relatively easy to do, as if books cannot be found in the university library as a physical copy, they are often readily available to read online.

It is instead when it comes to reading for pleasure that the environmental impact is perhaps more greatly felt. Buying books is easier than ever before, you don't even need to leave your house. Just sit at home

online whilst cheap books are sent flying through your door to you. But with this ease

has come the death of other services such as public libraries, with the government Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport reporting in their 2018/2019 'Taking Part Survey' that only 33% of adults visited a library in the last 12 months, a figure significantly lower than the proportion who had visited museums, galleries or heritage sites. 60% of those surveyed then went on to say that the reason they had not visited a library was because 'I don't need these services' and that is understandable.

But while we as individuals may not need these services, our planet needs us to use them. Statistics are regularly being quoted that the second hand book business is booming. But in reality, it is not the cosy little independently run second hand bookshops like those we have in York that those stats are referring too but

the second hand book business run online by multinational conglomerates like Amazon. And while this is an improvement on buying new, it still involves the same transportation and packaging issues.

Likewise, the development of e-readers might appear to be a blessing for the environment and while it is a one-off purchase, it still holds disadvantages again for these similar reasons of transportation, waste, packaging alongside the mining of metals and minerals to make such devices.

But it is not all doom and gloom. And I am by no means suggesting we give up buying new books altogether, that would of course never work. Going digital with reading is a separate conversation all to its own with proponents and critics in equal measure. But it is undeniable that even better than an e-reader, downloading reading apps on to your pre-existing devices is likely to be the most environmentally friendly method.

But perhaps diversifying our reading habits is something we can all try in an effort to reduce our negative impact on the planet. Instead of heading of unthinkingly heading to the Coney Street Waterstones to pick up another new paperback, maybe try the York public library instead or wandering around York's many second hand book shops. Waiting a little longer for a book we're after or suffering the odd scuffed cover or folded page are sacrifices worth making both for the benefit of our finances and more importantly our planet.



IMAGE: LUCY TARTAN

# FROM TOP GEAR TO TASKMASTER: THE RISE OF DAVE

JONATHAN WELLINGTON TRACKS THE DEVELOPMENT OF DAVE AND ITS RECENT CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE UKS COMEDY SCENE

12 years ago Dave was a waste-ground of reruns, showing Top Gear half the time and a BBC comedy repeats for the rest. This wasn't necessarily a bad thing but it became the butt of jokes on panel shows, a punchline of a TV channel. Ironically the jabs only ended up being funnier when they inevitably ended up on Dave 5 years later. Inevitably the topical nature of shows such as Mock the Week would fade but the shows retained their humour fairly well. The showing of good, if old, shows aside meant Dave was most certainly not "the home of witty banter". It appeared that this self-designated title was at best ambitious, at worst a complete lie.

Despite this clear lie, something about Dave worked. What the channel did with this mediocre success is what is of such note. Turning their attention to the original programming, the channel managed to go from "the home of repeated or out-dated witty banter" to "the home of new and original witty banter".

In 2019 Dave has become a more powerful force in comedy, not only has the word "banter" come into pop-

ular language but Dave's original content has really changed the channel's image. "Witty banter" still might not necessarily be the best description of Dave (it is still showing episodes of 'Would I Lie To You?' From the early 00's) but it's a lot closer to earning the title it awarded itself over a decade ago.

Dave, however, serves comedy more than just being producing original shows, it's key contribution is providing a low-risk platform for ideas to be tried and tested. Shows like Taskmaster ultimately would never have been made without Dave and what a bleak world that is to imagine.

Taskmaster itself certainly played a key role in getting top comedians to Dave. Now on its ninth series in 4 years, the show sees Greg Davies put 5 comedians through different challenges which vary in difficulty and weirdness. One of very few shows I can think of that's had 9 series and still retained its quality and creativity, Taskmaster shows no sign of slowing as its ongoing success means the

pool of contestants is ever broadening.

Despite being unique in the fact it was an original show at the time when it first aired in 2015, it's now one of many on Dave, a testament to how far comedy on the channel has come. James Acaster and Josh Widdicombe's Hypothetical also proved to be a great show, sharing with Taskmaster the fact it never would've been made by anyone else, it's such a weird premise and would likely have been laughed out of a BBC pitch meeting. Jon Richardson: Ultimate Worrier is another example of a show that feels at home on the channel and improves every series.

The latest in this line of original content is Comedians Giving Lectures, which perfectly illustrates Dave's double-edged sword. The show sees comedians taking to the lectern to recycle and re-imagine real academic lecture titles, and performing their stand-up inspired lectures to a studio audience and a cohort of genuine experts.

These experts are called in to watch the "lecture", take notes, and then give the comedian feedback on the accuracy of the lecture. Not only this but they then give the lecture a score out of 100. The score isn't as irrelevant as you might think; each comic's score is then added to an audience vote

at the end where a bar chart of sorts clearly shows the winner.

The "experts" are hit and miss when trying to be funny themselves, and you get the distinct impression they had more to say than the editors allowed in the final cut. As a result they're cut short by host Pascoe or by the comic themselves who always seems less than pleased to receive any feedback. The result is that all it adds is awkwardness.

The point remains, however, Comedians Giving Lectures is a good show which is making an impact on the comedy scene, giving a platform to lesser known comedians alongside those we've grown to know and love with in the way Dave has perfected.

Long live Dave, and let us feel lucky that it's fifth regeneration as a channel worked, not just for the endless reruns but for its long-lasting impact on the UK comedy scene in general. It's a platform to trial new ideas and while some of them might never work, it's a hell of a lot better than comedy graveyard it once was.



IMAGE: AVALON



IMAGE: UKTV

# THE URBAN YOUTH OR CORPORATE CONSUMERISM?

MEGAN ROBERTS GOES BROWSING THROUGH RETAIL'S BIGGEST SUCCESS STORY IN SEARCH OF THE PSYCHOLOGY BEHIND THE CLOTHES WE BUY

A capitalist commune, amongst the cobblestoned streets of York? Urban Outfitters represents home to a disenfranchised youth. All bare boards, and faded brick work, sun washed window frames, and exposed piping. Honest to God Ballgowns, all angles, ruffles, and tulle, are hewn off at the high thigh, and stuffed under Adidas tracksuits. Pasty teens, with buzz-cut demeanours, shuffle round the store, hungry junkies, waiting for a fix, with the musical stylings of Pale Waves breaking over the clothes rails ad nauseum. I think we can all agree that Urban Outfitters is a postmodern nightmare. But hidden beneath its outrageous new collections, the store front holds another function: setting the scene for corporate giant to court teen consumer, the world over.

Founded in 1970, Urban Outfitters was the brainchild of business student Scott Blair and anthropology graduate Dick Hayne. The real visionary behind the brand, Hayne combined economic knowhow with behavioural expertise; what else could account for such a decisive hijack of the teen imagination? Shopping as a social science was a revolutionary concept, underpinning Urban's 50-year lifespan and \$2 billion market value.

“How do you sell to a generation that simply isn't buying?”

But who are their clientele? In a candid interview, Hayne identified his buyers as, “The upscale homeless [sic] a group of people who leave home to go to college. Throughout this period, they are at their most inquisitive and experimental. They are interested in realities rather than the facade. They don't believe the hype. Fashion may change but the attitudes of these people don't. Maybe they are more exposed to the layers of deceit the media and TV are putting up now. But that only makes them more sceptical of being sold a lifestyle that isn't theirs.” It might surprise you to learn that this interview took place in 1998, at the opening of Urban's Kensington store.

Fashion may change but the attitudes of these people don't – lets reflect on that. As the ever-turning wheel of fashion brings the 90s right back around, what are we to make of this new generation of fashionistas, as they slip into the jean jackets of yester year? Today's

kids are 7% poorer in real terms than their 90s counterparts. Sharp increases in housing costs, cuts to in-work benefits, stagnant pay since the 2008 financial crisis and widening gaps in absolute wealth between young and old account for the rising millions of twentysomethings who can't afford to move out of their parents' homes and which can only be exacerbated by a half-baked Brexit, statistically disowned by the youth most affected by it. This alone would explain why the kids of today are stone cold cynics, with a vampiric thirst for pop culture, but there is more. Growing up in a corporate world turned hostile, these kids have become desensitised to anything but the most refined marketing techniques. In fact, I'd bet you just about anything that these kids could look a billboard up and down, and pick out the bullshit, before you can say “we are taking steps to be environmentally conscious now”.

So, here's the rub: How do you sell to a generation that simply isn't buying? The answer is in the store front itself. A hall mark of the Urban vision, crumbling buildings, from an industrial wasteland repurposed as sites of retail, with the occasional nod to their histories left behind: old pipes give way to feature walls, concrete supports hold up the displays, and paint is peeled back to its first layer, or even the bricks beneath. The appeal of this aesthetic is its raw urban potentiality. Stripped



IMAGE: URBAN OUTFITTERS TELEVISION

back to the bare boards, this aesthetic is deployed to invite possibilities, to facilitate creation. It reflects disaffection to the disaffected and encourages us to raise something from the ashes. A theatrical space, a space for performance, it is here that we are encouraged to build up the consumer self. And if we seek inspiration, look no further than the faded walls, bedecked with colourful clothing.

Nostalgia is also big business, for those who know how to sell it. Right now, the 90s are making a resurgence; walk into any campus bar, and you are bound to encounter recycled Levi's, Doc Martens, Adidas, baby-doll dresses and a smattering of flannel shirts. But how do we account for the profitability of this nostalgia, especially nostalgia for an era that most customers won't remember? Canadian philosopher Marshall McLuhan, father of “the medium is the message” theory, spent the 60s and 70s analysing the effect of media on society. In 1977 he had this to say about nostalgia in the fashion industry: “Nostalgia is the name of the game in every part of our world today”, when people are stripped of their private identities, they develop huge nostalgia, and nostalgia for the jeans and Levi's of the young today, are nostalgia for grandad's overalls. His work clothes have now become the latest costume.” Now this really does sound familiar.

Let's unpack what McLuhan means by this. Growing up in an aggressively capitalist society, we find ourselves bathed in the language of commerce, teaching us to define the self, based on our capacity to consume. This leads us to an inherently unstable sense of identity, that relies on an up-to-the-minute consumption of the latest products, to sustain the tenuous boundaries of the public body. As individualism gives way to narcissism and self-interest, community is replaced by the market which is designed to endlessly promote vignettes of our social past for profit. No wonder that the goods we fetishize, represent our longing for familial ties. Grandad's overalls, grandma's cardigan, mom's jeans, dad's work shoes. As family, heritage, and shared remembrance are eroded, commodity offers the means to access cultural memories, by recreating the material conditions in which those memories took

place. You may feel you have little in common with your mother, but you find yourself purchasing Disintegration on vinyl, and listening to it fondly, just as she did in her own student digs. Connecting generations through commodity as opposed to dialogue, reduces human connections to purchasable symbols, forever falling short of what we seek.

“Nostalgia is big business for those who know how to sell”

And there are yet more problems. Like many fast fashion enterprises, Urban Outfitters is facing something of a retail bottleneck. Taking the Darwinian approach, analysis of sales data, online and in store, ensures restocking of successful items, while pulling items with less commercial appeal. While this strategy is justified by the language of profit, it fosters an environment hostile to experimentation. Acceptable items are pushed into the mainstream, while more outrageous or niche pieces are precluded from making it to the shelves. Amongst the pieces that sell well, are the faded images of forgotten counterculture: bold negatives of Che Guevara emblazoned onto tees, or non-descript beanies telling us to obey like a bad headline.

This is not to say that all hope is lost. We see in this knowing compliance with the monolith of brand culture, a glimmer of awareness. If the Sex Pistols have taught us anything, (I spot a girl thumbing through vintage tees proclaiming God Save The Queen), it is that we ought to be suspicious of corporations who sell our outrage back to us: when capital drives the medium of expression, the only voice we hear is that which sells. Now THAT sound like a good slogan for a t-shirt.



IMAGE: HAZEL NICHOLSON

# SECOND HAND CITY: A THRIFTING GUIDE TO YORK

EILIDH HIDE GIVES HER GUIDE TO SECOND-HAND SHOPPING TO HELP YOU UNCOVER SOME HIDDEN GEMS IN YORK AND ONLINE

With climate change at the forefront of everyone's minds and summer budgets a distant memory, students are increasingly shunning fast-fashion in favour of second-hand clothing. So whether you're new to York or new to vintage, here's a helping hand to guide you through the process.

## VINTAGE



IMAGE: STEVEN DEPOLO

Where to go: Chinese Laundry, Expressions, Headlock Vintage (SPARK), Dog & Bone Vintage, Bowler Vintage Clothing

How to: Bargain bins - Look out for discounted items, Chinese Laundry has a great £5 bargain bin with everything from shell-jackets to shift dresses - so don't be scared to have a rummage.

Get creative - Be prepared to alter and repair items to fit your personal style, shortening hemlines and changing buttons can make a major difference to a piece, especially if the piece is a particularly poor fit.

Look beyond the labels - Given the recent surge in people looking for vintage 'garms', there's a real premium on labels. So widen your horizons and venture away from the navy-blue vintage 'ralphie' to get more for your money.

Don't bother with shoes - It's really rare to find a decent pair of used shoes second-hand, let alone any that you'd actually want, so save that for your online browsing.

## ONLINE



Where to go: Depop, eBay, ASOS Marketplace, Beyond Retro, Rokit

How to: Tailor your searches - Add 'vintage' to your search bar if you're looking for higher quality, unique pieces.

Don't use the filters - This might seem counterintuitive but very few sellers categorise their products properly which means you might miss out on your new jacket.

Keep searching - It takes commitment but have a thorough scour if you want to find a true diamond in the rough as many sites have a lot of dull stock.

Search for specific items - On a similar note, it's worth looking up the exact make, size and colour you want before searching on a selling platform as it will save you filtering through hundreds of 'not-quite-right' Hilfiger hoodies.

Take inspiration from others - It's Depop specific, but check out the 'likes' page of your friends and favourite influencers, it's a great way of discovering new sellers and getting inspiration.

## CHARITY



IMAGE: ROGER STEVENS

Where to go: The charity shops along Walmgate and the MS charity shop at the Hull Road junction all have lovely staff who will help you uncover hidden treasures.

How to: Visit regularly - When something good comes in it usually goes just as quickly so make sure you visit regularly to snap up any gems.

Get to know the staff - The volunteers know exactly what comes in and what leaves so if you build a good relationship with them, they can point you in the direction of anything they think you might like.

Shop Unisex - Baggy hoodies and oversized check shirts may be in fashion for women but they're very rarely put in the women's section of charity shops.

Try it on - It might seem self-explanatory though it can be tempting to avoid the grimy shower-curtain-esque changing rooms of charity shops but it's worth it. Given the lack of returns policy, it's worth making the effort - no-one wants an unworn New Look skirt lingering in their wardrobe.

# MIX & MATCH MERCH: HOW TO STYLE YOUR UNI STASH

EILIDH HIDE DISCUSSES THE DOS AND DON'TS OF DRESSING UP YOUR UNIVERSITY MERCHANDISE ON CAMPUS THIS TERM

It's the start of term and everyone's trying just that little bit harder - first impressions matter after all, and there's no easier way to let people know what you're into than having it written across your chest. Merch, kit, stash - whatever you call it, guaranteed you're wearing it. So here's some top tips to help you sport your sports gear in the least obnoxious way possible.

So you don't look like a total lemming, combine merch from different sports and societies. It helps to prove that there's a bit more to you than your deep and profound love of rugby or ballroom dancing.

Some examples of well-rounded combinations include:

A Netball Skort and Generic Indie-Band Tour Top - you're fit, sporty, and love a flares boogie but there's just SO much more to you than that...

A JP Morgan



IMAGE: YUSU YOUTUBE

Quarter Zip and Bumble waterbottle - You're soon to enter grad-life in the corporate jungle but you're also a fun, flirty, single and want people to know about it

A lacrosse stick and Extinction Rebellion Bag - You're probably nicknamed Bunty or Bella and definitely still call your mum, Mummy, but you also retweet Greta Thunberg and only eat organic and vegan, (except for a 3am Salt & Peppers)

A Bright Network Tote Bag and On&On T-shirt - you've got your sh\*t together, have a 'business-formal' wardrobe and probably treat university like a 9-5 job, but come Friday the world is your oyster... well Fib-

bers is, at any rate.

A Revs Scrunchie and Kayaking Committee T-shirt - You love a Sunday Revs, and the beauty ritual that comes before it but you're no bland Fiat500 Fresher, you're willing to get stuck in and get up at 9am on a Saturday to travel to a somewhat bleak Yorkshire river.

A STYM jumper and UYRUFc shorts - you're a responsible and caring member of your college but you can also neck a VK in three seconds flat.

A Millennial Coffee Club Hoodie and Popworld popsocket - WOW, look at you! You're trendy, know all the up & coming influencers. You LOVE LOVE LOVE Coffee, such a relatable, quirky millennial but you're not too cool for moving & grooving on

a revolving dance floor - who really is?

A Hockey Stick and Student Media Hoodie - You can't quite let go of boarding school, which explains the repeated visits to Flares (reminiscent of school discos) but you're also switched-on, and willing to do a bit extra for the old CV.

So there we have it, it's the way you mix and match your merchandise that really matters. Freebies don't have to be the antithesis of fashion, as with all clothes it's what you piece together that makes or breaks the look.

And a quick word of warning...

Do not wear the official University of York merch on Campus. College, sports, societies: all good, but actual university merch is a no-go. If you're in the library, most people will have guessed you're a student here, so you really don't need to pay £20 for the privilege of repping a bland grey hoodie. UoY merchandise is the equivalent of school leavers' hoodies: a non-starter.



IMAGE: MADDIE STEEL

Shoot Editor: Sofia Bielli. Photography: Sofia Bielli. Model: Ayesha Gleed



# MID-SEASON OUTERWEAR GUIDE





Autum has arrived but the real piercing cold is yet to come. Step out in the cool autumnal breeze with a lightweight windjacket, feel cozy in a maxi knitted cardigan paired with a warm turtleneck, or go fancier with a more classic beige trench coat - light and waterproof. Sorted!



# YORK'S HIDDEN MUSIC HISTORY

SAM CAMPBELL LOOKS AT YORK'S RICH HERITAGE OF MUSIC, EXPLORING THE LEGACY OF ONE OF THE UK'S MOST VIBRANT SCENES

In May, 1985, The Clash are on their infamous busking tour. They are trailing the UK tour of The Alarm (known for hits such as '68 Guns', a rival band who The Clash believe to be plagiarising their sound - which they are characteristically pretty unhappy about. So, in protest, they are travelling the UK, performing at impromptu gigs, busking sets on streets and squares up and down the country to fanatic and boisterous crowds of punks.

On the evening of 9 May, the band march



The Clash lead a convoy of a hundred teenagers like pied-pipers

down a narrow street, playing a rowdy set composed of Spanish style tunes. They lead a convoy of a hundred teenagers in an anarchic punk parade, appearing as what one attendee described as "a gang of pied-pipers", by one onlooker. Strummer, Simonon et al look like a set of James Dean look-alikes, sporting comb-overs and clad in leather.

This was not Soho or Brixton; nor was it Manchester, Glasgow, Newcastle or Leeds - this surreal series of events took place on Petergate, right in the heart of York's old town. The Clash were stopping off after Leeds, before moving on to Sunderland. The iconic image of their progress down Petergate can be seen on display at The Block on Goodramgate (which I will take the inappropriate opportunity to plug as by far the best pizza place in York). They arrived on 8 May 1985, which saw their ill-fated street gig outside the minster - one encounter that the law did in

fact win. One attendee's account of the performance was published in the York Press recently: "[We] arrived at the front of the Minster and there were a couple of hundred people [...] The band arrived 20 minutes later and played a couple of songs before the police and promptly tried to move the band on, whereupon The Clash started singing 'I

fought the law and the law won' accompanied by the drummer using the Minster door as his drums."

The following day, word spread across the town about the band's arrival, and they played a triumphant gig at King's Square, which was "packed", and apparently went undisturbed by the law.

During their stay in the city, The Clash spent most of their two days drinking at various pubs in the Minster area - including the York Arms and Hole in the Wall on High

Petergate. Joe Strummer hung around chatting to awestruck teenagers on the street, those who had heard the news of the arrival and come for themselves, and with the surprise to investigate groups of punks for frequenting the rest of the band and jamming around chat-teenagers on who had the surprise to investigate and with the who were known the York Arms. The were seen lounging in the front of the Suddenly, the arrival of five Londoners had made feel like the heart of the



IMAGE: IBATISISTE SARIN

where York has seen a luminary figure pass through its walls. One other such occasion occurred on campus, although it is regrettably under-documented given this fact. In February 1967, Jimi Hendrix and The Experience blessed a stage within the humble venue of Langwith Dining Hall - which today takes its name after the events of that night as Hendrix Hall, in Derwent.

One of the only accounts of that night is from the blog of Michael Gray, an alumnus of the York departments of English and History as well as *Nouse*, who interviewed Hendrix that night as a student journalist before going on to a career as a world-renowned scholar of popular culture.

The gig happened, according to Gray, thanks to the happy accident of a student social secretary having booked Hendrix and the band a few months before they were launched to stardom with the success of 'Hey Joe'. Gray writes: "[Shortly] after midnight on the morning of February 19th [The Experience] were in a 'dressing room' (a seminar room



These stories should inspire us today

and bathroom, if I remember it right) getting ready to perform [...] I was able to chat with Jimi Hendrix, who was already dressed for his performance in black jeans, black pointy boots and a yellow, very London-boutique satin shirt." The thought of Hendrix squeezing himself into a tiny plastic seminar-room chair and perching a bottle of his signature Johnnie Walker Red Label on one of those infuriating flip-out tables is particularly amusing. Gray notes that the performance which followed was "excellent" and featured a cover of Bob Dylan's 'Like A Rolling Stone'.

Sadly, it seems as if Hendrix' legendary visit to campus has been confined to little more than urban myth. Other than the lecture theatre which is named after him, there isn't much to commemorate the performance. Today the room looks like any other university hall in the country.

Similarly, The Clash's raucous performances on the streets of York are a little known nugget of local trivia. These moments in musical history, however, deserve to be treasured as part of the cultural heritage of our city and University.

Such anecdotes from York's musical city reveal a surprising, and at times thrilling tradition of chance encounters with icons. York may not have the clout of other university cit-

ies, but we sure have a few novel stories from over the years. These stories are not only entertaining, but they remind us of the fact that we do in fact have a brilliant scene right on our doorstep. This is something which should inspire us today. And who knows, maybe the next big wave will appear right under our noses.



IMAGE: JOHN JOE CAFFEY

## YORK'S GREATEST GIGS

A RUN-DOWN OF SOME OF THE BEST BANDS TO GRACE THE CITY - AND COLDPLAY...

### JIMI HENDRIX - FEBRUARY, 1967

Hendrix played Langwith College (now Derwent) shortly after the release of 'Hey Joe' and is memorialised by Hendrix Hall.

### THE WHO - OCTOBER, 1968

Rock legends The Who played campus just a year after Hendrix and a year before Woodstock.

### THE FALL - MARCH, 1980

Manchester's finest post-punk band have played York and the University on three separate occasions.

### THE CLASH - MAY, 1985

The legendary punks took to the streets of York for an infamous live show shortly before their split.

### THE PRODIGY - OCTOBER, 1994

The rave-rock icons brought their mental, unique tunes to York in the mid-90s.

### COLDPLAY - 1998

Coldplay supported a York band to an audience of 15 people. Ouch.

### PULP - NOVEMBER, 2001

The Britpop icons came to York at the height of their success for a sold-out show at The Barbican.

### ARCTIC MONKEYS - JULY, 2005

The indie pioneers played Fibbers in the heady heyday of mid-noughties guitar-rock.

IMAGE: JOE MABEL

## REVIEWS

## ALL MY HEROES ARE CORNBALLS JPEGMAFIA ALEX THOMPSON 4.5 STARS

2018's *Veteran* was an unqualified success for Baltimore rapper JPEGMAFIA. It was bizarre and uncompromising, an experimental hip-hop album that took no liberties in its style or execution. JPEGMAFIA became the poster boy for underground rap; the internet lit up with praise as he became every music nerd's new favourite rapper. Almost a year and a half after release, 'Peggy' is back with another home run of an album.

*All My Heroes Are Cornballs* manages to retain the sonic weirdness, chaotic energy and humour as its predecessor while simultaneously pushing a more accessible angle. It also has the best song titles of any album this year. Starting strong with 'Jesus Forgive Me I Am A Thot', JPEGMAFIA flips effortlessly between intoxicating bliss and jagged, unhinged aggression, fusing glistening piano samples,

808 heavy drum beats and vocals warped by autotune. It's a mellow and almost lucid sound, with almost dreamy vocals cutting through the choppy drums and sampling. It's a great opener, followed up by the buzzing basslines of 'Kenan Vs Kel' and the brilliantly cut samples and lyrics of 'Beta Male Strategies' that manages to blend abstract hip hop with RnB elements in an unorthodox but compelling manner. The title track 'All My Heroes Are Cornballs' is an equally great track, with a danceable bounce and cascading loops that offer a perfect backdrop to the rapper's trademark flow. He also takes a shot at Brexit so props for that. 'BasicBitchTearGas' is a weirdly enjoyable RnB-esque cut, a sort of skit with stuttering samples and pitched up vocals that riffs on TLC's 'No Scrubs'. It sounds like the original song has been hit by a truck, glitchy and sputtering with fragmented and fractured vocals. The catchy refrains and gentle synths of 'Grimy Waifu' as well as the tight bars on 'PTSD' take this idea of branching out further, leaning into a vapour-wave aesthetic.

Be under no illusion, this album isn't all soft edged RnB experimentation. Tracks like 'PRONE!' still

carry the buzz-saw synths, stuttering drums and aggressive bars that made *Veteran* such a cult classic. It would be lazy to compare it to Death Grips but there's certainly the same chaotic energy that drives the two sounds.

The bizarre humour and internet culture than made *Veteran* such a classic still finds its way into *All My Heroes Are Cornballs*, with the utterly ridiculous lyrics of 'Post Verified Lifestyle' and 'Papi I Missed You' packing in hilarious and ridiculous references. Then there's the minimal production of 'DOTS FREE-STYLE REMIX' which sees the rapper rap about cancel culture over various chopped and skewed samples of fire crackling. If all that sounds like

an odd album, it is. There certainly aren't that many rappers brave enough to title a song 'Buttermilk Jesus Type Beat'.

There's also 'Thot Tactics', another interesting combination of styles as high energy rap collides with mellow lo-fi samples and pitched-up vocals. It's these moments of contrast that give the album character but is also a double edged sword. At its best, this juxtaposition can be hard hitting and electric, at its worst, it can feel messy and indecisive.

While it may not live up to the manic aggression and unhinged creativity of *Veteran*, JPEGMAFIA's latest album *All My Heroes Are Cornballs* is a brilliantly crafted insight into the mind of one of rap's biggest personalities. "It's internet weirdo shit" says producer Kenny Beats after hearing the album, "It's like the Dark Web got a hold of your beat and spat it out"



## THIS MONTH IN MUSIC: THE SINGLES

SAM CAMPBELL REVIEWS THE BEST AND WORST SINGLES FROM THE PREVIOUS MONTH

### BOMBAY BICYCLE CLUB — EAT, SLEEP, WAKE (NOTHING BUT YOU)

The return of Bombay Bicycle Club is a beautiful thing, after a long hiatus since the release of *So Long, See You Tomorrow* in 2014. There are catchy melodies, lush vocal harmonies and a danceable pace to it. Everything you could possibly want. **4.5/5**

### SLOWTHAI & DENZEL CURRY — PSYCHO

This transatlantic collaboration was showcased for the first time at this summer's Glastonbury. It's a scorcher of a track, coming in at just under three minutes long and packed with the fire which fuels both of these highly dynamic artists. **3.5/5**

### DELILUH — LICKSPITTLE (A NUT IN THE PASTE)

I became a big fan of Toronto post-punk quartet Deliluh after discovering their last EP, *Oath of Intent*, a few months ago, and have been eagerly awaiting new music since then. 'Lickspittle'

combines the pace and rhythmic power of krautrock with a certain introversion; the vulnerability and proximity to complete disarray which is so characteristic of post-punk. Vocally, there are echoes of Slint — as is the case in Deliluh's previous work — with the spoken-word performance and improvised feel in which words stumble out across the music in a distorted fuzz. The track builds and sinks brilliantly in its own uncomfortable world. **4/5**

### FREDDIE GIBBS & MADLIB — FAKE NAMES — A COLOURS SHOW

Once again, this magic combination of hip-hop giants kills it with effortless cool on this fantastic cut. Madlib brings a brilliant selection of samples to the table which Gibbs flows over relentlessly, switching up his flow with the ebb and flow of the beat. The beat is busy with soulful, orchestral splices but held together with

an almost unbelievable level of poise. Nothing more needs to be said: you need to listen to this. **5/5**

### PIXIES — ST. NAZAIRE

New music from the icons that are Pixies is always something I will be here for. As someone who spent the majority of their early adolescence playing *Skate 3* and listening to punk records, this is a band which will always have a special place in my heart. I can't say I'm overly impressed with 'St. Nazaire'. The vocal is a little ham-fisted, and the instrumentation is underwhelming to the point of sounding clichéd. Disappointingly dad-rock, I feel. A full listen to the album may change my mind. **2/5**

### BULL — LOVE GOO

'Love Goo' is the new single from York's finest musical export, who have spent recent times recording with members of Pavement. It's a really, genuinely, lovely track, with a sense of humour about it which is missing from so much rock music today. The jaunty groove carries along an interesting and fun mix of tones and textures. The harmonies are very nice as well. I want to live inside this song, it's just great. **4/5**

### RARELYALWAYS — SIMON

This is an obscure piece of music I heard recently on Gilles Peterson's show on 6 Music. 'Simon' is a dark, atmospheric track which blends a sparse mode of production featuring slightly jazzy percussion, hip-hop bass and a rough selection of synths reminiscent of early dubstep. The vocal is delivered with the punch of a grime MC in flow, style and energy as he spits lines like 'Beef don't pay / Crime got boring' sporadically throughout the track. **4/5**



Follow this playlist and more on Spotify: @NouseMuseMusic

## SHIT MUSICIANS SAY.

"I NEED A TIKTOK TUTOR TO TEACH ME THESE TRENDY TECHNIQUES"  
-WALE VIA TWITTER

IMAGE: WARNER RECORDS

IMAGE: COLUMBIA

# PULP FICTION VS. FORREST GUMP: 25 YEARS LATER

MALU ROCHA EXAMINES THE CONTROVERSIES SURROUNDING THESE TIMELESS MASTERPIECES AND WHAT THEY REPRESENT

**P**ulp Fiction (Quentin Tarantino) and Forrest Gump (Robert Zemeckis) were both released around this time a quarter of a century ago. One went on to become a cultural landmark and an indie cult classic, generate dozens of quotable references and define acting careers; the other won an Academy Award. That's where the controversies begin.

Both films were nominated for Best Picture at the 67th Academy Awards, but Pulp Fiction was by far the public's favourite, so when Spielberg announced that Forrest Gump was the one taking the prestigious statuette home that night, fans and critics alike were a bit taken aback, to say the least.

You'll find that dubious Academy choices and outrage over winners are surprisingly not that uncommon. Some people still don't understand how The Favourite and Roma lost to Green Book earlier this year. Or how Saving Private Ryan (a landmark film that shares an authentic look at the brutal realities of war) lost to Shakespeare in Love in 1997; or even how one of Kubrick's masterpieces, A Clockwork Orange, lost to The French Connection back in 1972.

And although winning an Academy Award is obviously not the only form of measuring a film's success, it still remains as a highly regarded pinnacle of validation and recognition in a filmmaker's career. When Tarantino went up on that stage to accept his only award of the night for Best Screenplay, he had accepted his demise; "I think this is probably the only award I'm going to win here tonight. So, I was thinking maybe I should just say a whole lot of stuff right here, right now. Just to get it all out of my system."

What started as a simple battle between two Oscar nominees soon became a bigger dispute over what films in general should be and what they should stand for. Pulp Fiction was an independent production featuring over-the-top stylized violence and flawed characters while Forrest Gump was surrounded by loveable characters and traditional storytelling.

Although Pulp Fiction only collected about one third of Forrest Gump's box office of \$678 million, it was deemed a greater commercial success because of its low budget of just \$8 million. It had also just won the Cannes Film Festival Palme d'Or, proving that avant-garde films are perhaps better appreciated overseas. But why was it so highly regarded?

How could a film that featured the longest and most uncomfortable conversation ever about a foot massage win over the

jury at Cannes?

Pulp Fiction broke all the rules. But it did so well that we all embraced it immediately.

Quentin Tarantino didn't really become 'Quentin Tarantino' until Pulp Fiction came along. Reservoir Dogs was a great debut but as soon as Pulp Fiction was released, it was as if Tarantino was screaming from the rooftops,

“**Quentin Tarantino didn't really become 'Quentin Tarantino' until Pulp Fiction.**”

“look at me, look at me, I'll be one of the greatest directors of this era.” I dare you to tell me he was wrong. I double dare you.

Every subtle nuance of this film seems so carefully planned out yet so seamlessly executed that it makes the 2 hour and 58 minute long runtime worth every second. The film follows two hitmen as they attempt to accomplish one of their jobs assigned by their demanding boss while babysitting his drug-addict wife, a plotline which becomes intertwined with that of two amateur robbers attempting to rob a diner.

Although these characters are undoubtedly faulty, without them we would never know that a Quarter Pound Cheese is called a Royale With Cheese in France because of the metric system. Tarantino was showing the world, in his own subversive and intricate way, that ordinary everyday conversations also carried deep meaning.

Granted, certain scenes in Pulp Fiction are nothing short of brilliant, but is it really that good of a story? Lots of people have Pulp Fiction high up in their favourite films list, but very people can say exactly what is it about the film that they love. Did the cult classic featuring anal rape, curse words every couple of seconds, and explicit drug

con - sumption age well? Would it still be critically acclaimed if it was released today?

After you watch Pulp Fiction you need a few hours to decompress and take it

all in, as you naturally do with many Tarantino films.

Forrest Gump also generated some controversial opinions. 25 years after its release, it remains surprisingly polarising; some see it as an innovative look into watershed moments in classic American history from the perspective of a loveable chocolate-sweet character, while others see it as a stitched-up and poorly written film about a lucky guy who runs a lot for no apparent reason. You either love it or you hate it, but the fact that it has six Academy Awards under its belt should serve as a form of indication of its mass appeal.

Forrest Gump was Robert Zemeckis's most ambitious film after Back to the Future and Who Framed Roger Rabbit, so much so that it became a pioneer in visual effects at the time. The digital manipulation of inserting Tom Hanks into historical archival footage was nothing short of revolutionary. Seeing Forrest have conversations with Richard Nixon, interact with Lyndon B. Johnson and tell John F. Kennedy

that he desperately needed to pee must have been quite something back in the 90's. Robert Zemeckis turned what would have otherwise been a traditional story of boy-meets-girl into an epic Hollywood tale.

The film takes you through 30 years of watershed moments in America, spanning from Elvis Presley's first appearance on television, to the Vietnam War and Watergate scandal, up until the creation of the smiley face.

Some critics even said that Forrest Gump was a surprisingly

ably the most American film ever made because it had an incredible sense of patriotism dealing with serious issues in an honourable way. To put it simply, it made America look cool, even if it wasn't.

However, after winning an Oscar (or six) a film undergoes a level of scrutiny that Forrest

Gump just wasn't ready to handle. People argue that the film dashes through historical moments trying to squeeze in as many as possible in an already too long 2 hours and 22 minutes runtime without giving them due importance. The film is often seen as an overly simplistic and melodramatic tale of a lucky man who just happens to be at the right place at the right time, every time.

It's no wonder that some people see this film as Oscar bait. Yes, Forrest Gump is a sweet little film, but it's a safe and conservative sweet little film. Perfect for the Oscars. The Academy would never risk their credibility by honouring a movie that flaunts the n-word 110 times and explicitly shows a heroin overdose, would they?

Over the years, quite a few Best Picture winners and runner-ups have been sidelined, but Pulp Fiction and Forrest Gump remain classics, however opposites. They stand for completely diverse views on filmmaking: Hollywood vs. independent cinema, mainstream vs. niche, sentimental vs. sarcastic, and a box of chocolates vs. a glowing briefcase.

Pulp Fiction may not have won the Oscar that year, but 25 years later it's still regarded by critics as one of the era's most influential films. That, ladies and gentlemen, is what it means to lose the battle but win the war. And that's all I have to say about that.

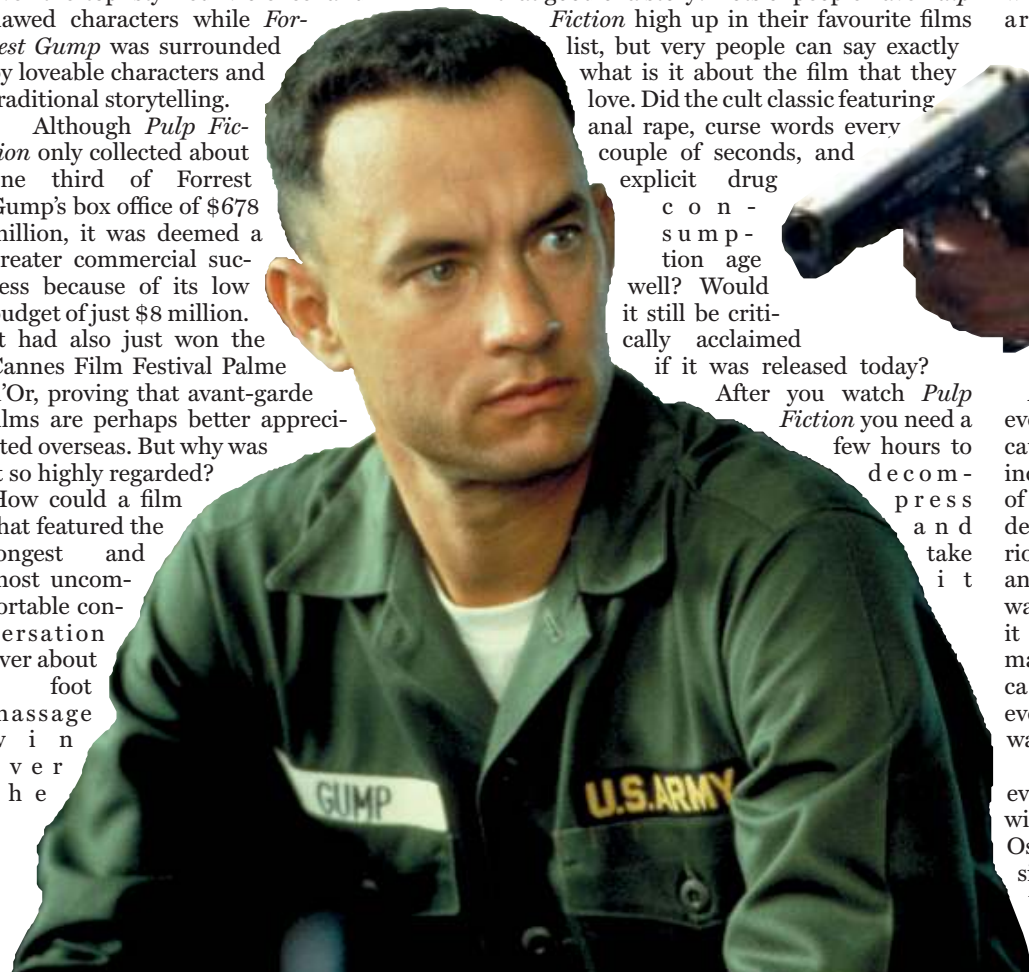


IMAGE: CAPITOL PICTURES, MIRAMAX

# HORROR'S MUCH AWAITED RISE FROM THE GRAVE

JAMES HUDSON SHINES A LIGHT ON THE CHANGING HORROR SCENE IN MAINSTREAM CINEMA AND THE RISE OF 'SMART HORROR'

It seems as if we are dawning on a new wave of popular horror films, the genre that seems most fitting for our times of increasing unease. You may have recently seen *IT: Chapter Two* in cinemas, one of the most commercially successful horror franchises, grossing \$374 million on its opening weekend in America. Yet, as much as the *IT* franchise may have banked at the box office, it was not especially ground-breaking, despite its big budget and talented cast. Money and a starry-eyed cast do not, unfortunately, rule-out blandness. More so than other genres, horror's vitality relies on reinvention if it is to be prevented from falling into the dark pit of popular opinion that is an ignorant disregard for horror as cheap and amateur. The speed at which horror loses any sort of popular or critical traction can be understood when considering how found-footage horror, sparked by the *Blair Witch Project*, already seems to be on its commercial deathbed following several beatings perpetrated by the *Paranormal Activity* franchise. Nothing is more terrifying than the prospect of another *Paranormal Activity*.

Fortunately, horror seems to be on the up, not just commercially but also artistically. The term that fits best is 'smart horror', although that does sound misleadingly pretentious. 'Smart horror' are films which go beyond the typical exploitation or quintessential horror set-ups, haunted houses, ghosts, clowns etc., though these aren't necessarily excluded. They have notable political, emotional, or aesthetic depth that goes beyond what one has come to typically expect from horror films of the past 20-so years. The films which most clearly represent this new wave of horror and have enjoyed critical and commercial success are; *Get Out*, *Us* (Jordan Peele), *Hereditary*, *Midsommar* (Ari Aster), and *The Witch*, (Robert Eggers). David Lowry's *A Ghost Story* is one that springs to mind, but I will focus on the films mentioned above as I believe they give a fair snapshot of the loosely categorized 'smart horror'.

*Get Out* and *Us*, written and directed by Jordan Peele, are horrors of race, class, and politics in modern America. Peele's focus is as much sociological as it is in creating a scary

horror film. The question Peele is asking is that despite what we may believe about race, "of course, nobody's a proper racist anymore", what really has changed? Mistakenly, *Get Out* was nominated for an Oscar as a comedy, and yes, it is funny, but they missed the point. The scare comes while driving back from the cinema - preferably it's dark, raining and you're alone - and you look out of the car window and you see the film.

*Us* is similarly a horror with a political focus, and although the nervous energy and painful irony isn't crafted as tightly as in *Get Out*, the jump scares and scissor-slashing have been ramped up to make a politically-charged horror. Peele has found a pulse for turning social issues and pop culture into bitingly sharp horrors which force you to think, for better or worse, about the uncomfortable truths in a post-Obama America.

Another new name in the horror game is Ari Aster, writer-director of *Hereditary* and *Midsommar*, both occultist, psychological melodramas that descend into weird, emotionally grotesque finales. Both films are focussed on the impact of grief which become mirrored in the nightmare worlds of haunted houses and Scandinavian pagan cults. Though these films are recognisable in their horror in *Hereditary* the house may be haunted and a family bloodline cursed and *Midsommar* is clearly rooted in *The Wicker Man*, the disturbing and gruesome set-pieces in these films do intend to shock, but they seem to fit more so than in the typical, "what's the freakiest thing we can put in this" horror film. The weirdness is earned because the internal struggle

of the characters dealing with grief can be understood by most people. Aster fits the horror around this struggle, not, like in most cases, the other way around. In both films there is a strange energy of restraint, which builds up a

The horror genre is enjoying something of a boom in recent years

slow grinding momentum.

Commercially, both *Hereditary* and *Midsommar* have been huge successes, earning \$79.3 million and \$36 million respectively. This is somewhat unsurprising as both films were big summer blockbusters - *Hereditary* was marketed with the tagline 'the scariest film since *The Exorcist*'. That said, both films feel like a breath of fresh air when it comes to horror, both are horrifying and don't carry the disappointment of half-developed plots and characters.

Perhaps my favourite horror film of the past decade is *The Witch*, written and directed by Robert Eggers. Admittedly, this film will not be for everyone; it is 'slow' and has no jump scares. Being terrified just from the marshy atmosphere created is a testament to the craft of Eggers.

Set in 17th century New England, a family is shunned from their Puritan community and is living isolated as farmers next to a wood where a witch resides. Shot in a naturalistic style, everything is grey and dark. The characters speak how you imagine New England Puritans would. Life was hard and bleak and on-screen life does look hard and bleak. The miasmic reek of paranoia wafts from the screen as religious and folklore fanaticism blends with gritty reality, creating a real belief that evil exists in the viewer. It has drawn parallels to Polanski's 1968 classic, *Rosemary's Baby*, which swaps jump scares and gore for a growing sense of unease.

Out of all the films so far discussed *The Witch* is the most audacious in its style, especially since it had a budget of just \$4 million, though it did pull in ten times this at the box office. Having a smaller budget may in fact give filmmakers more breathing room as there is less pressure to break-even. If it is true that smaller budgets release the shackles, so to speak, then it is unsurprising why production companies, most notably A24, continue to place their chips on off-beat horrors. A24 are producing Eggers' next film, *The Lighthouse*, which from the trailer seems to be a black and white expressionist psychological horror.

It appears then that the horror genre is enjoying something of a boom in recent years, drawing in big audiences for both big-blockbusters such as *IT* and smaller budget films like *The Witch*. The why, or why now, is more difficult to determine. Maybe it's because the world seems to be speeding up and getting a bit madder and horror allows us to explore this. Maybe it's because serendipity has placed some talented filmmakers who all have their own spin on horror in the right places. Whatever the reason, I for one am glad horror films have suddenly become so interesting again, and even if you are not a fan of horror, but you enjoy well-made and thought-provoking films, maybe it's time you move your hands away from your face, open your eyes, and take another look.



## QUICKFIRE REVIEW: THE GOLDFINCH BY JASMINE ONSTAD

The eternal dilemma- whether or not to see the film based on one of your favourite books. On the one hand, you love the story and want to be transported back to that world which

captured your imagination so forcefully. On the other, you fear the inevitable disappointment that every literary fan will have experienced at least once in their lives- "it's just not the same as the book, is it?"

No version of this film could have lived up to the private world that Donna Tart helped me create in my head with her 2013 Pulitzer Prize winning novel. Having said that, the film's tepid critical reception and bombing at

the US box office suggests that there is more wrong with it than just not living up to the book. On the tin, *The Goldfinch* looked like it could have been a masterpiece. John Crowley was the director, the screenplay by Peter Straughan (*Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy*). That's even before mentioning the impressive cast of Nicole Kidman, Ansel Elgort and Jeffrey Wright. Unfortunately, all the shiny pieces failed to come together to make anything

extraordinary. What results is not a bad film, merely one which is not particularly exciting. Read the full review on our website.

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# CRIMINALISING THE CARNIVORE

ALICE WEETMAN EXPLORES THE POSSIBILITY OF MEAT BECOMING ILLEGAL UNDER GOVERNMENT LEGISLATION TO SAVE THE PLANET

Over the last few years, talk around veganism has almost always been in the media, for one reason or another. But recently there seems to have been a shift in the argument as to why many are switching to, or experimenting with, the vegan lifestyle, and it's all down to our dying environment.

## WHAT'S THE BEEF WITH BEEF?

In the past, the argument for veganism portrayed by mainstream media has more often than not been linked to animal rights, and organisations such as PETA. Yet within the last six months, the huge push for action on climate change has seen a new wave of veganism linked to saving the environment, rather than it simply being down to the treatment of animals. In the last week, a top British barrister, Michael Mansfield QC, has stated that the government needs to introduce tighter legislation surrounding actions that negatively impact the environment- and eating meat is one of them. He's calling for new 'ecocide' laws to be put in place, with a prediction that eating meat may be made illegal in the future, and stating that "There are plenty of things that were once commonplace that are now illegal such as smoking inside", and adding once we see the damage that eating meat is causing to our planet, it is "not preposterous to think that one day it will become illegal". He is set to read a speech on the mentioned laws at the Labour Party Conference in Brighton, explaining to *The Independent* that "it is time for a new law on ecocide to go alongside genocide and the other crimes against humanity".

This comes after a summer of heavy climate change action not only in the UK, but globally, after images of the Amazon rainforest burning went viral across the internet and climate change activist, 16 year old Greta Thunberg, sailed across the Atlantic for the UN Climate Summit in New York City. Issues around the environment are more present in the media than ever, with climate change being a hot topic of 2019 (if you'll pardon the pun). Protest groups such as Extinction Rebellion continually raise the issue of agricultural farming at their protests, with their next wave of global protests set to start on the 7 October. Greta herself protests every Friday, with the #fridayforfutures movement, along with other school children no matter where she is in the world. The protests aim to bring climate change to the attention of governments globally, by causing disruption in major cities. Having the backing of a well-respected barrister, who has previously represented victims of the Hillsborough disaster, may just be the push needed for the British Government to start putting serious legislation in place to aid the preservation of our environment. Joseph Poore, who led research last year from the University of Oxford, has stated "A vegan diet is probably the single biggest way to reduce your impact on planet Earth, not just greenhouse gases, but global



IMAGES: ALICE WEETMAN

“ It is time for a new law on ecocide to go along side genocide and other crimes against humanity

acidification, eutrophication, land use and water use.”

## VEGANISM IN THE UK

Veganism has risen massively in the UK; once being viewed as an extreme diet, or a bit of a fad, it is now a widely accepted lifestyle choice. Large food manufacturers such as Greggs, Ginsters and Subway have all added to and tweaked their menus to meet the rising demand for vegan products and to cash in on the national change in taste. It's impossible to go to a supermarket now without stumbling upon a free-from section, which in the past, were few and far between. This revolution taking place in the consumer havens of shops and markets reflects a recent survey by *The Guardian*, which suggests that there may be as many as 3.5 million vegans in the UK. Although The Vegan Society offers a lower figure of 600,000, it still shows a fourfold increase in four years. It's difficult to say what this increase in veganism is down to, but more widely available information on the environmental impact livestock farming has globally, may be one of the causes.

## THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF FARMING

It can be hard to believe that a change in diet could have an impact on saving our environment, but when you actually stop and look at the facts and figures, it starts to make sense. Statistics provided by *The Independent* state that 25 per cent of global emissions come from agriculture, 80 per cent of which are from live-stock farming. The main factor that is always thrown out when it comes to reducing meat intake and the environment

is methane. Produced by cattle, decaying vegetation and coalmines, it is more potent than CO2 as a cause of atmospheric warming, and livestock are a dominant factor in the sharp rise in methane levels that have been seen since 2016. But it's not only this. The immense amount of grain needed in the meat production industry is a leading contributor to deforestation, linking to habitat loss and deforestation, not to mention the vast quantities of water that are needed to grow these crops. The water that goes into producing these products, from farm to fork, is alarming, with 1kg of beef needing 15,000 litres of water, compared to the 180 litres needed to grow the same amount of tomatoes. A staggering 70 per cent of the planets accessible clean water is used in farming, making the consumption of animal products 'resource-insensitive', according to The Vegan Society. Oxford Martin School researchers have found that if we globally switched to diets that are less meat heavy and rely more on fruit and veg, by 2050 it could reduce greenhouse gas emissions by two thirds. Research undertaken within the last year has also found that meat and dairy companies may overtake the oil industry as the world's top polluters by 2050 and Mansfield commented that "the top 3 000 companies in the world are responsible for more than £1.5tn worth of damage to the environment with meat and dairy production high on the list."

It is clear from the facts and figures that the meat and dairy industry is having harrowing effects on our environment, but is banning meat a step too far? Speaking to *The Guardian*, Lorraine Whitmarsh, a professor of Environmental Psychology at the University of Cardiff, believes that imposing a ban may provoke a 'defensive reaction' and would risk "alienating people who are maybe coming round to the idea that we need to do something about climate change". After all, having meat in our diets has been all most of us have known for our whole lives; it is seen as part of what makes us human, and some would argue it makes up part of our identity as a species. For many, going cold turkey on the meat front would be a very drastic lifestyle change. Many are just only coming to terms with the fact we may have to be more considerate with the amount of plastic we use in day to day life, that we should use reusable coffee cups, and maybe walk to the shop instead of driving. So cutting out a whole food group, might just be too much for some of the population to stomach. Whitmore added "while people are on board with something that previously was seen as quite controversial - reducing flying - meat consumption is something I think is going to be harder to tackle".

## THE SOLUTION?

Tim Benton, a professor of population ecology, thinks that the idea of making meat illegal is somewhat 'farical', arguing that "there is not one single magic bullet" that can solve the issue surrounding the environmental impacts livestock farming has. For him, a "more sensible future" would be one in which we wean ourselves off meat, and treat it with higher regard, viewing it as a treat and "treating it with the respect it deserves". There are many other factors that come into play here, such as changing farming practices, carbon taxes and agricultural subsidies, but there is no one solution for this global issue.

If we want to help the environment, then reducing the intake of animal products if definitely food for thought, especially as governments continue to



IMAGES: BRIAN O'NEIL

“ It's not preposterous to think that one day meat will become illegal

tip-toe around these issues. More information on how you can reduce your carbon footprint or steps you can take to lead a less wasteful lifestyle can be found on WWF's website, and information around cutting down your meat consumption can be found on The Vegan Society's website. If you want to take active action towards climate change, the Extinction Rebellion website is a good place to start to find local protests and events.

UPCOMING PROTESTS:  
INTERNATIONAL  
REBELLION: WORLDWIDE  
STARTS ON 7TH OCTOBER,  
WITH 60 CITIES PARTAKING  
INCLUDING LONDON,  
ATHENS, AND BUENOS  
AIRES. SEE UK STUDENT  
CLIMATE  
NETWORK FOR  
MORE INFO



IMAGES: JULIA HAWKINS



IMAGE: PEEPAL FRAM

# HOLLOW KNIGHT: A METROIDVANIA MASTERPIECE

SOPHIE IOAKIM DISCUSSES TEAM CHERRY'S BEAUTIFULLY BRUTAL MINIATURE UNIVERSE

*'Possibly the best platformer in the world. Creative bosses, immersive world building, stunning music and a difficulty curve that is both rewarding and challenging.'*

This is one of the many overwhelmingly positive reviews that *Hollow Knight* has received on Steam since its release in 2017. With its 10/10 Steam rating, and floods of positive reviews from players, it still amazes me that so many people don't know about it. This isn't to say that it has been completely overlooked in the gaming community, but with only 10 000 players online as its all time peak, I'd love to see the numbers climb as more and more people discover the beauty of this game.

However, this game is hard. If you don't want to spend a lot of hours playing, or quick progression is a must have, then this game isn't for you. As someone who does not possess an ounce of patience, I initially found this quite a hard concept to get around. Especially since there are no difficulty settings. You go in hardcore, you get beaten hardcore, and there's nothing you can do about it. This lack of casual play is both a positive and a negative of the game.

You can only finish



IMAGES: TEAM CHERRY

the game once you've become better as a player, and in a really short amount of time I could see that happening to me.

This contrasts heavily with the cutesy theme, which honestly is lovely. It's the definition of 'don't judge a book by its cover.' If you want to get absolutely obliterated by a magical ballerina, then it's absolutely the right game for you. It's refreshing to come across a game that really cares about the player's progression, but I mean it when

I say it's *Dark Souls* wrapped in sparkles and cuteness.

However, the art and music content is something that should be appreciated in its own right.

I've never come across a game so visually appealing, from the smooth changes in colour to the tranquil scenery, the world is completely eye catching. Not to mention the magical creatures beyond imagination. This is why a casual player mode would

actually be really handy. Limiting your player base to those who are dedicated to beating the game is a shame, as it means so many people are missing out on the beautiful visuals, and the general hard work that has gone into making it so unique.

It's a game labelled as a platformer but actually arguably lacks most aspects other than the presence of platforms. The world is laid out so that it requires the player to jump and discover more that lies offscreen (in some areas more than others), but also has buildings to enter and flat terrain too.

It's also nonlinear, which can be difficult at times as quests are not marked and a lot of backtracking is required, but for me this adds to the theme of not carrying the player.

Although the exploration is therefore generally quite hardcore, the visuals will never let you get bored.

It also really intensifies the gratification of discovering a new area, which you know you've fought long and hard to get to. Each area is blessed with its own beautiful theme. If *Hollow Knight* is your first Metroidvania game, then you'll leave with your bar set very, (if not a little too) high.



## GAMING TEAM RECOMMENDS:

### VIDEO GAME COMPOS-



Bored of Jeremy Soule? Need your soundtrack fix? Here are some of our favourite video game composers that we think deserve a bit more love:

#### YOKO SHIMOMURA

Credits include: *Legend of Mana*, *Kingdom Hearts*, *Final Fantasy XV*



Yoko Shimomura made a big impression with her soundtrack to the first *Kingdom Hearts* game. Her track 'Apocalypse Noctis' for *Final Fantasy XV* is reminiscent of the *Elder Scrolls* theme, but more exciting.

#### MICHAEL SALVATORI

Credits include: *Myth: The Fallen Lords*, *Halo*, *Destiny*



Salvatori started in 1997 with *Myth: The Fallen Lords*, but really took off in 2002 with his first *Halo* soundtrack. After becoming known for his dramatic theme sounds, he branched out into *Destiny* later on in 2014.

#### JOHN & DANIEL LIGHT

Credits include: *Dishonored*



John Licht has been known to work in television as well as the gaming industry, but collaborated with his Uncle 'Dan' to create the end title sequence to Bethesda's *Dishonored*. 'Honor For All' is currently my all time favourite game track.

#### NOBUO UEMATSU

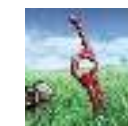
Credits include: *Final Fantasy*



Nobuo Uematsu is one of the biggest names in game music, famous for scoring almost all of the *Final Fantasy* games. His work is diverse and consistently great.

#### MANAMI KIYOTA

Credits include: *Xenoblade Chronicles*



Manami Kiyota composed many of the memorable themes from *Xenoblade Chronicles*, and was one of the half-dozen composers involved in producing the huge and excellent score for *Xenoblade Chronicles 2*. She also has a large portfolio as an independent artist.

#### AUSTIN WINTORY

Credits include: *Journey*, *The Banner Saga 3*



I just really like the *Journey* soundtrack, OK?

# UNTITLED GOOSE GAME: IS IT GOOSE ENOUGH?

EN SATTAUR TALKS DISRUPTIVE GEESE, A TOPIC INEVITABLY CLOSE TO ALL OUR HEARTS

The release of House House's *Untitled Goose Game* last month took certain parts of the internet by storm. The reviews are in, and people seem to be enjoying it. However, here at the UK's leading goose-related university, we are above such wishy-washy, subjective questions as "is it fun?" or "is it worth the money?" We will be evaluating the game on the purely objective grounds of Goose Realism.

To begin with, it should be noted that the untitled goose you play as - no name is given in the game, so for the purposes of this review I shall call it "Entitled Goose" - is clearly a domesticated goose, unlike the wild waterfowl found around the university, evidenced by its pure white colour and reluctance to take flight. The idea that Entitled Goose has escaped from captivity and is now out for revenge against its former masters paints it as a somewhat sympathetic antihero, but don't worry: the veil of righteousness will quickly slip, and your actions will betray your true nature. You are, as the game's tagline dictates, a horrible goose.

If there was one gameplay feature I would have expected from a game about being a goose, it would have been the ability to sit right in the middle of a busy pedestrian walkway and watch with imperious satisfaction as all the foolish humans tentatively make their cautious way around me. Unfor-

tunately, this crucial feature is one that *Untitled Goose Game* conspicuously lacks. Though Entitled Goose is equipped with realistic honking and wing-flapping functionality, sitting down appears to be beyond its capabilities. Worse, the humans of the village - again, no name is given, so from now on I'll call it "Untitled Village" - do not treat Entitled Goose with due respect when you get in the way, either rudely barging you out of their path, or at best, waiting with patient annoyance, hands on hips, until you move.

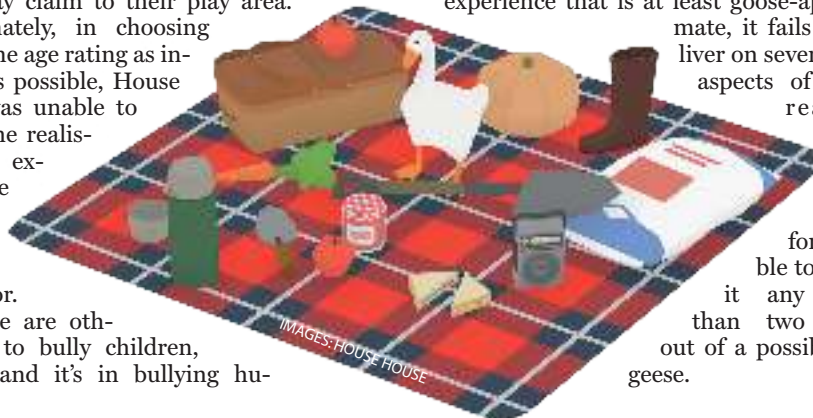
Also lacking, and dealing a similarly significant blow to immersion, is the ability to cover Untitled Village with your excrement. There are few things more goose-like than staring down a bothersome human child as you lay claim to their play area. Unfortunately, in choosing to keep the age rating as inclusive as possible, House House was unable to deliver the realistic goose experience you may have been hoping for.

There are other ways to bully children, though, and it's in bullying hu-

mans - and more broadly, just being a general pest - that *Untitled Goose Game* really shines. Whether you're trapping a child in a phone box, or simply borrowing a few cabbages for a pleasant picnic by the lake, there are plenty of opportunities to make a nuisance of yourself, and enemies of the townsfolk. Entitled Goose may not be gaming's most realistic depiction of a goose, but it excels at displaying the attitude of haughty malevolence and careless entitlement that form the core of the goose experience.

Students will also be pleased to know that dumping traffic cones in the lake is no problem for Entitled Goose. In fact, *Untitled Goose Game* works well as a risk-free lake dumping simulator, and is a good alternative to the campus lake, which is currently approaching traffic cone saturation.

Overall, though, while *Untitled Goose Game* provides an engaging and entertaining experience that is at least goose-approximate, it fails to deliver on several core aspects of goose realism, and we are therefore unable to award it any more than two geese out of a possible five geese.



IMAGES: HOUSE HOUSE

# SCARBOROUGH: A GOOD & EVENTFUL DAY OUT

ANNIE WOOD EXPLORES ONE OF THE TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES WE HAVE RIGHT ON OUR DOORSTEP HERE IN YORKSHIRE

Now, I'm not going to pretend that this is going to be the most glamorous entry of our travel section. By far. But it is a genuine recommendation, and one that I hope you take on board.

Last year when I was bored of the same grey and dreary Uni of York campus, I decided to drag my unsuspecting boyfriend to the seaside town of Scarborough. This was mainly to get out of the all-consuming uni bubble, but also to satisfy my urge of exploring as much of Yorkshire as possible.

So, there we were on a brisk January morning, sat comfortably on our £10 return train from York to Scarborough (which you can get, cheaper when you book in advance). After a just under an hour train journey and a ten-minute walk to the beach-front, we were stood right outside Papa's fish and chip shop. Papa's is well known by the locals for their delicious fish and chips, so the long queue was definitely worth it.

I went for a battered sausage and chips, my boyfriend for the typical fish and chips. Instead of sitting outside, we decided to take

a romantic stroll across the beach while eating our food. Before I proceed, one thing that you should know about me is that I have an irrational phobia of any bird larger than a robin- this will become relevant to the narrative soon.

Picture us strolling wistfully across the beautiful Scarborough beachfront. The crisp fresh air delicately blowing our hair in the wind, the choppy sea settling on the sand, the delicious smell of proper fried food that you can only really get at the seaside. However, just as my hand picked up the battered sausage I had bought with my in-demand student pennies, a massive seagull landed on my shoulder and stole it right out of my hand.

I watched as it flew away with my beloved battered sausage, squawking with pleasure at the heartache it had just caused me. On reflection, perhaps my phobia is completely justified.

Luckily, that was the only negative of the trip, and that was easily remedied with the purchase of another battered sausage - this one I managed to hang on to while protec-

tively huddling it in a corner. Now happily over that trauma, we walked up the steep hill to Scarborough Castle. This 15-minute walk was full of gorgeous quaint houses and cut through a pretty park, fortunately distracting from the steep climb. With entry to the castle being just under £7 for students, it is well worth a visit.

The grounds are breath taking with panoramic views of Scarborough and the surrounding area. You can walk round the ruins and sit peacefully on the strategically placed benches, allowing you to both take in the picturesque views and breathe in the fresh sea air. To top it off, there is a café in the grounds, so we treated ourselves to a hot chocolate- it was a treat day after all. With the sugar from the hot chocolate fuelling us, we traipsed back down the hill back towards the sea front, this time heading for the harbour.

It has to be said that the harbour outdid our expectations. We chose to sit on the bench at the furthest point where you have a great view of the sea, shops and arcades. There isn't much to do at the harbour, but for sitting and taking in a view it's a must-do (and

it's free!) With a couple of hours left before our train, we had a look round some of the many knick knack shops where you can find the usual magnets, shot glasses and rock. Lots of rock.

We also ventured into the arcades where we perilously devoured the slot machine- an all-time must when you are at the seaside. All in all, Scarborough is an excellent place to visit if you fancy a change of scenery from repetitive university life.

It's affordable, close and easy to get to, as well as a genuinely beautiful seaside town.

Just beware of the seagulls.

## Uni of York day trip check list:

**Harrogate:** Quiet North Yorkshire town, known for its tea rooms and quaint shops

**Robin Hood's Bay:** Small fishing village just north of Scarborough full of twist cobbled street and a picturesque sandy beach

**Leeds:** Less than half an hour away by train, Leeds makes for an alternative night out or a more relaxed day of shopping.

**Durham:** The view from the train window as you pull in to the town makes the whole trip worth it before you've even stepped off the train.



# KRAKÓW: A CITY NOT TO BE UNDERESTIMATED

IZZY HALL DISCUSSES HER SUMMER TRIP TO KRAKÓW AND TALKS ABOUT THE CITY'S HISTORY AND HER SURPRISING EXPERIENCE

Having never visited Poland before, a decision at 11pm the night before to visit the city of Kraków left me with little idea of what to expect.

Travelling cheaply, my friend Tom and I decided to stay in a hostel close to the centre for the equivalent of £6.53 a night - hold your scepticism! The 1920s themed 'Deco Hostel' was the least expensive hostel of our trip and the cleanest and most well equipped with only four people per room and a substantial kitchen and garden.

On the train ride over from Prague I flicked through a battered *Lonely Planet* guide to give myself a better picture of what we'd encounter. Kraków was the capital of Poland up until 1596, a time deemed as the city's 'golden age' where the Jagiellonian dynasty reigned and made a significant contribution to the wider European Renaissance. After the last Jagiellion, died the city was then ruled by a succession of foreign-based authority. This combined with bubonic plague outbreaks saw the fall of Kraków and the administration of Poland moved north to Warsaw, today's capital of Poland.

A large part of our visit to Kraków

was dictated by food, of course. On arrival we used the Happy Cow app which worked in all ten countries in Europe we visited, giving pinpointed areas on a city map colour coded to the vegan/vegetarian options (I would highly recommend it). To my immense surprise after having been lectured by my mother that I would starve after going west of Berlin, Kraków had seven all vegan restaurants and 16 with vegetarian and vegan options ranging from burger bars to waffle houses. Among the many we tried, Krowarzywa Vegan Burger eatery is definitely my standout recommendation; three patty options including the infamous Beyond Burger, wraps, hot-dogs and freshly squeezed juices from heaven. The burger, wedges and drink

I ordered came to a very modest conversion of seven or eight British pounds. Culturally, Kraków thrives. Wawel Royal Castle in the old town set in a large Italian-style courtyard on the top of a small hill is one of the city's main attractions. For just £1 you can scale the tower on the opposite side of the courtyard, taking you to a viewpoint with both the castle on one side and the river Vistula that curves through the city. Not only from an aerial perspective but on the ground too, Kraków is alive but not overcrowded, clean, friendly and inexpensive.

Just outside of Kraków's central old town is Oskar Schindler's Enamel Factory, which not only covers the German industrialist's story of saving the lives of 1 200 Jews in the Holocaust but also deep dives into the German occupation of Poland. History museums can be dull, we all know it, but this one stands apart. A walk-through immersive experience takes you along a timeline from the 1930s to late 1940s, the factory has been transformed by ingenious exhibitions. The brutal realities of conditions within the time of occupation are shown in the museum; portraying the distress of

this time period in an emotional experience for visitors. Kraków's tourist footfall is linked to it being the closest city to the Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial and Museum. As much as this activity doesn't scream 'summer holiday', it's an important place to visit for Europeans, and those further afield, due to its intrinsic link to our political and social history. Due to the sheer size of the site and the emotive nature of this place, if you are visiting I would advise blocking out a full day. Guided tours run for about £20 a head, but if on a student budget this is out of reach do not be deterred - me and Tom bought a guidebook with some information and went without a guide.

I found the Auschwitz the most moving historical site I've seen to date and was in retrospect thankful for the lack of guide as I could give the experience my full attention and the silence that is required to process what is left of the atrocities performed at those camps.

Kraków's rich cultural and history left an mark on us and our time away in Europe, a city not to be underestimated!





# REVIEW: YORK FOOD FESTIVAL

MATTHEW KING TAKES A STROLL THROUGH YORK'S FAMOUS FOOD FESTIVAL AND SOMEHOW ENDS UP GETTING POLITICAL

The first sensation that hit me was the smell: spices, sausages being fried, donuts being dunked into sugar - they all mixed together into something indescribably brilliant.

This diversity of scents was quickly matched by the physical variety that the festival boasted, with its various colours and traders cheerfully brightening the usually empty street. Parliament Street had been transformed into a cornucopia of different cultures and sensations, all of which left the other cafes and restaurants in the area looking pretty sub-par, which left a pleasant after-taste to all that were there.

However, me being the boring and spice-terrified eater that I am, I opted for the simple, and very English, pork and cheese wrap from Nan's Kitchen inside the Entertainment Marquee. The wrap was delicious, tender and well sized, with a generous dose of tangy, smoky BBQ sauce, but it was slightly overpriced at seven pounds - that's York for you!

As a side dish to my wrap, the marquee had a little stage set up, which played live music from local bands while people ate, drank and socialised. It was particularly savoury

that the stage was hosting Mindfest - a mini festival which was set up to raise money for York Mind.

York Mind is a charity which aims to provide quality mental health care for people in York. This was the cherry on top of the cake for the whole experience; the fact I could experience great food and drink, while being able to raise money for such an important and close to home issue was brilliant.

The festival was also very conscious of vegetarian and vegan patrons, with most stalls offering at least one vegetarian or vegan dish. This showed that the festival is adapting to the changing times, and is catering to a new wave of growing popularity towards an animal-free diet.

The variety of what was on offer was perhaps the pinnacle of the event. It was amazing to see so many different cultures being represented by their delicious food.

The best thing about this was the fact that a lot of people who live in York and at our university come from different backgrounds and cultures that are not always represented within normal everyday restaurants and cafes.

Therefore, festivals such as the York Food and Drink Festival gives them an opportunity to travel back to their native homes and enjoy their cultures while living in York. Simultaneously, the festival allowed us British people to have a taste of other cultures different from our own, which can only be a good thing during this time of growing nationalism.

Despite how brilliant the festival was for international and non-British food, it also boasted a fantastic range of some home comforts: gourmet sausage rolls, fish and chips and of course an abundance of Yorkshire Puddings, a lot of which were provided by the York Roast Company's stalls.

I was very tempted to buy one of their Yorky Pud wraps, but decided to give another trader a chance - even though I ended up eating something extremely similar (you can now see why I'm not the Food and Drink editor at *Nouse*). It was a beautiful moment for my friend when we arrived at the festival, as she spotted one of the Indian stalls, and realised they sold something called Panipuri - which is basically India's version of a profiterole, except for the fact that the dough is deep fried instead of baked.

For her, the taste of the food brought her back to her childhood memory of making them with her mother. It is for this reason that food festivals such as our annual one are so important. Food is not simply for survival, it is a tool which we use to store memories and emotions, culture and shared history.

The festival was a celebration of this, and on a higher level, a celebration of how different cultures from around our planet can be brought together and shared with everyone.

YORK  
FOOD & DRINK  
FESTIVAL



IMAGE: MATTHEW KING

# MAKING FRIENDS WITH COOKIES

AMY GOLDTHORPE TALKS THROUGH HER BEST CHOCOLATECHIP COOKIE RECIPE AND THE BENEFITS OF BAKING IN A STUDENT HOME

Sounds cheesy, I know. Well not literally cheesy, but it's not as ridiculous as it sounds.

Chances are, if you're reading this (which is a miracle in its own right) you're beginning your time at York, and if you're second, third or any other possible year this equally applies to you- you can buy your friends with food at any age.

One of university's greatest boasts is that it can bring people from all different places and backgrounds together, and as much as that's a wonderful and exciting prospect the reality is it's not always easy, particularly at the start, to put yourself out there with a bunch of strangers. In reality, there's a lot of awkward chit chat and at least for me the desire to retreat into a state of eternal introversion. It's important to remember however, you're never going to make friends hiding in your room.

Admittedly alcohol is a great aid in breaking down our social barriers, but what do you do in those awkward sober encounters, living with people you know nothing about? You need a conversation starter, and it wouldn't hurt if you made a favourable impression.

What better way to break the ice than is the freshers halls than cookies? Everyone likes cookies. Well most people do, and if they don't I can assure you they aren't really worth bothering with anyway.

I found it worked a treat for me. I can attribute 90 per cent of the friendships I made in first year to baked goods.

It doesn't stop there either, want to win favour with your housemates because you

didn't take the bins out? Cookies.

Met someone on your course who somehow knows what's going on and you want some help? Cookies.

Want to bribe your lecturer into passing you despite your grades? Cookies. Well maybe not the last one, but you never know, it's worth a try.

So if you fancy trying this method, have a go at making them. A pretty much fail safe cookie recipe is guaranteed to make you the most popular person in your flat (presuming you don't eat them yourself of course).

## The actual chocchip cookie recipe:

### Ingredients:

125g butter  
100g light brown sugar  
100g caster sugar  
1 egg  
1 tsp vanilla extract  
225g self-raising flour  
Pinch of salt  
100g chocolate chips

### Method:

Preheat the oven to 180 degrees celsius and line two baking trays with baking parchment.

Melt the butter in the microwave (about 20-30 seconds) until it is soft. If you melt it fully, don't worry it won't affect the cookies too much.

Mix together both types of sugar and the butter until combined.

Beat the egg in a mug, add the vanilla extract then add to the butter mixture and mix.

Weigh in the flour and salt, and stir to combine.

Scatter in the chocolate chips and work into the cookie dough until fairly evenly distributed.

Using your hands (washed!), roll the dough into little balls about the size of a walnut, and place on the baking tray leaving room to spread.

If your oven is anything like mine, you'll only have two shelves so will probably have to work in batches, two trays of cookies at a time.

They only take 7-10 minutes so watch them carefully and remove them as soon as they start to get golden brown on the edges.

These taste great warm, so offer them round as soon as they're cooked enough to pick up without breaking.

### Notes:

For those with dairy intolerances, butter can be switched for dairy free butter with very similar results.

As for other alterations due to intolerance/dietary choices I am confident switches could be made e.g using gluten free flour, without detriment to the final result.



IMAGE: STEVENGIACOMELLI



MADDIE THORNHAM: THE FAST AND FURIOUS FUTURE

My third and final year of university has somehow surfaced from the boggy blur of the first and second. University has flown by so fast and I have no doubt this year will too. It seems that at every stage of life when there's a change in environment: starting nursery, primary school, secondary school and now university, there is a mixture of anxiety and excitement attached.

Every stage also marks a new chapter and sometimes it's hard to let go of what came before; in a number of ways, at the end of university real adult life starts happening, and this can be a daunting prospect for many. With an upped dosage of adult responsibility, June will inevitably hit and graduates will be lumbered into the unknown of everything that adulthood brings.

University itself has been a whirlwind of new experiences: living alone, for one, is a very big change from living with family. Sometimes the freedom given at university can be overwhelming: juggling the cooking, cleaning, holding yourself accountable to turn up to lectures and do the work, to name a few. But it is also an incredible environment in which to grow freely and find out more about yourself.

Attending university has given me the greatest learning experiences and has been a huge privilege. With every new year, reaching year one, two and three, there comes a different, or at least altered, mind-set of how best to make the most of this opportunity to thrive.

Gaining perspective on situations that I hadn't dealt with before has been important; knowing how to work with people and resolve conflicts, manage my time and have fun as well as all take effort, especially at the low points.

First year was where I made most of my mistakes and regrets: not getting involved with societies until the end of the year being my biggest. I learnt the most in terms of how to make my experience at university personal. It is important to, while given the chance, meet and get to know as many people as possible, to gain different experiences from people with different interests.

This I changed when second year came around, which I think felt natural given that I was not living on campus anymore and having more motivation to actively meet up with people, or make going into university more of a day trip than a roll-out-of-bed scenario. My productivity increased too as I got to grips with how to work at uni, I got to know people from my course better (and those I'd met on nights out) and I also, by this point, had ventured into the world of *Nouse*.

Now, as I enter third year, it is time to pull together all that has been learnt so far, in order to think about what my place in the world might be after. I see this as exciting because, while a lot of opportunities are handed out on a silver spoon at university, these same doors of opportunity are not closed once out in the world, but just require extra work to attain; this seems to be something that people forget.

The beauty of university is that so many new experiences can be trialled to work out what works best for each individual. Being released into the world should allow you to channel anxiety around discovering what you want to be into excitement for the amount of things each and every one of us could be. There is no set route toward any goal, everyone goes at their own pace, and it's important to stay hard working, hopeful and trust that everything will work out.

Ask The Editors...



WHAT IS YOUR ALL-TIME FAVOURITE FILM SOUNDTRACK?

*"Good Morning Vietnam.* Not only is it an iconic film with music at its core but the film and music have both proved timeless. My parents listened to this soundtrack so much their first dance was to Beautiful World (the final track on the album). Interludes of Robin Williams' iconic dialogue makes it even better." - **Jonny, MUSE Editor**

*"High Fidelity.* One of my favourite films with a soundtrack that's combines some of my favourite indie and alternative tracks with a good dose of cheese. Any soundtrack that manages to segue from The Velvet Underground to 'Walking On Sunshine' really deserves a spot on this list." - **Alex, Deputy MUSE Editor**

*"Angus, Thongs And Perfect Snogging.* First album on the aux for any girl's road trip." - **Lydia, Deputy Film & TV Editor**

*"Countryman.* A great film with an incredible reggae and dub soundtrack" - **Sam, Music Editor**

*"Indiana Jones:* it reminds me of playing Lego Indiana Jones as a kid. It's basically Star Wars but not really Star Wars." - **Patrick, Design Director**

*"Spiderman Into The Spiderverse.* Like everything else about this film, the soundtrack is a mess but a really creative, brilliant and interesting one. I only wish more people had watched it" - **Patrick, News Editor**

*"War of the Worlds,* when the bulldozers go 'wuhhh', that's good." - **Maddie, Editor**

*"Love Actually,* just for that scene with Hugh Grant dancing." - **Eilidh, Fashion Editor**

*"Full Metal Jacket.* I don't know how to justify it but I just like it. That bit where that guy's being shot and there's music, that bit. You know what I mean?" - **Matthew, News Editor**

*"Shrek:* a monument of my childhood that has been revived in meme form" - **Sophie, Deputy Gaming Editor**

*"Shrek 2"* - **Alice, Features Editor**

*"Darjeeling Limited,* it mixes The Kinks with banging French tunes from the 60s and traditional Indian music." - **Sofia, Shoot Editor**

IMAGE: NICKELODEON MOVIES, DREAMWORKS, TOUCHTONE PICTURES

EVENTS TO WATCH OUT FOR IN ARTS AND MUSIC...

FULL LIST AVAILABLE ONLINE AT NOUSE.CO.UK



**KAWALA**  
08 OCTOBER  
THE BASEMENT

Pop infused indie music with a tropical lil, destined for success.



**LIFE**  
29 OCTOBER,  
THE FULFORD ARMS

Angsty post-punk with support of alt-pop genius Faux Pas.



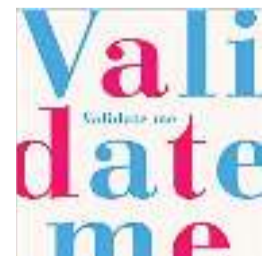
**SNAPPED ANKLES**  
11 OCTOBER,  
THE CRESCENT

Following the release of their second album, the London group



**SHAKESPEARE'S RIVALS**  
09-10 OCTOBER,  
TFTV, CAMPUS EAST

Student actors tackle the figures overshadowed by Shakespeare.



**CHARLY COX**  
09 OCTOBER,  
THE BASEMENT

The writer, producer and poet takes on mental health in a digital

IMAGE: MAHOGANY RECORDINGS, THE LEAF LABEL, SHAKESPEARE'S RIVALS UOY, HARPER COLLINS

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# Trudeau's campaign hit with 'blackface' scandal

**Eleanor Longman-Rood**  
POLITICS EDITOR

WITH FEDERAL elections fast approaching, Justin Trudeau has been met with personal scandal. Pictures have been brought to light showing a young Trudeau attending an *Arabian Nights* fancy dress party with his face painted black. Instead of hitting the campaign trail spreading his plans for Canadian politics, Trudeau has instead been making statements of remorse against racist accusations. He also used a statement to try and get ahead of the press by admitting to one further occasion where he had worn similar dark make up during a talent competition in high school while performing the song 'Day-O'.

The Prime Minister's nightmare did not end here. A video was soon obtained exclusively by Global News in which he had also painted his face black for theatrical purposes during a costume day for river guides for a whitewater rafting operation in Quebec. Trudeau responded to the video saying he is unable to recall firmly how many times he has done this in the past. His team have gone

into damage control to ensure it does not cause catastrophic results on election night for their candidate, as the scandal has hit dangerously close to the election.

Some commentators have remarked that during national elections, candidates endeavour to avoid personal scandal. Failure to do so can cause a race to the end before it has begun. Yet, Justin Trudeau is not only a candidate, he is the Prime Minister. In most national elections this platform offers a unique

The scandal has hit dangerously close to the election

advantage over the candidates. On the other end of the spectrum, it can provide vast exposure when a scandal hits.

The photo has opened up a discussion on institutionalised racism in Canada that had previously been neglected. This is a conversation that critics are claiming Trudeau wanted to avoid. Supporters, however, are approaching it from another

angle calling for a deeper bipartisan discussion on racism.

Green Party leader, Elizabeth May, came forward in an interview with *The West Block* explaining how she was "deeply shocked" by the photo and found his behaviour shameful. She also took the opportunity to make it clear that the debate on racism in Canada still needs attention. Ottawa-based human rights lawyer, Aditya Rao, expressed similar concern and has been a vocal contributor to the issue. While he did not doubt that Trudeau's apology was sincere, he did use the scandal to highlight the Prime Minister's poor record on structural racism, such as poverty, and his lack of support for indigenous communities.

While many have been quick to criticise Trudeau's behaviour, others have come to the Prime Minister's defence.

On a segment for Nick Ferrari's show on *Leading Britain's Conversation*, a national phone in talk radio show, one caller explained how the press experiences huge delight in digging up politicians' pasts to cause strife. The same caller continued to insist that Trudeau had apologised for his behaviour from almost 20 years ago and that it was perhaps time to move forward. While the public may place them on a pedestal, politicians are as susceptible to error as the rest of us. Focusing on mistakes from the past may not be the most productive use of our time, or the best path for intelligent political debate.

Criticising Trudeau's behaviour, Ferrari was quick to fire back at the caller, asking what would have happened if similar pictures had emerged from Donald Trump's past. He in-

sisted that the reaction would have been vastly different with no one saying he had learnt from his mistakes. Ferrari highlighted a contemporary trend in political language that stemmed originally from a Soviet propaganda technique, this trend being 'whataboutism.' This is where one issue is lessened by raising another problem in its place. Nonetheless, it wasn't a photo of Trump that surfaced and it has been Trudeau that has had to manage it with less than a month before election day.

The Liberals and Conservatives were at a dead heat in the national polls when the election proceedings began. When the photo from Trudeau's past first emerged, the Liberals faced a dip in their support. As the scandal broke, BBC News reported that an Ipsos poll for Global News depicted that the Conservatives had gained momentum with a 36 per cent chance of winning a majority over the Liberals' 32 per cent. As time has progressed this sudden right wing surge has been slipping.

Pollsters cannot yet predict the long term damage that this photo has caused. This will be made clear on 21 October. In the meantime, the photo from his past has unsteadied Trudeau's liberal image that set him apart from Harper in 2015.



IMAGE: 2017 CANADA GAMES

# Johnson's decision to prorogue ruled unlawful

**Patrick O'Donnell**  
DEPUTY POLITICS EDITOR

LAST WEDNESDAY saw MPs return to Westminster after the Supreme Court overturned the Prime Minister's decision to prorogue – or suspend – Parliament. Boris Johnson had initially wanted the prorogation to last for a full five weeks. The last time that a suspension of Parliament for this length of time took place was in 1930.

Johnson claimed the prorogation would allow for the Government to set out a new legislative agenda, following his recent announcements to increase funding for the NHS and police service.

Critics rejected this assertion, arguing that Johnson's actions represented a clear attempt to evade scrutiny on Brexit from MPs at such a crucial time before the UK's planned departure from the European Union on 31 October. The power to prorogue Parliament does not lie with MPs, but instead with

the Prime Minister who in turn advises the Queen to sign.

House of Commons Speaker, John Bercow, labelled Johnson's decision as a "constitutional outrage."

As a result of prorogation, three separate court cases were instigated in order to challenge the Government's decision to shut down Parliament as illegal.

The High Court in England and Wales concluded that prorogation was not a matter for the judiciary, while the Court of Session in Edinburgh ruled against the Govern-

ment, citing Johnson's actions as unlawful.

This effective deadlock resulted in the Supreme Court case which concluded last Tuesday. The 11 Supreme Court judges, led by Lady Hale, ruled unanimously that Johnson's prorogation of Parliament was unlawful.

In her concluding remarks, Lady Hale said "This court has [...] concluded that the Prime Minister's advice to Her Majesty to suspend Parliament was unlawful, void and of no effect. This means that the Or-

der in Council to which it led was also unlawful, void and of no effect [and so] should be quashed."

As a result, the House of Commons Speaker, John Bercow, recalled Parliament the following day. The case was brought by anti-Brexit campaigner and businesswoman Gina Miller, who previously took the Government to court back in the autumn of 2016. This High Court case ruled in favour of Miller and asserted that Article 50 - the document triggering the UK's departure from the European Union - could only be implemented through legislation passed by MPs in the House of Commons.

Gina Miller said "This case had nothing to do with Brexit - it was about the highest British court ruling that Johnson cannot set a precedent for prime ministers to close Parliament for extended periods to force through their own agenda, regardless of Parliament."

The resumption of Parliament last Wednesday saw the cancellation of the final day of the Labour Party Conference and Boris Johnson flying home prematurely from

the UN General Assembly in New York. Critics of the Prime Minister welcomed this decision as a vital opportunity to debate Brexit and to try to hold the Government accountable.

Referencing the court's decision in Parliament, Johnson said he "respected" the court's verdict, but did not think it should have ruled on what he regarded as a "political question."

Recent legislation was passed by MPs to force Boris Johnson into ruling out a no deal Brexit, with a potential extension up until 31 January 2020. However, Johnson is currently holding firm in his assertion that he would rather "die in a ditch" than fail to see the UK leave the European Union on 31 October.

Parliament still stands to be prorogued again from Tuesday 8 October until the Queen's Speech on 14 October. Supporters say this would allow the Government to set out its new policy agenda and create a new session of Parliament. Yet, critics say it does nothing to address the fact that a new deal has yet to be secured and passed by MPs.



IMAGE: EVELYN SIMAK

## Chinese communism turns 70

China has put on vast civilian and military parades in Beijing to celebrate 70 years of Communist Party rule. Approximately 15 000 military personnel and 10 000 civilians were involved in the extensive presentation, not to mention the 600 pieces of military equipment that were on display. In Hong Kong, however, the festivities only triggered further tension as thousands of civilians took to the streets.

## A Peruvian power struggle

Peru's Vice President, Mercedes Aráoz, has made the decision to step down just hours after being sworn in. This was done with the hope of paving the way for a general election. Aráoz believes her country is facing a "grave institutional crisis" after the President dissolved congress, using armed guards to prevent members from entering. Despite this constitutional crisis, Peru is reported to be largely calm.

## Rush hour in the Netherlands

A troop of tractor driving farmers hit the roads to cause the worst ever Dutch morning rush hour, according to motoring organisation ANWB. Jams stretched across 700 miles of road in reaction to a report calling farmers largely responsible for nitrogen oxide emissions problem. The same report only offers the solution for the farms to be shut down, and so the farmers took to the roads.

## Afghanistan's odd arithmetic

The frontrunners have both declared victory in the national election after an all-time low turnout since the Taliban was ousted. The Independent Election Commission have so far found that 25 per cent of registered voters cast their ballot, but are still gathering data. These numbers are attributed to vast concerns for safety after the Taliban threatened polling stations in the lead up to the election.

# John Bercow bows out as Speaker of Commons

**Patrick Walker**  
POLITICS CORRESPONDENT

OF ALL THE Parliamentary uncertainty that has occurred over the past few months, it is perhaps a little ironic that the exit of John Bercow, the House Speaker, that will be remembered as the one deadline that could be met. The exit of the controversial Parliamentarian has been rumoured for some time, and although the drama surrounding Brexit enabled him to justify staying on, it seems that his time is now up for one of Parliament's most divisive Speakers ever. John Bercow will leave the House on the day of the

The race must now begin to replace Bercow ”

current Brexit deadline: 31 October. Bercow's Parliamentary career began when he was first elected in 1997, eventually becoming Chief Secretary of Conservative leader Iain Duncan-Smith's cabinet in

2001. He would then leave the cabinet in 2002, reportedly giving the reason that he did not believe he was "ruthless enough" for politics.

Later in the same year, when the Conservative leadership imposed a three-line whip to force their MPs to vote against a Labour bill introducing adoption for same-sex couples, Bercow defied his bosses and voted with the Labour party. He won the Hansard Society's 2005 award for Opposition MP of the year after his enthusiastic support of global human rights causes. This behaviour began his reputation as a champion of backbenchers, and Parliamentary sovereignty.

Bercow's career as speaker would begin in 2009 with a simple directive to Commons clerks. This message being to find ways to maximise the power of the House at the expense of the executive. Many MPs would initially view him with distrust, due to his past record of inconsistency on political issues. That said, he would eventually win their trust, introducing reforms to strengthen Parliament. He also became a fierce critic of processes that penalised backbenchers, like Private Member's Bills that were only debated on Fridays, when MPs are typically back in their constituencies.

Even the manner of his exit has

been carefully planned to strengthen the Commons. His successor will be chosen by the 2017 Parliament, not the one that follows the next election. In theory, this means that government whips will be less capable of directing votes towards favourable candidates. This could mean that candidates more critical of the government line may do better.

Bercow himself would draw criticism for his repeated breaks with Parliamentary convention. A speaker in the 21st Century, he argued, would wear a suit and tie in "spirit of the times," rather than the "fussy gown" worn by his predecessor, Michael Martin. He would also be the first Jewish speaker ever. This was a rather significant first in a time of anti-semitic tendencies in British politics. His office would even break with legal convention when Bercow believed it was

necessary to defend Parliament. In March this year, he rejected the introduction of a third vote on Theresa May's Brexit deal, citing a part of the constitution that dated back to 1604. He famously called the

current Prime Minister a "bank robber", following his attempts to subvert Parliament.

His gregarious chairmanship during Brexit would not go unnoticed by the public. Numerous clips of famous rants at MPs,

including multiple directives that Parliamentarians "take up yoga" have gone viral on YouTube and other forms of social media. At the end of his tenure, Bercow is vastly popular among millennials, for whom he is the second most admired political figure in the UK according to YouGov.

The race must now begin to replace Bercow. It will be decided through an election that will be conducted in a secret ballot of MPs on 4 November. Currently, it is rumoured that it will feature Bercow's Deputy Speaker, Lindsay Hoyle, Labour's Chris Bryant, and Conservative MP Sir Edward Leigh. It remains to be seen whether the next Speaker is able to match Bercow's enigmatic style, or his continued frustration of the government.

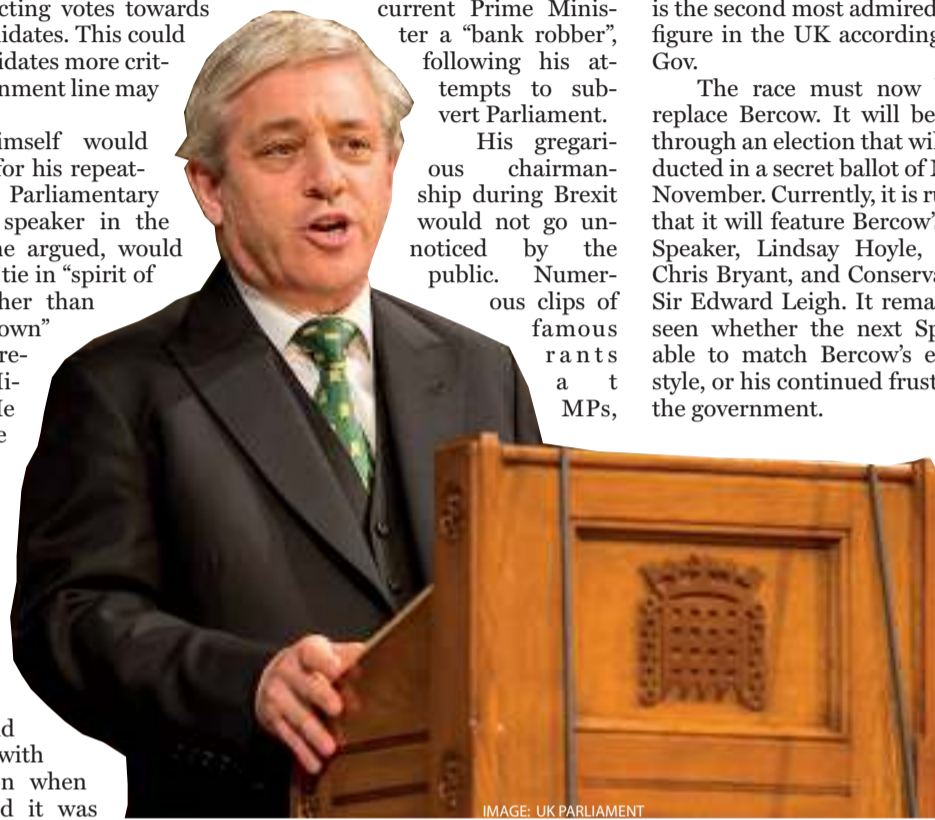


IMAGE: UK PARLIAMENT

# Democrats launch formal impeachment inquiry

**Arthur Fyfe Stoica**  
POLITICS CORRESPONDENT

THE LAUNCH of the impeachment inquiry could well be a pivotal blunder for the Democrats. Though it will very likely pass the House of Representatives, the narrow aims of the impeachment have further hindered the chances of any political gain against the GOP, let alone removing President Trump from office.

Though the reasons for impeachment are compelling, its success - with no help from a crystal ball here - won't be witnessed. Many are enthusiastic about Speaker of the House, Nancy Pelosi's, decision to start the process, perhaps from looking back at President Johnson's removal in the 1860s with the same hope of raising electoral prospects for 2020. However, Andrew Johnson's deserved downfall was under very different circumstances; the more relevant example for impeachment would be that of President Clinton.

As it stands, any hope of the impeachment resulting in Trump's removal from office relies on the makeup of the Senate. With the final vote resting on a two-thirds majority approval from the Chamber and most Senators being Republican, it has no chance of success. Even if the Democrats could rally their caucus for the vote, more than twenty

GOP Senators would have to be persuaded to vote against their sitting President; someone with whom their electoral success significantly lies. The same issue was seen in 1999 when an impeachment of Clinton was launched, under a stronger Senate Republican presence also, on the grounds of obstruction of justice and lying under oath. After

being acquitted following the Senate's failure to attain the same key two-thirds majority, Bill Clinton saw a rise in the polls at the end of his second term. Though this hurdle was overcome by the GOP in 2000, it seems like an unnecessary obstacle for those who want to see Trump leave the White House.

Despite this, the fortunes for the Democrats could certainly have been raised had the scope of the impeachment been widened significantly. Firstly, through pursuing solely on the issue of the unfolding scandal in Ukraine, the party left itself vulnerable to criticism for its own corruption within the Biden family; they've now got to defend similar actions to the ones they're impeaching for. Secondly, it's a huge waste

of an opportunity to hold Trump to account for his many other unconstitutional practices. This is not just Mueller's findings or Russian electoral interference but also emoluments, self-enrichment and the rejection of the bipartisan Congressional effort to end American involvement in Yemen. Furthermore, the decision to focus on the scandal in Ukraine gives the impression that this inquiry wasn't very well planned as people have only recently been made aware of the issue from the grace of a whistleblower. All things considered however, the political damage that's yet to occur could be minimised for the Democrats as time progresses. Already the launch of the inquiry polls is favourable and the margins continues to grow as more information is made available and more subpoenas are issued.

Yet, the Republicans should be expected to resist effectively all the same; impeachment is a deeply partisan issue for voters and Trump's rhetoric shaping the issue as a "witch hunt" trial has kept his approval rating stable. If the impeachment proceeds to the Senate and undoubtedly fails, it will only give credit to such talking points.



IMAGE: 2019 STATE OF THE UNION



## LEFT WING RIGHT WING

Thoughts from the Politics Editor

DEMOCRACY IS a hot topic. The US is gearing up for the next electoral cycle, with the Democrats seeking to select the strongest candidate to

put an end to the Trump administration. Peru has been met with institutional crisis as their President suspends congress. In Afghanistan,

recent elections were met with a vastly low turnout. Across the globe the means of measuring the voice of the people is being put to the test.

Then, of course, there is our own democracy in the United Kingdom. Making light of Brexit, host of The Daily Show, Trevor Noah, remarked that it was time to send in help from one of Britain's old colo-

nies, as our government is unable to behave themselves. His response, while comedic, is not unique. From both sides of the Commons, Parliament has become home to shouting matches filled with derogatory language. Unsurprisingly, the Jo Cox Foundation has called for a code of conduct during proceedings.

Democracy: it seems it's the

preferred option until implemented, then all we can see are the flaws. Despite it being used frequently, the word democracy is not a simple one. With all the decades gone by, the number of people who have laid down their life in its name has been immense. We should approach using the term lightly and with far more caution.

# Forever 21 nears end of the line with bankruptcy

**Samuel Goodall**  
DEPUTY BUSINESS & FINANCE EDITOR

FOREVER 21, the high street fast fashion chain, has filed for chapter 11 bankruptcy following a severe decline in sales in recent years.

Forever 21 has recently declined in popularity among their prime target market, younger shoppers, and so the firm has entered into a radical period of retrenchment.

This will mean that all operations outside of the USA, except Mexico and Latin America, will cease. Up to 350 stores worldwide will close. By applying for chapter

11 bankruptcy protection, the chain is obliged to reorganise its debts or even sell large chunks of their assets. The firm's spokesman has said that they "do not expect to exit any major markets in the US."

Forever 21, or Fashion 21 as was its original name, was highly symbolic of the American dream. Opened in 1984 by two South Korean immigrants to America, Do Won Chang and Jin Sook Chang, the firm was immensely popular among the Korean community living in California at the time. Over the next two decades, the company established itself as a global brand.

An unstoppable monolith, clearly featured on most American high streets, Forever 21's busi-

ness model was synonymous with large firms such as H&M, Zara, Primark, and so on. The model of selling, conceived by Forever 21 in 1984, meant keeping a sharp eye on fashion trends, and selling replica garments of the same style. This model is commonplace today, and with the market now saturated with fast-fashion brands, Forever 21 has struggled to compete.

Therein lies Forever 21's problem, as it is faced with competition from multiple outlets in the so-called 'fast-fashion' industry. Many high street stores have overtaken Forever 21 as the popular destination for young, metropolitan individuals looking for cheap fashion.

This, along with the boom in e-commerce sales, has slowly eaten away at the store. It is estimated that around 60 per cent of young shoppers prefer their money to be spent online, rather than in physical bricks and mortar retailers. So-called 'clicks and mortar' has become the new norm, a trend which Forever 21 failed to take advantage of.

By filing for chapter 11 bankruptcy, the firm isn't in administration territory yet. In fact, through their decision to file for chapter 11, Forever 21 will now have the opportunity to reorganise its operations and assets, and to reassess its business strategy.

A prime example of where the company can begin to reassess its strategy is in the choice of products they stock. The company has been routinely mocked on social media

platforms for their choice of products, reflecting a poor understanding by the company of what is 'fashionable'.

By retrenching significantly and cutting themselves free from foreign markets, the firm can now focus primarily on its domestic operations, while hoping to become more efficient.

This will hopefully be enough to satisfy the backers of their large \$250 000 000 bailout package, who are betting on Forever 21 following a revised, leaner, business model, which will lead them to a long-term success.

From the outset, this will be no easy task. While Forever 21 have learned the lessons from following an outdated business strategy, their biggest fast-fashion competitors have already surged massively ahead. Furthermore, the size of e-commerce is such that Forever 21 may never be able to compete as a physical store again, as online clothing transactions continue to eat away at the high street.

This, along with the growing disquiet among the public due to the environmental impact of fast-fashion stores, the future looks bleak for the company.

The company has also recently been hit with a claim worth £8.3 million by Ariana Grande, who is suing the company for allegedly trying to steal her looks. Ariana Grande says that she was approached by Forever 21 last November for an advertising campaign.

However after she rejected the



IMAGE: JONES CROW LIPSY SUMMER COLLECTION

approach she claims they went and found a look-a-like model with an uncanny resemblance. Forever 21 was also accused of using branding such as a number seven, identical to the one featured on the music video of the song '7 Rings', in their adverts.

By bearing their responsibilities to their creditors, revising down their bloated operations, and by being more attuned to fashion trends, Forever 21 may well last into the near future.

However, the future for clothing sales will be online, meaning unless Forever 21 radically change their selling format, they may well find themselves facing administration in the long-term.



IMAGE: MIKE MOZART

# Thomas Cook goes into liquidation after 178 years

**Callum Tennant**  
BUSINESS & FINANCE CORRESPONDENT

THOMAS COOK, the world's oldest travel company, has closed following a failure to secure a rescue deal. The 178-year-old business had needed to find £200 million after its creditor banks suddenly demanded it as part of the rescue. Unable to find the money Thomas Cook ceased trading on 24 September, leaving the UK facing its biggest ever peacetime repatriation effort. Over 600 000 holidaymakers were left stranded, 150 000 of whom were British holidaymakers. Media

The company also had over £1.5 billion worth of debt

outlets reported tourists' alarm at seeing Thomas Cook planes being clamped at airports for failure to pay their airport fees. Some tourists also reported being kicked out

of their hotels or being made to pay the difference in charges that had not yet been paid.

The travel company was founded in 1841 in Market Harborough, originally as a train related business,

fering regional day trips out. Before going bust, the company had grown to operate over 94 aircrafts, employed 22 000 staff and had a turnover of £9 billion. It operated in over 19 countries, but often under different subsidiaries, for example the subsidiary company

in Germany was known as Condor. While the speed with which the company went under was a surprise, it was well known that Thomas Cook was facing financial difficulties. Earlier this year Citigroup described the company's shares as "worthless", while they had been valued at £1.50 just a year earlier. The company had issued a series of profit warning announcements and reported a loss of £1.5 billion in the

first half of the financial year. Although it has to be mentioned that this was largely due to the writing down of value of MyTravel, a part of the Thomas Cook group. The company also had over £1.5 billion worth of debt.

The liquidation of Thomas Cook comes a few months after a similar situation

with budget airline Monarch. Increased competition in the aviation industry with budget airlines like Ryanair and EasyJet has not only squeezed Thomas Cook but also threatened its package holiday market, damaging its revenue. The sudden collapse of the travel firm not only left passengers

stranded but staff as well. Viral videos of staff trying to get home spread quickly, with companies such as British Airways facing a backlash as they tried to charge ex-staff \$10 000 per ticket. The treatment of staff, including not receiving their last pay check, has raised question marks over Thomas Cook's executives' pay. Follow-

in to save every company that finds itself facing financial hardship. Transport Minister, Mr Schapps, went on to say on BBC Radio 4's Today programme:

"The company had systemic issues to do with the world of travel which had changed away from high street shops to everyone booking online, and had at one point £1.7 billion of debt."

While Thomas Cook did blame Brexit uncertainty and a weaker pound as reasons why customers delayed booking holidays, it is clear that Thomas Cook had serious debt issues and was a company that was struggling to stay ahead of its costs.

But for Thomas Cook's loyal customer base, staff and hotel partners at its destination this is still devastating news.



IMAGE: NABIL MOLINARI

# Gambling; the unresolved health crisis

**Arthur Fyfe-Stoica**  
DEPUTY BUSINESS & FINANCE EDITOR

THE UK GAMBLING industry is something of an aberration in regard to its state of deregulation in comparison to other European countries. Part of the legacy of New Labour, the Gambling Act of 2005 was pivotal in drawing the parameters for how the industry operates today, especially in regard to advertising. It's found all over sport and increasingly is becoming a part of the gaming industry also, perhaps impacting children most significantly. Currently, the industry sees

profits from half a million addicts and a further two million who are at risk of addiction. As well as contributing to as many as 10 per cent of annual suicides in the UK, this makes it a major health crisis in this country. The industry's hold on people's lives should be a greater cause for alarm, resulting in a significant amount of emotional and material damage.

Sport is quite literally impossible to be spectated without the influence of gambling being projected onto viewers. The football industry especially sees half of Premier League teams having gambling logos advertised on their shirts as sponsors. Any break from the game sees

huge amounts of gambling adverts, of which I'm sure we're all familiar with, whether watching just a short clip online or the match at home. This means that you can gamble

## There's a gambling logo on-screen some 70 per cent of the time

and watch at the same time," entrenching it as part of the entertainment. When watching Match of the Day, for instance, there's a gambling logo on-screen some 70 per cent of the time. This effectively normalises gambling as an institution in everyday life. Even when just playing football recreationally wearing a team's shirt, that reference to the activity is omnipresent. It's unsurprising that a lot of adolescents get into fixed-odds betting. This is so well established that many students use it as a means of getting by at university. A single major win either by the students themselves or their friends, is a very common cause for what becomes an expensive habit, causing a number of them to drop out.

Moreover, the way in which the gambling industry targets customers can be particularly insidious. Those who have been losing bets consecutively are continuously

advertised to five times more than average. If you've signed into gambling websites through your email and you've been inactive, then companies will communicate with you about limited offers or raising your odds to get you playing again. By contrast, if you have a winning streak it's not uncommon for gambling sites to lock you out or raise barriers temporarily to stop you from costing them too much money.

The gaming industry is also a witness to such tactics, however, as it has recently come under scrutiny in the UK. A parliamentary select committee has recommended a number of changes that would rein in video games under current gambling laws for the next parliamentary session. Currently loot crates and skin betting are particularly predatory ways of enhancing profits, especially from children who are more easily influenced by such a strategy. To combat this, Belgium has banned such practices entirely for video games, gambling online in Germany is illegal and Italy sees no gambling adverts at all.

Evidently there's plenty of examples to follow across the Channel where there are far more progressive approaches to the gambling industry itself and its issues. Though we're currently distancing ourselves from the continent, perhaps their example can inspire a few workable solutions for this generation's gambling crisis.



IMAGE: JAMIE ADAMS

# New plans for National Living Wage ahead

**Cassian Frost**  
BUSINESS & FINANCE EDITOR

LAST WEEK SAJID Javid, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, announced that he was planning to raise the National Living Wage to £10.50 within the next five years. Alongside the increase, he pledged to lower the age for which this comes into effect from 25 to 21.

This bold move from the Conservative Party received praise from the Prime Minister despite being generally against their pro-business approach to the economy.

When minimum wages were originally introduced in 1999, many liberal economists raised fears that it would crush small businesses due to a drastic increase in their cost of labour, resulting in a sharp increase in unemployment as firms reduce their workforce in favour of other cheaper methods of production.

In fact the unemployment rate fell year after year, only returning to its 1999 level in 2010 due to the crash. That being said, some economists such as Tim Harford argue that although there was no economic downturn then, it should not embolden us to go further now. He

stated in a *Financial Times* article that when the original living wage was increased it only affected a few hundred thousand workers, but that this new policy would affect

over two million.

With this new sudden and fairly drastic increase from the previous level of £8.21, especially considering the current uncertainty surrounding the UK economy, it is unusual that there is seemingly so little resistance to the new policy.

But the other major party in the House of Commons, Labour, are of course pro-National Living Wage and would destroy relations with their Unions if they attacked this policy or its timing.

Many pundits believe this sudden change of heart by the Conservative Party is due to

an attempt to shift public opinion in order to break the deadlock surrounding Brexit. This was echoed by the Chancellor of the Exchequer during his speech when he said "It's the Conservatives who are the real

## It's the Conservatives who are the real party of labour."

party of labour. We are the workers' party." Labour's answer to this popularity contest for the low-income earners' votes in a potential election was to promise a more drastic drop in the age bracket to include all workers under 18 also, but of only £10 across the board.

Otherwise Mr Javid promised that he would honour pledges made by his predecessor and invest £25 billion in the road networks spread across England. He also announced investment to improve bus networks and a £5 billion boost to digital infrastructure to ensure even some of the hardest parts of the country are reached by the networks.



IMAGE: RICHTER FRANK-JURGEN

## WEEK IN NUMBERS

Digest of the week's most important figures.

### 2030

Welsh independence referendum before this year says Plaid Cymru



### 50

-year low for US unemployment rate

### £627m

high for Manchester United revenue



### 35%

sales plunge for Ted Baker chain

### 100

Businesswomen launch campaign to close gender pay-gap



### 2.5%

fall in UK car sales in first nine months of the year

IMAGES (TOP TO BOTTOM): GARETH LLEWELLYN, MANCHESTER UNITED, GSK

# Freshers' flu: a guide on how to avoid the inevitable

**Maddie Thornham**  
SCIENCE CORRESPONDENT

The first few weeks of university bring with them a whole host of delightful things: late nights, alcohol, chanting on the 66 buses, being around new housemates and a new living environment. With these things comes the inevitable: freshers' flu, the not-so-fun part. So what is freshers' flu?

We've all heard of it, dreaded it and tried our best to avoid it. The freshers' flu is a common illness, usually described as being a bad cold, with symptoms including a cough, headache and general rundownness that, when caught at university, can easily spread university-wide.

How does it spread? Many new people in the same area, such as in universities, combined with unfamiliar bacteria makes this bacterium thrive off breeding and spreading in such environments. It can be prevalent at university with people sharing the same living halls and being in close proximity in lectures.

What factors play a role in the flu targeting you? Immunity is generally lower than normal during the first few weeks of university, due to the late nights and busy days.

The stress of leaving home can also play a role in immunity and being able to battle against the flu.

Research into stress and immunity has many times over shown that stress has a strong correlation with negatively affecting immunity from illnesses. This means that recovery from illness while stressed can be slower than if you are not stressed.

Sometimes at the start of university, before routines are set in place and the cleaning of the kitchen and toilets hasn't been bad enough to deal with, it is already bad enough that bacteria has been passed from person to person. Sharing the same cooking utensils and food or drink is one of the easiest ways for the flu to spread.

Alcohol consumption during the first few weeks of freshers can have a major impact on the immune system. Excessive drinking repeated several days a week increases the chance of the flu catching up.

A lack of sleep creating tiredness can cause a sensation of feeling

rundown, and when the body is rundown it is more susceptible to illness. Eight hours of sleep should be aimed for.

So you've got the flu: what now?

Here are some tips on how to look after yourself if you have freshers' flu; it's not enjoyable to have, especially when at the beginning of university you may want to take every opportunity for a night out or socialising and being active. Freshers' flu is also, unfortunately, not something doctors will be able to help with much.

As the flu takes the form most commonly of a bad cold, it's important to know how best to bounce back:

Bring hand sanitiser with you in your bag or rucksack. It's important to apply when touching surfaces, such as library desks or before eating in cafés, to prevent bacteria spreading into the body.

Eat and drink healthily where possible. Try to have a glass of or-



on drink to soothe it too. Of course, always drink plenty of water to flush out the flu, and slow down on the alcohol consumption.

Always know your doctors number. It is important to be registered with a doctor when joining university, or know where your nearest one is. Freshers' flu can be nasty, but it isn't usually worth a trip to the doctors. If, however, a cough persists after two weeks, this may be a sign of a chest infection, and will need looking at by your GP.

It is not the end of the world if you find that you need to take an afternoon off from university to recuperate and get energised again. Know your body and your mind and when to take breaks to look after yourself.

Freshers' flu can be a burden and dampen the excitement of joining university, but with rest and the tips for getting better, it swiftly passes out of the body.



Bring a glass of juice in the morning to boost the vitamin C levels in the body. Another alternative is to take vitamin supplements. For food: stir fries are a healthy and quick way to pack in lots of vegetables, protein and carbohydrates to aid the body in recovery.

Or, if your throat is feeling tight, soup is easy to make or buy and it can soothe the throat. Alongside this, it may be wise to boil the kettle to make a honey and lem-

# Why you shouldn't bring a keyboard to a pen fight

**Molly Taylor**  
SCIENCE CORRESPONDENT

When sitting in a lecture theatre, we can peer down to a sea of note-takers. Some are old-school, pen in hand, others open a laptop and type lightning fast. The latter are becoming increasingly popular across universities, understandably, as typing is a much quicker medium - meaning more information is recorded - that's good, and the ability to flick effortlessly across screens or have the PowerPoint slides right in front of our eyes - fantastic! But is this actually useful for remembering what is written down? An article entitled 'The Pen is Mightier Than the Keyboard' aims to find an answer.

Psychologically speaking, there are two ways that note-taking can affect learning: the encoding hypothesis and the external storage hypothesis. The former suggests that the processing that occurs during note-taking improves learning and retention; the latter vouches for the benefits of the ability to review material - both important tools for student note-takers. There is again, a lot of literature around these hypotheses, but a lot of which draws totally different conclusions - which leads us to the possibility

that this inconsistency may be due to how notes are taken.

This brings us back to the article - 'The Pen is Mightier than the Keyboard' - which reports that student note-takers were given tasks relating to their memory of material learned across a series of lectures. Their principle finding was that even after students were allowed to review notes after a weeks delay, students who had taken notes with laptops performed worse on tests of both factual content and conceptual understanding compared to those that had taken notes long-hand. They suggested that this may be due to the fact that when writing long-

hand, there is more time to absorb and process the information, and there is less likelihood of transcribing the lecturers speech. Instead, important information has to be selected and recorded in notes. I can understand this, but as an avid laptop note taker myself too much time can be spent thinking about what is important and what is not, staring at a blank page and quickly losing interest.

In another study into memory in adults, they typed, or wrote by hand lists of words they were asked to

remember before being tested on them. They found a significant improvement in retained information in those who physically wrote the words out compared to those who typed. There are many proposed reasons for this, the one outlined in this paper is that writing is a very complex mental process that relies on a combination of sensory and motor techniques, as the brain plays an active role in the physical formation of each letter on a page, so writing isn't aimless.

Similarly, in 'The Pen is Mightier Than the Keyboard' was raised the issue of simply transcribing what the lecturer said. This can turn very quickly into mindless typing without really retaining anything at all, as it is understandable that participants don't perform well on memory tasks and summarising content is the benefit of longhand so that it can be easily processed in the time it takes to write out the note.

However, the external storage hypothesis is just as important, so, having more detailed notes would surely be more useful?

Another point raised in

the article was that laptops can be a distraction - this seems obvious and it's easy to assume this won't make that much of a difference on our overall performance. In actuality studies have revealed that academic performance is significantly lower when participants have been multitasking in a lecture.

Not to worry, my fellow laptop lovers, one study found that the benefits of laptop note taking outweigh the costs. Three quarters of participants said they preferred typing notes, and twice as many benefits were recorded compared to challenges such as in-class academic tasks and collaboration.

Nevertheless, this doesn't account for the benefits longhand has in terms of processing and retaining information. Handwriting involves more creativity. fMRI studies on students have revealed that some areas of the brain make unique connections during the creative process that are not present when typing notes.

Current research is more focused on integrating technology and handwriting, but it is difficult to do this without having the distraction of a technological device. Until the next note taking breakthrough then, it appears that although a laptop is much quicker and easier than longhand, cognitively, pen trumps keyboard.





# Don't believe everything that you read in the papers: misrepresentation in statistics

**Molly Taylor**  
SCIENCE CORRESPONDENT

Picture this - your average Monday afternoon, tuning into Fox News for your latest update on the Republican presidential candidates of 2012. You see a pie chart - a common and easy way of visualising percentages - displaying that 60 per cent of people back Mitt Romney, 70 per cent people back Sarah Palin and 63 per cent back Mike Huckabee. You think nothing of this - Palin is in the lead, and you casually move on with your day. Upon closer reflection, however, we notice that Fox News appears to have forgotten the cardinal rule of a pie chart - it adds to 100. In kindness to Fox News, we may overlook this as an accidental blip but in truth, examples of misinformation in this way litter almost every discipline that utilises statistics to prove a point, upon the assumption that people just don't look that closely. In particular, scientists appear to thrive on the idea that if their latest journal or report has the shock factor and claims to revolutionise the way people think about a particular idea, they can brush past the fact that the data doesn't really fit.

Galileo Galilei put it very nicely that the job of a scientist is to measure what is measurable and render measurable what is not. It seems that scientists today are still following this principle by constantly learning new ways of measuring something. Sample size, sampling technique and the content of a sample are, generally speaking, known now to be important when applying research to the broader body the sample represents. For example, when researching different levels of anger between male and female children, it seems almost obvious that the sample must include a certain number of male and female children. However, the crux of it is that this is a sample, a section. For example, when taking a biopsy, less than one-thousandth of an organ can be used for an accurate cancer screening and, in opinion polls, only around 1067 individuals are interviewed to represent about 200 million people. We can see a problem here then, when it comes to sampling people at least, as Joel Best said in his book on lying in statistics - "people choose what to count".

For example, an article I looked at recently claimed that the "Grasshopper population [is] growing by leaps and bounds!" After a quick Google search, it becomes apparent



that the research this claim is based upon doesn't explicitly offer data or numbers of any current grasshoppers, nor are their accounts from candidates directly influenced by the supposedly increased numbers such as farmers or homeowners. The grasshopper population may well be increasing, but the evidence for this is lacking and articles focus on future predictions, rather than studying the current sample.

Amidst this, it is important to note that there are guidelines in place that most research abides by. For example, a stratified sample is approved of when trying to assess differences between a larger group, certain subgroups of interest are identified and researchers recruit people from these groups relative to the size of the population. This seems fairly simple, but sampling comes with an array of biases that should be accounted for, notably age - but they might not be honest about it, ethnicity and others. Or when you recruit people from a public place - what about the people at work? Although scientists in particular are very good at avoiding such biases - it is their job, after all - sampling purely gives us an estimate of something meaning their

overall conclusion may not be totally accurate as there will always be a margin of error.

Another consideration when judging the likelihood of a claim is plausibility. It is extremely easy when you hear a sweeping claim such as "Better Sleep Prevents Alzheimers" or "In the US, 150000 girls and young women die of anorexia each year" to accept it as truth. They're shocking. But it is important to consider whether these claims are actually plausible.

According to the US centres for disease control, the annual number of deaths from all causes for girls and women between 15 and 24 is about 8,500 and in women 25 and 44 - 55,000.

Therefore it isn't plausible for the anorexia deaths in one year to be three times the number of all deaths.

This really hits the nail on the head: not everything you read is fact, for a lot of research that is properly conducted, sampled and tested, true revelations can be made, but it is the case that some researchers simply don't present facts like we expect them to and it's the reader's job to catch them in the act.

# Artificial intelligence decides who is 'successful'

**Izzy Hall**  
SCIENCE CORRESPONDENT

Job interviews are uncomfortable and nerve-racking as it is, so throwing a face to face with a robot on top of that? Scary. As ludicrous as it sounds this could be a reality in a very short time. Last week artificial intelligence and 'facial expression technology' was used for the first time in the UK to conduct interview processes for Unilever, Europe's seventh most valuable company. The provider of this technology is the US company Hirevue, who argue that the key to improving the hiring process is a "trade off between quality and speed".

Hirevue's software seems to be based off the objective of predicting an interviewee's potential for success in the early stages of selection from a large pool of candidates.

The AI predictive method from Hirevue, Hiring Intelligence, also claims to provide an edge over competitors; boasting that the technology will allow you to pluck talent from the pool with a short video recorded interview before rival companies have even interviewed said talent. This will allow the employer to have vast quantities of information from everyone within the pool of candidates - all obtained without extensive and time consuming interviews.

So how does it work? Are there intrinsic biases within this model? Can artificial intelligence provide a more inclusive landscape for the hiring process? What exactly is it looking for?

Artificial intelligence bias is real; the unconscious or conscious biases of those who create these algorithms can be inherited by their product - a terrifying fact that could echo the eugenic origins of examining facial features and expression in order to classify humans. And people are right to be hesitant - the racist foundations of this area of research are not in the distant past. In 2015, horrifying headlines of Google's facial recognition features classifying photos of black people as 'gorillas' swept the internet.

In lieu of deconstructing the obvious discrimination that the software inherited from its creators, Google simply banned the system from classifying any picture under 'gorilla,' 'chimp,' 'chimpanzee,' and 'monkey' categories. The haunting memory of this has not faded from the public's memory, and we are right to be sceptical about newer artificial intelligence

devices hitting the market, especially for life-changing decisions such as employment prospects.

Hirevue claims to have overcome all aspects of 'algorithmic bias', stating that their technology has increased diversity within the hiring process. So what did they do differently? Their first line of attack against bias is to rigorously look at the original input data that is used to train the technology and carefully test for an 'adverse impact' in resulting predictions.

Adverse impact describes the detrimental effect against protected classes; in the US this includes race, sex, age, religion, disability status, and veteran status. Is this in itself a complete list of people in society that can be discriminated against? Many are arguing not as sexuality does not appear in the company's literature for protected classes.

The supposed virtue of this technology is that human face-to-face interviews are pretty inconsistent, and despite the flaws of past artificial intelligence programs, better statistical modelling is hopefully accelerating us towards a discrimination-free hiring process.

Hirevue has made it explicitly clear in order to set themselves apart from problematic use of artificial intelligence hiring that their technology does not track or categorise interviewees' facial features but instead facial movements and language content.

Language differences such as is the person using active or passive words, are they talking as if

25 000 data points are collected from each fifteen minute video ”

they are in a team or performing alone? According to the Hirevue's chief psychologist Nathan Mondragon, 25000 data points are collected from each 15 minute video giving them a ranking against previous candidates that have these so called 'successful traits'. The technology is advised to be used as a precursor to later face-to-face interviews with the candidates that ranked highly in this initial selection process.

Is this a new age of faster and more successful hiring techniques? The jury's out, and only time will tell us if this is another diversity minefield, or a leap of progress away from unconscious human bias.

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# Nouse Interviews...Maddi Cannell

As the year gets going, *Nouse* catches up with the York Sport President



**How is Roses shaping up in terms of Lancaster having a much bigger training budget and at home this year? How will you overcome that?**

We are, if you go by books, better than Lancaster at sport. We finish higher than them every year. So, I think it's not a question of our physical performance, although I'd love for us to really push ourselves and we have some great new initiatives for our road to Roses. Generally, I think the things we need to look at are: we're travelling up there, it's a long journey. How are we getting there before the games? And how are we going to get our spectators there? It makes so much difference when you've got someone screaming for you at home, banging a drum and singing your name. If we can replicate that there then we can go, and I don't see any reason why we can't beat them there. We had a successful year last year and I think we're in a really strong position to build on that this year. We're going to go beat them.

**Yesterday you announced that you've set up the new college sport pilot, in what ways will this improve the college sport system?**

I'm really really excited about this. In my manifesto I talked about centralising funding for college sport, because I know as a college captain that I was left out of pocket, quite substantially. I was having to foot booking fees myself. That's not okay. Students shouldn't have to do that. So, we've introduced one fee for unlimited sport. You get other benefits, you get a nice sports top, branded to the colleges in the pilot. So, it's all about that this collective nature, but it's also about equity of provision. Everyone is getting their trainers paid for, everyone isn't having to go to the sports centre worried about that. We do the bookings, I just think it's so positive. I think we're going to see a step up in what teams can afford to do, a step up in the equipment they can expect to

have. With the grant system we're introducing they can go away, they can get subsidised kit, so they can discount the kit that people otherwise go by.

And I think the possibilities for this are so fantastic. Pilot year, we've got the three colleges, but what I don't want to happen is for other colleges to not want to get on board eventually. If this is successful, I would love for more colleges to buy in, I think it's important and that's why I will be having regular meetings with all the colleges, so that they feel that they are part of the pilot year as well, and they can feed in. I think getting everyone across campus is essential if it's going to move forward.

**You were involved in the joint training sessions for colleges and football. How will that be feasible for the smaller numbers, like the new Alcuin women's rugby team?**

I'm actually working with Alcuin women's rugby as well as Derwent women's rugby. Because they're the two colleges that have come to me with women's rugby teams, and we're working with the University club to boost the college game as well. There's actually a really great sense of cooperation between the three, so we're going to be working really closely with each



other. That was the whole thought process behind women's football last year. It was new, we didn't have big numbers in a lot of colleges, we did in others. So, let's get everyone down to train together, so that there's more of a community feel. It was a great family atmosphere.

I think right now the women's rugby representatives from college to university level are also keen to try and increase the provision for their sports because they're passionate about it. It's going to be great so watch this space.

**You wanted to review the booking system, to make it easier for clubs to sort out bookings at sport facilities. What's your plan for that?**

Part of that is the college sport pilot. The way we've changed it now means that sports captains aren't having to send thousands of emails back and forth to try and sort this out.

There's always teething problems, it's a pilot year, but hopefully everyone has got their training times and it's actually worked very smoothly for the majority of clubs. I think moving forward, there are certain clubs that struggle to find that floorspace. I've been working with Activities Officer, Ollie, on this a lot and we're going to keep chipping away.

**A key part of the manifesto was to improve the awareness of the link between sport and mental health by working with student organisations, how's that been going?**

In term two and three we're all going to be coming together to plan lots of activities around this. I'm going to finish with Freshers, which is a massively busy time and this is an absolute priority for me. I know when I've struggled previously sport has been the one thing that has grounded me and helped me get out of that state of mind. I really want to push on with the plans that York Sport Union and I have been getting into the preliminary stages of, to put on something fantastic for terms two and three. But I want to do it properly, I don't want to rush it.

*Interviewed by Maddie Thornham.*

## EDITOR'S COMMENT

Alex Woodward  
SPORT EDITOR



WELCOME TO THE first *Nouse Sport* of the new academic year. A lot happened over the summer, England won the Cricket World Cup in the most tense match of anything ever, the Rugby World Cup started in Japan and most importantly of all, Marcelo Bielsa announced that he was returning to Leeds United and in the process, gave the people of Yorkshire hope.

It's all change at *Nouse Sport*, George has left after graduating and having to face the real world, and Patrick continues his ascendancy by becoming Design Director - it won't be long now until he is *Nouse's* overlord. The more things change the more they stay the same though and I have been re-signed by *Nouse* after opting to trigger the extension clause in my one-year rolling contract, so you're stuck with me for one more year.

There's a lot of good sport to look forward to as we return to

campus, football is back in full swing, the NFL and NHL are underway (just don't talk about the Steelers), and Formula One is entering its final races as Lewis Hamilton gets ready to celebrate title number six (who says F1 is predictable).

To the left, *Nouse Sport* speaks with new York Sport President, Maddi Cannell, about the upcoming edition of *Roses* and her campaign promises. On the right, I look at York City's turnaround from mediocrity to top of the National League North and Patrick (who clearly misses us) returns to talk about the monumental summer of cricket we enjoyed this year.

If you turn over then you'll see my take on the Miami Dolphins and 'tanking' in the NFL and new correspondent, James Moultrie, talks about the less than brilliant refereeing seen so far at the Rugby World Cup. Then I take a look at what's happening this year in all things campus sport, and Charlotte Pether looks at her doubts with the new college rugby system.

Finally, our first back page of the year looks at the bargain of the century with the £1 swimming offer being put on at York Sports Village.

COYNouse, Alex x

## NOUSE STAT ZONE

The Women's Rugby 1's team didn't lose any of their games last season in BUCS, scoring 603 points and only giving up 74

The American Football team, one of the mixed sides that compete in sport, scored 92 points last season during the BUCS season.

The away side has won *Roses* eight times in the 56 year history of the tournament.

There were 1.6 seconds left when Lancaster missed two free throws to eventually lose in overtime to York in *Roses* Men's 1s Basketball.

The last sport to be added to *Roses* was esports in 2017, bringing the total of sports in *Roses* up to 51



# Poor refereeing tainting the Rugby World Cup?

James Moultrie asks if disconnection between World Rugby and its officials is affecting the 2019 Rugby World Cup

**James Moultrie**  
SPORT CORRESPONDENT

THE 2019 RUGBY World Cup has been at the forefront of current news and specifically the standard of refereeing has been in the spotlight. Unfortunately, it's only been in a negative manner, raising questions for the key governing body of the sport in World Rugby. Sports officiating will never fail to be a contentious topic given the subjective nature of it, however the refereeing in the tournament has overshadowed the overall success of Tokyo 2019.

The majority of attention has shifted from the actual results, to questions over contact to the head within certain tackles - an inevitable occurrence in a high-speed full contact sport. With player safety being paramount (and rightly so) to World Rugby, has rugby really "gone soft" and been ruined by referees who are "spooked" (as Australian head coach Michael Cheika called them) by fear of not correctly protecting players?

Red cards fall into a very grey area in rugby; referees are normally tentative to use them as they tend to face backlash from the players on the pitch and the crowd. World Rugby, however attempted to re-

spond to this, and make sure referees are awarding red cards when necessary, to set a precedent for the way players tackle, ensuring it is safe and no deliberate contact with the head is made. With concussions being the key concern for contact sport, and doctors given the possibility of brain damage and serious issues later in life, it is no surprise how much protection the players are receiving.

Despite the attempts there still seems to be confusion from players, officials and fans as to what actually quantifies a red card. I personally think World Rugby haven't been stern enough in ensuring referees and the TMO are aware of the exact criteria which warrants any more than a penalty and they need to address this further.

The story of the 2019 RWC has been dominated by poor decisions from referees and it's been evident

right from the start. Australia vs Fiji ended 39-21 and on the surface appeared to be a 'business as usual' performance from both squads. The Fijians came out with an abundance of flare and 'champagne rugby' dominating Australia physically and taking an early lead. But eventually the fitter, more disciplined two-time world cup winning Australians would wear them down and exploit the tired legs on the pitch.

However, this was a result skewed by a poor decision which I maintain would have largely changed the outcome. Reece Hodge made a try saving tackle on Peceli Yatu without his arms and contacted the Fijian flanker's head; however in game it went unnoticed by the referee and the TMO didn't even refer the decision.

Hodge went on to score a try and play extremely well the remainder of the match, however, he shouldn't have been on the pitch.

Pundit Ross Tucker, a sports

scientist who contributed to World Rugby's new guidelines on red card criteria, tweeted following the incident and concluded that the tackle should've resulted in a red card and

hopefully setting the tone for the rest of the world cup. It is unfortunate that this however, failed to last, and a new qualm developed- bias in the governing body towards certain teams.

Poor refereeing is something everyone hates to see, but what you never want is bias from the top decision makers in a sport. This a problem rugby has dealt with for years, especially with the best team in history. The New Zealand All Blacks. Kieran Read the NZ captain was cited for a no arms tackle, near the try line, from an offside position which appeared to hit the Canadian opposition player relatively high. He avoided all further punishment. England's Piers Francis faced similar treatment again being cited with no further action taken.

The All Blacks have been known throughout history to always get the run of decisions and perhaps this happened again here.

From a huge personal fan of Kieran Read as a player and the England team, it is baffling to me why both these decisions didn't go similar ways. The governing body and referees need to communicate much more to ensure the correct decisions are being made as the tournament progresses. This is to ensure this great tournament (which it has been minus these few blips) isn't forgotten because of officiating blunders that should not be happening.

5

The number of red cards shown at the 2019 Rugby World Cup so far (07 October)

he was oblivious as to why it wasn't later referred. Hodge was subsequently banned for three weeks by the citing commission.

Regardless, this doesn't take away that one of Fiji's star players was then injured, missing the next match (which they lost), nor did it give back the 55 minutes of 15 v 14 man rugby they rightly deserved. It was overall terrible officiating and as a fan who wants to see underdogs do well (and Australians lose), it is disappointing that the correct result will never be known. In response to this and two other incorrect decisions for dangerous tackling, World Rugby issued a statement apologising for the poor standard of refereeing in round one.

Round two started much better from an officiating point of view with two correct red card decisions being made setting a better framework for the next few matches and

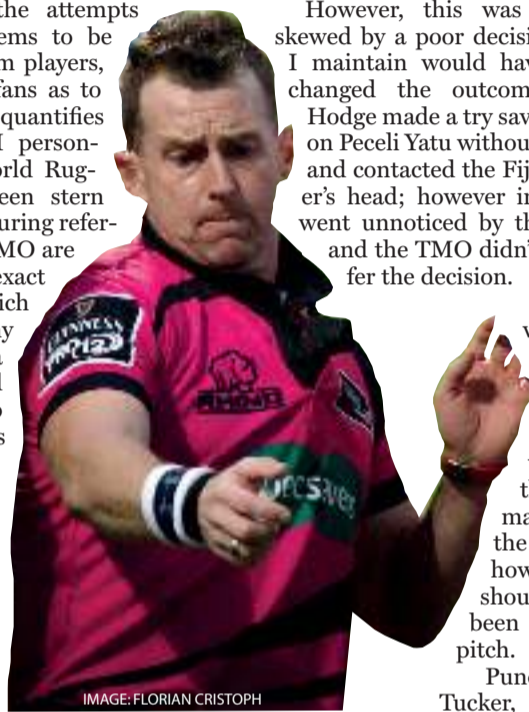


IMAGE: FLORIAN CRISTOPH

# Cricket's greatest ever summer will save the sport

Patrick Hook-Willers reflects on English Cricket's greatest ever summer and how it may have saved the game

**Patrick Hook-Willers**  
YORK SPORT JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR 2019

ENGLAND'S NATIONAL game is one that gets vilified from all angles for being 'boring', 'complicated and 'REALLY boring'.

As predicted in *Nouse Sport* 11 June 2019, the summer was indeed an exciting one, which actually does the scenes we were treated to over the summer months a major disservice.

Having a World Cup hosted in England is not something fans of many sports had been used to prior to England's first game at The Oval at the end of May, and as such, interest in the tournament was already generating greater interest than in most cricket seasons.

One of the great criticisms of the game in the modern climate is its inaccessibility for viewers.

To watch both England and club cricket, an extra

sports subscription has to be taken out to access Sky Sports Cricket, which holds all the rights to England Test matches, Vitality Blast T20 matches, as well as One Day Internationals, which included the 2019 World Cup in its entirety.

The showpiece event of the summer was undoubtedly the World Cup Final, which as many readers will know has now been dubbed the greatest inter-

national cricket match in history. A sentiment which is certainly true from an England perspective.

For those that don't know however, the World Cup final went down to the very last ball. Twice.

England were left needing 45 runs from 30 balls having lost eight wickets, which would ordinarily be insurmountable, but not with Ben Stokes at the crease.

Stokes dragged England back from the brink, carrying England to a Super Over, an over in which he then took England to 15 for no wickets.

England won the match in stupendous style, cancelling what would have been New Zealand's winning run with a run-out. Pandemonium fittingly ensued.

The major takeaway from the final was not the fact that England had finally won their first ever World Cup, and won it at Lord's, but the fact that a record number of people tuned in to watch the coverage.

That isn't millions of people subscribing to Sky Sports either, as international Cricket returned to Terrestrial television for the first time since it was placed behind the

Sky paywall in 2005.

The figures proved that there is still a major interest in the game,

4.5m

The audience that witnessed England's World Cup win on Channel 4

in an era where viewing figures had been declining rapidly and the future of the sport in England was in serious doubt.

In 2017, it was announced that international cricket would be making a return to terrestrial television for at least five years, starting from next summer, which comes at a very timely point in the sport's story of regrowth.

To consolidate the World Cup impact, the latest iteration of The Ashes was held just three weeks after the euphoria of that final.

The third Test at Headingley, Leeds, gave English cricket fans another absolute treat, with Lord's hero Ben Stokes again proving himself as England's saviour, keeping the hopes of an England Ashes win alive with an incredible total of 135 to take England to the unlikely of Test wins after a dismal first innings

which saw England's batsmen fall for a total of just 67.

Despite this heroism being back behind the paywall of Sky Sports, the Sunday sunshine still saw 2.1m viewers spending their afternoon in disbelief at the herculean effort of the Cumbrian all-rounder.

To top off the summer, the domestic game also saw some unbelievable, to-the-wire, conclusions.

The Vitality Blast T20 competition first semi-final between Worcestershire Rapids and Nottinghamshire Outlaws went to the last ball, as did the final between Essex Eagles and the Rapids. Eagles finisher, Ravi Bopara, brought out a clutch innings of 36 to get the Eagles just over the line to set up their first ever T20 title, before then securing the T20 and County Championship Division 1 double with a last match decider against second placed Somerset.

The total number of fans attending Blast fixtures surged to a record 950,000 in the World Cup's wake, proving once more that the World Cup effect has boosted interest significantly.

All these viewership figures clearly point to a surge in interest in England's 'most boring' sport, and in time, may well just save the sport.



IMAGE: THE ICC

# Miami Dolphins and the art of 'tanking'

'Tanking' is becoming popular in North American sports, but will it work for the Dolphins?

Alex Woodward  
SPORT EDITOR

IT'S BEEN A MISERABLE opening quarter to the season for the Miami Dolphins, 0-4 after four games with heavy losses against all four teams. Both the New England Patriots and the Baltimore Ravens beat them by over 40 points and the Dallas Cowboys and Los Angeles Chargers had at least 20 points on them.

How is it possible to build a football team that's this bad on purpose? The answer lies in something that has been given the name tanking.

There's no relegation in North American sport, the way leagues such as the NFL try and close the gap between the top and bottom teams is through the draft, where teams pick players coming out of college. The teams with the worst records from the season before get the highest picks in the draft and therefore the best chance



of getting the best talent. So, teams that recognise that they don't have a chance of a Championship with their current core of players, remove the players they can trade and end up with a bad squad. The bad squad then performs poorly, and the team ends up with high draft picks, and bonus draft picks from trades.

This is nothing new in the NFL, the Buffalo Bills tanked for OJ Simpson, the Buccaneers did it for Jameis Winston and the Browns have recently gone 1-31 in an attempt to 'reboot' the team.

Trading key players and making the team worse for the season has also been seen in the past, the best example of this being the Dallas Cowboys trading away key player Herschel Walker to the Minnesota Vikings, in return for multiple first and second round draft

picks. The Cowboys show how to make this form of thinking work as they turned that single trade into three Super Bowls.

This is what the Miami Dolphins are seemingly doing. Before the start of the season, they traded Laremy Tunsil and Kenny Stills to the Houston Texans in return for a haul of draft picks, including two first-round picks and a second-round pick.

When trading Minkah Fitzpatrick to the Pittsburgh Steelers after week two, they got another first-round pick. This has deprived the team of its best players and meant that the Dolphins have been playing with what some pundits have called "the worst team in NFL history" - they have had the worst points differential since at least the 1940s. It looks highly likely that the Dolphins will return the worst record in the league this season, which will return the first overall pick and reportedly Miami have their eyes on Alabama quarterback Tua Tagovailoa (even though they traded for QB Josh Rosen in the offseason).

So, is tanking acceptable? Clearly teams do not think so as Dolphins Head Coach Brian Flores has said he "wouldn't disrespect the game" by tanking, many other teams

who have been accused of tanking have said much the same thing.

Morally, there is a strong argument that tanking isn't acceptable: not only are you charging fans the same price to come and watch a team that you have made deliberately poor, but in a sport of high attrition like the NFL, a poor team can lead to more injuries which means that you could be putting your own players in danger. A poor O-Line, for example, can and has affected the careers of players who have been hit and therefore injured more than average. Doing all of this for what could amount to little more than a punt on a better future for the team seems like it might be a risk not worth taking.

Nothing is guaranteed in the NFL; however, the one thing that does seem certain after five weeks of football is that this season is going to be incredibly tough for Dolphins fans. It can be hard to see the theory when it doesn't always work and when it makes the football this tough to watch. It takes several great picks, trades, and signings to make this work, as well as management that is talented and patient. Whether the Dolphins will turn this into a dynasty or stay in the cellar of the NFL is still to be seen.

## New NHL season is underway

The NHL started this week when the Toronto Maple Leafs beat the Ottawa Senators 5-3. The current favourites for the Stanley Cup are the Tampa Bay Lightning. It also saw the new Tottenham Hotspur Stadium host its first ever NFL match, starting off a new relationship between the NFL and the Premier League.

## MLB play-offs in full swing

While NHL is starting, MLB has finished its 182-game season, last year's Champions in the Boston Red Sox did not make it to the post-season. *Nouse Sport's* pick for the World Series is the Houston Astros.

## NFL suspends Vontaze Burfict

The Oakland Raiders linebacker has been suspended for another blatant helmet-to-helmet hit, this time on Indianapolis Colts tight-end Jack Doyle. Burfict has a long history of this but has decided to appeal.

## Japan on verge of World Cup quarter-finals

After shocking Ireland in their second game, Japan beat Samoa to get one foot in the Quarter-Finals. They will advance unless Scotland beat them and Russia in their final two games.

## New NFL show on University Radio York

In what cannot be considered self-aggrandisement. Sport Editor, Alex Woodward, decided to mention that he will present *The NFL Blitz*, starting on University Radio York tonight at 18:00.

## Sport Editor positions up for election

Want to take over *Nouse Sport* and write what you want about the best and worst of national and campus sport. *Nouse Sport* are holding their elections on 14 October at 6pm in SLB/118.

## Nouse starts afresh with welcome meeting

Do you have an opinion about sport? Do you enjoy writing about sport? Do you think Marcelo Bielsa is God's gift to this Earth? If you answer yes to any or all of these questions, then writing for *Nouse Sport* might be for you. *Nouse* are having a welcome meeting on 9 October at 6pm in P/X/001. See you all there!

# York City's Rise: From Mediocre to Top

The Minstermen have had an incredible turnaround - here's how Steve Watson achieved it

Alex Woodward  
SPORT EDITOR

AFTER 12 GAMES of the new National League North season, York City find themselves at the top of the table, three points clear of second-placed Chester and having beaten third-placed Kings Lynn Town in their last game (28 September). This seems to be some turnaround from when *Nouse* published 'York City FC: The Minstermen's Decline Continues' (22 January). At the time, Steve Watson had just come in and the Minstermen sat closer to the relegation places than to the Play-Offs.

Watson steadied the ship at the end of the season and for the second year in a row, City found themselves in a mediocre mid-table position in the sixth tier of football.

To say the side have looked different this season would be an understatement. York have come out fighting and most teams have been setting up against them in a very defensive manner. The team are unbeaten so far and have had the upper hand in almost every game. The Minstermen are also the only team in the top seven tiers of English football that are still undefeated in this early stage of the season, City also progressed in the FA Cup with

a win against Irlam.

This is surprising given that unlike in the last two seasons, City has not been trying to buy an entirely new squad. Most of the key players in the early stages of this campaign were at the club last season.

After the game against Kings Lynn, left-back David Ferguson said to the *York Press* "There is a different feel about the place and I think you've got to credit the staff for that, the gaffer and Micky (Cummins)". Ferguson is one of a handful of players that have stepped up this season under Watson, playing in the left wing-back position, he has been pivotal for starting attacks and assisting in goals. Watson has been increasingly praising the former Blackpool and England C player for constantly improving.

So why has York City been so much more successful this year? Not only has Steve Watson shown that he is a great coach of players but also a great motivator of them. In the same interview, David Ferguson mentioned how Watson has done a great job of getting the players to push each other, which is a big change from the blame game that has seemingly plagued York teams in the past. York's player recruitment in the past has always made the team the favourites for the league title, however, former managers were never able to properly capitalise on the talent that they

had brought in.

Watson has cultivated an atmosphere around the squad that means each player focuses on themselves and the push to get into the first team, with everyone playing so well, no-one's position is guaranteed. The defence has also picked up this year; with just six goals conceded in the opening 12 games, the turnaround can be pinpointed on an experienced defence this year.

York's biggest signing of the summer was Steve McNulty, who had just captained Tranmere Rovers to back-to-back promotions, adding to a defence that featured David Ferguson, Sean Newton and

Joe Tait, who have been playing above National League North level.

The defensive solidity was again proved in the game against Kings Lynn, another clean sheet against a side that has been one of the best in the league offensively thus far. While York are top of the league, the dressing room will still be "buzzing" according to Ferguson.

While York are this hard to break down at the back and this creative in attack, they'll be a hard side to beat, and when the uncertainty surrounding their move to the York Community Stadium disappears, York will become a real force in the lower leagues.



IMAGE: MATTYTHEWHITE

# Your guide to university sport happening this year

For those new to campus and those wondering whether old favourites are returning, Alex Woodward gives a rundown

**Alex Woodward**  
SPORT EDITOR

LANCASTER UNIVERSITY will host the 56th Roses tournament in what promises to be another great year of campus sport.

As per usual, there will be a whole host of sporting activities for students to both spectate and get involved in, culminating in Roses at the start of the summer term.

Roses is the largest inter-collegiate sporting tournament in Europe and dates back to 1965 when York's Vice-Chancellor suggested a boat race between the two universities. Since then, it has grown and last year hosted 51 sports, with York taking home the Carter James Trophy with a score of 209.5-143.5

The odds will be against York this year, seeing as the last time the visiting team won was York back in 2008. It has only happened eight times in the tournament's history.

Not only does Roses offer great sport, but the calibre of events around the tournament has flourished under recent administrations.

Last year's Roses, headed up by Zac Sheppard, was opened by Mark

Addy, better known as King Robert Baratheon from HBO's *Game of Thrones*, while pop-up bars and entertainment in the city were also made available for the tournament's duration.

Even though it means travelling to Lancaster this year, Roses is not something to miss out on. If you think you may be keen to play or support away this year, book out the weekend of 1-3 May 2020, the official dates for the next iteration of the tournament.

28

The number of times York has won Roses. Twice more than Lancaster

During the spring term, another inter-university tournament takes place in the form of College Varsity.

The next version of this tournament will see York take on Durham University. York are the favourites this year as the host, winning when they last hosted the tournament in 2017, as well as narrowly missing out on victory away last year in Durham.

While only having 12 sports, Varsity does have a lot to offer. 200 students from the University take part and large crowds attend the main events, with over 400 York students making the journey north in the 2019 tournament.

York lost by a narrow margin last year, their best performance on the road in history. The only thing left to do this year is to turn that into a victory.

Sport doesn't just happen against Lancaster and Durham though. Throughout the year, many teams take part in British University & College Sports, BUCS for short.

Teams participating in BUCS travel to and host different universities in a league format, with promotion and relegation at the end of the season.

The highest ranked York team competing in BUCS is the Women's 1s Rugby Union team, who were promoted to the Premier Division after winning all of their ten games with comfortable margins last season, completing two years without a loss.

Among the other sports that have BUCS teams are American football, netball, basketball, and fencing. To see when a team is play-

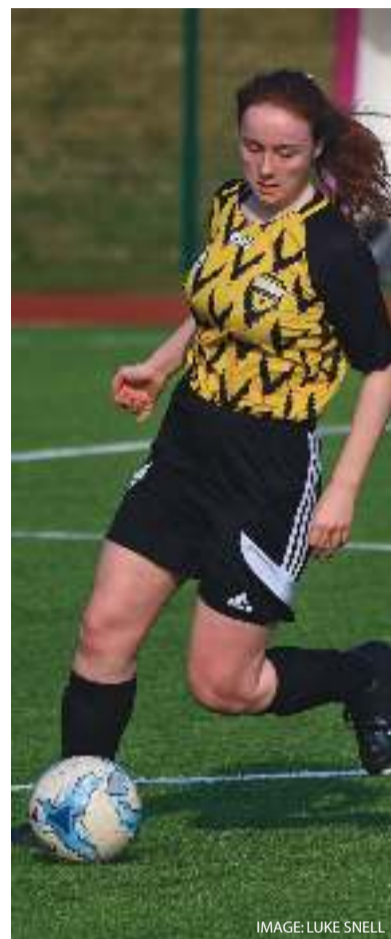


IMAGE: LUKE SNELL

ing or to get involved, most teams have a Facebook or Twitter page that will allow you to contact them.

For anyone who wants a more campus-oriented experience, all colleges compete in intercollegiate sport. As mentioned in this edition, women's rugby is getting the intercollegiate experience, adding it to football, basketball and more. Most colleges have multiple teams for popular sports, ranging from the more competitive teams to a more laid-back experience.

Finally, if you're looking for a laid-back way to exercise, or just want to pursue an interest in a sport, there are many sports societies and clubs across campus that do not compete at university level.

There are college leagues for established sports like football, both codes of rugby and basketball, but there are also non-BUCS sports like korfbal, kendo, and handball.

The best way to get started in a society is by going to a Give It A Go (GIAG) session that runs through the opening weeks of both autumn and spring term.

No matter what, if you want to get interested in sport, there's a way on York's campus. Whether you plan to participate in a team or just want to watch, there's a lot to enjoy.

## New college women's rugby offerings are unsafe

Women's Rugby 2s captain Charlotte Pether points out significant safety flaws in new women's college rugby system

**Charlotte Pether**  
SPORT CORRESPONDENT

WOMEN'S RUGBY IS a sport which is growing more and more every year as barriers are slowly but surely being broken down. Many women are wanting to try this new sport but are unsure of how to and may be intimidated by high performing clubs.

The University of York of Women's Rugby Club (UYWRUFC) is the most successful club on campus, but most importantly, it's open to women of all abilities. And it isn't all about the rugby, we have fun and inclusive socials together too.

Therefore, women wanting to give it a go should not be intimidated. I had never played rugby before coming to York, but due to the warm, welcoming atmosphere of the club, I am still playing in my third year and could not imagine my university career without it.

The question which is starting to arise with Derwent and Alcuin setting up women's rugby teams is whether it is feasible for all colleges to follow suit.

The first barrier faced by college women's rugby is the issue of coaching. The glory of college sport is that it allows students to run their

own teams. This is possible as those in the more senior positions will have played that sport for a long period of time and have the experience and knowledge of the sport to put into practice when coaching. Due to it being a relatively new sport to women nationwide, there are many who have never played before but want to give it a go.

As a consequence, they need good coaching to learn the basics and fully develop as players in a safe and cohesive manner.

If the desire is to develop women's college rugby to the same full-contact level as the men's game, then this is not possible with the current structure. Tackling is dangerous and if not taught properly can lead to serious injury. Properly qualified coaches will have to be found.

Nonetheless, with qualified coaches comes payment. There are some students that are qualified and will willingly do it on a voluntary basis or for a small fee. With our York Sport Union President Maddi's new initiative to fund coaching and refereeing courses for many within college sport, this may well happen.

However, it is crucial when teaching contact to complete beginners that an experienced coach is employed; this comes at an expense. Until it can be guaranteed that colleges, and/or YUSU can provide this, introducing women's rugby to

college sport is going to be very difficult.

This season, UYWRUFC are introducing a more permanent and substantial Development Team and have introduced a new role to the committee - Development Officer - to lead this. As a club we are very aware of the growing profile of women's rugby and want to make sure that we remain an open club to all abilities. Indeed, we are committed and focused to our sport which means that our trainings can be intense, but we wouldn't be where we are if it wasn't for that attitude and

intensity.

One of the main parts about participating in a sport is playing games against others. It is arguably the most enjoyable part of it. Unfortunately, within UYWRUFC alone, there are not enough people from each college to have a full team - in some cases, not even enough for sevens.

This means that a college league would most likely not be possible and therefore, it may start to become a little boring. The introduction of the Development Team means that there will be more regu-

lar playing opportunities for girls who have never played before, ensuring that the most enjoyable part of the sport is available for all. As women develop as players, they will move up within the club and may be playing for the 1st Team sooner than they originally thought.

There is so much enthusiasm at the moment for the increasing availability of women's rugby, meaning that over the years it will likely become a well and truly established sport across the colleges on campus, as it is becoming across the world. It just needs to happen properly.



IMAGE: LUKE SNELL

## The Year Ahead

Nouse speak to new York Sport President Maddi Cannell as she gets going  
P.24



## Throwing it away

Alex Woodward explains why throwing games hurts NFL more than other sports  
P.26



## College Rugby

Charlotte Pether raises safety concerns about women's college rugby  
P.27



# N SPORT

Shortlisted for Best Sports Coverage, SPA Awards 2019

Tuesday 08 October 2019



## £1 swims prove popular but unprofitable

**Alex Woodward**  
SPORT EDITOR

BEFORE THE NEW scheme was put in place, the cost of swimming at the York Sport Village was £3.85 for students and £3.10 for students with the 'York Card'.

The original move to £1 swimming started from pressure by former *Nouse* Sport Editors, who believed students should be able to exercise for low costs during exam season. The advantages are obvious in a physical sense, but what is often forgotten is the impact exercise can have on mental health.

According to the Mental Health Foundation, regular exercise has been linked with an increase in

self-esteem as well as reductions in stress and anxiety levels.

However, as has been pointed out by many, stress and anxiety don't just come to university students in the final term. Students that have more of their focus in the earlier terms will not only miss out on any of the mental health benefits of the scheme but will also feel like the University is less focused on these individuals.

During the campaign, new York Sport President, Maddi Cannell, promised that if elected, she would extend £1 swimming past its expected end date at the end of exams into future terms.

Usually, prices at the Sports Village are not cheap and access to the gym cannot be given on a pay-as-you-go basis, meaning that a student must pay at least £30 per

month for the gym. If a student just wants to swim instead, then swimming once a week would cost as much as £38.50 per term. The average student spends £32 on household bills according to SaveTheStudent.

According to the Information Governance Team at the University of York, 579 people took up the offer of £1 swims, with just a 21 taking up fitness classes in the same time frame.

The cost to York Sport of running these reduced price sessions was £1650.15. When asked about the plan for how long the scheme might continue, York Sport said "York Sport work very closely with YUSU to provide availability and access to sports and activities for all students, sport clubs and colleges..."

"We are open to new ideas and

schemes to make activity accessible for all students, and the £1 swims and fitness classes during the summer exam period were certainly a success. This is something we will look to implement in the future with our colleagues from YUSU. Indeed, there is a new social sport initiative launching this academic term to provide more accessible activities throughout the week at York Sport facilities."

By slashing the price of a swimming session by over 75 per cent, York Sport Village is taking a big financial hit. As the only swimming pool of its size within travelling distance for most students, there is relatively little competition.

Even with the most generous of assumptions for attendance, it would take several years for the costs to be paid off. Added staffing,

cleaning and costs for the rest of the building and York Sport Village, and profits start to get slashed even further. The question that remains is how sustainable is this for the University?

The University has been pushing the importance of exercise in the past few years, the Sport Village, Active Trail, and cheaper fitness classes have all been evidence of this. However, the University has also shown a clear desire to be as profitable as possible, and there's a strong chance that these two ideals cannot coexist for long into the future.

If that proves to be the case, then whichever goal wins out will impact massively on the university, but an even bigger one on the students that wish to be active at an affordable price.