



“ It is so much easier to depict visually without having to rely on all the vocabulary and jargon ”

How cartoons are redefining Queer >> M5



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NOUSE



Autumn Term Week Four
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York students turn to sex work to fund degrees

• Most in industry ‘underground’ but escort agencies boast ‘lots of new students’

Neil Johnston
Fiona Parker

DOZENS OF university students in York have turned to sex work as they struggle to fund their degrees, *Nouse* can reveal.

As many as 30 students in York are operating as escorts, and eight agencies in the area were able to provide student escorts. One agency said they had up to seven students available.

Nouse has found that all but two escort agencies contacted in the York area were able to offer students to clients. Several students in York and the surrounding area have also been advertising themselves independently as escorts, including some male students.

One student who has worked as an escort in the York area, made £300 to £600 a day, and would do one or two days a week. The student is still an escort and when asked for a phone interview was unable to because, her housemates were “at home and they didn’t know.”

YUSU Welfare Officer, George Offer said he found it “really concerning that our students are being commodified and offered as products.”

A *Nouse* reporter posed as a student looking for an escort, asking specifically if there were students

available.

In many cases *Nouse* was provided with detailed information including pictures, with the student’s face blurred out.

One agency said not to bother looking on the website as, “lots of the new ones are students”. He said that as a result their profiles weren’t yet online. Escorts being advertised could make £150 an hour and as much as £1000 a night.

Student escorts are going back and forth between York and Leeds, making it difficult to attach escorts to specific institutions.

Agencies did say they had student escorts when *Nouse* reporters asked about getting into the industry, and if there were any others studying at university who worked with them.

The agencies contacted said that other students working for them were able to cope with the workload on top of their degree.

From this dialogue *Nouse* was able to obtain more information about the specifics of sex work in York, including earnings and the split between the escort and their agency. These indicate that the

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Alcohol levy threatens campus bars

Laura Hughes
EDITOR

CAMPUS BARS will be forced to pay up to £550 per event under the City of York Council’s proposed late-night levy on serving alcohol after midnight.

The council expects to generate up to £286,000 by charging an additional annual fee payable by certain premises that are authorised to supply alcohol during the late night supply period.

The annual levy fee would

run from 1st April 2014 to the 31st March 2015, and all campus bars would be forced to pay the maximum fee of £4,400, in order to allow campus venues to run licensed activity from midnight through to usual close time of 2am or 3am.

Each campus venue holds a maximum of 20 late night events per year, with The Courtyard hosting an average of 20. If the levy is implemented on campus, the extra cost of putting these events on will be a figure between £220 and £550 per event. Which York’s student Un-

ion says will make it less commercially viable to run the night in the first place.

Kallum Taylor, YUSU President, told *Nouse*, “If the levy was to cover campus - then there’d have to be some serious adjustment to keep the bars afloat. The financial implications of it are huge - not just for YUSU bars, but also for V-Bar, D-Bar and the Edge.

“Our surpluses on our bars are not generous, which is a good thing,

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YUSU don’t have the balls: Referenda motion proposing ballpit rejected by YUSU.

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as we see them as services rather than money spinners, and this could seriously threaten a number of them - if students don't want us to run them at a loss, that is. It would be immensely unfair if a city center problem was to be addressed through a city-wide policy."

The levy has been proposed in response to York's active night-time economy, which brings additional costs for the council, police and other agencies dealing with issues such as crime and disorder, anti-social behaviour and hospital admissions.

With charges ranging from £299 to £4,440 per year, the levy would be imposed on any licensed premises selling alcohol between midnight and 6am, including late-night bars popular with students in town, all YUSU-endorsed clubs and now the Unions bars on campus.

Licensees in York have not welcomed the proposals, and criticised

the council for levelling the blame at them. The consultation on the issue will end on October 31st, and a decision will be made in December.

Asked if YUSU believed the levy might result in campus bars closing, Taylor responded, "In the worst case scenario, in terms of adapting, we can't rule anything out."

In response to the proposed levy in town, Adele Lord, former Senior General Manager at Tokyo told *Nouse*, "If they set the levy at 2-3 am, I don't think there'll be any clubs left in the UK after about two years."

Taylor continued, "We completely understand the reasons behind the late license levy - but if it was to also cover campus bars then it'd really feel like too blunt an instrument."

"The demands of public services on campus are nowhere near the scale of those off it - and we'll be making that case as much as we can."



Bars on campus would be forced to pay up to £550 for each event

SPANAUT

York In Brief

Students unite in #Time for Tea

Student unions are supporting a new scheme aimed at improving relationships between students and residents in York. 'Time for tea' encourages students at the University of York and York St Johns to have tea with locals in their area. For a chance to win a meal at Betty's Tea-room, post a photo of your encounter on twitter using the #TimeforTea.

Cyclists protected by Unibus warning device

A new cyclist warning system for buses is being trialled in York. Sensors installed on the city's 'Unibuses' will detect and warn bus drivers when bicycles come within two metres of them. It is hoped that the measures will reduce road accidents by helping to protect cyclists when they are hidden from view of the driver. To be detected, bicycles must be fitted with a 'Cyclealert' device, which can be purchased from Your Shop on Market Square at the discounted price of £5 for students.

Fireworks evening to light up campus

The University of York has announced that a fireworks display will be held on campus for Guy Fawkes' night on 5th November. This will be the last in a string of events celebrating the University's 50th anniversary and will feature demonstrations and music from a range of student societies. However the event has received criticism from some wildlife groups who say the fireworks will terrify the many animals living at the University.

Reporting by William Isted

Student escorts: 'It's a good way to pay for your degree' agency manager tells reporter

>> Continued from front

availability of student escorts was genuine, and not just a marketing ploy.

"If you're polite enough you could make £1500 a week for a few nights, or £500 or £600 a night. It's

“Sex work is exploitative, and it's concerning that our students are being commodified and offered as products”

YUSU Welfare Officer
George Offer

a good way to pay for your degree," an agency told the reporter.

One agency said that out of the £150 charge for an hour they would take £40, while another agency stated a similar arrangement. "You'll

come away with £110," they said.

A charity who runs a helpline for those involved in sex work confirmed to *Nouse* that they had received calls from students in the Yorkshire area.

A spokesperson for The English Collective of Prostitutes (ECOP) said they had received calls from the area from students, and also calls from partners of students worried they would need to go into "prostitution" to fund their studies.

They added that it was difficult to put a number on the situation as "people are very underground."

A spokesperson for the York charity IDAS (independent domestic abuse services) commented, "It stands to reason that there will be an issue in York", in reference to student sex work.

The reporter posing as a student interested in becoming an escort raised concerns about working alongside a degree and asked if there were any other students, to which several agencies responded

"yes".

Several charities in the York area which provide support for sexual assault took three days to pick up the phone, while campaigners from the National Sex Worker Project told *Nouse* that there wasn't much support in York for escorts.

“It's difficult to put a number on the situation as people are very underground and that is why it is hard to get figures”

English Collective of Prostitutes

Although some of the sites advertise themselves as providing a companion, many simply state a range of sexual services online.

George Offer expressed his fears about students getting involved in sex work.

He said: "Personally, I believe that the sex work is exploitative, and it's really concerning that our students are being commodified and offered as products."

"With extortionate academic and accommodation fees, students need to find jobs which pay enough and fit round their degrees, so opportunities like this are going to become increasingly attractive."

He added: "I strongly encourage any student working as an escort to use organisations like ECOP if they need support and want to get out, and I really want to remind everyone that the University has a financial support unit for students, accessed through the Student Support Hub, which can always help students when they're desperate."

In 2011 the NUS claimed greater numbers of students in England are turning to the sex trade to fund their education.

However the number of student in the sex trade in the York area have never been recorded.

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Vanbrugh left £3k debt after Winter Ball

Anwen Baker
DEPUTY NEWS EDITOR

VANBRUGH JCRC has been revealed to be in around £3,000 worth of debt, thanks to the actions of the 2011-2012 JCRC.

Around £13,000 was spent on the 2012 Christmas Ball, which took place at the National Railway Museum. The event was expected to run at a slight loss, but to leave the committee in a financial position similar to that which they faced earlier in the year.

The 2011-2012 JCRC was comprised of Chair Matt Stephenson, Wel-



fare Rep Kate Eliot and Treasurer Daniel Whitmore.

According to current Chair Josh Treacy, "In January when we started, we had £8,000 and were told to expect to have £5,000 come out of our account once the old committee's bills were settled.

"By the end of Spring term, we had done slightly worse than expected (for a number of reasons including a theft from our office) ending with £6,000."

The current JCRC were only made aware of the £13,000 invoice in Spring term; according to Treacy "The total money to come out of the account by last year's committee was £16,000. We expected £5,000."

YUSU have agreed to pay off the debt to the Railway Museum. Vanbrugh JCRC has been given two to three years to pay off the debt to YUSU. The

debt has also been lessened by a successful 2013 Freshers Week, which drew in around £6,000.

According to Treacy, money was also lost during the 2012 Freshers Week.

Thanks to the loss of Fairfax House last year, Vanbrugh JCRC were unable to sell all of their Freshers tickets and due to "a failure to get contracts signed" some sponsorship deals with bars and clubs were lost.

Current JCRC members have pointed to "poor communication" on the part of the previous JCRC as a primary reason for the overspending and have claimed that Vanbrugh has been "burdened" by this debt.

Treacy told *Nouse* he felt the issue was "people not speaking to Dan Whitmore" and that Whitmore was unaware of what JCRC money was being spent on.

Other JCRC members have also cited the Winter Ball expenditure as a reason for the decision to stop holding Volume events.

Previous JCRC Treasurer and current YUSU Academic Officer Daniel Whitmore responded: "It



wasn't an overspend that was the issue, the main problem was that I was told we were getting sponsorship from a number of places by the chair at the time and he didn't get any actual contracts so none of them paid up. There's not much point putting together a budget if the great majority of your income evaporates! So yeah, I don't really refute that communication was an issue last year - it really was."

The outlook for Vanbrugh JCRC is positive, however. Treacy added: "With our expected sponsorship income and the support YUSU has given us, we are very confident about how we will progress over the coming year, and are pretty certain that all will be back to normal come the end of freshers' week 2014. We are planning this year's Winter Ball very carefully."



University backs plan for new £16k tuition fees

Harry Gallivan
DEPUTY NEWS EDITOR

THE UNIVERSITY has said it would support the Russell Group in backing the idea of raising tuition fees if institutions are to remain "internationally competitive."

Two weeks ago the Russell Group defended the Vice Chancellor of the University of Oxford, Professor Andrew Hamilton's view, that leading universities should be able to charge substantially more than the current £9000-a-year fee regime.

“Fees will need to be revisited if UK universities are to remain internationally competitive”

University of York spokesperson

Kallum Taylor, YUSU President, has criticised the University's position on any further fee rises.

This could see tuition fees at leading universities rising to a minimum of £16,000 per year in line with inflation, which Professor Hamilton says is the minimum required to plug the funding shortfall.

A University of York spokesperson said: "The University of York made a decision in 2011 to set home undergraduate tuition fees for the



Oxford Vice-Chancellor Andrew Hamilton recently suggested a further rise in tuition fees to at least £16,000

academic year 2012/13 at £9,000.

"This remains the position, though the University has had to revise downward its income projections and spending plans because home undergraduate tuition fees have not been increased in line with inflation."

The University added: "We support the Russell Group view that

this matter will need to be revisited if UK universities are to remain internationally competitive, and if we are to continue to invest in improving the student experience."

Speaking at the annual Oration to the University of Oxford, Professor Hamilton said some universities were, "comfortably covering the cost of what they want to provide for

their students".

However, commenting on the current £9000-a-year fee regime, he added: "Greatly reduced Government spending on teaching [has] done little to change the basic financial equation."

He added the real cost of an Oxford education is "at least £16,000 per undergraduate every year".

Taylor said: "I completely sympathise with universities across the country here. They're facing a squeeze on income as inflation rises past the cap on fees, and students - as they absolutely should - are demanding more for their money."

"Our sympathy begins to lag though with any institution which continues to generate a huge surplus, year on year. The University of York last year scaled to over £9 million, which is in fact a jump from an average of around £5/6 million over the last 5 years."

"To then pass the buck onto students to further top up these generous surpluses are quite frankly shocking."

Taylor continued: "The Russell Group, and York University reps within it, should instead be lobbying the Government to invest more than the current 1.4% of GDP into Higher Education, which is meager, compared to an international average of 1.7%."

Wendy Piatt, Director of the Russell Group, commenting on the announcement made by the Oxford Vice Chancellor, warned:

"Our leading institutions cannot continue to be internationally competitive, provide a first-rate teaching experience and offer generous support to disadvantaged students without access to increased funding."

News

University outsources unethical



BRANDON SEAGER

Rio Tinto

Among other claims, wildlife activists and NGOs alleged that the company was involved in the murder of RTI activist Shehla Masood in Bhopal, India in 2001.

Two years ago, a US federal appeals court revived a lawsuit seeking to hold Rio Tinto responsible for human rights violations and thousands of deaths linked to a Bougainville copper and gold mine it once ran.

BP and Royal Dutch Shell

In 2012 Shell faced renewed criticisms from campaigners concerned about the human rights violations and environmental pollution.

In 2010, the BP rig Deepwater Horizon in the Gulf of Mexico exploded after a blowout, killing 11 people, and injuring 16 others. Before the well was capped, an estimated 4.9 million barrels of oil were leaked with 4.1 million barrels entering the Gulf waters.

AstraZeneca

Company accused of doctoring research, corruption to profit from a nobel prize and mispricing.

The Washington Post reported in 2009, that AstraZeneca didn't publish the study's results or share them with doctors, even as it trumpeted less-rigorous studies with positive results.

Neil Johnston NEWS EDITOR

MILLIONS of pounds from the University is reaching companies perceived as unethical, including some accused of child labour and human rights abuses.

The money is being invested through bonds directly held by the University and through the York Pension Trust.

The University refused to disclose the investments held by the pension fund, but documents obtained from Companies House reveal that the trust has tens of millions invested in bonds which hold multiple investments in companies including those that have been branded as unethical by interest groups.

The pension fund is not covered by the ethical investment policy but four members of the University council sit on the board.

It is normal for large companies to invest in bonds but not all organisations have ethical invest-

ment policies.

In 2009 the University passed a policy after it came under pressure for its investment in the arms trade.

Although very little money

“The University will not knowingly invest in companies whose practices pose a direct risk to individuals or groups, or who are inconsistent with the missions and values of the University”

The University's Ethical Investment Policy

from the University now reaches the arms trade, the bonds held by the University invest in a range of companies which have come under pressure from campaigners for the

way they have acted.

These include Rio Tinto, Total, BP and Shell, GlaxoSmithKline, AstraZeneca, HSBC and Vodafone.

Rio Tinto has been accused of having a poor environmental record and labour and human rights abuses.

BP and Shell, along with other energy companies, have been accused of environmental damage, while GlaxoSmithKline were recently accused of bribery.

AstraZeneca has been accused of mispricing, fraud, and failing to act properly for trial procedures of new drugs.

There is also a stake in AngloGold Ashanti a company accused of helping militia group in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

In 2007 one report commented on the company: “Local communities see little of the huge profits being made by AngloGold Ashanti but suffer from fear and intimidation and from the damaging impact of its mines on their environment, health and livelihoods.”



CJ CHANCO

Money from the University has gone towards companies which use child labour

The University has stakes in the four bonds which have stakes in these companies.

These are the Cazenove EQ INC TR for Charities INST, the M & G Charifund Inc Units, First State

Global Emerging Markets Leaders ‘B’, and the Sarasin Socially Responsible ‘P’ Inst.

The companies highlighted all potentially break the University's ethical investment policy

investments

COMMENT

York needs to take charge of where the money goes

Rosie Shields



Forced labour, dangerous drug trialling and fraud - three things any respectable company wouldn't invest in, or at least not a company you'd want to be associated with right? Well, it turns out we're all involved, with the University and York Pension Trust investing millions of pounds in just that.

Okay, so it's not unusual for large organisations to invest in bonds, and presumably they're doing it to better fund our University. I guess we have to imagine what life would be like if we didn't have this investment. I don't even want to

“Surely having bonds that invest in companies who partake in bribery and intimidation can't be following this policy”

think about that concrete jungle of ours getting any worse.

Nevertheless the way that money is earned has to be ethical does it not? Every JCRC rattles on about recycling, turning off your lights and saving water, so why shouldn't we be equally ethical with investments?

Actually I think we have a duty to. Acts such as child labour and human rights violations can't be condoned by any organisation, let alone

one whose aim is to promote learning, research, freedom of thought and innovation.

The University has actually been in trouble for unethical investment before and, after receiving complaints about it in 2009, they established an ethical investment policy which is meant to protect against such ventures.

The policy states that the University will not invest in anything that will 'directly pose a risk of serious harm to individuals or groups, or whose activities are inconsistent with the mission and values of the University'.

Now surely having bonds that then invest in companies who partake in bribery, environmental damage and intimidation can't be following this policy. Clearly the University knows that unethical investment is wrong and yet they're still doing it.

It simply isn't the case anymore that companies can't make money out of ethical investment.

The cause has so much media attention nowadays: Ethical Investment Week has only just passed.

Even Justin Welby the Archbishop of Canterbury has been in the spotlight talking about the need for change towards ethical investment.

There are now whole banks set up to tackle the issue and help organisations and even individuals invest more sustainably.

Triodos is a bank aimed at financing organisations through food and farming as well as renewable energy sources. Their ethos is simple - invest in others when you invest in yourself.

If other institutions and organisations can do it then why can't

York? Not only are there investment programmes now which protest against the bad, there are actually those which actively support the good too.

So rather than merely investing in companies who don't use child labour, you can now invest in companies that are actively doing some-

“York needs to seriously consider what they are giving their name to, especially as an institute of thought and research”

thing to improve working conditions. And these aren't hard to find either: they are increasingly mainstream companies. The University has no excuse.

Universities all over the country are signing ethical investment policies and endeavouring to support respectable companies. In fact, Cambridge is currently leading the way with their plans, publicised last week, to promote sustainable investment with the help of top investment firms.

York needs to seriously consider what they are giving their name to, especially as an institute of thought and research. How can we still be giving millions to these dishonest companies?

We desperately need to change this disparity between ethical consumption and ethical investment. We wouldn't buy something which we knew had been made using forced labour, so why do people still invest in it?

Philip Morris and BAT

In 2009, a BBC investigation found evidence in Nigeria, Malawi and Mauritius of British American Tobacco targeting cigarette marketing at children, circumventing bans on advertising and raising the profile of cigarettes in countries where doctors warned of potential epidemics of smoking-related diseases.

Philip Morris has faced criticisms for its human rights record. In 2009, Human Rights Watch documented the abuse and exploitation of many migrant workers employed by farm owners in Kazakhstan, who are under contract with and supply tobacco to Philip Morris.

GlaxoSmithKline

The corporation has never been short of controversy but most recently faces allegations of bribery in China.

Police allegations made initially in July uncovered a developed system of bribery between officials and doctors in an attempt to boost sales in the country.

Staff at GlaxoSmithKline have since confessed to charges of bribery and tax law violations

Khon Kaen Sugar Industry

In 2010, Cambodian rights groups urged the European Union to investigate what they said were human rights violations.

While in July a report in The Guardian alleged that the company was complicit, along with the Cambodian government, in the eviction of people from their land, arson and theft.

Villagers interviewed by the paper claimed they had their homes and property destroyed and land taken, were subjected to physical violence and that one of them was killed during the process of land clearance for plantations.

which states: “The University will not knowingly invest in companies whose activities include practices which directly pose a risk of serious harm to individuals or groups, or whose activities are inconsistent with the mission and values of the University.”

The University has, however, defended its position with a spokesman saying: “We believe that the bonds held by the University are in keeping with the ethical investment policy.”

They did acknowledge though that others may have a different view: “However, we recognise that individuals and groups may hold different views about the ethics of various companies and industrial sectors. We are happy to listen to representations about this from student groups.”

The University refused to answer direct questions over whether they were concerned if funds reached companies which use child labour or abuse human rights.

They also failed to answer ques-

tions over whether they thought using bonds made them unaccountable for the investments made in them.

Although not covered by the Ethical Investment policy the pen-

“There must surely be a 'point' to having an ethical investment policy - one which goes beyond just ticking a box”

YUSU President
Kallum Taylor

sion fund has links to companies mired in controversy.

As well as many of the same companies the University has invested in directly, funds from the pension trust also reach a range of controversial companies.

The University's pension fund has a £31,486,005 stake in the Schroders ISF QEP Global Blend

which has investments in a range of companies.

This includes tobacco giants Philip Morris, and British American Tobacco (BAT), mining company Anglo American and Freeport-McMoRan, gold companies and a range of oil and gas companies as well as Colgate-Palmolive and Khon Kaen Sugar Industry (KSL).

Philip Morris has been accused of failing to protect human rights of its workers while BAT has faced criticism over lobbying and criticism for the way it advertised to young people overseas.

Anglo American has been accused of breaching human rights and damaging environmental practices by campaigners and interest groups.

Freeport-McMoRan runs a mine in Indonesia that has been linked to alleged environmental and human rights abuses.

The toothpaste maker Colgate-Palmolive has been heavily criticised for its poor environmental record.

KSL was recently accused of

Schroders



CAZENOVE
CAPITAL MANAGEMENT



The University holds bonds with each of these investment companies. Although some of the bonds have a descriptor claiming they are ethical they still have investments in companies accused of child labour, human rights abuses and environmental damage.

using child labour on its plantations in Cambodia, and supplies the sugar company Tate & Lyle, who the University also has investments in through bonds.

Finally the bond has investments in Aerospostale, a clothes company that has been found to use forced labour for cotton production.

In total the pension fund has over £2million of investments going towards companies which may not be seen as socially responsible.

The University says the pension scheme is obligated to invest in the best interest of members rather than on ethics.

YUSU President, Kallum Taylor commented: “I can't comment on the moral rights and wrongs of the companies which the University invest in - that's for our members to decide.”

“However, there must surely be a 'point' to having an ethical investment policy - one which goes well beyond just ticking the box. That it's even being questioned says something.”



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Deputy Online Editor

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We'll ask you to make a short speech before a vote is taken



University red tape slammed by frustrated JCRCs

Laura Hughes
EDITOR

COLLEGE CHAIRS have raised concerns that it will be harder to receive funding from the University for non-drinking events on campus this year.

The Jane Grenville Fund has now been integrated into the Vice Chancellor's Fund, which means JCRCs have to apply in advance for funding to support alcohol free College events.

Kallum Taylor, YUSU President, is concerned that the JCRCs are being pointed to a source of funding which already has high demand placed on it, and one which exists for completely different reasons to why they actually need it.

"If the money is no longer there, then they should be told - rather than palmed off as the goal-posts are consistently shifted."

Kate Dodd, Academic Registrar, confirmed, "The difference this year is that bids will be required to address the four strategic concepts in use in the pilot colleges. The sums that are available for distribution are the same as last year.

"It is important that college communities, among others, are aware that there is no guarantee that the Vice-Chancellor's initiative fund will continue as an approach for distributing resources or stimulating strategic initiatives under the new Vice-Chancellor. The primary source funding for JCRC from the

University is distributed by YUSU." Joshua Lee, Alcuin College Chair, "This only creates another level of bureaucracy for JCRCs to

“ This only creates another level of bureaucracy for JCRCs to get funding to run events ”

Alcuin College chair
Joshua Lee

get funding to run events, especially the smaller events, such as drop-ins which are critical to support the welfare of the college."

Taylor commented, "The JCRCs need complete clarity on this. The initial 'Jane Grenville Fund' was never there for 'new' initiatives, but instead existed to offer them increased support for more alcohol free orientated events... As otherwise, the committees become bound to making a killing off drinking-centered events in order to fund other more accessible ones. Like with YUSU, this year's (again) increased number of students increases the need for more financial support." Last year this fund didn't turn up, despite the Chairs being told that it would.

With the surpluses made by the University, sitting this year at over £9 million, "JCRCs should not even be contemplating cuts to their services and events."



YUSU haven't got the balls

Niall Whitehead
NEWS REPORTER

YUSU HAVE been talking balls. More specifically, a motion was put forward to have a ball pit installed in the Harry Fairhurst building.

It was Michael Walker who raised the point, penning a heartfelt and stirring submission to get the ball rolling.

"It is an incontrovertible fact that ball pits are fun, and enjoyed by all, however, the University has not provided a ball pit to its students... I say that this is unacceptable, and the University is very clearly failing to meet the requirements of its students," Walker told *Nouse*.

Union Chair Lloyd Wallis technically has to put forward any idea

given to him and send it to the appropriate place.

As there were no upcoming assemblies planned for the idea to be bounced around, there was a real possibility of sending it to a referendum.

However, it was also considered that sending it to referendum would undermine the democratic process.

Installing a ball-pit would also need no by-laws to be changed, so a referendum is not necessary under YUSU democracy rules.

The idea of installing a free pit full of plastic and fun in the middle of campus has had a positive response from a number of students.

The Democracy Committee did vote unanimously to send the idea directly to Kallum Taylor, YUSU

President.

It will be added to wider plans for increased student wellbeing to deal with exam stress at key points during the year, it is alleged.

Similarly screwball suggestions have included a request for YUSU policy in the event of zombie infestation. But this couldn't be implemented, as elected officers are still considered YUSU members even when risen from the dead or afflicted with a zombie virus.

It was also proposed that Vanbrugh dining hall be named the "Nick Hall", after the former Darts Club President and winner of the YUSU Lifetime Achievement Award 2013. This was pulled when the proposer realised it was going to go to referendum.

University pledges to fix overseas fees

Christy Cooney
NEWS REPORTER

OVERSEAS STUDENTS at York no longer face dramatic year-on-year fee hikes, the University's Planning Committee confirmed last week.

The University has pledged that once an overseas student begins a course of study, their fees will be subject to increases of no more than two per cent a year, lower than current levels of inflation.

Previously, there was no such restriction on how much the fees paid by overseas students could rise each year. The guarantee will also apply, as of the start of the 2014/15 academic year, to any student already attending the University.

Mike Anstey, President of the International Students' Association (ISA), welcomed the decision.

He said: "On certain courses tuition fees for international students are already as high as £18,000, and even £25,000, so to some these guarantees could make a difference of thousands of pounds every year."

Anstey added the University's response had been positive so far.

"The whole process of getting these agreements only took a couple months, which was great because I thought it would take much longer," he said. But he added that there was more work to be done.

"One thing we'd like to get assurance of is that, in the future, first year fees charged to overseas students won't increase by any more than those charged to home students," he said.

The move was also met with approval from other students. Hanan MdSom, a first year Biology student from Brunei, said: "I think it's great that overseas students can now start at York knowing that there's a limit to how much their whole degree will cost them. As a first year, it certainly makes me more comfortable."

There are currently 435,235 international higher education students in the UK, contributing an estimated £10.2bn to the UK economy through tuition fees and money spent during their time here. A Brit-



Overseas students no longer face the possibility of year-on-year fee rises

ish Council report, released this month, also predicted that the UK

could attract 126,000 additional international students over the next

decade, and by 2024 will be one of the world's fastest growing destinations for international students.

However, following the 2012 increase in undergraduate tuition fees, the number of international students applying to study at York dropped by more than six per cent.

Any further progress made by the ISA to secure a better deal for overseas students could help numbers recover, Anstey said.

Second-year Physics and Philosophy student Ian Leong said: "It's clearly a positive change for international students like myself, since fees are exorbitant as it is. Transparency is great too; I'd like to know what I'm paying for given that we get the same standard of education as our local peers do, yet pay so much more.

"I see my study here as an exchange: the university provides me with a high standard of education, and I contribute to the university in return, academically or otherwise. It would be nice if my contribution wasn't primarily financial."

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Cycle crime spike blamed on student negligence

George Wood
NEWS REPORTER

CYCLE CRIME on campus is up by 200 per cent, according to the police. This sudden rise is part of an overall increase in targeted theft of student property, on campus and in student housing areas around York.

In 2009, 327 bicycles on campus were reported as stolen. Figures since then have fallen, but this year crime rates have escalated, partly due to weak crime prevention by

“When one person is slacking in crime prevention, it becomes an invite for everyone else.”

Police Community Support Officer
Jon-Mark Buchanan

students. Overall crime rates have risen by approximately 50%.

Jon-Mark Buchanan, Police Community Support Officer for the

campus area said: “When one person is slacking in crime prevention, it becomes an invite for everyone else. Criminals will circle campus looking for a target... They are going to know that students will have mobile phones, laptops, bicycles - it's a guarantee.”

Recently two burglaries in Wentworth were reported. The ground floor windows of these two student rooms were smashed, and cash, a laptop and other expensive items that had been left on show were stolen.

Outside of campus, densely populated student areas including Hull Road, Tang Hall and Fisher-gate have also become targets for theft and burglary.

One student whose house was burgled told *Nouse*, “My iPod was taken and they cleared my wallet. They also went through my house-mate's wallet, taking several weeks wages which unfortunately happened to be there. It's incredibly unnerving that this person was going through my possessions while I was



Nearly there!

Over 6,500 runners took part in the Plusnet Yorkshire Marathon this weekend, on a route covering 26.2 miles of road. The race started near the University and

ended at Library Bridge where hundreds of spectators gathered to cheer on the competitors as they crossed the finish line.

Megan Thompson, a student at the Univer-

sity of York, was among those running and said, “Seeing my Granddad's face when I reached the finish line was priceless, it was an incredible experience and I'm so happy I've done it.”

asleep in my bed.”

Buchanan advised to call 999 if you are witnessing “anything that's classed as a crime that requires an immediate response.” This can be if someone suspicious is within your property's grounds. 101 should be used for non-emergencies or to re-

port a burglary. “We rely so much on the public for calling us.”

George Offer, YUSU Welfare Officer, said: “We've been looking at how we can make students feel safer. The first thing we're doing is running a campaign to ensure students know to pick up the phone, tell the

police and access support if they fall victim to crime.

“Later this term, we'll be working with the council, the police and institutions across York to get information out to students in the city about how to stay safe and protect themselves from crime.”

£2 million spent wooing international students

Neil Johnston
NEWS EDITOR

THE UNIVERSITY spent nearly £2 million on foreign recruitment agencies, and paid £1,000 in commission per overseas student recruited over the last two years. Last year 660 students were recruited through such agencies.

The University has spent £801,869.10 on student recruitment agents in 2011/12 and £981,906.70 in 2012/13.

Mike Anstey, YUSU International officer told *Nouse*, “Unfortunately, I still suspect that financial

“We monitor the performance of our agents carefully and require all of them to abide by our code of conduct”

YUSU International Officer
Mike Anstey

gain is still one of the main reasons why many institutions look to recruit from overseas - so it's clear why you would question whether educational standards might be compromised - especially given the



The University spends £1,000 per international student which they recruit via a selection of agencies

rigid funding for universities today etc. The cash cow mentality that institutions have is grossly unfair for international students.”

Although most universities use foreign recruitment agents there have been some concerns raised by their use in recent years.

Last year an investigation by *The Daily Telegraph* found some agents were boasting they could secure places for overseas students with far worse A-level results than those expected of British pupils.

A study earlier in the year by

two companies - Uni-Pay, which collects and processes fee payments, and Centurus, an admissions firm - found that international students were an important source of income for universities.

However the study also claimed that the overseas recruitment system used was “inefficient” and wasteful. York pays a ten per cent commission to foreign recruitment agents, a similar figure to other institutions, according to the research.

In 2011/12, agents recruited 302,680 students from outside the

EU, collectively paying £3.2 billion in fees. The average fee stood at £10,738.

Anstey added: “What many people seem to get wrong, is that not ALL international students have an unlimited bank flow, in many cases, everyone is in the same financial situation where loans need to be sought to get their education.”

“The amount of cash spent on recruitment is vast, claims that all international students are prioritized purely for their money is a disgusting accusation which holds

no truth to it.”

The University commented, “About 23% of our total student population is from overseas. We monitor the performance of our agents carefully and require all of them to abide by our code of conduct. Researchers estimated that 38 per cent of these students were recruited through agents, suggesting that total commission may be equal to £120m.”

“Claims that international students are prioritized purely for their money is a disgusting accusation which holds no truth”

YUSU International Officer
Mike Anstey

Foreign students represent a large source of income for British universities, with many undergraduates and postgraduates from outside the EU paying twice as much for courses as home students.

Income from students from outside Europe has more than doubled in the last decade and now accounts for almost 10 per cent of universities' total funding.

News

Number of campus returners up by 240

Harry Gallivan
DEPUTY NEWS EDITOR

THE UNIVERSITY accommodated an additional 237 returners on campus compared to last year, despite the fact hundreds of freshers were forced to live off campus due to a lack of space.

Information obtained through the Freedom of Information Act reveals that in 2012/13 428 students returned to university accommodation in their second or third year, compared to 675 this year.

The University struggled to provide students with a room on campus for the first time since the 2010/11 academic year.

A University spokesman commented, "Based on projected recruitment levels and in view of additional capacity in new Langwith College, we planned to accommodate more upper year students in University accommodation."

"It has been University policy for several years to attract more second and third year students to live on campus to help create broader communities within our colleges."

"The additional recruitment of students through clearing led to a shortfall of accommodation this year. Nevertheless, students who met our guarantee did not have to find accommodation in the city themselves."

"We identified a range of properties in the private sector and honoured our guarantee first-year students to provide places in University-managed accommodation."

Due to a lack of rooms for on campus accommodation, 264 freshers were forced to live off campus

across York city. Many students were given the option to stay at the expensive Boulevard as a last resort, which charges premium prices of £130 per week.

A prospective fresher, who preferred to remain anonymous at the time, expressed the desperation of the situation: "You know how expensive Boulevard is. Being pocketed in Boulevard isn't exactly ideal - I know I wouldn't be able to afford it. In which case, what can you do? Nothing."

In total, 120 Goodricke students were housed at the Boulevard, 100 Langwith students in private accommodation off-campus, and 44 Langwith students were split between Catherine House, and on Walmgate.

The university blamed the accommodation shortfall on an increase in clearing places offered this year, which saw a much higher intake of students at York.

The higher intake of students also led to a huge backlog of accommodation requests, causing the university's systems to crash. At one point, only 45 students could submit their application in two hours.

The statistics also show the University accommodated 83 continuing postgraduates, an additional 7 postgraduates compared to last year.

In total, the University accommodated 4563 guaranteed students either off or on-campus, compared to 4448 guaranteed students the year before.

In response to the shortfall, YUSU have secured free bus travel for all freshers who are living outside of campus.

LAURA HUGHES



CAT MOODY

Great explorations

A team from the University's Cave and Potholing Club (pictured above) have spent the last few years exploring uncharted caves in the mountains of Durmitor, in Montenegro.

Students and graduates have been exploring for new caves since 2004.

The 17-strong team camped in the Durmitor Mountains, 17 miles from the nearest road, with one shaft measuring 68m deep.

University provides £400,000 to improve VLE and internships

Amy Blumsom
DEPUTY NEWS EDITOR

THE SENIOR Management Group has approved the allocation of an additional £400,000 to projects dedicated to enhancing the student experience. Such ventures include an upgrade of the VLE in addition to expanding the digital recording of lectures.

Two years ago, the University spent £100,000 developing the use of recording of lectures.

Some of these projects are aimed at improving employment opportunities for students. This includes the continuation of the University's programme of paid winter internships for recent graduates. The University also intends to use such funding to attract more FTSE 100 and 250 companies.

Nouse reported earlier this term that York was fifth worst in the Russell Group for employment prospects. The University ranked 29th out of 121 institutions for employability according to the Time Good University Guide.

David Garner, University Press Officer, told Nouse that these changes will mean "that our students have the widest possible choice of employment post-University".

The money will also be used by the IT Services team to develop a new app, which Garner said "will allow us to communicate more effectively with students using tablets and mobile phones".

“We aim to build on recent successes in attracting major companies to careers fairs”

University of York Registrar
David Duncan

George Offer, YUSU Welfare Officer, although delighted with the increase in funding, expressed a concern that student opinion had not been taken into account: "It's great to see the senior management actively trying to improve the student experience, but they really need engage with students about what they want so that 400k goes into projects students really value not just what some think the student experience should be about"

David Duncan, the University's Registrar said: "I am very pleased

that the Senior Management Group has approved an additional allocation of £400k to support various projects which are designed to enhance the student experience.

These include the continuation of the University's very successful programme of paid winter internships for recent graduates, expansion of the digital recording of lectures infrastructure, and additional investment in learning enhancement and the Virtual Learning Environment."

The University are also planning to expand the telethon, through which our alumni community contribute funds to support students clubs and societies as well as sporting activities.

"We aim to build on recent successes in attracting major companies to careers fairs by targeting other FTSE 100 and 250 companies, so that our students have the widest possible choice of employment post-University. Finally our IT Services team have plans to develop an app, which will allow us to communicate more effectively."

Kallum Taylor, YUSU President, said: "Obviously any investment into making students lives better, and making students better, is to be celebrated."

Fighting the stigma

With one in four people likely to suffer from mental ill-health, **Sofia Geraghty** looks at what the NUS are doing to eradicate the stigma amongst students.



One in four people will experience mental ill-health at some stage of their life. A fact many people will be surprised by due to the fact mental ill-health remains very much a taboo subject.

The problem is the stigma surrounding mental health makes the problem far worse. Time to Change, a charity set up to eradicate mental ill-health stigma, has found that a staggering nine out of ten people who suffer from mental ill-health difficulties experience stigma and discrimination. With such thought being so prevalent, it is little surprise that people who think they may need help are unlikely to ask for it.

It is no secret that university can be a breeding ground for mental ill-health difficulties: being away from home, financial stress and dubious diets can make university a difficult experience for many. In light of this, the NUS have decided to up their campaign to eradicate mental health stigma by forming a partnership with Time to Change. Hannah Paterson, the NUS disability officer, recently visited York as part of her plan to unite student unions and charities across the country, to challenge how we perceive and deal with mental ill-health issues.

One of the issues Hannah identified as being incredibly worrying for mental healthcare is the proposed cuts in funding for student health. "Moving away from just the mental ill-health awareness, healthcare is a really political thing. Things like counseling services are currently being removed or cut back on by the government as a result in the change in how universities are funded." While it is certainly true that despite the fact more students are seeking help than ever before many universities have to cut back on their mental health facilities due to government funding.

Hannah believes that the governments further education funding reforms are also directly damaging to students mental well-being. "Financial issues such as the stress of having such a large debt (with students now paying more than ever) along with the actual stress of getting a degree all adds to mental health problems despite the fact that they are often seen as peripheral and separate to

universities mental health services. We have been doing a lot of work in preventing cuts in individual student unions and looking at the way universities are set up to support mental health, so looking at educational things such as mitigating circumstances and how universities are set up to support people during exams."

Whilst the financial barriers imposed on mental healthcare do need to be overcome, Hannah has identified the biggest barrier to mental health recovery as the first and most difficult one, speaking out and asking for help. "People are still scared to talk about mental

if you are living with four people, statistically one of those people will suffer from some sort of mental health issue at some point. If you look around any given room its probable you will see people with mental health problems. If they haven't spoken about it, it is likely due to the fact a lot of stigma is still there."

Earlier this month the NUS held a conference in partnership with Mind which saw 100 student representatives and charity working together to come up with an action plan. Hannah was pleased with the progress the conference made "It was brilliant, we brought together spokes people from student unions,

ma so have been looking at how mental health is viewed and coming up with an action plan as well as organising publicity events. They have been looking at mental health in the workplace, so speaking about it in inductions and training events so people know they have somewhere to go.

NUS signed with them in June and since then we have been looking at how we support our staff, we are encouraging student unions to do the same within their institution." It is certainly true that one of the reasons many people will be hesitant to seek help and identify themselves as having a mental ill-health disorder is due to the fact they fear discrimination in the workplace.

Despite the huge number of students suffering from mental ill-health, less than 1 per cent have made the university aware of that fact in fear that it may hinder future employment.

In terms of getting involved with and supporting the movement on a personal level, Hannah identifies just talking to people as one of the best ways to help. "Things like living library is a really good opportunity to get involved, where people who actually experience mental health problems can talk about how it should be improved. Talking to people about mental health is a really strong resilient thing to do that should be celebrated. Just talking to people is the first part of not just breaking down stigma but also getting help. We had Naomi Bentley at the conference and she was amazing."

On a more local level, Thomas Ron, York's disability officer, has enthusiastically supported the campaign and encourages anyone who thinks they might be suffering from mental ill-health to use the resources York has on offer. "It's a really important thing we have to inform, there are crazy stigmas that just aren't true. It's going pretty well so far, we are raising awareness.

"To fight the stigma around mental health and let people know if they are going through any issues there is help, so talk to open door, Nightline, the health centre. People are there to help and a lot of people just don't know that and this has to change."

"If you look around the room it is likely that you will see people with mental health problems"

health issues and the things people do in response to them also demonstrate that mental health stigma still exists. Those first few steps of getting help and support is one of the biggest issues which people see a stigma surrounding and are largely ignorant about"

One of the things the NUS and YUSU in York have done to encourage people to seek help is by publicising just how common mental health is: it is likely you will have seen posters and stickers around campus in recent weeks aiming to get people talking about mental ill-health.

Whilst it is important that people do know how common an issue it is, it is also important that they do not lose sight of what the statistics mean. "It is about knowing the statistics but also about knowing that those statistics are people. So potentially its people in your course or your flatmates, I mean

from universities and from large charities who deal with mental health and looked at what we as a partnership could achieve. We also looked at government policies and reforms, so things like Michael Gove's awful new A level education reforms and how that does affect mental health. We look at national policies like that but also forward to the future election, such as manifesto pledges surrounding mental health."

However its not just students the NUS wishes to educate on mental health, but also staff. Working alongside Time to Change Hannah has been looking at how university and NUS workers can be supported if they are suffering from any mental health problems. "I have been working very closely with Time to Change, which is a charity that works very closely with Mind and the government. They have been trying to change mental health stig-

Comment



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Gary Holland
Comment
Editor



Students turning to sex work sheds light on financial strife

Students turning to sex work shows that more financial support is urgently required.

Working in a minimum wage job for a week will earn you a little over £210. Working one night as an escort easily nets young girls much more than that. In fact, according to a Nouse investigation, they can earn up to £1000 for a single night's work.

So it seems like 'sex work' is an almost obvious choice for the cash-strapped student: handing out your CV in town is unlikely to land you a particularly well-paid job, and working few enough shifts to be able to fit them around your degree and any other commitments you have as a student may well mean that even with a high per-hour rate of pay, you won't take much home. But one night working for an escort agency can net these students an amount of money that rivals my maintenance loan for a whole term.

Despite how much economic sense it makes, finding out that there at least 28 students in York operating as escorts is something of a shock. And that's because whereas the decision to take up most jobs involves simply a cost-benefit analysis of time spent and money earned, the decision to take up 'sex work' quite obviously involves something further.

That something further is deciding that not only is their time for sale, but also their body. And that, in itself, is nothing to do with either you or me as far as I'm concerned: their body, their decision. But I

think we can all agree that as decisions go, this is a pretty big one. It's not the kind you make on a whim.

And it's unlikely to be a decision

“Finding out that there at least 28 students in York operating as escorts is something of a shock”

that you make because you've grown up wanting to work as a 'companion' for an agency that lists sex acts next to different prices on their website. Whether for reasons of misogynistic, bigoted social coercion or not, few people aspire to this kind of work. It's a decision of pragmatism, not aspiration.

I think we ought to be both shocked and concerned. Not because of the nature of the work itself—as I've said, that's nothing to do with us—but because the fact that so many students are in a position not only for getting into 'sex work' to be a solid financial move but that the monetary compensation is so valuable to them that it's worth the extra cost of these particular jobs.

This is indicative of a real issue. Students are hard up. And not just in the spent-my-loan-on-booze

way; in an accommodation-prices-are-going-up, Student-Finance-assumes-my-parents-can-pay-for-everything kind of way.

Something needs to change. Whether it's a much-needed improvement to the way Student Finance determines how big a maintenance loan we need or more university grants for struggling students, some kind of increase in funds or decrease in outgoings is obviously and pretty urgently needed.

And you'd think that students turning to escort agencies to keep in the black would be a strong enough indicator of this to get something done.

Or you might, if you didn't know that the NUS released findings of increased numbers of students turning to prostitution, gambling and putting themselves forward for

medical trials to fund their studies two years ago and the Government's response was simply that it already offers students a "generous package" of financial support.

And, of course, it isn't just financial support that's needed now. There isn't enough emotional support for young people who've been forced into sex work by a lack of funds.

The charities *Nouse* tried to contact were either difficult or impossible to get hold of, which was annoying enough for us, let alone the people they're supposed to be there for.

There's no denying now that students are in a dangerous situation now. Rather than claiming that they already do enough, the Government and universities need to step up and work to resolve the problem.



Kate Mitchell



Higher education: privilege or human right?

Higher education should be an accessible human right, but that does not mean that it is one size fits all.

Bonnie Greer, the new Vice-Chancellor of Kingston University, has asked for higher education to be regarded as a human right, as opposed to a privilege. She herself presents an emotive example for the benefits of unconstrained access to higher education. The OBE-awarded author, voted by *The Observer* as one of the UK's Top 300 intellectuals, almost did not make it through her undergraduate degree after relying on the benevolence of one her professors to pay her fees in a period of struggle.

Traditionally, higher education certainly has been a 'privilege.' As recently as our parents' generation, going to university was the realm of the gifted pupils alone. Looking back a little further, I doubt the founders of the University of Oxford in 1096 looked at the illiterate masses around them and foresaw a future where 50 percent of young people were donning their graduation caps.

But this is not to imply that we should not develop higher education as a human right. Again looking into the not-too-distant past, education in any form has not always been seen as a human right - but if people started to suggest eight years ago that people who were not performing well enough, or were from a financially deprived background, should be denied primary education there would be widespread outcry. Education is a good thing, and surely there is no negative side to aiming to improve the academic output of our country?

Of course, higher education should not be portrayed as the only option. For many people, apprenticeships are a far more useful and appropriate pathway, with the added benefit of not landing themselves in the pile of debt that awaits the majority of us when we leave the blissfully unaware bubble of Heslington behind us. But people should at least be able to

think of university as a viable option. There's nothing wrong with working a standard 9 to 5 office job, but not if you know your ability and drive to study medicine at UCL was held back simply because you were prevented by a lack of means.

In the post-millennial world, it is hard to conceive what 'privilege' would make a person deserving of higher education above others anyway. We have developed enough as a society to realise that the financial situation you are born into does not determine your potential contribution.

A belief that the colour of your skin reduces your worth is one that belongs in a completely different time. As Bonnie Greer put it, the concept of ethnic minority is unnecessarily divisive when discussing second-, third- and fourth-generation Britons.

University education is already regarded as a universal human right by international law. The Interna-

tional Covenant on Economical, Social and Cultural Rights bound all states to introduce progressively free university education as far back as 1976. Something this country does not seem to have been making a huge effort to work towards.

Perhaps it's not an economically viable option right now. However the example of other European countries such as Austria and the Netherlands, who are succeeding in providing almost free university education for all EU students, suggests that it would not be impossible to provide cheaper education.

As much as student loans do open up possibilities, a maintenance grant is barely enough to cover accommodation costs, let alone day-to-day living. While one side of this is to suggest it is possible to go to a university where one can commute from home, equal access should mean everyone has the opportunity to study at any university they are capable of getting into.



BRANDON SEAGER

A Southerner in York

Tom Duthie



When I came to York, I was an open-minded young man, full of mystical reverence for the great grim North.

To me, York was a jewel, the Oxford of the Ouse, and there would be no question of my flourishing there. This idealistic vision has not changed too drastically, though it was swiftly marred by a few realities.

Chief among these is the ardent Northern pride customarily rubbed in my face as soon as anyone hears me talk nostalgically about home. I don't care for regional pride, because I believe the logical extension of these is arbitrary conflict, like the clashing of football firms or religious sects. But it was there and I had to deal with it.

There are a significant number of people who cling to their traditions and cultural traits as if they were personal property, rather than a shared stock of lifestyle preferences. I am unafraid to say that before I ventured up here, I was guilty of this myself. However, during my recent adventure of cultural displacement I have learnt this: if someone takes the piss out of the way you say something, it's because it sounds funny to them, not because they intend to offend your wider community.

As a Southerner in York, I've heard it all, and most of the piss-taking centres on the way I pronounce the letter 'a' in words like grass, bath and latte. I'll admit that I've modified my accent in certain situations because it helps people to hear me better, not to mention the fact that it usually means I get served quicker. On more than one occasion, a short 'a' has meant the difference between being granted or refused entry to a club.

Can you really blame me for falsifying my accent? Is it dishonest, or does my chameleonic behaviour reflect wider cultural dissonance? I know the way I speak may sound funny to some, and we should all be able to laugh about anyone's voice on equal terms.

But when you're applying for a job around town, as I did, and someone visibly giggles when they hear you speak, it can be pretty damn disheartening.

Not trying to moralise here, but I would never do that on my own turf, especially since the modern job search has become little more than a comic parade of shattered illusions and false promises. The irritating egomaniacs of Made in Chelsea are an extreme but poignant example of the effect of this disease on one's mental composition.

You've probably read this as if it was narrated by Bertie Wooster himself, but I don't care. A considerable number need to get over the strange and arrogant assertion that their way of speaking is any better than anyone else's. The most immediate barrier to the national solidarity we so desperately need is wrongly held convictions about language. If you understand each other, where's the problem?

Ellie Rice
Deputy
Comment
Editor



Don't bar campus drinkers

The proposed alcohol levy will combat anti-social behaviour in town, but just isn't appropriate for campus.

The Council has recently proposed a levy on drinking venues in York that wish to continue serving alcohol past 12pm. They hope this will generate £286,000 each year to be used to counter the mess, crime and anti social behaviour of the revellers. The fee would directly affect campus as each of our bars would be forced to find between £5.75 and £85 each week.

In principle, the levy should not be entirely opposed. It's all done for the greater good, a safer and cleaner city for night life. In theory, this benefits locals, students, and tourists. While it might force some smaller bars out of business, the Council have come up with a realistic solution to their cash flow problem. The money has to come from somewhere, and taking it from those who contribute in no way to the problems just is not fair.

“While it might force some smaller bars out of business, the Council have come up with a realistic solution”

York's beauty is a popular reason for students to choose the city and without it a lot of us would probably be in Leeds right now, so less vomit on the pavement would be nice for all of us. But nice isn't enough to outweigh the loss of favourite haunts.

Of course there are definite negatives to the levy solution, which makes me all the more grateful that until October 31st, students, staff and locals alike have their chance to put in their two cents. Once the consultation period ends, we will have to wait until December for a decision, but will have lost all control on the outcome. This is why we must discuss the issue now and make it publicly known that bars like Evil Eye, Bora Bora and 1331 are all at risk from eventually being forced out of business.

Adele Lord's comment that "I don't think there'll be any clubs left in the UK after about two years" is based on the worst case scenario, but it certainly highlights the problematic situation. Students may well have a reputation for being broke, but that's only when we've drunk our loans already. The spending power of students in York is enormous - there are two universities here, after all. Anything that dissuades us from emptying our wallets in town (or indeed limiting our ability to) may well be less of a solution for the Council than another problem in itself.

Considering our unique position as a campus university in this consultation shows that realistically, this levy would not help us at all and we should speak up against it.

What benefits would we see here on campus? Well, not many really. As the University already employs its own cleaners, porters and other staff, the Council won't really be cutting any expenditure on cleaning up after our exploits and controlling our (hopefully infrequent) anti-social behaviour.

What's more, if we paid the levy, YUSU budget would be even further stretched, taking away money that could be given to sports and societies to further embellish the student experience at York.

“The Council won't really be cutting any expenditure on cleaning up after our exploits”

And if campus bars couldn't afford to stay open late, YUSU would lose a large chunk of profits, sightings of tumble weeds would soon outnumber those of ducks and Constantine College would never get filled.

YUSU's college bars reinforce college spirit, a defining feature of the University that we should try to maintain for as long as possible. Without the late night menu at Courtyard, or fledgling nights like Coup D'etat on campus are helping to make these venues into legitimate drinking holes, but as they are held at YUSU's bars they are especially vulnerable to closure.

If YUSU can't afford to pay the levy, the bars will lose business and eventually close, or dramatically change.

So in terms of the levy's impact on campus, it will be entirely non-existent or negative.

It is crucial that we harness the power offered in the form of consultation so that we can fight this scenario becoming a reality.

Follow the debate:
Comment online at
nouse.co.uk/comment

Comment

Runner-up in Guardian Student Publication of the Year 2012

NOUSE

Est. 1964

Sex work: respect choices but provide support where it is sought

With the news that dozens of students have had to turn to sex work to fund their studies will inevitably come judgement. Not only upon the students themselves, but also upon the organisations that are supposed to protect them. The University and the Union have a duty to ensure the well-being of students. Fees have risen and the costs of living are going up all the time, however financial support and hardship funds are available to those in dire need. Those of us in need of assistance should be pointed in the right direction. These are young men and women who have made a choice, so let's make sure it was an informed one. The police, of course, have a duty to these students, who, due to the nature of their work, are often put in vulnerable situations. Charities do too, to provide shelter and safety for those who seek protection. There is undoubtedly concern about any people involved in sex work; the risks are high, not only whilst they are working but for any who choose to leave. Women and men who have been previously involved in sex work often become vulnerable to harassment from former clients or agencies, and are prone to depression and anxiety. We should recognise that for many of the students that have undertaken sex work, it is a personal choice, one for which neither they nor the bodies who are bound to 'protect' them should be chastised for. However financial and emotional assistance should be made readily available for those who might need it.

Resisting the Rising Fees

Last year, the University made an astounding £9 million in profits. This year, they have supported calls for further fee rises. These two facts just do not add up, an institution making so much money in surplus, which is also receiving donations that roll into the millions (such as the £19 million recently received by arts and humanities) should not need further financial aid. Without a scrutinised breakdown of where this money is currently going, and why exactly the even higher fees are required, we cannot support their views. They follow the line of argument proposed by the Oxford University Vice-Chancellor, that some fees should be raised because the further education market place has become limited. If justifiable, each course is now charged at the maximum £9000 a year, they wish to mark out 'elite' universities, and allow them to charge £16,000 a year, but to do so would be nearly impossible. Any distinction made could easily be redrawn until all university courses ceased to be a reasonable, sensible pathway for the majority.

Remembering Mental Health

Even though World Mental Day has now passed us for another year, the student body should ensure that this widespread problem does not receive attention just 0.27 per cent of the year. In January we reported the number of students reporting mental health issues to the University had doubled in the last five years. The figures are based on those who approached the university's student support services. 61 students reported serious anxiety, stress or worry in 2008. This figure increased over the past five academic years, with as many as 253 students asking for support. As an NUS report revealed this May, 92 per cent of students nationally would describe themselves as suffering from some form of mental distress which makes this issue all the more pressing. We cannot allow our fellow students to go on feeling so distressed, as this forces the issue underground and discourages those who need it from seeking help. There are excellent services in place in as this university and not one student here need suffer. Nightline, the college welfare system and STYCs all offer advice, shoulders to cry on and a chance to find some relief. But it's not just the University that can help, by ensuring we each live our lives aware of this problem, the students and staff can help combat it too. Just being mindful that your course-mate may be suffering from something more than homesickness could make all the difference.

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York's political apathy

James Hostford



My first taste of York's notorious student democracy at the referendum meeting last Wednesday evening left me somewhat underwhelmed. The debates were poorly attended and consequently the 'discussion' was limited to a series of speeches from their proposers. The event added impetus to the calls for a change to how YUSU runs democracy in this university because these debates demonstrated that clearly something isn't working.

Kallum Taylor, President of YUSU, donned his characteristic jacket-and-scarf for his most cherished of the five of the proposals: the democratic reform. The President expressed his anguish at the ineffectiveness of the current YUSU assemblies and feels that the union is distant from the students. His point echoes true in the dismal turnout for the debates. The proposal was largely supported by the audience as once again nobody took to the stand to oppose the initiative. Kallum

claimed in his closing remarks that the unpopular assemblies would be replaced with informal meetings and YUSU officers getting out and speaking to the students more.

With it presently being the most important cause for our democratically elected leader, it should be a considerable priority for us. However, it seems that students at this university simply don't care. Despite the lack of opposition for the motion that evening, it seems unlikely that it will ultimately succeed; the constitution requires 20 per cent of the student body (approximately 3000 votes) to abolish assemblies. With only eight in attendance that night, YUSU face serious battles if they are to succeed.

Such apathy towards campus politics is reflected in the way that George Offer's proposal to extend the realm of Welfare Officer slipped by without opposition or much apparent interest. The intention of the proposal is to aid representation of students within the wider commu-

nity and develop an off-campus support network. Something against which I'm sure someone would have a point to raise.

The first debate of the night, opened by Megan Ollerhead, Chair of York Student Socialist Society, proposed that YUSU look into the viability of a student letting agency. A YUSU run agency could undermine the "money-grabbing profiteers" of the current lettings market with a not-for-profit agency. If feasible, the agency will end the alleged oligopoly in the lettings market which allows the agents/landlords to charge ever-increasing rent to helpless students.

Again, Kallum added clout to the proposal by showing a passionate support for the idea. He also highlighted student support for this measure - with a petition of 800 signatures asking the union to look into the matter.

With so many students supposedly taking an interest in this topic, why were there not more present at the debates?

Megan was then questioned on whether she felt that the agency would disadvantage York's poorer residents. She refuted that this agency would worsen poverty in York but give students better service and support when renting. If you feel any stirring of a response to Megan, then why weren't you there to answer her?

Ultimately, this university lacks any interest in its campus politics, which is a dire shame. We have been offered the opportunities, but so few of us take them that we are essentially allowing YUSU to be led blindly into the future.



RACHEL CROFT

The Oxford price tag

Anna Godfrey



Professor Andrew Hamilton, Vice-Chancellor of Oxford University, has argued that the tuition fee ceiling should be raised to £16,000 for 'elite' universities.

He believes a university's fees should represent the cost of what it offers, stating that lower ranking universities are doing "very nicely" out of charging £9,000 a year, whereas this amount, coupled with reduced government spending "doesn't add up for Oxford" which spends "at least £16,000 per undergraduate every year".

He has the support of the Russell Group, which has warned that British universities will struggle to remain internationally competitive, provide first-rate teaching and offer support to disadvantaged students if funding does not increase.

Sally Hunt, General Secretary of the University and College Union agrees that more funding is needed, with the UK investing "just 1.4 per cent of GDP on higher education compared to the international average of 1.7 per cent. However it is wrong to argue that that students should pick up the tab when we already have the most expensive fees

in Europe".

Hamilton also takes issue with what he sees as an unfair system, where universities can charge the same amount no matter how well regarded. The professor likens higher education to a market in which everything is the same price "virtually regardless of content or quality" which he views as "well, a little odd".

It seems reasonable that a low quality institution should not be able to charge above the value of its courses, but a system in which top universities become significantly more expensive has many problems. The most obvious issue is that a further £7,000 a year of debt may entirely exclude some, but there is also the question of whether universities who charge the maximum will be enabled to become bigger and better, whilst lower performing and perhaps younger universities will struggle to catch up and improve with their significantly smaller budgets, creating a very distinct chasm between the haves and have nots.

The current system, although apparently lax, doesn't simply allow any university to charge the top rate,

with the Office for Fair Access needing to approve fees over £6,000.

The 'market' of higher education need not be judged by how much an institution charges. Students can easily decide for themselves if a course is value for money, and attend an institution based on reputation and quality rather than blindly trusting a price tag. It is a problem that students taking degree courses that will offer lower employment prospects and are of a lesser quality than those elsewhere have to pay the same amount as students with access to better teaching standards and higher employability. However any issue with the unrepresentative 'market' of higher education should be dealt with by stricter guidelines on charges within the £9,000 maximum.

The suggestion of raising tuition fees, for any reason, will never be a popular one. Perhaps Hamilton ought to consider fighting for increased government support in helping our universities achieve excellence and remain competitive, rather than raising the suggestion of adding an extra £21,000 onto our debts.



Elizabeth Hatherell

Swansea University's pole exercise ban is severely misguided

On the 12th September, Swansea University SU decided to discontinue their Pole Exercise Society, arguing that the sport is "inextricably linked to the multi-million pound sex industry." In saying this they are willfully ignoring some of the main features of pole exercise. As the oldest university pole exercise society in the country, it seems only right that we do not

“Everyone there knows how you feel and are unfailingly kind”

take this ill-informed attack quietly.

Firstly, it's a lot of hard work. It uses every muscle in the body and does wonders for your strength and stamina. When I started, I could barely do a single press up; after five sessions, I could do 30. This improvement in strength naturally leads to increased muscle tone, which might go some way to explaining why most pole exercisers will tell you that their self-image has improved since beginning the sport.

However, this increased confidence is not just due to the exercise, it's also due to the community. Most moves will take you several tries, and probably the odd bump, to perfect.

But that doesn't matter, because everyone there knows how you feel and is therefore unfailingly kind and complimentary.

There seems to be an idea that

group also explicitly tries to separate the sport from this sort of connotation. Furthermore, this is a university society.

Everyone involved in it can reasonably be expected to be intelligent, well-educated adults, and therefore able to make their own decisions about how they spend their free time. In the admirable words of the Cambridge Union on the subject of pole exercise, "if an intelligent, independent woman [or man, for that

matter] wishes to learn a particular form of dance in respectable surroundings, we see nothing degrading in that."

Swansea University SU has been very unkind in its appraisal of our sport and has drawn some very clumsy conclusions based on a rather misogynistic outlook. If I were to say that the Boxing Club encouraged gratuitous violence, I would be shouted down in a heartbeat, and rightly so; drawing comparisons between pole exercise and the sex industry should be viewed in the same way.

Fundamentally, pole exercise is a fun and unusual way to improve fitness, strength and flexibility in a safe and caring environment. I defy anyone to come to one of our classes and go away feeling anything other than happy, and a little bruised, at the end.

“Those who do perform do so because they are proud of their achievements”

While we do put on performances at events such as Woodstock and Goodfest, these are entirely voluntary and those who do perform do so because they are proud of their achievements and keen to prove their strength and perseverance. In fact, everything about pole exercise is optional. You decide what you wear, within the limits of safety. You decide what moves to do. You choose whether you want to be photographed.



KATE MITCHELL



Niall Whitehead

Boris' British attractions

Personality and politics tend to go together like a brick and a vast, inescapable machine designed to tear apart bricks on sight, so a politician with any real personality has the cheat code for infinite votes.

We can see it works: for instance, there's the rise of UKIP; the sitcom-esque Nigel Farage and Friends (Farage briefly pausing from his pint to smack down a particularly racist or sexist Friend every week, like whack-a-mole.) And then there's Boris.

Boris Johnson could go back to *Have I Got News For You* and his only joke could be slitting a cat's throat, live on air, and everyone'd laugh and applaud and admire how he seems like a mad professor who's wackily managed to fuse himself with his golden retriever. He's managed to escape the usual Conservative miasma of evil with a series of entertainingly zany hijinks.

This week, Boris is in China trying to court investment: 500 Chinese companies are already in Britain, and he'd like to try and get a few more. He's at Peking University, one of the most prestigious in

China, telling the students that if they come to Britain, they can date Harry Potter! "Who was Harry Potter's first girlfriend?" he asked? "That's right, Cho Chang, who is a Chinese overseas student at Hogwarts School. I rest my case."

And the day before, in Beijing's 798 district, he said that young Chi-

“It's a little patronising to lure students with promises of dating a wizard”

nese might find London appealing for its "beautiful communist bicycles!" Tee-hee! And then he buys a bunch of lottery tickets but Phoebe knocks them out the window!

Now, some might argue it's a little patronising to lure students in with promises of dating a wizard who's married and also doesn't exist, or comparing them to one of Harry Potter's cast-offs with a name like

"Cho Chang". And that it doesn't reflect very well on Britain if we have to make up reasons that people might actually want to live here.

Maybe there are reasons why it would be a good idea. Here are some of mine.

We could have them visit the TARDIS! If you like fictional British men, come along with the Doctor and battle the Daleks and Zygons! It'll be relatively cheap: only requiring a spare phone-booth, a hose and a few canisters of hallucinogens.

Then there's my game-show idea, Kingo: a lottery for the monarchy, since we're selling everything else off. He who pulls the lucky number from the tombola shall be crowned King of all England, for that day at least.

Someone randomly being placed into the position of absolute power through no effort of their own is a new thing for monarchies, but I'm sure we'll get used to it. If we get too many, Game of Thrones rules apply.

We could rent out national icon and professional smart person Stephen Fry, to follow Chinese students around and narrate their

lives. You'll be able to take the most illustrious-sounding trips to the toilet you've ever had in your life.

Then, if all else fails, there's

“Spot your favourite colonies on It's a Small World!”

Britain Land.

That's the big one. Based on the newly-announced "Avatar Land" at Disney's Animal Kingdom: plow over one of those desolate wastelands we apparently have a bunch of up north and create a monument to all things British.

Try to spot all your favourite colonies on It's A Small World! Dare to ride the Motherfracker, as soon as people stop protesting around it! Head over to Conversation 4D, where it'll *really* feel like you're talking to someone about the weather!

There you go, Boris. You're welcome. And all I ask in return for these ideas is a quick mention when you bring them up in the Commons. And £25 million.

Leeds' LAD problem



Kieran Jones

Freshers' Week. A week that has long been marketed as a chance to meet new people and enjoy all things exciting about your new home from home. Couple this with the chance to indulge in societal taboos and surely we're on to a winner? I speak, of course, about 'chugging' gallons of booze and, obviously, having sex with anything that moves.

There are a number of drinking games - 'Never Have I Ever' to name but one - that inevitably descend into alcohol-fuelled sex questions to people we have known, in many cases, for less than 24 hours.

Our knowledge of someone else's sexual history seems to have become a prerequisite for a meaningful relationship with them. That little nugget, that crystallised gem of information as to who, what, where and when, has become as sought after as the A-level results that got us into university.

It has gone further however. There is a need and desire amongst some - mainly males - to promote 'laddish' behaviour, as it is now known, by stating how they are going to rape girls.

During Leeds' freshers week, Tequila UK promoted an event at MEZZ nightclub called "freshers violation", which featured a "jailbait" cage. Male students were asked in a promotional video how they intended to "violate" a fresher.

In response to the presenter's question "How are you going to violate a fresher tonight?", one student goes onto say: "I'm going to fist them in the arse. They won't even know".

Another charming individual added: "Violate is a very strong word. I'm going to take advantage of someone". The real low point - "She's going to get raped."

Thank goodness he took the time to phrase it more eloquently. The video of this disgusting saga has since been taken down due to a tirade of comments rightly denouncing its advocacy of rape.

Obviously, having been clubbing I appreciate how the need to get people in the door can lead to sexualised promotional campaigns.

What I don't understand is how rape, defined by oxforddictionaries.com as "forcing another person to have sexual intercourse with the offender against their will", has any promotional value whatsoever.

The definition fails to account for the fact that some rapes are carried out with a weapon.

In such cases, the victim faces the torturous decision of submitting to the rapist, or facing the very real threat of being murdered.

It also says nothing of the inevitable psychological damage that makes it extremely difficult, in some cases impossible, for them to be intimate with a partner without reliving the terrifying ordeal.

This extraordinary issue of supposedly "macho" posturing with regards to how males feel they are entitled to treat girls is extremely worrying.

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MUSE.
22.10.2013

**STRAIGHT OR
GAY? YOU HAVE
TO DECIDE!**

**OH, SHUT
UP AND LET
ME BE
HAPPY!**



**Fifty Shades of
Gay...and Straight**

**Why Bono and
Geldof are c***s**



M8. The creator of a queer comic anthology tells **Fiona Parker** about the blurred lines between being gay and straight.



M12. Berries and Cream: The Shoot celebrates Autumn with vintage accessories and 1940s glamour.



M22. Jane Bussman uses the 'c word' 45 times in her theatrical crusade against Bono's poverty porn. She talks to **Laura Hughes**.

Arts.

M7. Photo artist **Arvida Byström** interrogates gender binaries and our Apple obsession.

M9. Renowned artist **Bruce Nauman** creates uncomfortable spaces at York St Mary's.

Fashion.

M10. Two students take £60 onto the streets of York - can they put two complete outfits together?

Music.

M21. Lewis Watson talks about creating a new identity for the male popstar, and how to work your way up from the bottom.

M20. Nouse Music review **Kids In Glass Houses** and **Panic! At the Disco**.

Film.

M25. Alfie Packham wonders whether Pixar studios have lost their imagination and new film *Captain Phillips* impresses our film.

Food & Drink.

M26. The former **Evil Eye** manager reveals how to make the perfect cosmo (and why it's not just for girls).

M27. There's something fishy afoot according to serial adventurer **Seb Brixey-Williams**.

Image Credits.

Cover: Courtesy of John Lustig
M2: Left, Lena Chandhok; Centre, Aggie Torrance
M3: Courtesy of Kim Woodburn

Stags on a Train

Inspired by Samuel L. Jackson

Poppy Bullard

Ladies and Gentlemen,
Mind the gap, remember your bags,
And please take care
To avoid the Stags.

Incongruous against York's historic arches,
This party of lecherous reprobates marches
To platform 10.
Destination: Newcastle. Objectifying: women.

In smurf hats and shirts ill-fitted,
Inaccurately citing Churchill - my teeth gritted.
"We shall drink it on the beaches!
And on the LADing grounds!"
A pedant at heart my fury knows no bounds.

Clenched fists, I sit, amidst the strife,
(Coach B was once the Quiet Zone
And its existence I do silently bemone)
As they list the problems with having: "The Wife"

But no more.
Like Jackson I rise,
Ready to administer true pain
Because

"Enough is enough.
I have had it
With these motherf*cking Stags
On a motherf*cking train."

CARTOON BY BRANDON SEAGER



Boys more dirty than girls? “No! they’re as bad as each other!”



Kim Woodburn

TV Presenter, *How Clean is Your House?*

It’s unfair to say that all students are dirty. Having said that, most are untidy! They are free of all restrictions imposed by Mum and Dad and simply do what they like. All their mates are doing the same thing and so encourage each other. After a few weeks the untidiness builds up until it becomes smelly and horrible. It really does become dirt!

Stuff falls out of every orifice we have. The strangest, or worst stains I have come across were on some bed sheets that had been on the bed for five years! After five years of this the pong was enough to have me hospitalised! Thank goodness for a strong constitution!

A man once grabbed my boob. I was in my twenties, traipsing through Liverpool at the time. He released his grip and walked on. I turned around and shouted something appropriate at him whereupon he turned around, opened his coat and I saw that his meat and two veg were hanging out! It just wasn’t my day!

I have never had a desire to clean a celeb’s house. I have never been star-struck so I don’t think on those lines.

My favourite song whilst cleaning would be anything by ABBA. I particularly like “Dancing Queen”,

but I of course sing along “I’m the Cleaning Queen”.

Do girls beat the boys at cleaning? I don’t think so! In my considerable experience it’s fifty-fifty. They are as bad as each other.

My favourite cleaning gadget is a vacuum cleaner. I prefer an upright. I love the way the attachments clean the walls, ceiling, curtains and the edge of the carpet next to the skirting boards. It even clears crisps and nuts from down the back of the sofa! (And whatever else you dirty beggars stuff down there!)

My famous last words? “I hope this church is clean and the knobs on my coffin are sparkling!”

My most powerful cleanser would be bicarbonate of soda. Just pour half a cup down the plug hole (using a funnel) followed by half a cup of salt and a cup of vinegar. Leave for two minutes and have a boiling kettle on stanby and then carefully pour in boiling water! A white foam will fizz to the surface. Rinse away with warm water from the tap. Low and behold the U-bend will be clean from sludge and any bad smells will have disappeared.

Of course students do not have smelly U-bends! Perish the thought!

Interview by Fiona Parker.

Tom Witherow

Why you’re probably a slut

America has brought us many fine things: as a start where would we be without hair spray and the cat litter? Or the cupcake (sad)? The lightning rod (dead) and the escalator (tired)? Who could possibly say that the world would be a better place without WD40 or the credit card (barring the odd financial crisis...)?

But now America has truly outdone itself. It has unlocked one of our planet’s great mysteries – how to spot a ‘slut’.

“What is the secret?”, you ask, barely believing the extraordinary capability of the human mind. And well you might ask as website come research institution *Return of Kings* has identified the 24 defining characteristics of the ‘slut’ – this elusive creature that all men, ruthless in their quest for their next shag, are of course relentlessly on the look-out for.

The list starts out slow. You’re a slut if you swear. You’re a slut if you drink tequila, and any other form of that slut elixir (alcohol). But there’s more. Do you do cheer-leading? Then you’re a slut. Got a piercing? S-L-UT. You like going to festivals with girlfriends (a so-called “fuck-fest location”)... You’ve guessed it, you’re a dirty filthy slut.

By now concern must fall across your face? And well it might as by my reckoning even my aged pet dog meets the criteria (Number 9: “Extra body hair and/or a low speaking voice”). My flatcoat retriever is clearly a sluzzer of the highest class.

One does have to wonder whether there’s anybody who isn’t a slut. “Artists”, “feminists”, girls with “non-ear piercings”, “tanned girls”, girls who “hang out with DJs” – they’re all part of this army of slutstrated females prowling the streets of our campus seeking their next prey like the Zombies of Haz Soc.

And if you’ve escaped the criteria so far, our esteemed societal tour guide lands his pièce de résistance, because you’re also a slut if you’ve got a “slut face”.

A “slut face”? Well no doubt a “slut face” no doubt has a mouth on it, because beyond the obvious what other use could a girl have for that? And eyebrows. Eyebrows are for conveying slutty expressions (obvs). And most importantly, eyes. Eyes are for giving ‘the eyes’. So if you are unfortunate to have these three things, you’re probably a slut. In fact, scrap that, just one of them will do (you slut, you).

But this white

knight of the male race, who unsurprisingly has not written under his real name, has left a couple of things out. Girls: have you left the kitchen this term? Well there must have been only one place you were going – a place where you can have sex... And what’s that – you leave your bedroom door unlocked at night? Slut-o-saurus Rex. You’ve got a vagina? Now you’re just asking for it...

But then a few hours later another piece plopped into my Twitter feed. That was Buzzfeed’s excellent 29 stages of a Twitter storm, satirizing the responses to, UK company, Pricehound’s *Minstrel* play set. Other than the superb responses from Norfolk bird-watcher, @Pricehound, who took the brunt of much of the resulting Twitter anger – “why is this happening to me” being my favourite cry for mercy – it was the contrast with the slut article that got me... Women all over the internet just said, “Fine, I’m a slut then, lucky me”.

In fact it’s us boys who really lose out, if you don’t agree with *Return of Kings* you’re most likely gay. In fact fuck it, you’ve probably lost your right to being a man... Knew I was going wrong somewhere...



Mary O'Connor: Sadly, the apple fell miles from the tree

As a third year, the promise of tomorrow is not to be found in the annals of academic splendour nor in the exhilarating downhill 'bicycle' races we students supposedly engage in with our 'university chums'. No, we veterans struggle through our day-to-day existence hanging on to the pathetically simple, middle-aged things like the next exciting and sophisticated meal we may muster up to convince ourselves (and all of our instagram followers) that we are ready for the big bad world.

Another sweetener that drives our pitiful existence is the increased sense of urgency towards attending every lecture and seminar, no matter how useless, with 'dissertation workshops' being the chief offender in this awful business. Sitting through an hour long pedagogical treatise on how to even begin *thinking* about writing 8,000 words (let alone writing them) is mind-numbing to say the least. Such incredible excitement is only heightened by the prospect of an imminent murder.

The air, heavy with the toxicity of restless minds and ravenous appetites soon becomes coloured with the blood of that unfortunate individual who commits an unforgivable sin. Not wishing to do my meagre employment prospects any lasting damage by advocating violence, I should make it clear that murder is not a profitable business for any of the parties involved. But I should add, that when it comes to that emancipatory moment when man is freed from the shackles of the 'dissertation workshop' it is also not a profitable business to begin asking trivial questions either.

And this is without mentioning the dreaded seminars, which up until this point I had dodged with modest success. Advertised by the university as hotbeds of discussion and intellectual betterment, that is only half the story. Seminars, they neglect to mention, are amongst the most excruciating forms of torture alongside teeth-pulling and childbirth (so I'm told). If it's not the seminar tutor asking what they believe to be an extremely profound question in the form of a ri-

diculously long statement; it's the repeated use of the word 'interesting' that would eventually make you crack. I once counted one of my 'esteemed' colleagues use the word 37 times during a 15 minute presentation. The irony of course is that I am fortunate enough to be sinking myself into unfathomable debt all in the name of English Literature. So it follows that if the bookworms can't come up with a synonym for that loathsomely dull word, then what hope is there for anyone else?

The real delight though, comes when you encounter those English Lit snobs who artfully caricature whales during Moby Dick seminars, or worse, wouldn't be caught dead reading anything not written by Byron or Shelley. It truly puts my own motives for selecting English Literature over a less rigorous degree such as David Beckham studies, into clear perspective. The parental pressure from an academic mother coupled with an interest in wanting to better understand the lyrics of the Manic Street Preachers sealed my fate, for three years at least. If this blasphemous reasoning wasn't enough to have me blacklisted from the most prestigious literary circles, then walk-of-shaming past one particularly diligent course rep certainly won't do me any favours. It's just as well that the academic apple fell truly miles from the tree then.



History of Student Life in 1000 Objects #2: the McDonalds Burger



"We're late. We're lost - if you had a proper smartphone this wouldn't be a problem..." The girlfriend's not happy - neither is your temperamental Blackberry.

You're freshers on your way to the Duchess - it's your first foray into town ... With a student discount, even if it's a washout you'll still have money for the 99p student cheeseburger. You're walking there, nobody ever contributes their full share of the taxi fare. With an Evian bottle full of Lambrini and a hole in your shoe you'll be squelching all the way to Vanbrugh. The days of Mummy keeping your socks in pairs are a distant memory. Nobody wants to say that they don't know who the band are.

But now you're lost. "Don't worry, we'll just follow people in check shirts - everyone knows people who go to gigs wear check shirts..." You're certain. It can't fail. And lo, a second later some top-knotted boys in check shirts and brogues strut past. "Hello, for two please," as you scamper cheekily past the queue they foolishly joined the back of. You go in, the music's thumping ("In between sets", you think). A second-year dressed in the same trousers as your head of department informs you that they played that one half an hour ago.

You're at the bar now - "What was the supporting band?" you inquire of the barman.

"Band? This is Bangers and Mash mate".

"Ah ... Bugger ..." McDonalds it is.

CREDIT: BRANDON SEAGER

Spotted... on Spotted

This week: University of York Library Revived

Spotted: University of York Library Revived
6 October

Guy comes into the library at 1am wearing blue pyjamas and a full length fur coat. What planet am I on?

Like · Comment · Share

Becca-Jane Schofield and 13 others like this.

Morenike Olanrewaju Adebayo Sounds like he was wearing his granddad's clothes. sounds like he looked incredible.
6 October at 17:38 via mobile · Like · 19

Seen weirder in the library, although normally in the depths of exam madness, not at the start of October.

Spotted: University of York Library Revived
17 October

To the douche in Harry Fairhurst who is "everybody's best friend" save your prejudice opinion of how minorities get all the jobs for a Tory Conference NOT THE LIBRARY!!!

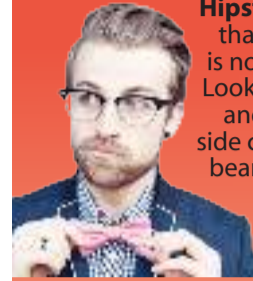
Like · Comment · Share

Jess Jones, Tim Wingard and 39 others like this.

Zena Jargis HAHahaha Tom Monk!!
17 October at 19:56 · Like · 4

Named and shamed, and rightly so, nobody wants to hear about the Conservative Party conference in the library or anywhere else...

GOING UP...



Hipsterism. It's so up that being a hipster is no longer... hipster. Look around campus and you'll see edgy side cuts, (attempted) beards, dip dyes and facial piercings everywhere. Welcome to the mainstream.

Glasto tickets. For the nth year in a row our tactic of hogging three computers has not paid dividends... Bloody eduroam.

Pubic Hair. Alexa Chung's on record saying she got rid of hers. We reckon anyone who feels they have to tell the world about their topiary must be wrong...

Pork. It's being championed by chefs everywhere. As winter approaches get on board the slow-cooked pork train (no innuendo intended).

Maggie Smith. Dowager chic is in with kids all over the shot telling us they salvaged clothes from their grandmother (1940s) and even great grandmothers. Who better to look than the queen of Downton.



The people who make Oreos. Someone suggested that their biscuits were as addictive as cocaine. Turns out they're not...

Public Displays of Affection. We understand, the winter months are cold in York. What we don't understand: proselytizing your 'love' for your partner in campus bars. Just stop it.

The Temperature. Winter is coming and if you're one of those second years who think you can last without heating til January you are going to have to think again.

Democracy. Despite YUSU's best efforts, no-one cares about their democratic reform. 8 people at the debate = a bit tragic.

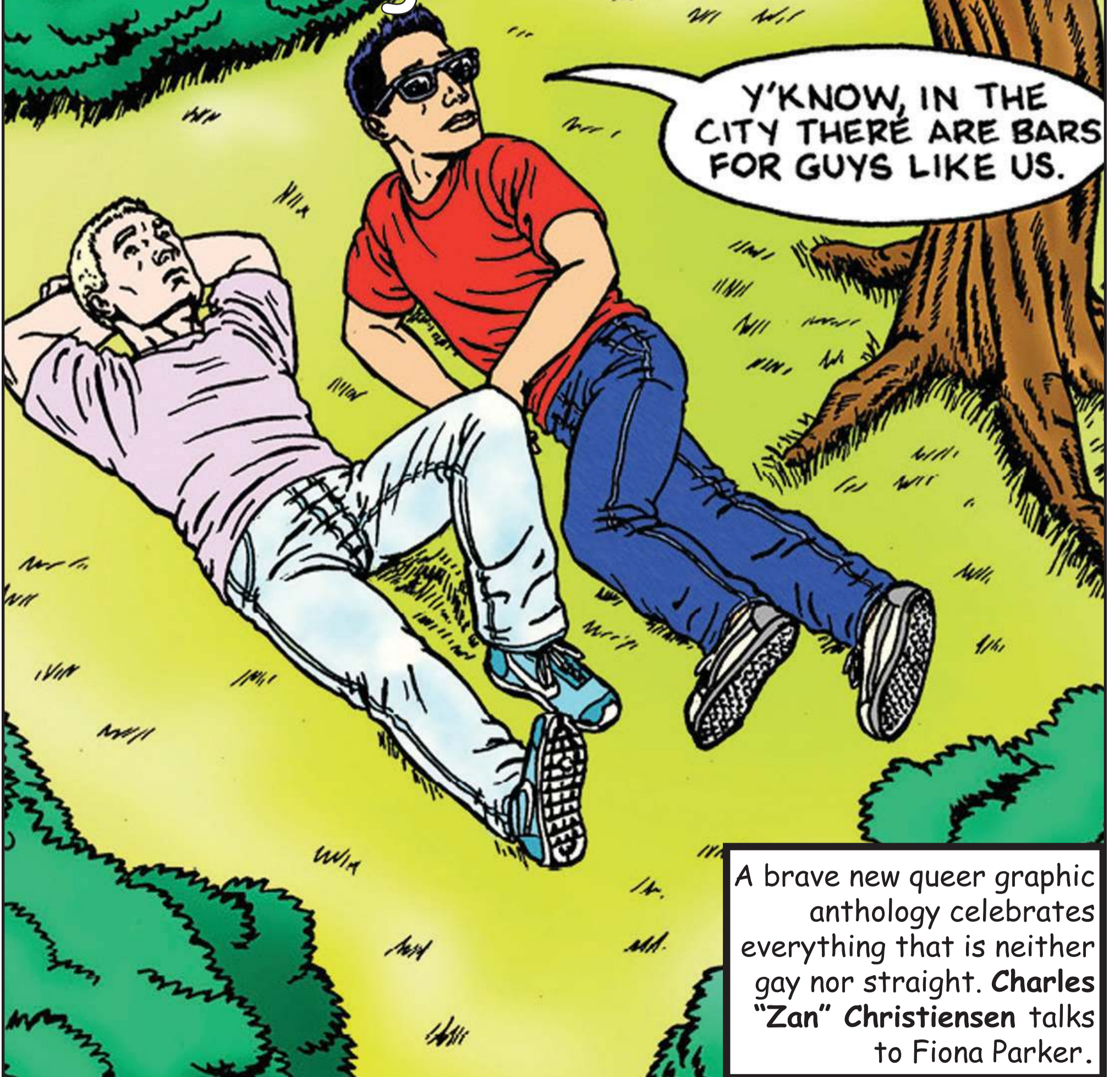


Cigarette Breaks. We usually love Kate Moss but it's getting a bit much when she's demanding a cigarette break every 15 minutes - it's even in her contract. Being paid to smoke - definitely not a thing...

Preaching Mormons. We don't want to discuss the glory of God on University Road #RoadsideReligion

GOING DOWN

50 Shades of Gay... and Straight



A brave new queer graphic anthology celebrates everything that is neither gay nor straight. Charles "Zan" Christensen talks to Fiona Parker.



LEFT-HAND SIDE: TARA MADISON; AVERY, COLOUR BY MIKE SULLIVAN; RIGHT-HAND SIDE: ANYTHING THAT LOVES INSIDE COVER

“I feel pretty gay”, “but I think that I’ve shut myself off a lot from women and straight culture, just because I suppose I felt that I had to choose and defend myself in a lot of ways. I think if I hadn’t had to do that I would have probably turned out a little different.”

So responds Charles “Zan” Christensen, publisher of a new queer anthology, *Anything That Loves*, to my first question. The content of the answer is surprising enough in itself, I have read of many gay people who attempted to “shut themselves off” from their inner feelings. I couldn’t think of a time when I had heard the reverse. However, what I found most striking about Charles’s first word was his choice of language.

His military “defense” of his sexual orientation does go against the fact that far fewer of the straight population are in outright war with the gay community. Nevertheless, what Charles does seem to be referring to is the idea of two camps, a frontline and an inevitable “no man’s land” that is the world of queer.

Cue *Anything That Loves* which aims to explore the uncharted territory between “gay” and “straight”. “The title is actually a play on that old quip that ‘bisexuals sleep with anything that moves’. ‘I was trying to twist it around and instead of having it as a slut-shaming pejorative thing, I wanted it to be something celebratory.’

Some of the cartoons are about bisexuality. However, it would be wrong to class this as subject of the anthology as a whole. *Anything That Loves* deals with individuals, couples and situations that fall between the gaps of the standard dichotomy.

“My only criterion for the artists was that the cartoons should show something outside gay and straight. That could include straight people who are finding some same-sex attraction, or gay people who find themselves married to somebody of a different gender. It’s not really about identity, it’s more about human beings and their behaviour.”

It is crucial, for Charles, that the reader views the behaviour portrayed in the comic strips as that of the characters rather than that of the specified community as a whole. That several of the stories do aim to teach readers that bisexuality does not necessarily equal wanton, indiscriminate affection for anybody. But then this is a comic anthology, not a lecture.

“I did have somebody who wrote to me saying that as a polyamorous person they were happy to admit that they enjoyed having sex with multiple partners. There are 30 different contributors in the anthology and I was worried that they might all get a bit similar. I was concerned that you would only have people saying all “bi-sexuality is real” and “stop being so ignorant”. The cartoons are mainly fictional stories describing relationships, romances and little snippets of people’s lives. Some of them are more educational and graphic. We even have some which are instructional. There’s a great one by Ellen Forney which is called something like “How to Have an Awesome, Mind -Blowing, All-Day Threesome.”

As Publisher of Northwest Press, a LGBT graphic novel

“There’s a great one called something like, “How to Have an Awesome, Mind -Blowing, All-Day Threesome.”



publishing firm, Charles once worked on a comic book which was something of a love letter to the origins of gay culture. Jon Macy’s *Teleny* and *Camille* was an adapted version of Oscar Wilde’s *Teleny*. *Camille*, a wealthy young Victorian Londoner falls hopelessly in love with the handsome and mesmerizing pianist, *Teleny*. “It would have been criminal if it had not been published because it is so, so important to see the beginnings of gay culture back in the late 1800s and to get a window into what it was like before there even was such a thing as gay man.”

Although Charles recognises that sexual identity is important to a large proportion of his readership, he also acknowledges that people who choose to identify themselves as queer can often feel like the outsiders of LGBT groups. “There’s a lot of infighting. I get it, I know where it is coming from. It’s hard to see somebody saunter into your community, somebody who looks like - on the surface - that they haven’t had to deal with the type of stuff you have had to deal with, and let them into your club. But I think that we can outgrow that, it can be who wants to be an ally and who wants to be supportive, to be part of the solution and let go of the defensiveness, and not be at war all of the time.”

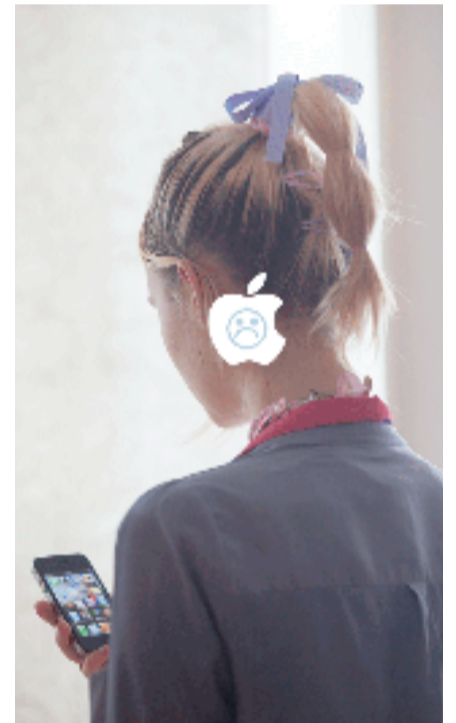
A lot of the internal disputes within the community, for Charles, stem from jargon which LGBT people use to identify themselves. “When you’re talking about sexualities which aren’t gay or straight, people have so many different ways of describing themselves and I didn’t want to get bogged down over fighting over what correct word to use. You are always worrying about how to be sensitive, how to be correct and how to be kind to people in the language that you use. Basically I want to keep expanding the definition of what being queer is until it encompasses like 51 % of the word. Then we can get things done.”

It is for this reason that Charles thought the best way to combat the jargon was through graphic fiction. Readers see speech, thought and action. There is no request for a narrator to explain what exactly you would call a transgender man who used to consider themselves a lesbian but now sleeps enjoys sleeping with men whilst secretly harbouring a secret passion for his next-door neighbour.

But if these terms which we use to describe sexualities are abandoned, then what is it that compensates for their loss? It is the very medium of graphic fiction which enables Charles to express the potential fluidity of our sexualities. Inner feelings and often conflicting external actions can be displayed side by side. Even more importantly, comics are fun, just as sexuality should be.

“It is so much easier to depict visually without having to rely on all the vocabulary and jargon. You’re looking at action, someone else living their life, you’re not just hearing somebody else talk about it. If young people aren’t learning about sexualities through comics, then the only other visual form of accessing ideas on sexuality is pornography. That doesn’t serve to educate. It simply allows young people to confirm what they think they already know.”

ARTS.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ARVIDA BYSTRÖM

Periods happen... Get over it!

Arvida Byström discusses feminism, femininity and widening the gender binary, with Amber Benbow-Hart.

With an aesthetic which epitomises the girly - pastel shades, flower stickers, bows and healthy dosage of cats - Arvida is a multimedia artist who loves to "play with the things labeled as girly in new ways". She introduces her work as mainly photographic but also works with "music, collages, graphic design ... anything of interest." Her focus is one of self expression and exploration into feminism, the gender binary and elements of sexuality. She makes it clear that though she is a feminist, that does not define her arts identity stating; "I am a feminist and that will show in my work even though I'm not always consciously thinking 'I'm gonna make something really feminist.'"

Arvida became interested in photography at the fairly young age of 14, and was published for the first time in *Vice*, aged 16, after her photography blog was spotted by the satirical culture magazine. She cites her reason for becoming involved with photography over other mediums as being "too lazy to keep on painting." But she admits there were also more fundamental reasons for her choice of medium: "I think there was more to it than that, like being a teen and hopelessly trying to find the truth about yourself, the hope that the camera would give me that truth." She tells me that since her teen years she has abandoned that idea of truth in photography.

Arvida declares her work as political more openly: "Yes it's political, everything is". Only artists whose work promotes feminism, anti-racism or equality are challenged. "Sexist people, they do sexist art all the time, [yet] they never get questions about them being sexist. I wish for feminism and anti-racism to be the normal, not the exception." Her work as she sees it is a medium for self-expression: "You know, I, as loads of other people do, create things that fit into their world view."

Her worldview then is coloured in pastel pink, yet full of subtle subversions which challenge our preconceptions. In the 'Pastel Truth' she blocks out eyes, nostrils and open mouths with baby shade. In 'Bearded ladies' she subverts the pin-up girl formula by adding facial hair to the models. She com-

ments, "sometimes [I] like to take things that aren't seen as cute and put them in really cute situations. This could be males, beard or whatever. I like the aesthetics of some kind of western world girlyness." The effect of all this is to question the standard models of gender and beauty. Certainly the project 'Bearded Ladies' can be seen as a confronting the 'male gaze' both in contemporary photography and in the history of the female nude. Arvida describes the series as a "Queer project", one that takes the aesthetics of her childhood wish of being a princess who adored the color pink and instead of abandoning it, broadens the notion of who can be involved.

Arvida's work is not all within this hyper-feminine aesthetic, however. The series *There will be Blood* portrays women reading, jogging, waiting at the bus stop, in an entirely everyday, normal, almost unremarkable light, as if one had just observed them as whilst passing by, however each of the women also has menstrual blood on display - leaking down a leg or soaking through her clothes. The message is simple: displaying and normalizing something which is taboo, and saying 'periods happen, get over it'.

The series caused some controversy on *Vice.com* where it was published with raging comments claiming the series to be "vulgar, juvenile and disgusting," through to the far more positive "This is empowering. What's the point of covering up menstruation and pretending like menstruation doesn't happen? Because menstruation happens, often... and anywhere and [any] way it wants".

"I just don't care too much about it. Sometimes it happens, sometimes not." Arvida responds when I ask if the controversy is something that bothers her: "I do believe that images and words are creating our world view and our conception, so you got to change that to be able to think in new ways."

Despite this, Arvida is aware of her position as a feminist artist whose work, whether she wants it to be or not, is judged as such, and at times, as representative of such; "I just kind of don't want to give feminism a bad reputation though you

know, doing something stupid. But I hope people realize no one can be perfect, so simply hope if and when that happens I can be forgiven."

I asked about her uses of technology in her photography. Her view of Apple products slants entirely from the norm; "it freaks me out that people can obsess over such a horrible company" and her series *I-cry* examines this in a series which shows a variety of people - predominantly back turned to camera, focused in on their respective iPhones, and overlaid with the apple logo flashing with a sad emoticon - clearly displaying the isolation and depersonalisation that the iProduct obsession may create. Despite this Bystöm describes technology as being "like a partner", even with its pros and cons.

Arvida has a massive internet presence contributing to *Rookie mag*, *Vice* and *The Adorable Collective*, whom she describes as "Loads of bad-ass females". Bystöm is also not averse to technology as a medium, the use of GIFs (Graphics Interchange Formats) as an artistic method is recurrent through her work simply because she thinks "they're cool".

This strong internet basis has had an effect on the way she presents her concepts. Her work is always eye-catching and it is easy to see one of her shoots and find oneself mulling over the ideas days later. "People ... usually look at a photo online (and probably offline as well) for a few seconds. Better get the message across quick".

To end the interview I asked her about her concept development and what we can expect next. She responds that "it just happens", starting with a "vague idea", an awareness of her viewers and a method. "It's like: okay I like working with photography and photography is so two-dimensional so I like to be pretty clear about things." Does she have her "vague idea" for her next project? Her response: "Yeah some. Some music actually...I'll probably come up with something soon". **M**

You can find Arvida's work on her website (www.arvidabystrom.se) as well as on *Vice* and *Rookiemag*.

When YouTube gets dark

Grace Stamate

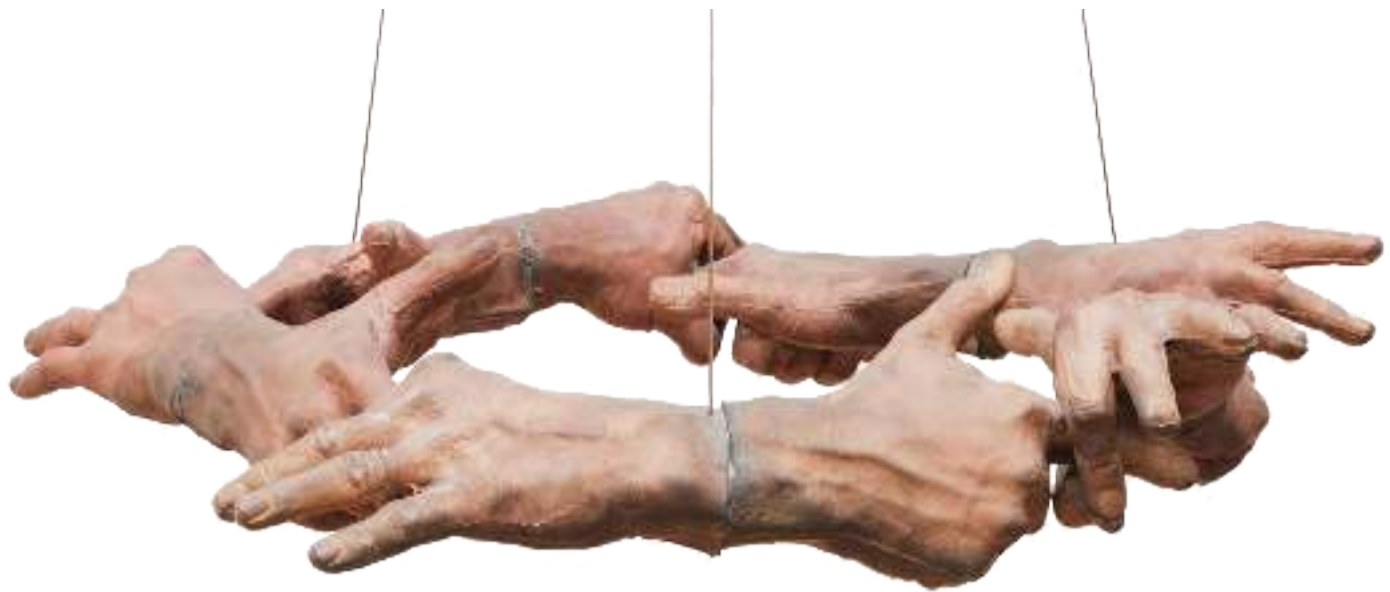
“Let’s get creative!” The beginning of this YouTube sensation “Don’t Hug Me I’m Scared” is so deceptively innocent it could easily be on any children’s program: a singing pad of paper teaches three puppets how to think creatively, reminiscent of childhood programs like *Sesame Street* and *The Muppets*. Yet this fun and childish facade fades, and the video deteriorates into a frightening animation of the puppets covering a heart in glitter, making a cake out of organs, and spelling out ‘DEATH’ in blood.

So what is it this chilling video has in common with the Gothic genre? Gothic literature often demonstrates chaos when the deepest locked away areas of the mind are delved into and likewise this video portrays a scene of monotony transformed into violence - the puppets begin chaotically dancing after they have descended into the taboo territory of their dark imaginations. With the video already having attracted over 11 million views on YouTube, it seems perhaps it is tapping into the same cultural fear of a violent subconscious hiding beneath the facade of normality that Gothic Literature did in its height of popularity in the 18th and 19th centuries.

After the nightmarish episode, the pad of paper, who is acting as the instructive character, suggests to the puppets they agree “to never be creative again”. The opposition of the ‘teacher’ to dark creativity is alike to the criticism the Gothic genre received for being too “hysterical”, as one anonymous critic put it. Yet, through their exploration of dark imaginations, both the Gothic and this piece question whether inventiveness should be confined to a certain type of ‘safe’ creativity. They question the authority of the ‘teacher’ figure over the puppets.

Co-director of the video Becky Sloan said, “creativity is almost always associated with progress and healthy positive expression but in actual fact you can get creative with a hammer and a cowpat”.

Whilst this video is frightening as it looks at dark creativity, and overall it is a rather chilling piece, it is simply a continued exploration of the darker side of the human imagination, which instead of being expressed in dense literature, has been modernised into the form of a Gothic YouTube animation.



Nauman’s Unholy Trinity

Sarah Farrington speaks to the assistant curators of *Bruce Nauman*, York’s latest exhibition imported from the Tate

St. Mary’s is a church that is a little out of the ordinary, hidden away behind Piccadilly. It currently houses an exhibition of works from internationally acclaimed contemporary artist, Bruce Nauman.

Jenny Alexander, curator of the exhibition, remarks “it was challenging to make Nauman palatable”, but if you have never encountered Nauman’s work before, this exhibition is an excellent introduction. Much of his other work includes images, often pornographic, that audiences could find offensive, but this selection is interesting and thought-provoking.

Viewing some of the pieces makes you uncomfortable, but as Jenny points out, “the kind of responses people are having is good actually. That’s kind of what [Nauman] is getting at,” - the artwork “has a confrontational nature”.

Nauman’s exhibition presents the viewer with visual exploration of not only the pieces of art, but also the architectural space. Both

Jenny and Gaby Lees (Curator of Arts Learning) agree that it is the strong visuals that pull people into the exhibition. I think the works on show here spark curiosity, and are displayed in such a way that you feel as though you are being pulled round the space by an invisible thread. The theme that links these pieces is language, and the use of gesture to convey meaning. In *Untitled (Hand Circle)* (1996), we’re left unsure as to whether the piece depicts a vulgar gesture or not, and in *Violent Incident* (1986), Nauman takes an everyday domestic dinner and escalates it through comedy to violence using exaggerated movement.

There are other works that are less confrontational. One of Jenny’s favourites is *Partial Truth* (1997), an engraved marble block that quietly echoes the memorial stones within the church. *Three Dead End Adjacent Tunnels, Not Connected* (1981), also communicates with the architecture of the space. The shape of the triangle is reminiscent of the Holy Trinity (helped by the setting of the church). Nauman himself describes a triangle as an “uncomfortable space”.

These contemporary pieces sit surprisingly well in the medieval surroundings of the church. Particularly stunning is *Violins Violence Silence* (1981-2), formed from neon light strips. It exudes colour and reflects off

the smooth surfaces within the church, and is framed beautifully by the architecture, and leads visitors inside to experience the rest of the exhibition.

The collection is part of the Tate’s Artist Rooms project, and is supported by Anthony D’Offay and the National Galleries of Scotland. Part of the Artists Rooms’ ethos is to encourage new audiences and young people to enjoy contemporary art. To achieve this, Gaby describes how students from both the universities in the city and York College were asked to contribute. “Young people by their nature are more open to having a look, and really thinking... [working with students] really adds to our practice and makes the exhibitions better”. She suggests that if you are interested in getting involved with York Museums Trust, current York students first get in touch with the Art History Society.

The Nauman exhibition is well worth the small detour. The opportunity to experience work from such an influential, if unexplored, artist on our doorstep is really not to be missed.

Bruce Nauman at York St. Mary’s, Castle-gate is open until 10 November. A pop-up exhibition by York College students is opening on 25 October for one week, at various sites around the city.

Get Your Fix

Ben Cross

The Private Ear The Public Eye
York Theatre Royal, £10 - £22

The dark comedy double-bill by the award-winning Sir Peter Shaffer ... Tue 29 Oct - Sat 02 Nov



What Dogs Can’t See
Norman Rea Gallery, Free

Anna Gammans, an expressionist artist who muses on famous and iconic locations or objects. 21st October.



In-Between Collective: Places 2013
Bison Coffee, Heslington Road

The student art collective exhibit recent works in the much-loved cafe (aka bagel heaven).

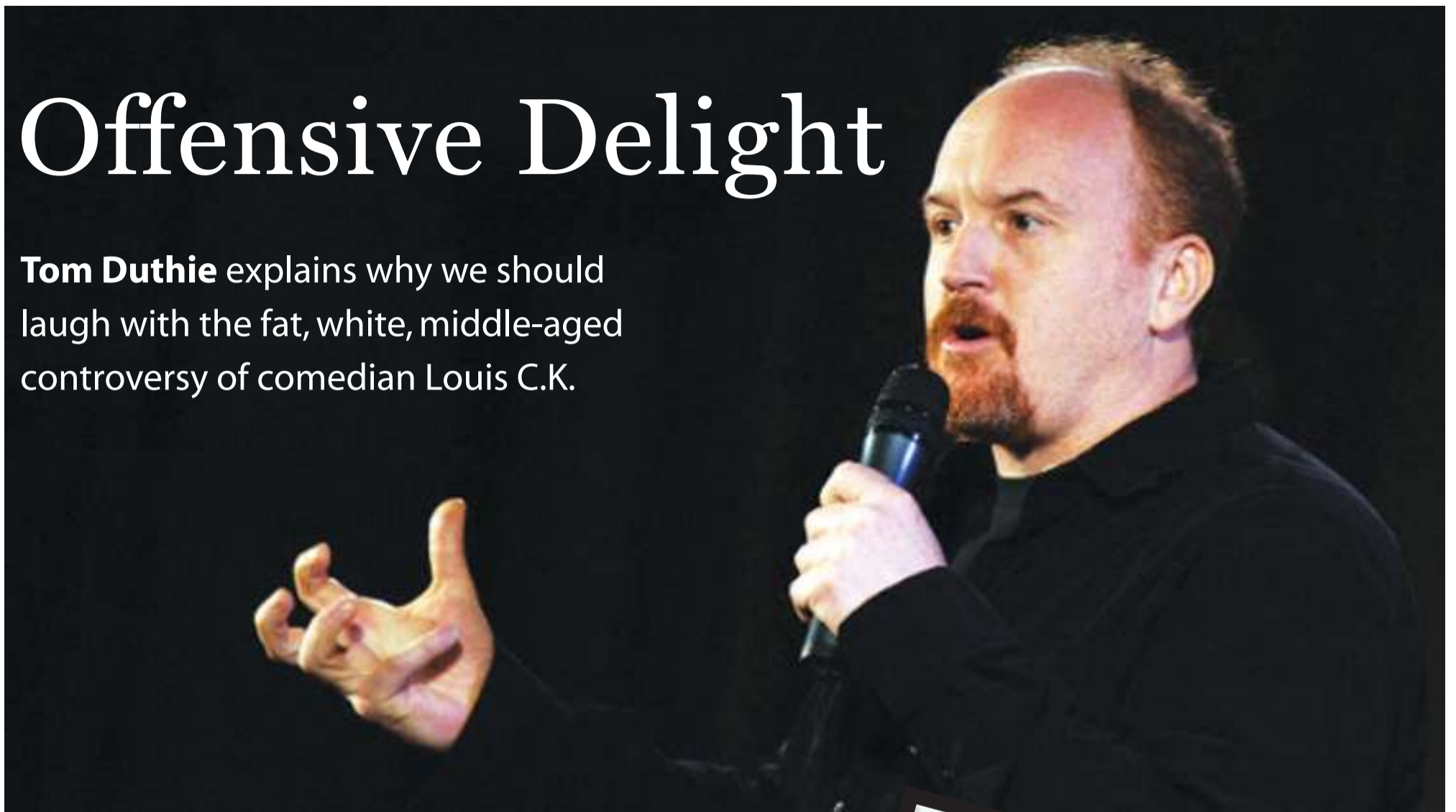


The Crucible
Drama Barn, £3.50-£5

Arthur Miller’s famous play about the Salem Witch Trials.
Friday - Sunday week 4

Offensive Delight

Tom Duthie explains why we should laugh with the fat, white, middle-aged controversy of comedian Louis C.K.



Why We Should All Listen to Louis C.K.

Life is full of political confusion, emotional bankruptcy and sexual frustration. Especially if you're divorced, balding and fat, which - judging by the way things are going - we'll all be at some point in our lives. Luckily, Louis CK is all of those things at this very moment, and he does it better than anyone else. Since you all have the Internet, I'm not going to bombard with facts about how many Emmys he's won, or how good his FX series *Louis* is. Instead, I'm going to give you a tasty distillation of his comic brilliance and the conventional wisdom he brings to the world through the glorious medium of stand up.

When it comes to sexual politics, *Louis* is always spot-on. Having been married for 13 years and lived an actual life previous to that regretful episode, his material contains some brutally honest and penetratingly funny observations about interactions between men and women:

'If you're a woman and a guy's ever said anything romantic to you, he just left off the second part that would have made you sick if you could have heard it.'

'A man will cut your arm off and throw it in a river, but he'll leave you intact as a human being. He won't fuck with who you are. Women are non-violent, but they will shit inside of your heart.'

Louis's jokes are often crude, always ridiculous, and sometimes not even really accurate. But this is the very nature of his comedy: it tells the sad story of a fearlessly frank self-professed masturbator who wears his lack of dignity with pride - something we should all try and do once in a while just to stick it to the peacocks with their airs and graces and their pressed suits and their dick-measuring.

The best thing about C.K.'s comedy, other than being almost entirely original every time (he cuts his material right after using it), is that it will make you a better person because you'll be less afraid to laugh at the sad, grotesque absurdity of life. So many people are so afraid to face these realities, let alone laugh at them - which is exactly why I think Louis CK is making the world a better place. He grabs you by the bowtie and says 'Stop taking yourself so seriously dammit!' This is particularly true of one joke - a kind of character assassination, if you will - about a businessman who has soup spilt on him at a restaurant: 'What is the meaning of this?!' the businessman says, outraged. The waiter starts apologising profusely. Then, with even more anger, the businessman says: 'Do you know who I am?!' Then Louis says 'Yeah, you're the asshole who just happened to be sitting there when that happened. So sit down and shut up.'

Louis C.K. is most certainly an everyman comic: not only because he's disgusting and shameless like almost every man in the entire world (and some of the women), but because woven into his comedy is a heavy dose of actual wisdom, likening

him to two of his greatest influences, George Carlin and Bill Hicks, those towering greats of the game who are sadly no longer with us. These are all guys who are tired of the bullshit, tired of all the whining.

Louis says: "'I'm bored' is a useless thing to say. I mean, you live in a great, big, vast world that you've seen none percent of. Even the inside of your own mind is endless, it goes on forever, inwardly, do you understand? The fact that you're alive is amazing, so you don't get to say 'I'm bored'."

"This is a sentiment I agree with entirely. Unless you are literally trapped in a small box or prison, only boring people get bored, so don't say it unless you've exhausted every other option." Louis also tears into the easily offended, saying that the "only result of someone being offended is that they get to be offended. That's it. No censorship. No consequences. Nada. Stop whining and return to your life. Hecklers, even the nice ones, get it right in the neck too (as they should) and you should definitely watch that one yourself."

If I've managed to sway you into giving Louis a try, then I suggest rather than typing his name into YouTube and clicking wildly on the links with the most hits, you watch his specials in full, particularly 'Chewed Up', 'Oh My God', 'One Night Stand' and 'Live at the Beacon Theater'. Then, if you like that, watch his series *Louis* on FX (or Netflix. Or steal it. I don't really care) which sacrifices some of the comic elements for actual, poignant drama that really works.

Louis's stuff is pure comic gold if you're willing to embrace it, but it isn't for the easily offended or the homophobic. Besides, if you're any of those things, I would suggest you take a long hard look at yourself in the mirror, cry for a little bit, then come join us over here where all the fun's happening. There's still hope for you yet.

Quote Book

"There are two types of people in the world: People who say they pee in the shower and dirty fucking liars."

"Fuck it." That's really the attitude that's keeps a family together. It's not "We love each other!" It's "Fuck it."

"God is like a shitty girlfriend."

"Friends should always tell you the truth. But please don't."

"There's nowhere I won't go. As long as it's horribly, horribly true and/or wrong."

FASHION.

Take 'em to a thrift shop

Robbie Hodges and Florence Mitchell take on a £30 outfit challenge on the streets of York. This is their guide to fashion on a budget.

Florence. Taking inspiration from *Vogue.co.uk's* recent challenge of buying 'a whole new look for £200 or less', I had the somewhat harder task of finding a whole new look for £30 from York City centre. I kicked off with the best place to find bargains - the charity shops. Prospective bargain hunters should be aware, charity shopping is tiring; you have to leaf through swathes of nylon, crimplene, and horrific 80s prom dresses before you find the hidden treasures. When you do find a gem it's likely to come at a very purse-pleasing price: in my case a gold, lurex knit at £2.99. The uniqueness of charity shop finds is another benefit. For this challenge that was an added bonus, as it meant that I could build my look around one statement item, so the new pieces I bought from high street shops could be relatively simple and low cost. In H&M, therefore, all I needed to complement my leopard-print tee was a simple black body-con skirt (£3.99).

To complete the outfit, I was on the hunt for shoes. Unlike most other items it's rare to find nice pairs in charity shops. Moreover, shoes are notoriously expensive. I personally love Office for a classic brogue/boot but on a student budget (and for this challenge) it is a no-go. TK Maxx proved a winner for Robbie but the ladies' section didn't have a particularly broad range. The next stop was a place I normally avoid: Shoe Zone. Admittedly, you're not going to find beautiful Italian leather but I stumbled upon a really lovely pair of black lace-up wedges. The suede-effect finish means they don't look tacky, and at £16.99 they were under budget.

Finally, I purchased some thick tights from M&S (£3.50), as autumnal York in bare legs would be a seriously unappealing prospect! I would have loved to accessorize this outfit with jewellery but couldn't do so without breaking the budget. Regardless, it is clearly possible to create a stylish look from the city's shops on a student budget. Indeed, if I hadn't bought the shoes, the outfit would have cost only £10.50 - what a bargain!



Only got 30 dollars in my pocket. I, I, I'm hunting, lookin' for a come-up. This is f**kin' awesome...

Robbie. Embarking on this commercial adventure, I was filled with a heady optimism and sense of adventure that fills fashion-loving freshers on their first ramble around the city's notorious shopping scene. Although sale-season might have rendered this an easy feat, 20% off in Urban Outfitters equates to approximately two pounds off each item, thus leading me to the infamous charity shop district of Goodramgate, home of CabaretD paraphernalia.

The first floor of the Sue Ryder shop holds a treasure trove of carefully curated vintage/retro items at such affordable prices that they blinded me from this outrageously-printed polyester shirt. At £6, and with the aftertaste of charitable-goodness, who could complain? Next, I was warmly welcomed by TK Maxx, cooing me in with promises of up to 60% off. I was not disappointed. I always consider TK Maxx as synonymous with struggling brands like McKenzie or Pierre Cardin, so to find a pair of Classic Superga plimsolls with a knee-trembling £25 reduction left me regretting the £40 that I once shelled out.

The final component of my look, regular-fit H&M jeans, pushed me £5 over budget. Thanks to H&M's sustainability policy and their drive to inhibit the impact of fast fashion, any purchase made is (I feel) always justified. In this case, my inability to stick to the £30 quota ought to be pardoned.

My look? Probably 'school teacher of questionable integrity'! My thrifting proved somewhat lacking: I blew my budget and failed to create the fresh ensemble I had hoped for...

Muse says: Of this thrift fashion face-off, Florence was the deserved victor and proved her Herculean shopping credentials. Robbie was left to recite the old-school mantra of "if at first you don't succeed, try again." Let's see how much of his student budget he'll blow by Christmas.

Don't leave your coat in the corner

Coats shouldn't be an afterthought, but the garment to build your wardrobe around, says **Holly Dale**

Before you begin to gaze hopelessly at your wardrobe and despairingly confront the task of selecting the day's outfit, put on your coat.

I'm speaking figuratively, of course... Going out with your coat squeezed in tightly beneath your dress and tights is a look that might cause people to wonder whether you've had a mental breakdown, but the premise remains the same: the coat comes first. Before you even think about which oversized sweater you are donning today, you should have decided which jacket, overcoat or cagoule will go over it. After all, in Yorkshire weather, spending any effort at all on the outfit underneath is pretty much a waste of snooze-button time, as most people you'll encounter will never see it. Ergo, your coat becomes your statement piece.

Britons probably spend about 70% of the year covering from the rain in trench coats or macs, yet many of us insist on obsessing most on whether our vintage shirt matches

our disco pants, leaving the coat to being little more than an afterthought chosen rarely on the basis of style. However, unless you are in the 60+ age bracket, there is no excuse for prioritising practicality over style when it comes to your outer layers.

Also, despite what you may believe, coats need not cost the Earth. I have a loud, 80s-style, raincoat in bright pink, green and blue which I picked up from a car boot sale for just £1 and a gorgeous cream fur (PETA activists breathe again, it's synthetic), that set me back just a tenner in an east London thrift store.

But if trawling around bargain-bins isn't your thing then you can still pick up a fantastic coat for a fantastic price by exploring outlet stores such as T.K.Maxx, where they often offer a discount of up to 60%. Don't let the word 'outlet' put you off - these places can be surprisingly in-vogue, meaning you don't have to sacrifice fashion for your budget.

So what does your coat say about you? Whether you prefer a cosy parka, statement overcoat, vintage fur or humble anorak, each coat tells a story about the person underneath. The duffle/parka is a favourite among the trendy, urban males of our generation, who often accessorise with a pair of headphones around their neck or a skateboard in hand.

The overcoat, meanwhile, is likely to be worn by those who prefer to have an air of sophistication about them. Such individuals are likely to be clutching an iPad or smartphone full with a busy itinerary and sporting a satchel/handbag over the shoulder. You can find the overcoat in more up-market establishments such as independent coffee-houses or Ralph Lauren. The vintage fur screams glamour-puss and these cool-cats are liable to spend a lot of time on their appearance, so if you want to date a fur-lover make sure you have space to accommodate his/her extensively vast wardrobe. These students are likely to frequent vintage warehouses and art exhibitions and are pretty much a cultural-encyclopaedia, so if you fancy an alternative night out these are the people to ask.

In contrast, the anorak wearer is either an IT genius or an outdoorsy eco-warrior who has either no concern for fashion whatsoever, most likely actively spurning the industry altogether. Taking consideration of style need not mean you have to compromise your morals: lots of places sell fair-trade nowadays (American Apparel are a sweatshop-free company) meaning you can ensure the workers producing your garments are getting a fair deal.

Otherwise, by sourcing your clothes from charity shops, not only are you

ensuring garments are being recycled (rather than ending up in landfills), you're also spending your money on a valuable cause rather than some giant 'capitalist' corporation.

Whatever your style, be it long-haired philosopher or tie-dyed hippie, spare a thought for your coat. Get your coat right and your look is sorted. Even if you go out wearing a bin-bag underneath, despite the potential risk of hypothermia, if your coat is on-point then people will think you the trendiest fashionista on campus.



Get the Look ... the Walk of Slimane



Hedi Slimane seemed hell-bent on rocking the core of chic couture when he draped tartan shirts over black leather and spider-web lace at his AW13/14 show for Parisian powerhouse Saint Laurent. Months later he exclusively previewed his debut fashion film on Dazed Digital in which a ballet dancer dressed in skinny, black leather trousers, leather bandeau bra and tartan shirt performs in a deserted warehouse loft.

Not only did this alternative short film shake up another Parisian institution of sophistication, it again cemented Nineties' Grunge as one of the biggest trends of AW13. While the thought of wearing an LBD, embellished tights, and a "borrowed" plaid shirt may provide painful memories of the dreaded Walk of Shame, the high street is abundant with pieces to help you keep this runway look on the right side of campus chic.

It is perhaps no coincidence that the most popular way to style the look is also the easiest. Instead of a risqué LBD under a tartan shirt, choose leather-look leggings for the basis of your outfit. These will take you from dancing at a gig at The Duchess to crawling on to campus the following morning. After all, how else would a Slimane girl behave? Online retailer ASOS make the task simple with their new "Leather Leggings and Trousers" category, helping you to find a pair from as little as £16.99. Other online sites such as Glamorous and Missguided frequently have student sign-up deals and offer similarly low-priced options to help you find the pair that suits you most.

The awful paradox of an alternative trend such as Nineties' Grunge is that when it hits the fashion pages and high street, it is inevitably no longer alternative. So while Tartan Shirt + Black Leather is a formula worthy of any fashion novice's attention, rocking the trend in true Slimane style and standing

out from the crowd is going to take a little more than a red tartan shirt from Topshop.

Cue Zara, who have beautifully combined the trend for tartan with delicate lace and lingerie-style dresses for the new season. Their dark green plaid lingerie style dress, is perfect for a student budget at just £34.99 - style it with a fur leopard print coat for true rock and roll glamour. For similarly student-friendly prices peruse Zara's selection of dark checked trousers and lace-trimmed camisoles, or go for their stand-out tartan piece, a checked jumpsuit in dark green, for a truly unique take on the trend.

No matter whether you go for a plaid shirt or plaid dress, a lot of leather or a lot of lace, there's one final touch that will tip your fashion scales from Walk of Shame to Walk of Slimane. If anything gave the Saint Laurent models a true Nineties' grunge edge, it was their black, buckled biker boots. Luckily for York students they have also made their way on to the shelves of Topshop and Urban Outfitters: I can't think of footwear more suitable for skirting geese and making your way through puddles on campus.

- Lauren Belcher



PLAID LINGERIE DRESS, ZARA, £34.99

SAINT LAURENT AW13

DEENA & OZZY BOOTS, URBAN OUTFITTERS, £85.00

S/S/S: Loafing About

As the winter nights draw in, it's very very tempting to neglect your feet and lose all hope of style south of your shins by donning a reliable pair of Ugg boots. Although most girls own a pair of these bittersweet and - let's face it - glorified slippers, they don't make much of a statement, and they do result in soggy feet. There really is no harm in sticking to a pair of ballet flats (just pair them with some woolly tights or cute socks if you're scared of the cold). If they quickly become a favourite of yours they will be just as stylish and reliable when spring comes back around. Smoking slippers in particular have become popular recently, which is great as it means you can choose from a mix of styles, colours, tassels ... the list is endless. Act like Alexa Chung and pair them with a quirky, preppy outfit or throw them together with a casual look, a la Moss.

SPEND: CHATELLE PARIS SLIPPER

£140. At a starting price of £100 these are a real splurge but they're perfect as an autumn birthday/christmas/mid-way through term present to yourself. This French company enable you to customize the slippers with tassels or your own initials in a contrasting colour making them really unique. Choose from a range of hues - there is definitely no chance of bumping into someone else with the same pair!



SAVE: MODA IN PELLE FESPER SLIPPER

£59. A personal favourite of mine at the mid-range in price are the Fesper by Moda in Pelle. These suede shoes (again with tassel details) have strong soles, enabling them to stick around as a go-to pair. Luckily, their classic British style means they will still be wearable next year in both the utility and fashion-stakes so they're a serious investment.



STEAL: TOPSHOP MEX TASSEL SLIPPER

£22. At this budget price they are perfect for people toying with the trend. Gold is a great colour and also from lecture to bar without too many quick changes. Again the tassels add a cute edge, but Topshop also do plenty of other flats and ballet slippers in different styles for those wanting to say goodbye to ankle boots for good.

- Emily Russell

Topping it Off



George de Cintra
FASHION WRITER

So often men's fashion trends are overly expensive and completely inaccessible to the common man. Somehow I can't really see the lads down at York's rugby club investing in Tom Ford's new make-up range for men, unless they are seriously whipped by their current girlfriend. Frequently fashion can leave the boys out in the cold, with only a Primark onesie and a pair of Topman skinny jeans to cling to for warmth.

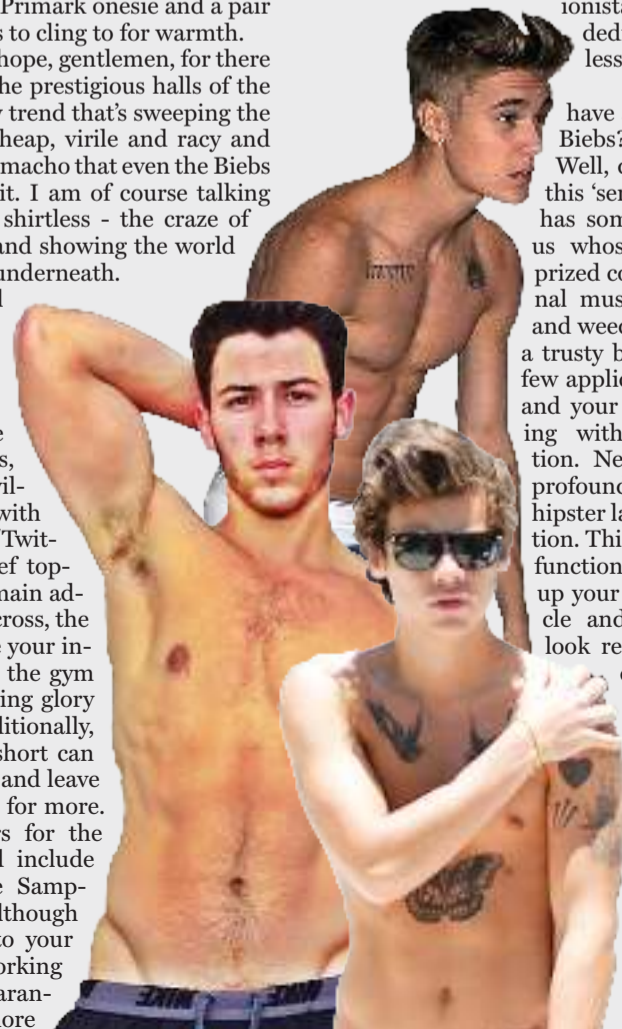
But do not give up hope, gentlemen, for there is now a way to enter the prestigious halls of the fashionable, with a new trend that's sweeping the nation. This trend is cheap, virile and racy and has become so cool and macho that even the Biebs himself has embraced it. I am of course talking about the trend to go shirtless - the craze of taking off your t-shirt and showing the world what you got going on underneath.

At a primary level the trend simply involves a few cheeky topless gym selfies taken at the Hes West Sports centre (or for the more civilized among us, the Hes East Sports village) and then posted with glee all over Instagram/Twitter/Facebook. This brief topless interlude gets the main advantages of the trend across, the world can acknowledge your inspirational devotion to the gym and revel in the scorching glory of the six pack. Additionally, keeping the exposure short can maximise appreciation and leave the audience desperate for more. The main torchbearers for the vanguard of the trend include The Situation, George Sampson and Nick Jonas. Although if you were to log onto your preferred social networking account now you're guaranteed to see hundreds more

gym heroes.

Recently, however, the trend has developed into something far more exciting and has almost taken on a life of its own. At the very height of the trend, going topless can become a way of life. The patron saint of this shirtless style is undisputedly Justin Bieber. Biebs has become a global fashion icon for young people who believe that if you've got it then you should flaunt it, constantly. Biebs has shown off his body at every available opportunity, from stumbling out of nightclubs at 2am shirtless in the midst of winter to serenading his grandmother on Christmas day in the nude. Sceptics may react in disgust to Bieber's heightened devotion to the trend but every proper fashionista should praise his dedication to the topless cause.

"But what if I don't have a body as hot as the Biebs?" I hear you cry! Well, don't worry because this 'serious' fashion writer has some tips for those of us whose bodies lack this prized collection of abdominal muscles. For the weak and weedy, our best friend is a trusty bottle of fake tan. A few applications of St Tropez and your body will be glowing with post-gym definition. Next get a couple of profound tattoos like the hipster lads from One Direction. This will provide a dual function of cleverly covering up your lack of actual muscle and also making you look really edgy and non-conformist. Finish by following Tyra Bank's timeless advice and getting your fierce confidence on: smizing (smiling with your eyes) and pouting with aplomb will guarantee that no one notices any difference between you and the gym gods.



BEERRIES AND CREAM



STAY CHIC ON CRISP AUTUMN DAYS WITH THIS DELICIOUS ARRAY OF VINTAGE ACCESSORIES. MIX IT UP WITH TOUCH-ME-NOW TEXTURES IN CHOCOLATE, BURGUNDY, BERRY, MERLOT AND OXBLOOD HUES.



POLKA DOT RUFFLE SHIRT- £20, FAUX-FUR MINK STOLE - £39, BURGUNDY LEATHER GLOVES - £10, RED BOW HAT - £25.



TORTOISESHELL CATSEYE SUNGLASSES - £10, BROWN LEATHER CLASP BAG - £20, SILK SCARF - £6. SHIRT, STOLE, GLOVES & HAT AS BEFORE.



SHIRT, STOLE, GLOVES, HAT AND SUNGLASSES AS BEFORE.



PURPLE PATENT HANDBAG - £15. SHIRT, STOLE, GLOVES, HAT AND SUNGLASSES AS BEFORE.



WHITE RUFFLE SHIRT - £15, WHITE FOX STOLE, STYLISTS OWN, CREAM PILLBOX HAT - £15, CREAM LEATHER GLOVES - £10, PURPLE PATENT HANDBAG - £15, CATSEYE SUNGLASSES - £10.



WHITE FELT BERET - £5, TORTOISESHELL ROUND SUNGLASSES - £10. SHIRT AS BEFORE.



TOFFEE APPLE FROM ONE STOP SHOP - £1.60. SHIRT, BERET AND GLOVES AS BEFORE.



LARGE BROWN LEATHER CLASP HANDBAG - £25, SILK SCARF - £6. SHIRT, BERET, GLOVES AND SUNGLASSES AS BEFORE.

CREATIVE DIRECTOR - INDIA BLOCK, STYLISTS ASSISTANTS - RACHEL THOMPSON AND IZZY ASHTON, HAIR - JULIE PANAYI, MAKE-UP - CHERRINE CHEN, PHOTOGRAPHY - AGATHA TORRANCE, MODEL - HARRIET TAYLOR. ALL CLOTHES AND ACCESSOIRES COURTESY OF PURPLE HAZE, YORK. WITH THANKS TO PHOTOSOC FOR THE USE OF THEIR NEW ON-CAMPUS STUDIO.



TONE IT DOWN AS THE NIGHTS DRAW IN WITH CLASSIC CREAMS AND LUXURIOUS VINTAGE LEATHER AND FUR.



Bar Crawling and YouTube Trawling

In a time when popular music is littered with ready-made identikit popstars, Hatti Linnell speaks to **Lewis Watson** about why hard work is more important than ever.

Lewis Watson has been working hard. It would be difficult to over-exaggerate this - a truth I discovered on casually asking the Oxford-born singer-songwriter if he's excited for his first headline tour. The upcoming tour will actually be Watson's seventh set of dates over the past twelve months, including three headline tours and three supporting Kodaline, Benjamin Francis Leftwich and Birdy respectively. Just the thought of it all makes me feel tired.

Following recent months, during which big entertainment stories have usually featured Miley Cyrus twerking in PVC or the X Factor, which now, thanks to its new chair-swapping round, is possibly the closest we will get to a modern-day amphitheatre, it's nice to be reminded there are still musicians serious about their craft, rather than just fame or money-making.

Watson's one of a breed of musicians we've seen emerging over recent years, all with a similar approach to each other. From Gabrielle Aplin playing guitar on YouTube in her school uniform to Ed Sheeran who refused to dye his hair at his label's request to appeal to a larger fanbase, many of this generation of musicians have made it solely based on hard work and sticking to strong principles.

Watson initially started using YouTube as a means by which to teach himself guitar. "I'd cover a song and I'd like having somewhere where I can learn the chords and then I'd watch it back a week later and see what I'd improved on and stuff like that." After becoming more accomplished, Watson worked on his music through live performances in his hometown. "I was doing a gig almost every night - I was really lucky because I'm from Oxford and

there's a ton of pubs and a ton of open mics. People are really nice and really friendly in Oxford so that really helped." This was combined with more YouTube uploads as he became more well-known: "I never really went on YouTube with the desire to have people watch me, it was just for me really. But when it kind of kicked off I liked having that audience I didn't know because my friends and family didn't really know about it so it was exciting to have a really unbiased audience, I guess."

The day Lewis and I speak on is a busy

yet exciting one for him. It's the day after the YouTube release of his new video for the single 'Even If' and the day before his visa application meeting, and I catch him just after a "terrifying" encounter with a broken photobooth. Talking about the new video, which features Lewis ignoring lots of girls having pillow fights and playing twister in his house because he is so downcast about upsetting his girlfriend, Watson says: "It was a lot of fun to shoot but it was hard to look really melancholy...everyone behind the camera was laughing. A couple of people thought I'd gone for the whole blurred lines thing. But yeah I'm really happy with it and it was a lot of fun to shoot." The production quality has come a long way from three years previously when Watson was filming covers of

Bombay Bicycle Club in his bedroom. "Yeah, I mean it's not going over the top but there's a lot of stuff to do now, I've got to act which is hard. It's cool though, it's definitely nice to go to this from giving my mate with a camera a tenner to shoot a video for me."

The video is characteristically light-hearted as is the majority of Watson's work, which is one of the main things which I think appeals to his fans. He tweets a lot, and his tweets are witty but subtle and modest at the same time, something I would agree reflects his charac-

spect that. I can't wait for the EP but I can't wait for the album either. I've written it all over summer and now we've got enough new songs for it to have maybe half the album as completely new songs, which I'm really happy with as I'd feel like I was short-changing you if I was just re-packaging old tracks and saying it was an album. So phew, yeah, sigh of relief."

Musically, Watson is often compared to Ed Sheeran, and lyrically there are occasional similarities. For instance, Watson's songs often bring an inexplicable joy to the listener, with lyrics like "like one small shaft of light/flooding into my eyes/ I will never see things just the same/ but I'm not afraid", seeming reminiscent of Sheeran's 'Cold Coffee'. But Watson's music can also be mellower, with songs like 'It Could Be Better' and 'Bones' taking a distinctly minor turn, while still retaining his distinctive poetic honesty which permeates his other songs. Watson tells me his influences are currently Australian folk singer Matt Corby, and former frontman of Death Cab For Cutie, Ben Gibbard. "I think his lyrical work is great, he really uses very vivid imagery which I'm jealous of."

The next few weeks are packed full of tour dates for Watson, first in America then back to Europe for dates in France, Germany, Holland, and, of course, the UK. After the tour, work on the debut album is planned to continue: "It'll be next year, it'll probably be... maybe January or February time" Watson tells me with some hesitation. "I don't really know. I'm quite anxious but very excited. I'll never have another first album so I want to get it as right as I can."

Some Songs with Some Friends is scheduled for release on 26th November.

"The video's cool though... It beats giving my mate with a camera a tenner to shoot for me."

ter on the impression I got from the interview. 'Even If' is the lead single of his forthcoming EP, *Some Songs with Some Friends*, due to be released in November and featuring collaborations with Hudson Taylor and Gabrielle Aplin. It'll be his third EP to be released this year, and his fifth in circulation overall. Speaking of the new EP, Watson says, "Yeah I can't wait. I really like the EP kind of thing. I've kind of got two records' worth of songs out there now, there are about twenty songs I've released which I really like. If I was a fan of an artist or a band I'd prefer it if they released constantly, rather than just getting an album which is a snapshot of their music in time. But at the same time I really love records and I love artists that put records together and I really re-

REVERB.

Kanye West, *Thinker*

"...For me to say I wasn't a genius, I'd be totally lying to you and to myself."

In The Spotlight: Jaws

Alex Donaldson always has one eye on the next hype. Here, he explains 'Btown', with a little help from new best friends **Jaws**.

I was running late and it was by complete chance that I ran into half of Jaws in post-gig favourite Subway, opposite The Duchess. Stocking up on tea and cheap sandwiches before their support slot for Spector later that night, it was the grounded nature of this band that shone through. Manager Neil leads us past the queue into the venue, having given me the most Brummy of welcomes. But it's outside on the bitterly cold, concrete slab of a smoking area that we huddle together to discuss their story so far.

Individually they have been pursuing music from as young as ten years of age, but their "first gig was in April at Camden Barfly." It's drummer Eddy Geach who takes the lead in recounting their formation, whilst lead singer Connor Schofield, who looks positively knackered, rests on his shoulder, delicately noting how "it's cold as fook". Having formed only a month previously, Jaws have, over the past year and half, slowly built themselves into one of the new frontrunners in the 'Btown' explosion. When asked whether, like Swim Deep, they were simply floating on the merits of Peace, Alex Hudson explained that originally they "helped us good gigs for the age of the band, but now its all spreading out and we're pushing ourselves through". Jaws proved this only too well an hour later as a raptured audience, entranced by their future anthems, chanted the drawling hook to 'Stay In'. "We always kept up to date with everything", claims Eddy, and you can tell. They are so on-trend it hurts, both Connor and Alex sporting the baggiest Slazenger hoodies. Their fashion sense is mirrored in the sound on their debut EP, Milkshake. Grungy guitars, chorus effects aplenty, all enveloped by the steady thunder of Jake Cooper on bass, it asserts a stronger sound than most of the new wave of 90s-influenced guitar bands. Jake goes on to pronounce the best analogy of the Btown music scene so far: "no one's actually from Birmingham...it's like Birmingham's the bolognese and everyone else is the spaghetti".

When probed about when their debut LP might be hitting the shelves, they replied "hopefully by the end of this year, we should have a rough idea what the album will sound like." Jaws seem to be managing the writing process efficiently for such a young band and avoiding the pressure to rush that initial record. It's noted that "Connor writes most of the stuff" on what



he coins his 'Fender Jizzmeister', although "we all add our own little bits to define the song". For a band that come from a place about as urban and inland as humanly possible in the UK, tracks like 'Toucan Surf' are peppered with a sense of coastal escapism and surf rock notions. In answer, lyricist Connor reminisces how "the earlier stuff, I wrote in the summer", that essence very much conveyed as the lines in 'Breeze' washes The Duchess away, amidst waves of chords.

As the conversation moves onto recent single 'Gold', you get the sense that this is a band still very much uneasy and wary of their own momentum. Currently, there's no video for the single. Jake tells how "we've had a few offers from people who wanted to do it," but they're paying the price for shoddy state of the musical economy right now. As 'Gold' receives perhaps the greatest cheer of the set, and regular radio play, Jaws still find themselves, "folking poor". The message that resides most powerfully comes from Alex, "if the

money that we got, we just blew on doing shit like videos, we wouldn't be a band anymore".

Followed by resounding agreement that the biggest cost of touring from early June until October is petrol - their Birmingham Christmas show standing out amongst their highlights of the past year.

It's a sad but very real issue, that a group so honest and shocked to have come as far as they have, are hindered by something as anti-music as petrol money. Jaws are about as far away from their own arseholes as you can possibly be. Their whole outlook was epitomised when one girl from the audience yelled 'I love you Jake', to which he replies, "Thanks...No one else does." In their own words "fingers crossed" they make the sound of 2014, they deserve it. And thanks to Eddy for holding my shitty recorder throughout the entire interview.

In other news, Fred Macpherson was as pretentiously twatish as always.



REVIEW: TOO WEIRD TO LIVE, TOO RARE TO DIE!

Panic! At The Disco
Decaydance
Jessica Burgess

Panic! at the Disco are a band that have always taken pride in their oddity.

Especially in comparison with other bands of a similar genre. Past albums have seen them progress from their theatrical pop punk roots (*A Fever you Can't Sweat Out*) to a more subdued folk rock sound (*Pretty Odd* - which, let's face it, was a little more than pretty odd), to their latest studio offering *Too Weird to Live, Too Rare to Die*; an album which brings into question their very name; for surely this, with its electronic mixes and dance beat, would be at home in the midst of a 'disco'.

'Too Weird' is reminiscent of 'Virtues and Vices'. However, the album proffers a much lighter tone. This is the return of the Panic we knew from their beginnings: songs with serious lyrics, but on top of music which just wants to make you and get up and dance. Although, whilst experimentation with electronic pop is definitely at the forefront of this album, there is a clear division between the first and second half; the first five songs of the album (up to 'Nicotine') have an underlying epic feel. In particular, the opening to 'Vegas Lights' is comparable to the 30 Seconds to Mars anthem 'Kings and Queens'. Whether or not 'Panic' had their live performances in mind when composing the album is unknown, but there is a strong sense that these songs are ones that are going to fill arenas; when listening to 'This is Gospel' you can almost hear crazed fans screaming back "if you love me/let me go". The second half of the album is a step-down in terms of raw power, yet it maintains a 'dancy' feel.

Unfortunately the final song does let down this otherwise unique piece of musical mastery. Typical of Panic they end on a song which feels as though it has been ripped from a different universe. 'The End of All Things' abandons the electro and instead entertains with a more classically orientated theme; it is a signal that the party is over and a bold way to conclude the album. But one which I am not sure leaves the listener in a mood justified by the rest of the playlist.



KIDS IN GLASS HOUSES LIVE
RESCUE ROOMS,
NOTTINGHAM
9th OCTOBER 2013
Veronica Wells

Sometimes you do stuff on a whim. This is about the only reasonable explanation I had for my flatmates when they asked me why I was spending two and a half hours on a train to go see a band they'd never heard of. Sometimes, spontaneity is just fun. And who hasn't heard of Kids In Glass Houses?

The venue was a small shoebox of a club, with maybe 400 people crammed into it. As it grew steadily more crowded, sweat began to trickle down the walls, which was a testament to just how rowdy the gig got.

Synth-pop upstarts Propellers kicked off the gig with a bouncy set. Though nobody knew the words to their songs, they admirably fulfilled their function as a warm-up band, and even got a few of the more cynical gig-goers smiling and moving. By comparison, Cartel should have had an easy time of it. Forming in 2003, they're practically veterans, but the American quartet definitely showed their age. Their songs oozed blankly into each other.

Still, by the time Kids In Glass Houses took the stage, everyone was in high spirits. The band are touring in support of their fourth

album *Peace*, but they were anything but serene. Frontman Aled Phillips barely stopped all gig, throwing himself around the tiny rectangular stage like a kitten on catnip. The opening one-two of *Peace* and current single 'Drive' was taken straight from the new album, but long-term fans had nothing to worry about. The set list was a chocolate box mix of old and new, though the most time was dedicated to 2010's release, *Dirt*. It was also well-paced, with mellow ballads 'Stormchasers' and 'Fire' giving the crowd a chance to get their breath back before the rambunctious 'Black Crush'.

Intimate shows allow for a lot more flexibility than bigger gigs, which became obvious as the set continued. A fan bought the band Jäegerbombs, which they downed onstage between songs. The mic stand broke. A bass broke. Lead guitarist Joel's amp broke. But the show went on, culminating in the catchy-as-freshers' flu closer 'Matters At All'. Though an encore would have been appreciated, they had just played through a mammoth seventeen-song setlist in under 90 minutes. It looks like the Kids from the Valleys are all grown up.

FILM.

Entertainment over Authenticity

Review: The Fifth Estate



Jessica Burgess



As we become an increasingly computer literate society, it seems only fitting that our biographical films now tend towards a more technical edge. *The Fifth Estate*, similar to *The Social Network* (2010) before it, is the latest contribution to this emergent genre.

The WikiLeaks story of 2010 was one that gripped the nation. Needless to say, anything portraying this controversial organisation was always going to be a delicate matter and wouldn't pass through cinemas unnoticed. Even prior to the film's release, questions were raised about its factual content. It would have

been difficult for director Bill Condon to pack more big names into the cast: Benedict Cumberbatch, the up and coming Daniel Bruhl, David Thewlis and Dan Stevens all star in this thriller.

Perhaps with such a high profile plotline he would have been better to search for his characters within the pool of lesser known performers in order to create a better sense of authenticity.

However, regardless of the film's purpose, as a form of entertainment or otherwise, Benedict Cumberbatch delivers spectacularly as WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange. His pres-

entation of the egotistical Assange, complete with white hair and steadily maintained Australian accent, is both gripping and repulsive in equal measure, whilst the autographical elements present a misunderstood child that sheds a new light on the infamous hacker. The chemistry between Cumberbatch and Bruhl (who plays colleague 'Daniel Domscheit-Berg') does attempt to humanise Assange, but overall this friendship appears as a last minute plot development.

Bill Condon should be congratulated for recognising the breadth of his audience: For the less tech-savvy amongst us, the scenes of

somewhat surreal CGI offices integrated into the film served their purpose as an aid of explanation concerning various computer jargon. Despite this, the 'unreal' aspect appears unfitting at the start of the film, where we are treated to an outline of the development of the media. This lacks clarity and leaves the viewer wondering whether they've walked into the correct cinema.

The Fifth Estate does attempt to portray the true events of WikiLeaks, but works best as a piece of entertainment and, if nothing else, an opportunity to appreciate the several fine performances on display.



Le Week-End



Katie Barlow

Le Week-End has a constant sense of impending disaster. A couple's weekend anniversary break in Paris doesn't get off to the best of starts, with a fight on the Eurostar. Over the course of the weekend, things go downhill as they continue to argue over the Euros (they don't have enough), the hotel room (it's "too beige") and her 'affair' (she isn't having one).

However, what makes the film is the very fact that the expected catastrophe never occurs: the viewer instead begins to realise that amongst this dysfunction and chaos there is a relationship worth saving.

Jim Broadbent and Lindsay Duncan are outstanding as Nick and Meg, a just-over-middle-aged couple from Birmingham who return to their honeymoon destination to celebrate their 30th anniversary. While some stunning views of Paris are offered, it remains clear that the central focus is on the characters, and not the city. But it does feel claustrophobic that we see every detail of their relationship.

In the best performance of the film Jeff Goldblum enters as the self-obsessed academic Morgan, which comes as a slight relief. Despite being Cambridge contemporaries, Morgan has become everything Nick isn't: successful, wealthy and admired, with a beautiful, new (and pregnant) wife. At a dinner party scene in Morgan's swanky apartment these contrasts become bluntly apparent. This becomes the key scene of the film, where the couple's relationship is granted a miraculous recovery before falling apart, despite Nick declaring to a host of guests his true feelings.

While *Le Week-End* portrays something extraordinary: the relationship of an older couple without turning to tragedy, it is in fact the youthfulness of the pair which is remembered. The comedy is successful because it is subtle and often bittersweet. But ultimately, it is an absorbing portrait of a long marriage, showing that despite life's disappointments and failures a relationship really can endure.

Captain Phillips



James Lovatt

Following the widespread acclaim of his 2006 film *United 93*, *Captain Phillips* marks Paul Greengrass' return to the concept of the hostage crisis. The blueprint for the picture remains the same, but now we're at sea, and in a story with a significantly lower profile than the 9/11 attacks.

The screenplay, penned by Billy Ray, is drawn from *A Captain's Duty* by Captain Richard Phillips, which details the 2009 hijacking of the Maersk Alabama cargo ship. *United 93* succeeded with a relatively unknown cast and no leading roles because nobody needed the slightest bit of encouragement to empathise with the events on screen. Now, with one of the most accomplished and adored actors of the past thirty years in the lead role, Tom Hanks provides a measured and harrowing emotional performance which plunges the viewer right into the midst of the situation.

Initially stoic and slightly sour, the captain's quick decision-making and concern for his crew are brought to the fore when the Somalians eventually board the ship following two intense action sequences. Hanks' confident deliveries are constantly laced with nervousness as attempts at appeasement waver. The volatile pirates sit perennially on a knife-edge, with Barkhad Abdi deserving particular mention as leader Muse.

In *Captain Phillips* there are no contrived obstacles in technology or weather – this story is a disaster even when everything runs smoothly. And such a film can be ruined by all sorts of plothes. You're not left thinking "Why didn't Captain Phillips just..." - the film's watertight, and the calculating expressions of Hanks and Abdi convey to us that with every twist, these two captains are frantically thinking on their feet.

Frenetic camerawork, characters shouting over one another and breathtaking extreme wide shots of a solitary cargo ship all contribute to the feeling of utter helplessness. Greengrass has surely confirmed his status as a master of tension-building too: every plot development warrants an extra nail to bite, and music by Henry Jackman is clichéd and often unnoticeable, but infinitely effective.

Last year's Oscar for Best Picture went to a nail-biting thriller based on true events. This year may be the same.



Filth



Alex Ferguson

It is inevitable that any new adaptation of an Irvine Welsh novel will be compared to Danny Boyle's 1996 classic, *Trainspotting*, but Jon S. Baird's adaptation of Welsh's third novel, *Filth*, stands high on its own, arguably superceding what is regularly called the best Scottish film of all time. However, *Filth* in fact shares more with Kubrick's *A Clockwork Orange*, choosing to present the most disreputable anti-hero since Alex DeLarge himself. However, just as audiences found themselves rooting for Kubrick's serial rapist, I found myself constantly willing McAvoy's cocaine snorting, alcohol-guzzling, abusive D.S. Bruce Robertson to come out on top when the credits finally rolled.

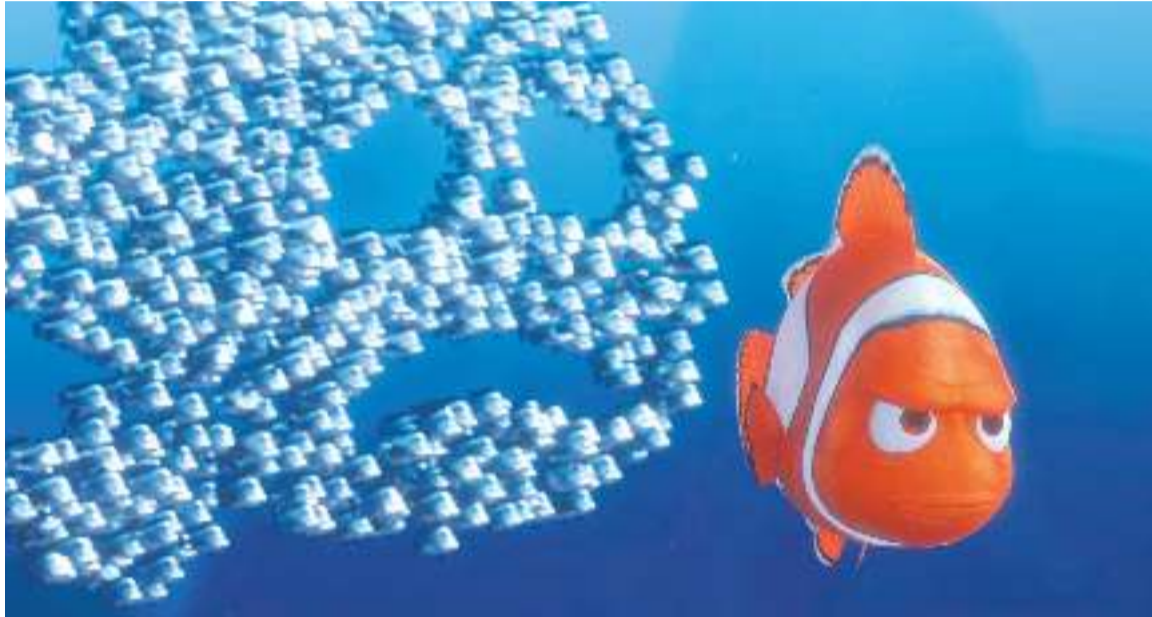
This is partly due to Baird's own masterful script, which delved deep into Bruce's past traumas and the reasons behind his actions. However, the real star of this show is James McAvoy, who creates a deliriously frightening and credible psychopath, akin to Heath Ledger's Joker.

Surrounding McAvoy is a brilliant supporting cast, with the delightful Eddie Marsan following up *The World's End* with a similarly timid 'nice-guy' character, an excellent Shirley Henderson as Marsan's frustrated wife Bunty, giving it all to remind this generation that she's more than just Moaning Myrtle. And Jim Broadbent is hilarious as Bruce's twistedly chirpy therapist.

Despite *Filth*'s intense dark moments, Baird's confident script and assured direction always finds time for humour, and it never feels jarring. I was sniggering to myself one minute only to find myself dying inside the next, but it all felt justified and flowed expertly. The narrative itself is almost irrelevant, simply based around the murder of a student, but this is used as a framing device, with the characters all fascinating enough to carry a film based on their daily lives alone.

Filth is not as ground breaking as *Trainspotting*, but it deserves its own recognition, featuring an Oscar worthy tour de force of a performance by James McAvoy. This is one to go and see while you still can.

Has Pixar's animation lost its imagination?



As Pixar starts to rely on old successes to keep up standards, **Alfie Packham** believes this shows a studio in artistic decline.



That cry of "look, I found Nemo!" echoing through aquariums everywhere just about sums up Pixar's mastery of computer animated family films, something that has held audiences both old and young since the mid-nineties.

Until recently, that is. The animation studio now appears to be struggling to maintain the high standards of its early years. With their recent negligence of fresh new projects, Pixar's unique imagination now seems to have become lost in an ocean of cash-in sequels.

The first dip in Pixar's standards came in 2006 with *Cars*. This franchise dispensed with that key element of many a Pixar film: humanity. Where Pixar films are traditionally about observing the human race from an original perspective, be it toys, monsters, superheroes or Parisian rats, what *Cars* presented instead was a dystopian world full of autonomous machines with gargantuan eyes and teeth. These cars run their own society and race in front of crowds of even more cars, as we are left to assume that every human within this lifeless world has been eradicated in the past by some apocalyptic, mechanised revolution.

But *Cars* also sold toys, and once the

wheels of a successful franchise start rolling there's no stopping them. Still, the last thing any Pixar fan wanted was a sequel to the studio's weakest effort so far.

Disney acquired Pixar in 2006. Although they can't really be to blame for *Cars*' sub-par standard in the same year, the company is far more likely to be behind Pixar's regular returns to old franchises rather than new projects since then. *Cars 2* (2011) was another painfully average film made specifically for kids, showing a swap in priorities between good storytelling and even better profits under Disney - and such cynicism would only be amplified with Pixar's rival Dreamworks continuing to up their game.

The creators of *Shrek* and *Antz* (their only early films worth mentioning) have always been a little more plastic than their sentimental counterparts. Dreamworks moulded their characters to big celebrity voiceovers while Pixar preferred to write their story and cast accordingly: *Shark Tale* (2004) was buoyed by Will Smith's persona, yet it never possessed the artistry or emotion of *Finding Nemo*.

Today, however, we are relating Pixar to a more earnest, enhanced and savvier Dream-

works. This culminated in the 2010 release of *How to Train Your Dragon* which critically outshone Pixar's thematically similar *Brave* (2012), showing that Dreamworks too could make films with heart.

Pixar meanwhile never really returned to their former brilliance, with the exception of *Toy Story 3*. Once *Wall-E* (2008) made its political point the flick lost its replay value, while despite a tear-jerking opening sequence in *Up* (2009), neither movie was as well-rounded as, say, *Monsters Inc.* or *A Bug's Life* before them. Their whimsicality became lost in the crowd, as *Kung-Fu Panda* (2008), *Monsters Vs Aliens* (2009) and collaborations with the British stop motion studio Aardman showed off the equally innovative approach of Dreamworks.

Then again, Pixar's reputation might be at threat from their own backyard. Cue the ill-received *Planes*, this year's Disney spin-off to *Cars* which Pixar actually had nothing to do with. Aesthetically, this ninety-minute toy advertisement could be easily mistaken for a movie by Pixar, and is highly likely to tarnish their good name with John Lasseter's disappointing involvement as executive-producer

- the same Pixar CEO who said his studio would only make sequels if the story was good enough.

Since *Planes* is hardly an encouraging forecast of what is to come from the Disney/Pixar partnership, much is now resting on future projects. The delays of upcoming movies *The Good Dinosaur* and *Finding Dory* to 2015 and 2016 respectively could be a blessing in disguise. As a sequel to one of the studio's flagship films, *Dory* can't afford to forget what made the original so popular. As for *The Good Dinosaur*, animated dinosaur films are a pre-historic idea and will require a well-worked angle. The extended deadline will hopefully yield a pair of high-quality films along with the return of Pixar's creative mojo.

So yes, Pixar's rivals are improving. Yes, the line is becoming blurred between Pixar and the rest of Disney. And yes, Pixar have produced more sequels than original films since the start of the decade. But maybe we haven't seen the end of Pixar's creative golden age quite yet. Maybe a much-needed focus on the future, rather than on the box office hits of the past, is what will ultimately see Pixar rediscover their imagination.

Beware the Evil Eye

Charlie Watson talks to former Evil Eye manager **Giles Seddon** about DIY cocktails, *Sex and the City* and the perfect Cosmopolitan.

When you think of cocktails, what tends to spring to mind is a picture of glitz, glamour and Gatsby-esque revelry. However, with the availability of supermarket shelf pre-mixed 'cocktails', and students demanding cheaper and cheaper alcohol, has this image of a sophisticated cocktail vanished from today's youth?

In the name of London Cocktail Week last week, I spoke to self-proclaimed mixology "anorak" Giles Seddon on bartending and where he thinks the future of cocktails is heading. Having trained under Richard Branson's personal bartender, Giles has a colourful history of both working in and managing cocktail bars (including York's very own Evil Eye).

Giles states that "when you meet someone that really knows their shit, they can make anything", having once made a customer a cocktail seen only in a dream, Giles certainly fits his own description.

Working in a bar isn't all fun and grenadine. "The low points are bad" Giles says, "the hours are ridiculous, especially if you're studying.

It destroys relationships; every niggle and insecurity is timed by ten as you're hanging out with pretty girls all the time.... also you don't get out in the open air in the sunshine a lot, so it ruins any tan!"

Although bartending is "incoherent and mad", Giles asserts that it does have perks; "you meet loads and loads of people, the social life is fantastic."

Working behind a bar can open many doors for you, as Giles states "if you get really good at cocktail bartending, you can take it wherever you go - as long as it's not Saudi Arabia - British bartenders are always really sought after in the States and the money's fantastic there."

Despite our drinking culture, cocktails became popular in Britain very late compared to our transatlantic neighbours.

Giles describes cocktails as a "very American thing" with our own "golden era" coming at late as the 1970s and '80s; "a period of blue-sugar-coated rims, very kitsch, but fun!"

This period hailed the invention of modern classics such as the Cosmopolitan. "When made right, Cosmopolitans are very dry and very strong", however many people view it as a 'girly' drink.

Whether this is due to its namesake glossy

magazine or its being immortalised by *Sex and the City*, Giles concurs that "the girls on that show can really hold their drink".

So where and when did our modern conception of cocktails as a kind of 'soft option' come from? As Giles rightly puts it, "you don't walk into a cocktail bar to get sober".

As a result of the raise on alcohol duty and the financial troubles of the past few years, when it comes to unnecessary luxuries such as cocktails, people are cutting back, to the benefit of their wallets and their livers.

This opens up a huge market for cheap, cut-price cocktails, especially in a city as student-driven as York. Though our bank accounts may like this, the quality and integrity of cocktails has suffered as a result.

"The industry is basically being scuppered by the fact that it's gone very mainstream. It has gone in two directions; one of which is people opening bars and restaurants who are out of touch [with cocktails]. The other is that to combat the idea of it being so expensive, they've made it very exclusive."

So either you get the very basic, poorly-made cocktails, or the other extreme: cocktails made with lime-tinted caviar, gold leaf and the blood of a virgin. So where does that leave the future of

“Either you get a basic, poorly-made drink, or a cocktail made with lime-tinted caviar, gold leaf and the blood of a virgin?”

the cocktail industry?

Giles says "I don't believe there has been a decline in cocktails. Yet... [But] the future of cocktails relies on independent companies."

For those of you budding drinks enthusiasts who want to try their hands at mixing cocktails, don't be disheartened! The cocktail industry is not as Giles paints it. Anyone can learn; either from reading books, or from being taught by "someone that knows their shit".

Giles' advice is that "the key to getting cocktails right is to taste everything. The more practice you have, the better you get at it."

"Whether a cocktail tastes good is a very subjective thing, so mixing a cocktail that suits your taste and alcohol-consumption-ability is very much a case of trial and error."

He also stresses to me the importance of being sure to "buy spirits and ingredients that you like..."

So rather than necking a cut-price bottle of Mojito, why not try mixing your own?

And be sure to take the advice of an expert on matters such as these: "...Make sure they're nice and strong, without being disgusting."



PHOTO COURTESY OF EVIL EYE

Top 5 Cocktail Week Drinks

Dry Martini: The Godfather of cocktails. You can't go wrong with a good martini. It's simple to make, crisp and elegant. It is cliché, but let's face it; it makes you feel like James Bond. The great thing about a Martini is that there is something for everyone; it's a cocktail chameleon. Contains: 2 shots gin, 1/2 shot vermouth, 1 twist lemon.

Manhattan: The Manhattan was the first cocktail to use Vermouth, making it essentially the fore-runner and mature older brother of the Martini. The Manhattan is like a dry Martini with its sharp corners sanded down. Contains: 1 1/2 shots whisky, 3/4 shot Vermouth, 1 dash Angostura Bitters, 1 squeeze orange.

Bellini: Sophisticated, but fun, the Bellini is the Wimbledon of the cocktail world. Originally named after a saint in a painting by 15th century artist Giovanni Bellini, the drink is a lot less innocent than its namesake. Devilishly delicious, it's a dessert in its own right. Contains: 2 shots peach juice, squeeze of lemon, top up with Prosecco.

Vodka Tea: Sounds disgusting, I know. But give it a chance! This is not a drink I would recommend ordering in a club, but after a messy night, it can really settle your stomach. The vodka makes the tea taste sweet, and the tea takes the bite out of the vodka. It's a match made in heaven. Contains: Vodka (a bottle of), 4 teabags and 1 cup of sugar. In a drink: 2 1/2 shots vodka tea, top up with lemonade.

Mexican Mule: The name may sound like a Latin American drug cartel, but this is actually a new and interesting twist on the traditional Moscow Mule. The introduction of tequila adds an extra kick that gives it an edge. Contains: 1 1/2 shots tequila, squeeze of lime, dash of sugar syrup, top up with ginger beer.





PHOTO CREDIT: NEVALENY

Wales: Three Men in A Boat

“There we were three of us...” begins Jerome K. Jerome – not three in our case, but four. Four of us in a boat off the coast of Anglesey in Wales – hungry and slightly anxious, having resolved to eat only what we could catch or forage for the weekend.

Though supplemented by vegetables from my friend’s allotment, it would be experimental.

In the end we caught two decent mackerel, one tub gurnard (a spiny little bastard to gut), a sand eel (an inedible bait fish), two lobsters (out of ten, eight being too small to take in, along with all the crabs), blackberries and rose hips, both in season all over the headlands – not a huge haul, but thankfully enough for two days.

Wild rose hips were a child’s vitamin C source in the Second World War, but today they’re unjustifiably snubbed. They’re sweet but unusual tasting, something like a sherbet lemon, and you have to mind the artichoke-like hairs inside. We made them into a gorgeous chutney, by reducing them with onions (red ones might be even better), a little chilli, honey, pepper, a clove and vinegar.

The blackberries became a coulis for tomorrow’s porridge (no, we didn’t grind our

own oats, sorry).

We filleted the fresh mackerel (which I pulled in, I’ll add) and made a South American seiche, marinating them in lemon and lime juice, chilli, coriander and red onions. After a few hours it leaves the fish somewhere between sashimi and baked, and with enough citrus zing to make your hair recede.

Mains was deep-fried. First homemade chips, then the lug gurnard (also me, just saying), preparing it with a flour, salt and pepper rub, lowering it gently in for five or ten minutes. Gurnards get chefs at loggerheads, some claiming they lack flavour, which others gush about their delicate flesh, fantastic appearance and uniquely sweet taste. I fall firmly within the latter camp. We served it all with thymey homegrown carrots and the rosehip chutney, which, as it turned out went with everything.

Lobster potting was essential, which means standing on the edge of a wobbly 4-man dinghy pulling in 15 kilo metal cages in the blind hope that there are tasty crustaceans inside. It’s about luck and local knowledge.

We tried steaming half-lobsters in various things – salt water is normal, while a lashing of cognac worked a treat. Old Speckled Hen was dubious, but the decadence was palpable.

York being somewhat less maritime, you have to know where to look. Start with Jane Grigson’s 1973 classic *Fish Cookery* (sold for a pittance on Amazon), and keep her advice in mind wherever you go: “If you see a fish in the fishmongers that is strange to you, buy it.”

Cod and haddock stocks are both threatened, while taxation on industrial fishing means trawlers catch even more to make up their profits (meaning more by-catch too).

The answer is to diversify – supply and demand works such that buying lesser-known species is both good for stocks and for your bank account.

Head down to the Waitrose fish counter at 6.30-7.00pm, and ask if there’s anything that needs to be sold by the end of the day – I picked up four dab (an underrated flatfish like plaice) fillets for under £1.50. The fishmonger should be able to advise you on cooking, but for simplicity, crunch and flavour, nothing beats a pan-fry.

Rub your fillet with flour, salt, pepper and rosemary, add a little oil to a frying pan, and cook for 2-3 minutes each side on medium heat. Serve with a lemon wedge, creamy mash (that’s with butter, milk, and a sturdy forearm) and fried kale.

Seb Brixey-Williams

How do you like your eggs in the evening?

Briony Cartmell



PHOTO CREDIT: REESECLOYD

Sometimes with cocktail bars, you have to wonder whether they really want your custom at all. The Experimental Cocktail Club in Soho is one such bar, and finds the hopeful customer sketching a subtle reconnaissance round the block, feeling out for an unmarked peeling black door.

Getting past the expressionless doorman without a reservation is easier the earlier you venture, as the tiny ECC reserves 50 per cent of its seating for dedicated footfall. Ascending a narrow staircase pushes you into the kind of interior that would never work in the daytime – dark, plush, silk, mirror, *Mad Men* extramarital affair ambience. The drinks match the vibe as original, complex concoctions; mine was a brilliant egg white based jasmine and violet infused gin flowery-sweet thing.

So in the spirit of National Cocktail Week, I decided to attempt my own albumen potion.

I landed on the Clover Club cocktail, due to the fact that the ingredients were mostly gin, and I already had a lemon. Never heard of it? Neither had I – apparently it’s pre-prohibition era, and as retro as a cheese and pineapple hedgehog, and now just so extremely past it as to mean oblivion in young minds.

To make two cocktails, firstly mix two single measures of gin, four teaspoons of grenadine (or raspberry syrup), a teaspoon of sugar and ¾ of a lemon’s juice in a shaker. Separate two fresh egg whites from their yolks, tip them in too, slam shut, and shake vigorously for a minute.

When I did it, the mixture seemed to explode slightly but I couldn’t tell you if that should be expected.

That was a ‘dry shake’ – no ice, in order not to dilute the eggs and muck up their texture. Add a bit of ice and chuck it around for a few seconds until cold. Pour the drink into chilled glasses with a raspberry for decoration et voila.

Mine was more luminous than Google suggestions, but the frothy layer looked pretty enough to be judged 9/10 by my housemate. The egg lent the drink a silky, foamy almost gelatinous consistency which was quite fun. Flavour wise it had a pretty powerful gin kick initially, but developed a more complex flavour, too sweet for some tasters, but you could always cut back sugar.

All-in-all it was a messy but satisfying experiment that was well worth it. Now here’s looking at you, eggnog.

The Naked Baker: Halloween Madness

Rachel Thompson

Somehow it’s already Halloween, but this year I’m trying to go that one step further than the humble pumpkin pie or the cupcake decorated with hundreds and thousands. The recipe I’ve chosen will allow you to make the kitchen your own and get your bake on.

When I think of Halloween I think of chilly nights dressed up as a witch or a devil (I had imaginative parents) plodding around houses collecting candy and nibbling on a toffee apple. As students we’re all grown up and these traditions seem long gone.

Halloween is the first ‘occasion’ we celebrate back at university, so I’ve decided to get in the mood by creating a dessert that not only looks terrifying but is easy to make. This recipe for Halloween Ghosts is sure to raise a ghostly chuckle, either when you eat them or when you hold the bowl of meringue over your housemate’s head and some just happens to fall out. If you want something a tad more advanced than chocolate drop eyes and mouth, opt for a fresh berry coulis.

The Recipe

4 large egg whites
½ tsp cream of tartar
200g (7oz) icing sugar
1 Vanilla pod

Chocolate drops for decoration

Pre-heat the oven to 110°C. Line a baking



sheet with baking paper, and have a piping bag at the ready fitted with a ½ cm plain tip – if you want some mega ghosts double the quantities and use a larger nozzle.

In a large mixing bowl whisk the egg whites on low-medium speed until foamy. Add the cream of tartar and continue to beat the whites until they hold soft peaks. Add the sugar a little at a time and continue to beat until the meringue holds very stiff peaks. This is the point you can turn the bowl upside down over someone’s head to check they’re stiff enough.

Now split the vanilla pod and scrape the seeds out with a knife. Add the seeds to the meringue mixture and mix until they are evenly distributed.

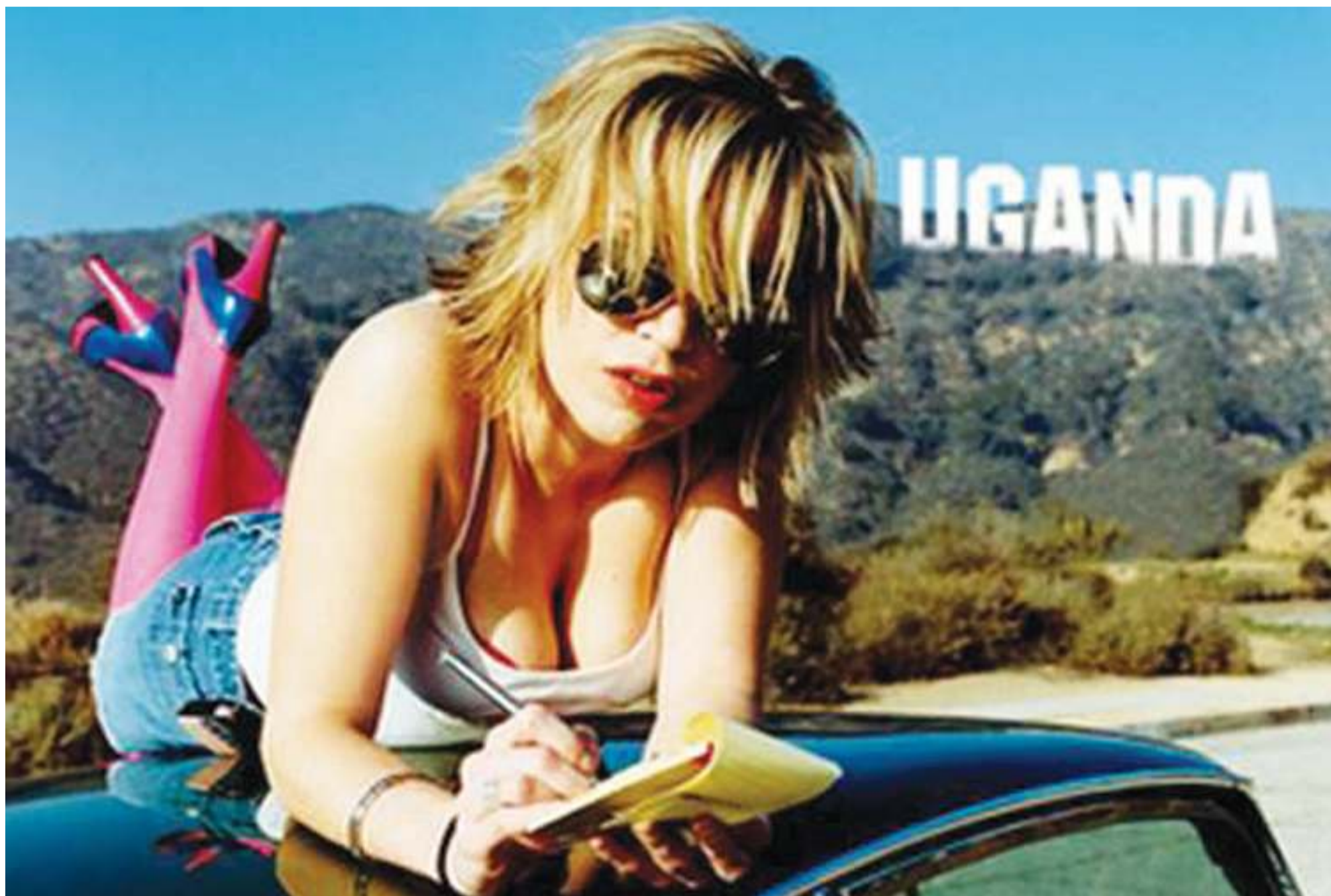
Transfer the meringue to the piping bag and hold firmly. Pipe with even pressure 5cm high mounds of meringue. Carefully press two small chocolate drops for eyes into each meringue ghost.

Bake the meringues for approximately 1 to 1½ hours or until they are dry and crisp to touch. Then allow them to cool on a wire rack.

If you’re hungry after all the work, it’s time to sit back and enjoy these spooky treats with friends, or you can get super creative and whip up a bloody-looking raspberry coulis.

Now you’re all set for any Halloween party or late night treat, but remember we’re all adults so a tad too old to still believe in ghosts (unfortunately).

Bono and Geldof are C***s



Jane Bussman slams the self-appointed saints of Live 8 and uses the “C” word 45 times in the first two minutes of her new show. She speaks to Laura Hughes.

After finding herself in Hollywood interviewing it-girls for a living, Jane Bussmann tried to escape to an African war zone for a better life.

She hoped to become what she describes as “a clichéd good person” in Africa, but unfortunately the charity Doctors without Borders weren’t recruiting celebrity journalists. “It was a particularly stupid time in history, the golden age of stupid, in which I was supposed to write that Paris Hilton was an icon for young women. As far as I understand, she spent most of the 2000s walking around in bunny ears and a pair of pants. I think she only spoke about four words in 10 years. I was going

so bananas that I was Googling genocide to cheer myself up.”

Jane developed a crush on the attractive American peace activist, John Prendergast, who was on his way to an African war zone. Jane followed him to Uganda without any qualifications, in pursuit of an interview. When he was diverted by the assassination of an African leader, Jane found herself stranded in Uganda.

“I didn’t have posh journalist money, so I ended up living in pretty sketchy places for six weeks, and in that six weeks, because I was very close to the ground (if not on it), I just heard the stories that I wouldn’t have heard if I’d been on a four day press conference.” Jane got the real story of what she calls the ‘poverty industry,’ and came home to tell this story on stages across the UK.

“It was driving me nuts, that the official story being told was a huge lie, designed to keep a bent president in power, a bent army fully equipped, bent charities living nice lives, with a bunch of children being used as the currency. I got angrier and angrier. It made me puke.” Jane’s findings became the celebrity satire, “The Worst Date Ever” or “How it Took a Comedy Writer to Expose Africa’s Secret War”.

But what is Jane’s real issue with Live Aid, Bono and Bob? Surely they had good intentions ...

“They are hypocrites, they berate us for not being generous enough to save people dying and starving while creating an image of Africans as pathetic victims. They are trying desperately to backpedal now, but for years their industry made famine look like Africans’ incompetence and weakness in the face of natural disasters, when it was largely caused by crime and war. They’ve hidden wars where there were political situations, and funded dictators.”

Jane tells me the Ethiopian famine in 1984 was a lie. “That

was a totalitarian dictator running a totalitarian dictator’s extermination campaign. Of course he was. He was a totalitarian dictator, that’s what they do. But it was all hushed up by the charities, because it was making them famous and it was making them rich.”

Her new show focuses on charities and is called *Bono and Geldof are Cunts*. It sold out at the Sydney Opera House and war reporters’ HQ The Frontline Club in hours. Jane insists the C-word is an underused comic tool. “I mean what kind of cunt says Africans can’t play at Live 8, because they’re not well known enough by the general public, having put the Boomtown Rats on stage and then says, “Oh okay, the Africans can play in Cornwall?’ It’s ridiculous, it’s outrageous.”

“Pardon me, but what kind of cunt talks about us funding Millennium Goals, and then operates a tax dodge in Holland for his band? What kind of cunt sells himself as an every man, and then when he’s asked why he has registered himself as a non domicile (to pay less tax) says, ‘my time - is that not a tax?’ Would your time be worth so much money if it wasn’t for the black kids?”

United Nations charity workers can be entitled to have their children’s flights paid for - so they can go to boarding school back home. “So they don’t study with the brown kids, who got them the job in the first place. Cunts. I mean what exactly does ‘not for profit’ actually mean if you have a nice salary, a nice house and four slaves? And I use the word slaves on purpose, because a housekeeper paid \$5 a day by someone earning western charity wages is a slave. Western charity workers live in mansions and luxury apartments, and they qualify for hardship allowances. Corporate perks in a poverty industry.”

One of the most interesting stories that came out of Live

“Pardon me, but what kind of c**t talks about us funding Millennium Goals, and then operates a tax dodge in Holland for his band?”



PHOTOGRAPHS PROVIDED BY JANE BUSSMAN

Aid was told by Geldof's business partner in Live Aid, the promoter Harvey Goldsmith.

“He said he was shocked by the amount of money that was coming in - people are kind and lovely. I was told by someone at Live Aid there were buckets of £20 notes being passed around. So Goldsmith contacted the charities they'd been running Live Aid for, saying, "Listen, we need to meet and set up an auditing system, so we can make sure that this money is going to the people it's supposed to be going to." Not one of the charities they were giving millions to would come to that meeting. That's how shady this operation was." Why didn't the charities turn up? "Well you wouldn't want your mum going through your pockets at the end of a night out, you might have done something you shouldn't."

Criticism that has been levied against Jane is that she is discouraging people from giving money to charity. "That's an argument charities have used for decades to avoid anyone taking a closer look at how they operate on the ground. And it's crap - humans are nice. People will always give money to people in need. But let's give money to the charities that ask the question, are we making things better or worse? Are we doing the jobs that the government should be doing?" Jane says the way charities use the media is effectively making the media read out their press releases and appeals for cash unchallenged.

“Foreign correspondents tell me when you get a press release you take it as fact, and broadcast it as a main news item. But these are not facts. These are appeals for money produced by a multi-million dollar industry, which is a part of the war economy. Therefore there's a very strong chance it's keeping the war going. Case in point: the Northern Ugandans were kept in camps at gunpoint by their own government while for-

eign aid flooded in directly to that government "to help the refugees" - the World Food Programme ran press releases saying the people had fled into the camps of their own free will."

The one charity Jane does support is Doctors without Borders, because they go in and do a service. "They are doctors and they are the only charity I know of that say 'stop sending us money.'" After the tsunami, the President of Doctors without Borders said 'please stop sending us your money - it was a wave, people drowned, we can't do any more.' "It's like George Clooney in ER 'there's nothing more we can do for them', then the World Health Organisation got up and said that's not true, more people could die of an epidemic than they did from the tsunami.

“So the president of Doctors without Borders (who is an actual doctor) goes absolutely ape shit, and has a fight with him on French television, asking him 'where did you go to medical school?' You cannot catch a disease from a body that didn't die of that disease; it was bullshit. So if you want to give money, give it to a charity like Doctors without Borders, who actually provide a service that doesn't replace the job of the government.

"No one wants charity over a job, except with a really big hangover on a Sunday. Generally speaking what you want is a job and a future. But imagine if every time you went for a job interview, a random white guy (usually Irish) goes to see your potential employer the day before, and tells them you are a mess. That you were barely literate and that you have a sexually transmitted chronic disease. Would your employer be more likely to invest in your future? No, he would call you a charity case. That is what Bono and Geldof's poverty industry has been doing to Africans for decades."

Is it reductive and simplistic to talk about 56 diverse na-

tions as one 'Dark Continent' of generalised suffering, poverty and war? Returns on investment in Africa have been the highest in the world for the past 20 years, and the IMF projects that 12 of the 20 fastest-growing national economies over the next 5 years will be in Africa. People who can help give young Africans a job are investors, but an American survey carried out over the time where Africa has actually been booming, has revealed investors find the image of Africa really off-putting.

Jane believes that image has been created by a multi million dollar PR machine; pictures of starving sickly people, at a time when actually Africa was experiencing incredible economic growth "when the rest of the world's economy was diving headfirst into the toilet and sliding down the U-bend covered in shit. If you look at Westgate Centre, that was shot to shit. What you saw was an extremely high end shopping mall - those are not the images of Africa we are used to seeing. That's a thriving economic centre which is just up the road from the slum you always see on Comic Relief." People living in Kibera slum are there because they are looking for work, "if you shaft someone's chances of getting a job by pretending that they are a lousy work force, that's an unforgivable, crappy, and disgraceful act."

Jane sets a record at the Soho theatre, where she uses the word cunt a staggering 45 times in two minutes. Each time she assures me there is a logical political argument behind it. I ask Jane what it is about the word cunt. "It's the funniest word in the English language, it really annoys people. The funniest letter in the English language is 'c', it's a funny sound, comedy writers will tell you that. The fact that it belongs to women is, I think, just a wonderful revenge. It's the last taboo and so fun to use. What am I supposed to say, "wOh gosh how morally inappropriate? No, just say "cunt"."

THE STUDENT NOTEBOOK: MY SHIT WEEK SO FAR

THOMAS FENNELLY

I'll tell you what does suck. Hoovers. Well, mine doesn't. After taking each individual bit of the filter apart, emptying all the dust and sucked up Swann filters into the bin, and then sneezing a large part of my brain out, I finally found that the source of the blockage was somewhere else completely. The nozzle at the end has, it transpires, been blocked for the past couple of weeks, which means that I've been scooting dirt across my laminate fortress up against the skirting board for the best part of a month. To make matters worse, farting about with the hoover meant I missed the sound of the postman knocking at the door so, once again, I've got to traipse all the way into town to the poxy sorting office.

I decided to break up the monotony of my shit week by going shopping with my best girl buddy. And by "going shopping", I mean "being dragged around and watching her shop" - in hindsight, this was a shit idea. The task was simple: all she needed was a pair of black jeans. In Miss Selfridge, they were the 'wrong fabric'. In Topshop, we found better luck and she tried stuff on, which left me doing the awkward male linger around the changing rooms like a 1970s BBC light entertainment presenter. I got some of the usual funny looks but, thankfully, I did have one male ally to seek solitude with. His name was Alan, he was from Warwick but now lived in York working as an electrician, and he was also waiting for his wife as she tried things on.

But then he left. Several clichéd, edgy girls are now watching me from the corner of their eye with intent suspicion as they compared tops draped in tie-dye and sparkly things with pictures of multi-coloured tigers on (this is how I see fashion). Then, being a useless, inept male, I had to pass wind. I'd become a public menace and I'd certainly aroused suspicion. I could have got away with it, but sadly I was unable to withhold my giggling. Thankfully, Beth emerged (unsuccessful) shortly before I was about to be 'asked to leave' and we made a swift exit to New Look. Once more, she wanted to try more things on as she searched for 'something that suited her figure' (you're human: that's the figure that I work from, but apparently it's not that easy). By this point, I'd had enough. I'm a no-nonsense, down-to-earth kind of fella. I'll always take the lift ahead of the stairs, and the last time I was concerned about Blurred Lines I was struggling through an eye test. So

I decided to eagerly wait outside until she eventually re-emerged and we went home to actually carry on with our degrees.

Asides from scheming plans to catch my postman in the act of 'making my life a bit more bloody difficult', I've been dreaming up other plans that will improve the lives of students indefinitely. It's exciting that our ninth college will be named after 'another semi-famous bloke who once did something in York' (interestingly, women are somewhat ignored in this process, although my college was named after the local bloody river). But with college ten as of yet unnamed, I have a clear, money-making solution in mind: we sell the naming rights. This is certainly something that I would vote on.

In the cash-stripped times in which we live, the University is in desperate need of some extra cash, because I sure as hell can't afford to give them any more of my own (even though I borrow that from the state, but I digress). Having a

Red Bull College would certainly be a welcome change, and inter-college competitions could easily become a fun world of endorsements, advertisements and random free stuff for campus students. I'd certainly love to see Kallum Taylor posing on nights out in his Virgin Media-endorsed gear (well, it beats double denim). And a Virgin college would be great for the freshers' week college chants. Imagine a College Cup final between Derwent Dulux paints college against the Halifax Building Society college and the revenue it would bring in for JCRs. I

hear that Haribo will soon be opening a new factory in Yorkshire - I see this move as a great opportunity for them to put their name on the campus map. Kids and grown-ups love it so - the happy world of Haribo college. Come on, it beats naming a college after our Chancellor, Greg Dyke; *York Vision* would have a field day running that story.

"In Topshop my female companion tried stuff on... Which left me doing the awkward male linger around the changing rooms like a 1970s BBC light entertainment presenter."



ELECTIONS TONIGHT 7PM P/L/001

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Deborah Lam

Genetics: the science of success?

Not only has Michael Gove's advisor made claims unjustified by the science; he encourages us to focus on the unchangeable, rather than what we can improve.

In a recent article in *The Guardian*, Polly Toynbee responded to Dominic Cummings' claim that genetics plays an important role in a child's performance. She argued instead that socio-economic inequality is a greater factor. Toynbee proceeds to attack Michael Gove's leading advisor, claiming that his extrapolations did not take into consideration the complexities of both nature and nurture. However, his arguments and propositions in his 237-page paper are guilty of a lot more; susceptible to subjectivity, lack of feasibility, and the worst – dangerously crippling levels of pessimism.

Taking the statistics of behavioural geneticist Robert Plomin's to conjecture that the largest factor influencing performance within schools is genetics is contentious. The questionable conflation of test scores and performance is one thing, but then there's the need to look at the feasibility of taking genetics itself into consideration.

Criticising the political spectrum for having "such strong resistance [...] to accepting scientific evidence on genetics", and writing off arguments about social mobility "at best misleading and often worthless", Cummings doesn't take into account how difficult it is to allow a predetermined factor such as genetics to inform educational policy. No

doubt genetics, to some (still hotly debated) extent, is a factor that influences performance. But because socio-economic equity is more easily manipulated as a social factor, debates regarding ways to improve educational policy would naturally revolve around factors that can be changed, as opposed to accommodate factors that cannot.

Trying to accommodate genetics into policy is a slippery slope. This can be seen in Singapore where the Social Development Unit sponsors slightly-too-intimate activities in universities that encourages graduates to get married – through orientation games, no less. The artificiality of which is certainly cringe-worthy and its actual effectiveness, dubious.

“Good teaching is ambiguous and subject to how students learn”

Cummings then proceeds to remark that many attending university in the UK and the USA are "wasting their time, and their own and taxpayers' money, and would be better off in jobs or work-based training". Apart from the blatant elitism,

the statistics he cites in the footnote to justify this bold statement details how a large number of US undergraduates are studying only slightly more than 12 hours a week, with few courses requiring more than 40-pages of reading a week or writing as much as 20 pages a semester.

In this, Cummings not only conflates quantity and quality, but also fails to recognise how subjective the value of a university education is, especially when he ignores the intellectual value of courses where the pragmatic value might not be immediately obvious.

However, the most glaring disregard for the subjectivity in Cummings' paper is when he suggested that although head teachers need to leave room for "talented people to experiment", there is still a need for "schools in chains that spread proven approaches (and '90 per cent solutions') without relying on innovation, inspiration, and talent". Claiming that having "brilliant" teachers is not a practical solution (as he pessimistically declares that "real talent is rare, mediocrity ubiquitous"), he doesn't leave the readers with indication of what constitutes "real talent" or a "brilliant" teacher.

And as anyone who has a favourite teacher can testify, good teaching is ambiguous and subject to how students learn, which in itself is specific to each student.

As such, teaching, like any profession that frequently interacts with people, requires adaptability to cater to the students to the best of their abilities. To assert that there can ever be such a thing as "proven approaches" or worse – "90 per cent solutions" (which even Cummings himself put in inverted commas) – is not just arrogant, but fallacious to assume that the complexities of different learning needs can be so easily catered for.

Too much emphasis is placed

“Teaching requires adaptability”

on finding ways to accommodate status quo in the form of genetic predetermination or the current standard of teaching rather than trying to work with what can be changed. Aside from gross inequality, this is the problem with this type of elitism, whether it be genetic or qualifying as a "brilliant" teacher in Cummings' eyes.

Circumventing the issue by passively accepting that some students have the genetic odds stacked against them or that the majority of teachers are "roughly averagely talented people" is not a solution, it becomes an excuse for simply giving

Topical Tweets from the Twittersphere



@MeganOllerhead
Megan Ollerhead

16 October

the scarf is on. presumably this is the kallum taylor equivalent of the gloves coming off #yusay

16 October

@joshjlee
Josh Lee



Turn out to this debate is not good. Just proves that the democratic review needs to go through. People first, not dull meetings. #YuSay



@JamieChafield
Jamie Chafield

16 October

#YUSay Hight of debate so far: "do you iron a hankie?"

16 October

@YUSUBastard
YUSU Bastard



lets be honest, democracy is quite shit. Bring back socialism I say #Yusay



Rebecca Duncan

Being mindful of mental health

On 8th October, the National Union of Students, along with mental health charity Mind, hosted the inaugural Student Mental Health conference. At the conference, staff, students and mental health agency workers at educational institutions were represented by over 100 delegates.

Key note speakers included actor Naomi Bentley and MP Kevan Jones, who both discussed their own experiences with mental health issues and how speaking openly about these experiences helped them.

As NUS Wales Women's Officer Rhiannon Hedge argued in *The Independent*, one official day to raise awareness of mental health issues is not enough.

In May, NUS completed a study of students' mental health, which revealed that 92 per cent of respondents claimed to have experienced feelings of mental distress. I'm not surprised. There exists an abundance of factors which could cause stress among new students, be it the heavy workload, financial difficulties, homesickness, relationships, or even just having enough confidence to fit in. I can barely believe there are 8 per cent of students who haven't had these feelings, so why are the 92 per cent of students

who experience mental distress only represented for 0.27 per cent of the year? I don't study Maths, but I'm not sure those numbers add up.

What's more, the NUS study also found that 20 per cent of students consider themselves to have a mental health problem and 13 per cent of students have experienced suicidal thoughts.

As if mere mental distress isn't enough of an issue, there are students out there whose mental health problems have become so developed and so ignored that they feel they have no way out. For that reason alone, awareness of such issues has to be raised every day.

If students' mental health issues are not tackled during university, the effects could be catastrophic. Not only are you more challenged in achieve your academic goals, but you are less well prepared for life after graduation.

Kevan Jones did a fantastic thing in speaking about his mental health issues in the House of Commons, and NUS did a fantastic thing in organising a Student Mental Health Conference. However, this is not enough. I'm ashamed to say that I didn't know it was World Mental Health Day or that the conference was going ahead until very recently. We need mental health

awareness events far more often, and we need mental health awareness measures to be in place every minute of every day. 1 in 4 people will experience mental health issues during their lifetime, so it's unlikely that anyone here at York doesn't know someone close to them who has experienced them, yet people who do feel as if they are alone.

We should not allow this to continue. York does have its own measures in place to help students having a tough time, including an Academic and Welfare Co-ordinator, a Student Union Welfare Officer and Nightline, available for students to speak openly about any trouble they may be having. From my own experience, the University's collegiate system also creates an environment in which there are support systems, such as STYCs, who can guide those who need it. Educational institutions especially should acknowledge mental health issues and teach people about them. That is after all, why they exist.

Mental health issues could also be helped on an individual scale. We may not all be clinical psychiatrists, but we can all have a stash of biscuits and a shouddler to cry on.

Politics



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STUDENT HACK



THE INDEPENDENT

Students at a Hungarian University have led a naked protest after the wearing of mini skirts, low cut dresses and flip flops was banned. The students have argued the new suit regulation is impractical in such a hot country.



CAPT' GORGEOUS

Two students at the University of Edinburgh were 'removed' and 'detained' ahead of a visit by Princess Anne after they were told that 'people like them' could not be in the area. The University claim it was a secure area, the students weren't made aware.



SECRETLONDON123

Lecturers and non-academic staff are set to go on strike on 22nd October as members of Unite and Unison have voted for strong joint action. It will be the first ever UK-wide joint strike by university unions. The pay campaign will include slow-downs and overtime bans as well as strikes.

Outrage at 'rape banter' in video for Leeds club

Cameron Smith
POLITICAL REPORTER

Tequila UK – an events company – has caused outrage by releasing a promotional video that has been accused of glorifying rape and degrades woman.

The video, which was taken down four hours after being released on YouTube, showed a presenter asking male students how they were going to "violate" a fresher, with responses ranging from "She's going to get raped", "I'm going to fist them in the arse. They won't even know," and another stating "I'm going to take advantage of someone." They then begin to mock a male student who says he is a virgin. One girl was asked "How are you going to survive violation tonight?" She was then left nervously stuttering not being able to answer the question.

The video was produced to promote a clubnight held by Tequila UK at Mezz bar in Leeds, called "freshers violation", which featured a "jailbait" cage. Tequila UK explains in a statement to the HuffPost that it was created externally. Clubbers are invited to speak on camera, and their comments and behaviours could make it into a snippet of the night. The videographer is entrusted with editing the footage.

The posting was apparently made without management's knowledge and they have said, "As soon as



LEEDS STUDENT

Tequila UK face tough criticisms as nightclub promotion advocates rape culture and excessive behaviour

we were aware of the posting, we removed the video and apologised." However a second edited version was still posted afterwards showing footage of girls in "violation cages". This second video has now been removed.

While Tequila UK has blamed students for its posting, it was shared on Facebook by the 39 year

old owner of the company, Sam Welply. When asked a spokesperson said Mr Welply was unaware of the content as he "automatically (as always) shared the video prior to watching".

One student posted on Tequila UK's Facebook page, saying: "WTF is wrong with you guys? Your idea of advertising a club night includes footage of guys describing how a girl

will "get raped". Shameful." Leeds RAG tweeted that the society was no longer working with Tequila UK.

A campaign has started to stop the club night which "glorifies sexual assault". Mezz bar's website advertises Tequila nights as "not just another "night", it's a cult. 18 years of sexy hedonism and debauchery ... come and swallow!"

US and Afghanistan sign security deal

Paul Blower
POLITICAL REPORTER

A preliminary agreement has been signed between the US and Afghanistan on a bilateral security deal. This pact will determine how many US troops will remain in the country after Nato forces leave at the end of next year. It appears that President Hamid Karzai has also secured a compromise from the US who will now not carry out military strikes without first consulting his government.

However, dispute still remains about whether to grant legal immunity for US soldiers who remain in Afghanistan after 2014, something Mr Karzai opposes. This matter will be examined first by a council of Elders and then by parliament, to be resolved next month.

The issue of legal jurisdiction is significant. The Iraqi government's concern over the same question led the US to an outright withdrawal of troops in Iraq, and once again US officials maintain that the possibility of a 'zero option' – of keeping no troops on the ground after 2014 – remains open. Foreign voices



U.S. EMBASSY KABAL AFGHANISTAN

As talks between the US and Afghanistan continue little is certain

in Afghanistan are rife with pessimism right now, but locals want to fight back against this fear of the unknown, post-2014, state. The battle for Afghanistan's future is therefore currently one of great frustration for President Karzai.

The trade-off he faces between ensuring a return to total Afghan

sovereignty and maintaining the support of the world's biggest military power, is impossible. After too many years of disruption and destruction created by foreign powers, it often appears the president could not bear the thought of agreeing to extend the impunity of a foreign military force past a foreseeable

deadline. He continues to be the 'one day adversary, one day enemy' president.

Whilst this attitude may simply be indicative of a president coming towards the end of his office, the instability Afghanistan faces is highly destructive. Though many would not agree with his comments that Nato intervention has created 'no gains' for his country, it is necessary to appreciate how much more Afghanistan has to accomplish before it finds peace.

Unnamed US officials expect the CIA to 'maintain a large presence, as part of a plan by the Obama administration to rely on a combination of spies and Special Operations forces to protect US interests in the two long-term war zones (Afghanistan and Iraq)'.

Whilst the US delegation claims to hold the Afghan people as its highest priority, disgruntlement abides in Afghans with the position their country has been left in and the lack of planning for the future. The question of sovereignty is still key. As the relationship of the two countries hangs in the balance, nothing is certain.

Seeking shelter on European shores

Kirstin Sonne
POLITICAL ANALYSIS

For most, the Mediterranean Sea is little more than the picturesque back-drop to a summer holiday; for thousands of refugees every year, it is the final, and often fatal, leg of a journey that they undertake in the hope of a better and safer life.

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), estimated that from 1993 to 2012, over 17,000 people lost their lives attempting to travel across the sea from Africa to Southern European states such as Italy, Malta and Greece. And the death toll is rising almost daily, with over 400 refugees drowning in the waters off the coast of the Italian island Lampedusa in the past two weeks alone. These recent developments have seen politicians being urged to take action to prevent the further loss of lives.

Coincidentally, the recent tragedy of Lampedusa occurred almost simultaneously with the EU Parliament's introduction of "Eurosur", a monitoring system to extend the existing EU border control. The EU Parliament intends to invest over 240 million Euros in the scheme over the next 6 years, with most of the money being spent on improving the communication network between coast guards and border officials from different countries, and on the implementation of high-tech satellites and drones.

Although the EU Commissioner Cecilia Malmström stressed that

Eurosur will make it easier to locate refugee boats, critics across Europe have voiced their concern, claiming that tightening border control measures would primarily benefit the arms industries rather than the immigrants themselves.

Far from discouraging further refugees from crossing the Mediterranean, Eurosur would force them to take greater risks and more dangerous routes, as well as giving gangs of smugglers in North Africa reason to raise the price for their services.

More importantly though, Eurosur completely fails to address the

“ Europe should share the burden of immigration equally with greater support from the European Union ”

question of what to do with the refugees once they arrive in Europe. The current situation is unsustainable: camps across Southern Europe are over-crowded (the camp in Lampedusa, intended for 350 people, currently houses 1000), and refugees are prosecuted in Italy and Greece.

Current regulations require refugees to seek asylum in the country they arrive in, meaning that the states most affected by the constant stream of refugees struggle to deal with all the applications for asylum they receive. These countries have



The EU needs to take a more active role in looking after immigrants both on land and on the sea

turned to the EU and called for more support and greater cooperation, demanding that Europe share the burden equally.

Others have suggested that the EU take a more active part in resolving the conflicts and issues that made so many refugees leave their home country in the first place.

But the refugees who arrive on the shores of Italy, Malta and Greece

are not just from North Africa. Most recently, refugees have fled from Somalia, where the new government has yet to ensure security within its own borders; others are escaping the authoritarian regime of Eritrea; and many more of the refugees are victims of the civil war in Syria.

Years might pass before the crises in all these countries are averted, and until then, the EU member

states must work together to ensure that the refugees arriving in Europe are treated with respect and dignity. European leaders have to consider the complexity of the problem and bear in mind that hundreds, if not thousands of human lives are at stake. This time last year, the EU had just received the Nobel Peace Prize; it is high time they prove that they deserved it.

Is Berlusconi's popularity finally declining?

Thomas Sankey
POLITICAL ANALYSIS

On the morning of the 2nd October, the man who had styled himself as 'Il Cavaliere' of Italian politics, awoke to find his political control and influence in tatters.

Silvio Berlusconi's ministers and MPs of his People of Freedom Party (PDL) had defied their leader's call to bring down Enrico Letta's coalition government in a vote of no confidence; which Berlusconi had hoped would help him fight his expulsion from the Senate. With the loss of control over his party, Berlusconi was forced into a humiliating u-turn and had to support the coalition government in an attempt to salvage his image of being in control of his party.

However, this rebellion against his leadership was not inevitable. As surprising as it sounds, after all of his offensive comments and 'jokes' on the global stage, charges of bribery and abuse of power, and leading Italy to near bankruptcy in 2011 – which led to his resignation as PM – he is still popular amongst the electorate, with his party still 2nd in the polls, and until recently commanded unwavering loyalty from most of his party.

The mistake he made was his all too familiar one: he over-estimated



The power of Berlusconi seems to be falling as ministers defy their leaders call to bring down Letta

his power. By trying to bring down Letta at a time when many see him as the one who can save Italy from its €2 trillion debt, stagnant economy and 40% youth unemployment, Berlusconi had overreached himself.

No one in his party was prepared to bring down yet another

Italian government which would have probably led to the markets turning against the country, just so Berlusconi could have a bargaining chip to fight off his expulsion. He had tested his party's loyalty to the limit, but even Berlusconi cannot command that much loyalty.

So the question remains, will this finally be the end of Berlusconi? Usually the answer would be no, as he is one of the great survivors of European politics and tends to always find a way back to the top no matter the scandal, but the answer this time seems far less certain.

This blow to his political influence comes at a time when he also has just been sentenced to one year of community service for tax fraud, appealing against his one year prison term for wiretapping and his seven year conviction for paying for sex with an underage girl. With all these convictions likely to be upheld, even if he does not go to prison – which is likely due to his age – he will be out of the political sphere for a while.

On top of all that, later this month the Senate is set to vote on Berlusconi's expulsion from the Senate and barring him from future elections. With most Italian commentators expecting it to go through it is hard to see how he could stay in the political centre stage.

With the culmination of all of these hurdles, his days in the Senate are most likely coming to an end. However, although his grip over the party may have weakened, he still has a large support base amongst the electorate.

As well as this, a block in the PDL are still ultimately loyal to him despite the events earlier this month. This could work to his advantage moving his parties outside the assemblies. 'Il Cavaliere's' days as a force in Italian politics are not over just yet, even if the future of the Italian politician is anything but certain.

Politics

Yet another Immigration Act

Callum Adams
POLITICAL ANALYSIS

Home Secretary Theresa May believes that the government's latest brainchild, the Immigration Bill, will make it harder for illegal immigrants to settle in the United Kingdom. This will now be the eighth immigration act in less than 18 years. Confidence in results is not high and with all parties under tough scrutiny at the moment each act is important.

Amongst other measures, the bill will force private landlords to ask tenants questions about their immigration status, restrict bank account access to those in the UK without permission, and simplify and speed up the appeals process in immigration cases.

The bill, expected to become law by Spring 2014, will go a long way to stopping illegal immigrants staying in the UK "so easily". The main issues tackled here appear to be the most basic and straightforward, leaving many of the general public wondering why these measures are not already in place.

Mrs. May told the BBC that landlords will use the same simple process that employers do in discovering immigrant status. She said, "employers at the moment ask people for evidence of their right to stay, with a helpline to assist them... the same sort of system will operate under the new proposals [for private landlords]".

Gavin Smart, director of policy and practice at the Chartered Institute of Housing, does not agree: "Checking immigration status is so complicated landlords may shy away from letting to anyone who appears not to be British," he said.

Not only may the legislation be impractical, Labour believes it is targeting the wrong area, with the bill doing nothing to tackle the problems of the UK's "increasingly shambolic" border controls.

Indeed, UKIP argue that forcing "private citizens under the threat of sanctions to carry out the work of border agencies is simply wrong". In fact is this new idea really a plausi-



Has the Home Secretary finally found a solution to immigration or is this another useless act?

ble solution?

Is the bill merely placating the British public's hunger to see action taken on immigration, attacking the symptoms rather than treating the cause of the immigration problem? Or are we seeing something original from the government, a real method of tackling illegal immigration?

Since 1996 there have been seven consecutive acts passed by Parliament concerning asylum and immigration.

Compare this with the five consecutive acts passed between 1905 and 1971, and not only does this seem absurd, it also gives strength to the placating public hunger argument.

Pleasing the people is one thing, taking real action is another. So what is there to say that this bill will change anything?

BBC analyst Dominic Casciani

argues that the bill is, "almost entirely about enforcement". He is right. The new measures include: cutting the number of deportation decisions that can be appealed against from 17 to four, streamlining the appeal process, allowing officials to check driving license applicants'

“Is the new bill merely placating the British public's hunger to see action taken on immigration?”

immigration status, and clamping down on people who use sham marriages to gain an immigration advantage.

This bill is different from those of the recent past. Recent immigra-

tion acts have created and modernised legislation. For example, the Asylum and Immigration Act of 1996 made employing anyone unless they had permission to live and work in the UK an offence; and the Nationality, Immigration and Asylum Act 2002 created the first English test and citizenship exam for immigrants.

The Immigration Bill of 2014, however, is following the trend of the past two immigration acts and increasing enforcement powers.

If we are to see any change in the levels of illegal immigration, it needs to happen fast. With immigration legislation now concerning adapting and increasing enforcement rather than creating new laws, the government will need to have concrete results.

It is now more about efficiency than principle.



@PolProfSteve
Steven Fielding
BBC Radio 4

80s survey, 70% said TV had not made them more interested in politics; 80% said it had made them more interested in animals
15 Oct



@cathynewman
Cathy Newman
Channel 4 News

Seen IPCC letter - says 1st draft of report into Mitchell meeting concluded Police Fed reps had case to answer; final report concluded not
16 Oct



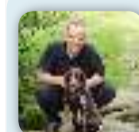
@Kevin_Maguire
Kevin Maguire,
Daily Mirror

Time to take rip-off energy companies back into public ownership? Latest 10% rise shows privatisation is expensive
17 Oct



@PennyRed
Laurie Penny
New Statesman,

Headed to the US for c. 2 months tomorrow. Need to know: is the US actually still there? Will I be able to get a train? Use phones? Worried.
15 Oct



@BBCNormans
Norman Smith,
BBC News

In 5 yrs the PM has gone from Hug a Huskie to Gas a Badger - Ed Miliband #pmqs
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When to name and shame

The anonymity of the accused. **Megan Lader** discusses the effects of naming a sex offender before they are found guilty. How easy is it to escape the image if they're found innocent?

In September 2011, 9 million viewers tuned in to Coronation Street to watch the abrupt departure of one of the soap's oldest fixtures, Kevin Webster. It was clumsily and nonchalantly explained to the audience that Webster's disappearance was due to a last-minute trip abroad; a trip with an indefinite duration resulting in an unknown date of return. While viewers remained confused by an obviously last-minute story line diversion, actor Michael Le Vell was set to embark on a two year ordeal from which his life, career and reputation would never recover.

Le Vell's ham-fisted disappearance was simultaneous to the accusation that he had sexually assaulted a young girl in the period between 2001 and 2010. An accusation Le Vell claims was "the most unbelievable and terrible thing." What ensued was a media storm which unremorsefully ravaged his personal life.

Was this public 'naming and shaming' really necessary? And how just is it that, now, with the not-guilty verdict given to him last week, Le Vell is still picking up the pieces of his battered reputation? This is my question: is it fair that names of accused sex offenders are disclosed before they are found guilty?

The legal right of courts to disclose names of accused sex offenders has been in existence since 1988. These subjects had previously been granted anonymity by the 1976 Sexual Offences Act, but the act was repealed, consequently denying any entitlement to anonymity for those accused. The disclosure of names



Kevin Webster had to make an abrupt exit from Coronation Street after being named as a potential sex offender

has since become commonplace, with accused sex offenders subject to 'witch-hunts' by aggrieved, self-instructed members of the press and public. Even before those accused are found guilty by the law, they are often treated as such. This presents an uncomfortable juxtaposition to the ideals presented by the legal maxim of "innocent until proven guilty"; those accused are often subject to guilty status by the media courtroom.

Currently, British law still maintains a guarantee of anonymity to

victims, and it is the view of some

“ Michael Le Vell's reputation was left in tatters after he was named ”

that this should be a similar entitlement to the accused. The chair-

man of Britain's Bar Council feels accused sex offenders should be afforded similar consideration, and a poll this year found that three out of four respondents would like defendants to remain similarly anonymous until convicted.

So with such momentum behind a change in the current procedure, why is there reluctance to change? The best example is the Jimmy Savile case. Once Savile's sex offender status had been released into the public domain, a deluge of victims offering evidence followed.

It seems that the volume of evidence was due to the victim's comfort in knowing that others had been similarly violated, and that others were having the confidence to share their horrific personal ordeals with the public. If his name had not been disclosed, perhaps this would not have been the case and the atrocities that he, and others, committed would not have been discovered.

Savile couldn't physically face the consequences of his crime for obvious reasons, but this scenario demonstrates that the disclosure of names may help to ensure the conviction. For many, this is undeniable justification for the law to permit the disclosure of identities.

It seems that the overarching issue, after consideration of the above, is how to uphold and ensure the values of our legal system in respect of the anonymity of the accused. If names are disclosed, history suggests that the chances of incriminating a guilty defendant are higher as more victims come forward to present evidence.

The drawback of this is that non-guilty defendants are subject to aggressive and damaging public and media scrutiny before trial. The question is this: Does it matter more that those who are guilty are punished to the utmost severity of their crime, or that those who are innocent are protected from hostile and destructive personal abuse?

Opinions will differ on the matter, but what is certain is that the lives of innocent people such as Michael Le Vell will continue to be devastated as long as the law remains the same.

What is the future for Israel-Palestine relations?

THE LAST WORD Yvonne Efstathiou



In 2009, Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu gave a speech at Bar Ilan University advocating a two state-solution. On the 7th October he proclaimed that Israel's occupation is not a cause of war, fuelling observers' mistrust about his intentions with regards to the West Bank.

Many commentators suggested that Netanyahu's address was a significant breakthrough while others regarded it as a dangerous concession.

The Palestinian-Israeli conflict has been the number one issue in the Middle East and a main cause of imbalance and violence for decades. The conclusions drawn by the examination of the situation fully depend on the scope of focus and personal biases, and that is the reason the two parts differ in their interpretations.

According to Mr Netanyahu peace will never be achieved between Palestine and Israel unless

the Palestinians recognise Israel as a Jewish state; identifying the Arab rejection of Jewish immigration as the root of the conflict.

"Unless the Palestinians recognise the Jewish state and give up on the right of return there will not be peace". In these few yet eminent words the Prime Minister epitomized the rules of the 'game'. On the other hand, the Palestinians consider the cause of the conflict to be the loss of the territories, that they regard as theirs from 1948 onwards.

Since 1967 and the Six Day War Palestinian land has shrank and it was only in 2005 that the Israelis evacuated from the Gaza Strip.

The remaining territories are

“ The latest developments provide a fertile soil for new uprisings ”

classified as occupied adding special obligations on the occupying power, in this case Israel, under international law.

Under international law, and



President Netanyahu during the First Year Report

more specifically the Hague Conventions of 1899 and 1907 and the Fourth Geneva Convention the status quo must be maintained until the signing of a peace treaty, the resolution of specific conditions outlined in a peace treaty, or lastly the formation of a new civilian government. Israel disputes the definition as it would raise questions with regards to its settlements and law abidance to the Geneva Conventions.

It has been long advocated,

both by Israeli and American Officials that the security of Israel depends on the continuous control over parts of the West Bank. This claim combined with Netanyahu's recent statement show how despite the readiness to engage in peace-talks, the Israeli refusal to dismantle settlements, to withdraw from the West Bank and to share Jerusalem as the capital of both states is not likely to change.

In the past peace-talks and negotiations were turned into aggres-

sion and violence. That was the case when the second Intifada (uprising) broke out after the collapse of the conversations at Camp David, sponsored by Clinton. Today the Palestinians hope to end the military occupation and establish their independent state.

Taking into consideration the latest developments in the region, two Israeli soldiers being killed in the West Bank and Netanyahu's stance with regards to this territory, the future seems bleak. The majority of Palestinians in a recent poll said that they are expecting a third Intifada if peace talks fail. Al-Jazeera, in its recent article entitled 'Is a Third Intifada in the offing?' claims too that the worsening Palestinian economy, the peace process stalemate and the Israeli expansion provide a fertile soil for new uprisings.

In other words, the Palestinian-Israeli relationship is once again at stake and unfortunately it does not seem to be any closer to a solution. Peace talks will be resumed in July and are scheduled to last until next spring. It remains to be seen whether something one might call pessimistic will turn into a tragedy.

Business

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RecyclaBook: A student's tale

Satnam Shergill speaks to former University of York student **Tom Williams** about his book trading start up.

In 2011 the UK was feeling the full effects of the recession - banks weren't lending, unemployment was at 8.1 per cent (2.57 million people out of a job), inflation was at a dangerous 3.7 per cent and there were few signs of the 'green shoots' the government had been promising. It proved to be uncomfortable viewing for all.

They say that if you can make it in a recession, you can make it anywhere. Following the 1991/92 recession, there has been a long list of startups that formed and have gone on to become successful. There is a telling statistic that approximately 50 per cent of all start-ups fail, a number that would have surely been higher in the past few years amidst the economic downturn.

Despite all the doom and gloom, a startup named RecyclaBook was set up in 2011 by former University of York student Tom Williams and his business partner James Seer. RecyclaBook is a simple, yet effective idea - they buy and sell academic textbooks, giving the seller money instantly. This idea was conceived in their first year of university, upon noticing how expensive university textbooks were as well as the lack of platforms available to sell used books.

Tom says that their main aim was to give "students money instantly for their books".

Part of this idea came from the trouble that graduates and international students had when leaving university, no longer having a use for their textbooks and in need of a way to dispose of them.

The service they provide is quick, efficient and trouble free, as well as filling a substantial gap in



RecyclaBook recently toured the country and visited Universities, giving students the chance to sell their books

the market. Despite all this, Tom stressed that they have had to make shrewd decisions, despite neither of them having any experience in the business world. Very early on, the duo had decided that "giving money to students upfront was the best way", however this would necessitate holding a large cash reserve.

“They have managed to secure investment, selling 25 per cent of their company”

Tom went on... "to put it into perspective, we forecasted to give each student between £30-£40 and after just a few hundred that adds up". Tom maintains that "this was the

biggest thing that stood in our way".

RecyclaBook's need for a large supply of cash flow, coupled with no sign of the economic downturn ending, meant that the task of gaining investment would be that much harder for the two inexperienced students. However, since February 2012 (when Tom decided to defer and run RecyclaBook full time) they have managed to secure additional investment through the sale of 25 per cent of their company, alongside trading over 10,000 books.

Despite their relative success, Tom and James refuse to rest on their laurels - they plan to roll out 'RecyclaBox' in the next six months. The box is a truly innovative idea, comprised of a touch screen monitor with a barcode and card reader.

At any time throughout the year, students can come to the box, scan their books in and get paid

straight to their card.

They are currently looking at installing 'Recyclaboxes' in over 50 universities across the country, which is no mean feat by itself. Whether this scheme will catch on is unknown, but what they can guarantee is an opportunity for students to get rid of their unwanted books and receive instant cash in return.

Tom spoke fondly of the University of York, and the careers service for their help and advice. He went on to say that "if you're thinking about starting a new business I'd definitely recommend talking to them".

As the interview drew to a close, I asked Tom what advice he would give to other budding students who want start up their own business, he warned people to "make sure you're passionate about what you're doing, that's so important".

Osborne relaxes visa controls for Chinese nationals

Harry Ashcroft

This week George Osborne declared that China's exponential economic growth is not something to be concerned about, but something to celebrate. Currently, the UK is the eighth largest recipient of Chinese investment in overseas nations, no mean feat considering the UK is the world's sixth largest economy. Nevertheless, when we consider the fact that Chinese investors put more money in Nigeria and Iran, it begs the question, are we seriously missing out?

Downton Abbey is watched by 160 million Chinese people; nearly three times the population of Britain, and the middle class are increasingly turning to high quality goods, exactly what the UK does best.

Scotch Whiskey is phenomenally popular in China, likewise with Rolls Royce, Bentley and Jaguar Land Rover cars. We trade massively within China, as a brand Britain is certainly appealing to



MICHAEL MCDONOUGH

the Chinese, but this doesn't seem to directly reciprocate in terms of Chinese investment in Britain. This begs the question, what can we do about it?

Despite what the Daily Mail may say, Britain is actually quite a difficult country to get into. Chinese nationals can apply for a single visa to visit Europe, but as Britain isn't part of the Schengen agreement, a visa to visit the United Kingdom is then also needed - resulting in more paperwork, more time and more fuss. For a Chinese business-

man to embark on a scouting trip to Europe for enterprise reasons, one firm will give him access to Germany, France, Italy, the Netherlands and Belgium, all the strong performing economies bar Britain.

The current situation has unsurprisingly resulted in a lack of Chinese investment - not only is the process longer and more complicated, but it hardly sends a message out saying Britain wants to do business with China. This is a ridiculous situation, as China currently possesses a GDP of between

5-7 trillion, with the overwhelming majority of that wealth held by the Chinese business and upper classes.

In no other country is such vast wealth held by so few people with a love of all things British. Chinese wealth is not tied down in the middle classes like in the UK or the US, who wouldn't have the means to open an overseas business. The makeup of Chinese income means that that wealth can easily be moved around the world, with \$600 billion leaving China annually, yet only \$18 billion of that comes here.

George Osborne's plans to make fast-track visas available for Chinese businessmen may seem gimmicky, but I believe that not only is this an incredibly sensible measure, but one which will massively improve how business is done between us and the booming East.

We need to stop thinking of China as a mere global factory, it is now a world leader in renewable energies and greater trade links can

Micro-breweries buck the trend

Max Kassam
BUSINESS REPORTER

The economy struggling, consumer confidence faltering, pubs closing, sales of local beer ... booming. The continued rise in the popularity of local ales is surprising on so many fronts.

Firstly, with many peoples' long term income shrouded in uncertainty, luxuries have taken a back seat; no more Friday night takeaways, no more weekend spa trips.

Even what would have usually been considered staples are now being pegged back, so how has it come about that local brewery sales were up 6.8 per cent last year according to research by the Society of Independent Brewers (SIBA)?

Secondly, even pubs themselves, the main source at which you might purchase your ale, are closing at a disconcerting rate and at one point was even two a day.

This would suggest that the ones that are lucky enough to survive would be seriously re-assessing their budget, expecting rocky times ahead, but instead they are stocking some potentially unheard of local ales.

Of course there is a case for the fact that it would be substantially less to transport, but if the beers prove unpopular, it may be a costly move.

Perhaps with 66.2 per cent of a particular survey by the Guardian stating a pint is now a 'luxury' as opposed to a 'necessity', it is important to offer a new variety of ales, which customers can truly marvel in and spread the news of their amazing new favourite pale ale as opposed to rushing through a pint of John Smiths.

It is also rather impressive that the boom has continued for so long, with the local beers now appearing a mainstay in our pubs.

With there now being genuine belief that this is a market to be involved in, the members of the SIBA have increased their workforce by 25 per cent and there is also the small brewers relief on beer duty which was introduced in 2002, which undoubtedly helps their development.

Pub culture is a huge component of being British as a whole, be it your local 'old-man' pub or your newly refurbished elegant local, it will always be something the British public take huge pride in.

The recent sweep of pubs would have heightened the importance on its heritage. Perhaps indulging in your new favourite local ale will just always be an 'affordable luxury'.

SIR HECTIMERE



US Shutdown comes at huge cost

Edward Rollett

ASTERIX611



As the US government shutdown continued into its third week, finance officials from across the world were unanimous in calling on Republicans and Democrats to come to a deal over the debt ceiling.

Christine Legarde, Managing Director of the IMF, warned that failure to come to an agreement would bring 'massive disruption the world over'. The government shutdown on 1 October was a result of the failure to pass a new budget.

This is not uncommon and usually continuing resolutions are passed to extend the funding. However, the Republicans were insistent that the Affordable Care Act, better known as Obamacare, was delayed or defunded in return for keeping the government open, which was rejected by the Democrats in the Senate and by President Obama. As a result, all non-essential staff were told not to come into work until a new budget was passed. This caused

big problems for the economy, with Goldman Sachs predicting that a three week shutdown has reduced US growth by 0.9 per cent.

However, failure to agree to a new budget was only a small part of the problem. The US has a debt ceiling currently set at \$16.699 trillion. This was reached in May and since then the Treasury has been using extraordinary measures to keep the government running.

At the current rate of spending, these measures would have run out of money on 17 October, were it not for an eleventh hour deal struck in the Senate last week. That funds the US government until 15 January, and suspends the debt limit until the 7 February. Reaching the limit is not uncommon - having been raised 77 times since 1962 - but the main issue in this deadlock is centred on Obamacare. Failure to solve this issue before the Treasury runs out of money could have been catastrophic, affecting the entire globe.

If the debt ceiling wasn't raised then a default would have occurred. In this situation, the government doesn't have enough money to meet its bills and has to stop paying some of them. Bond holders would most likely be the first to take a hit, with the interest on debts going unpaid.

What would happen as a result is mostly unknown, but the value of the bonds would fall and the yield on them would rise.

This would cause a fall in the world stock markets and a rise in interest rates which are often linked to US bonds. The rise in interest rates would make it more expensive for consumers to borrow, reducing economic growth as consumers spend less.

That could have pushed the world back into recession, a daunting prospect.

Regardless of what happens in the future, though, for now at least the entire globe can breathe a collective sigh of relief.

Smart watches hit the big time

Alastair Ellerington

A quiet revolution is taking place in the world of smartphones, in the form of a long-sought after 'holy grail' of handheld technology; the 'smart watch'. Smartwatches are being developed by the biggest smartphone manufacturers as a way of providing remote control access to phones and offer far greater extents of both functionality and portability. Thus whoever wins the smartwatch race by perfecting it soonest will have an incomparable edge against otherwise very strong competition.

Samsung have been first up launching the Galaxy Gear this week - however it has come out to generally bad reviews, and not just for the advertising. Although it comes with a built-in camera and microphone that make it ideal for spy role-playing, it suffers from almost solely being a second screen to the smartphone itself. The Galaxy Gear is only available with a few models of its smartphone range, and suffers from poor battery life and limited independent functionality, with some features only accessible via apps on the smartphones itself.

Google is to be the next big firm to release a smartwatch, with high hopes resting on the developer of the innovative 'Google Glass', itself a major breakthrough in the field of wearable technology. The Google 'Gem' is rumoured to have a release date of October 31st, after Google recently received a patent for a 'smartwatch including flip-up



display'. This follows on from news in August that Google had bought 'WIMM', a company that makes smartwatches running on Google's Android software.

This makes sense for Google, due to the fact that smartwatches are at the moment tending towards the Android operating system, alongside the failing of Samsung's device. This is because the software is very open-source, and far more so than Apple's comparable iOS, which allowed for much more flexible use and much easier integration into the developing technology of smartwatches (as WIMM's example shows).

The resultant popularity of its own software will undoubtedly help Google make a move into this market, but it is far more important that it learns the examples of preceding smartwatches, such as the Galaxy Gear, but also the Pebble. This smartwatch developed from a Kickstarter project and has a completely different approach to the Gear, but with far greater success.

The Pebble has aimed to do things as simply as possible, working more on being a smartwatch itself than a smartphone accessory. Thus, although it lacks a lot of the functionality of the Gear when the latter is used with a smartphone, on its own it is a far more rated product. The Gear, in needing the smartphone to stick around, does not fully address the technological revolution or offer any real change to the smartphone market.

Of course, the limited functionality of the Pebble and the other independent smartwatch, the fitness watch, suggests that smartwatches aren't ready to compete by themselves. Consequently, although the smartwatch market is expected to grow exponentially - to 36 million shipments in 2018 - the revolution has not really arrived yet. Apple is still not ready to release one itself for this reason; as CEO Tim Cook put it, "to convince people that they have to wear something, it has to be incredible."

Calls for London to become its own state

Paul Blower
BUSINESS REPORTER

London Mayor Boris Johnson has called for the introduction of a 'London visa' aimed at attracting talented workers to the city.

The plan, which has been passed on to the Home Office, would allow the best applicants to bypass the currently lengthy process of applying for a British visa.

Mr Johnson said the proposal would help attract the "best and brightest" to London.

Jimmy Wales, founder of Wikipedia, has also called on the government to work harder to attract the best working talent from China and India, by overhauling and simplifying the UK visa system.

He is convinced that with some amendments to the visa system focused on strengthening London's

position, the city can become a global capital for technology.

The proposed plans would bring 100 of the government's existing 1,000 yearly "exceptional talent" visas to London, which are aimed at world-leading scientists, artists and performers.

City Hall would then work with representatives from Silicon Roundabout, the Fashion Council and London Design Festival to determine the best applicants and give them an official endorsement.

Entrepreneurs have complained in the past they cannot employ the staff they need from outside Europe because they cannot afford to contend with the current costly visa system.

Kit Malthouse, deputy mayor for business and enterprise said "We only need to find one Steve Jobs and we have an Apple on our

hands." Others have called for even stronger measures to enhance London's position as a global centre for commerce.

The city currently has little fiscal autonomy, and whereas Tokyo and New York set their own property, sales and income taxes, London can only levy council tax.

Even former mayor and past rival to Mr Johnson Ken Livingstone agrees that "anything short of a fully independent state for London is a lost opportunity".

The city undoubtedly dominates this country's economy, battling off the worst recession in decades to find economic growth of 12.5 per cent over that period.

Relative to the rest of the country, house prices have doubled since 2007.

Political change is also fuelling the idea of 'Londonism': devolu-

tion in Edinburgh and Cardiff has strengthened the idea that London should have greater independence.

"If the Scottish parliament can levy its own taxes, why not London, whose economy is almost three times bigger?" asks Tony Travers of the London School of Economics. Measured in terms of GDP, a London city state would find itself as the ninth largest 'country' in Europe, on a par with Sweden and bigger than Denmark and Belgium.

As an independent state, from day one London would find its government £20bn better off, and have powers to allocate spending in ways better suited to the city's aims; Crossrail 2 and further improvements to the Underground.

It could even decide to leave the EU in order to escape any aggressive new financial market regulations.

And whilst government income

would initially fall for the rest of Britain, it could go about shaping the often forgotten cities of Birmingham and Manchester into country-leading economic centres.

DAVE CATCHPOLE



Science



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Adventures of the morning after: Part I

Clare Palmer
SCIENCE REPORTER

At university, one of the most pondered questions by students has to be 'how do I get rid of a hangover?'

Most have heard a variety of possible remedies such as: 'vegemite on toast' (Australia) or 'just drink more' (aka hair of the dog: The Netherlands). In Puerto Rico they even believe that rubbing a slice of lemon on the armpit of their drinking arm before a heavy night would prevent a hangover.

Therefore, in aid of science and to save future confusion of needy students, I will be putting to the test five of the most well-known hangover 'cures'.

As many scientists before me have done, I will be testing these possible cures on myself, and if that involves me giving myself a hangover through nights out in York, then I will make that sacrifice.

While I cannot control the intensity of each hangover, I am avoiding painkillers and only testing one 'cure' each week, reducing the number of extraneous variables within these trials.

The first of these remedies is possibly the last thing one wants to participate in after waking up with a pounding head and waves of nausea: exercise.

Exercise is known to stimulate the release of endorphins these are the feel good hormones that alcohol, as a depressant, inhibits. Based on this, surely exercise can only increase one's mood and thus 'cure' a hangover? Let's find out.

After an enjoyable night of archers and lemonade followed by several strong cocktails from the Evil Eye Lounge, I awake with a throbbing head and an unstable stomach. Finding the motivation to force myself out of bed, into my yoga pants and to the York Sports Village is a lot harder than on any other day.

As I begin exercising, the hangover becomes less prominent and after 30 minutes of cardio, I feel rather good! Although initially sceptical over the permanence of this good feeling, I remain hangover-free for the majority of the day. That is until I begin to crash in the early evening, leading me to be tucked up in bed by 9pm.

Despite the struggle of getting



to the gym in the first place and the early night, I deem the exercise technique to be quite effective at diminishing the bad feelings left by a heavy night of drinking.

I am left feeling refreshed and also less guilty about my massive

calorie consumption. Perhaps it was the endorphins, or the psychological effect of feeling I have counteracted last night's un-healthiness with exercise, but either way (as long as you stay hydrated), I thoroughly recommend it!

Scorecard: exercise

Alcoholic units consumed: 11

Hangover Intensity: 6/10

Effectiveness of 'cure': 8/10

Malaria vaccine within touching distance

STEPHEN BEGIN



Jessica Smith
SCIENCE REPORTER

The transmission of malaria by mosquitoes was first discovered by British Doctor, Sir Ronald Ross when he was researching malaria in India, on 20 August 1897.

Since then numerous methods have been trailed to eradicate the disease with limited success. After Malaria was successfully eliminated from the US, the World Health

Organisation began an ambitious campaign to eliminate Malaria worldwide. They largely succeeded in their elimination efforts in nations with temperate climates and seasonal malaria transmission. While other countries (such as India and Sri Lanka) experienced sharp reductions and eventually managed to push the disease back towards the tropics.

However, the emergence of drug resistance in humans, pesticide resistance amongst mosqui-

tos, increased globalisation and difficulties in obtaining sustained funding made the long-term maintenance of the effort untenable and eventually the spread of Malaria began to increase once more.

Now, largely believed to be due to global warming, Malaria is spreading further North with instances of infection rapidly increasing in southern European countries such as Greece and Turkey. This makes the recent announcement that a malaria vaccine could be on

the market as soon as 2016 even more exciting, marking a huge leap forwards in the prevention of the disease which infects more than 200 million people a year, many of these children under the age of five.

The life cycle of the malaria parasite begins when an infected female mosquito bites the host, introducing sporozoites into the human body. Once the parasite is inside, there are two stages of infection; an asymptomatic liver stage, followed by a symptomatic blood stage. The parasite first travels to the liver, where the sporozoites multiply and mature into schizonts. Eventually the liver cells rupture, releasing the parasites into the blood stream where they then infect the red blood cells.

The vaccine, (known as RTS, S) has been shown to provide protection against both the clinical and severe forms of the disease by triggering the immune system to defend against the Plasmodium falciparum malaria parasite when it is still at the asymptomatic liver stage.

The vaccine specifically targets the sporozoites, preventing them from multiplying and maturing in the liver. By stopping the parasite here, it is prevented from re-entering the bloodstream and infecting red blood cells causing the human host to experience the symptoms of the disease.

The study is the first of its kind to test the efficacy of a vaccine against a parasitic disease and the largest ever Malaria study. The vac-

cine is currently in its 18th month of human trials and has been tested on 15,000 children across seven African countries and 11 trial sites in a randomized, controlled and double blind trial. Half of the sample is made up of babies aged 6-12 weeks, while the other half were toddlers aged 5-17 months. Half of this group received the vaccine while the other half were given a placebo, though all continued with their previous methods of prevention such as mosquito nets.

The latest trial results show that the vaccine continued to protect the children for up to 18 months at a time, reducing the number of cases of clinical malaria but almost 50 per cent in young children aged 5-17 months compared to the control group.

While the vaccine has been slightly less effective in the 6-12 week old group, due to their weaker immune systems, instances of the disease have decreased by almost 25 per cent nonetheless.

Although the effectiveness has been shown to decline after this initial period, meaning that booster jabs may be necessary, the results have been positive enough to initiate plans to submit the vaccine for approval.

Although scientists are warning that this vaccine should not be viewed as a miracle cure, it, in combination with current prevention methods such as mosquito nets, could play an important role in future control and the eventual elimination of Malaria in Africa.

The Gorilla Whisperer

Georgia Woodroffe speaks to Angelique Todd, the head of the Primate Habituation Programme for the WWF in the Central African Republic

In her work for the WWF in the Central African Republic, Angelique Todd has accomplished what many deemed impossible – she has managed to be accepted into the western lowland gorillas' habitat, invaluable for education and research.

The western lowland gorilla is most commonly found in zoos; their lives in the wild remaining a mystery. Todd's studies in the field are ground-breaking, rewarding, and a lot of hard work, as she tries to save these critically endangered gorillas in their natural environment.

She explains how her endeavours are set to continue, with the passion which drives her work shining through.

"I had been working as a volunteer/substitute primate keeper for a number of years, and had been writing to different sites in Africa for quite some time. I did my Masters (conservation Biology) during this time on the gorillas at Port Lympne.

"Finally, I was successful when an American scientist asked me to go to Central African Republic (CAR) to be her research assistant. I had one month to prepare! Whilst in CAR, I met other gorilla researchers and was invited to go and work at another site on the border of CAR and Republic of Congo (Mondika) run by Dr. Diane Doran. After working there a year, I went to work at the WWF-run Primate Habituation Programme (PHP) at Bai Hokou and essentially never left!"

Her life is not for the faint hearted. Angelique has suffered from dengue fever, malaria 25 times, and had a botfly lay its eggs under her skin.

"You actually get used to it [life in CAR] fairly quickly, if you're willing to accept certain discomforts. There are of course many creepy crawlies, biting insects, and other dangers such as elephants in the forest. Living in a wooden hut is very basic, not to mention the bathroom facilities.

"However, there are also bonuses - going to sleep/waking up with the sounds of the forest, showering in our waterfall...There are of course also cultural differences but that is mostly a fascinating learn-



JAVIER CORBO

The western lowland gorilla is most commonly found in zoos, their lives in the wild remaining a mystery

ing process and exchange of experiences."

Todd has followed one male silverback in particular, Makumba, since she started in 2000. Western Lowland Gorillas are very shy; however, after two years of persistent daily trekking, Todd managed to build an incredible rapport with Makumba, this familiarity extending to his family by 2007.

"He's [Makumba] fine, he picked up a new female in June but she didn't stay for many days...But he has two other wives and an infant that was born last November. One of his daughters left the group in August [Mossoko] but this is natural when they reach 8 or so.

"Shortly afterwards the blackback son, Kunga, also left – he was rather keen on his sister – he's become more and more peripheral as he's got older and was expected to leave soon (he's almost a young silverback and I've known him since he was three) but then he came back – which I'm secretly quite happy about as I wouldn't want to not see him again – although this may happen yet."

Gorillas are the most conservation dependent species on earth, and without a great deal of effort they would disappear from the wild. They are threatened by illegal trade (their body parts used for medicines), and they are sought

after pets and trophies. Gorillas in urban areas are often considered bush-meat, and due to their low reproductive rate, any level of hunting has a massive impact. Thus, human surveillance and protection needs to be resilient and consistent, the current political problems in the CAR making it a trying time.

"Up until the coup, it was going very well, it is the most successful western gorilla tourism and research programme - we've so far

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following another two. Whilst not covering quite all our costs, another couple of years we would have been there - exceptional for a conservation programme in Africa which are usually continually dependant on donors.

"Now it is jeopardy, but due to our success and good relations with donors we will pull through given that security returns. Although we're not present at the site, the local staff have been very loyal and WWF is still supporting the whole project (Dzanga-Sangha Protected

WWF

Areas) technically and financially."

Due to the coup, Todd has been working from the UK. Her days occupied by many desk-bound duties, unlike the more physically demanding workdays in the CAR.

"I spend much of my day dealing with planning programme activities and raising funds to fill the gap resulting from the current absence of tourism.

"In normal times PHP costs are almost covered by revenue from gorilla tracking fees - without

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be followed daily - otherwise they are vulnerable to poaching etc. I'm in regular contact with the staff to help them with logistical issues.

"I'm also using this time to work on the revision of certain protocols, procedures and tourism brochures and website. Much of my time in CAR is also taken up with supporting our BaAka staff and their families who our programme is dependent on. As with many hunter-gatherers, they can have major health issues, high child mortality, malaria is prolific as well as diseases such as TB...There is also still much discrimination and exploitation of these forest people.

"Their health is especially important to us as the gorillas are vulnerable to human disease and we now also have a wildlife health lab that serves to monitor and mitigate disease risks."

Plans for the future are impossible to make at the moment, with the CAR's political instability. Todd also has more than her own life to worry about, as a mother of a three year old she "cannot put her at risk". Despite all though, Todd perseveres in her work towards the programme's future. Her unrelenting diligence and passion has already led to phenomenal developments in her field, with hopefully more successes to speak of in the future.

5 Things we didn't know last month

Stand square and watch the bartender to get served first at a bar.

The researchers, based at the Bielefeld University in Germany were conducting the research to help them build a robotic bartender. They found that gesturing with you hand or talking to your friends will make you less likely to be served. The work, published in the journal *Frontiers in Psychology*, analysed 105 attempts to order drinks at nightclubs in Bielefeld and Herford in Germany and Edinburgh in Scotland.

Wide-faced men make people around them act selfishly.

Scientists at the University of California, Riverside previously found that men with wide faces tend to be more aggressive and prone to deception but they have now gone further to show that people act more selfishly when interacting with wide-faced men. The research published uses evidence from four studies, each with 131 to 207 people.

Shy male birds have fewer but 'closer' friends.

In research published in *Ecology Letters*, scientists have been studying a population of around 1,000 great tits at Wytham Woods since 1947. They found that the shyer birds tended to stay around the same group of other birds, whilst the bolder birds were more likely to move between flocks.

Male marsupials have sex so much that it kills them.

In a study published in the journal *PNAS*, scientists examined mating habits of 52 different species of small marsupials in South America, Australia and Papua New Guinea. They found that in some species, the males died in great numbers after mating sessions of up to 14 hours. This behaviour is called semelparity and is common in plants and fish but rare in mammals.

Sprite is the best hangover cure.

A team of Chinese scientists tested 57 drinks and found that fizzy drinks, especially Sprite- are the best for relieving alcohol related symptoms. They found that herbal drinks containing hemp slowed down the ADH process (the process by which the enzyme alcohol dehydrogenase breaks down the ethanol), whereas drinks such as sprite sped up the process. However, Edzard Ernst, Professor of complementary medicine at the University of Exeter said more research was needed to confirm the findings.

By Nicola Farthing



Angelique Todd, the 'gorilla whisperer', has spent years working in the Central African Republic

Sport

>> Pages 29-32

Match reports from the weekend's college football action



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PARK LIFE

Dan Holland
DEPUTY EDITOR

You might have noticed that there were a few thousand people jogging around the city on Sunday before collapsing in exhausted heaps under the Library bridge.

The first ever Yorkshire Marathon attracted upwards of 6,000 people to take on a picturesque (and supposedly flat!) course as part of the lasting legacy of the late fundraiser and campaigner Jane Tomlinson, who raised over £2m for charity with a series of epic challenges despite being diagnosed with terminal cancer.

Relatively speaking, this was a modest start - but with all the places being snapped up within three days of applications opening, you can bet the Yorkshire Marathon will

“You will hear enough heart-warming stories to last a lifetime”

only get bigger. And trust me when I say that is quite a wonderful thing.

I am lucky enough to have grown up immersed in the culture of the Great North Run - an event which this year saw over 56,000 people take on the famous route from Newcastle to South Shields in one of the world's largest mass participation events.

A few days before returning to York last month, I was within touching distance of three of the greatest distance runners ever - Haile Gebrselassie, Kenenisa Bekele, and Mo Farah - just minutes from my front door.

But that isn't what makes these events special (nor is it the prospect of spotting minor celebrities like Mel C or Robbie Savage).

The Great North Run is unquestionably my favourite day of the year because it provides a rare opportunity to see the very best in people. You will hear enough heart-warming stories of selflessness and human endeavour to last a life time in one day at an event like.

And when the swathes of people start chugging towards you, seemingly moving as one collective entity with one thudding heartbeat, it is quite awe-inspiring.

It's an event that perfectly epitomises the passion of the North East, and something that I am incredibly proud to be even loosely associated with.

Bringing a marathon to York is brilliant, something every city deserves to experience, and I would encourage every student here to get out and enjoy it while you have the opportunity.

And if that hasn't quite convinced you, then remember you can always just go down and have a laugh at the weird and wonderful fancy dress!

Rain, rugby and runners

The Nouse Sport Team look back on an action-packed week of university and college sport and determine who had a good week and who had a week to forget

Good Week

Men's football firsts

Leading 5-0 at half-time, and overcoming their point deduction deficit unfazed. The stage was set for a David vs Goliath situation on the 3G...Until the Goliaths, Sunderland, disappointed everyone by getting hammered by the big boys York. Sunderland, with five goals already slammed past them by the start of the second half, cited the lack of practice on Astroturf for their terrible performance - much like their Premier League (well, not for long) counterparts. Almost like Goliath turning up, getting his arms chopped off, then blaming his sandals for his performance.

Friendly TV helicopters

The infamous Hes East derby between Goodricke and Langwith was interrupted at half-time when a man who looked quite important asked the game to move to the next pitch. Despite the helicopter being able to take off from the position next to pitch where it was originally (granted, it nearly hit a tree), landing is apparently a different matter and all players, spectators and reporters had to move away before everyone was sliced to pieces, apparently.



Conan Osborne

York's very own Conan Osborne has been selected to play for Jamaica later this term. The sometimes winger, sometimes fullback, sometimes outside centre is a key member of the rugby firsts starting XV and his induction to the world of international rugby is a fantastic achievement. To make matters even sweeter, the University have offered to support his air fare to the West Indies.

Derwent football

A 10-0 win in football is a rarity and you might expect it if Derwent's firsts were playing Langwith fourths. However, they were up against Alcuin, who aren't exactly bad at football. Regardless, Derwent effortlessly smashed ten past them. Alcuin's veteran goalkeeper, Michael Thurloway, graduated last year and was kind enough to pick up the gloves again for his old side. I expect that he wished he had stayed at home.

Sports reporters stuck in the inclement weather

There were unconfirmed reports of broken umbrellas and poor morale around the sports fields of the University of York, as the brave men and women of Nouse Sport faced the brutal conditions, normally unseen anywhere outside of the Outer Hebrides. Despite protection from the elements being widely available to them, it is the Nouse team who should be empathised with, lacking the superhuman properties of the various sports teams. Those who were covering volleyball, however had no right to moan. Nevertheless, it still happened.



Newcastle women's lacrosse thirds

Newcastle would have achieved a better result if they hadn't turned up on the 3G last Wednesday - in fact, for a large part they didn't. Kick-off was delayed after half the Geordie side were stuck on a knackered bus. When they did arrive, they probably wanted to be back on said bus as they were destroyed 25-0 by the Black and Gold. Why aye. Oh no, wait...



Anyone trying to get to the library on Sunday

The Yorkshire marathon was in town on Sunday, with the finish line lurking under the library bridge. But an assault course of pink-coloured railings, high-vis stewards and sweaty, furry costumes stood in the way of York's only academic sanctuary. How the librarians put up with the extra-quiet library is beyond us; let's hope they had Nightline on speed-dial. It's a shame mobiles are banned...

Bad Week

Enemy of the State

George Barrett talks to test cricket legend **Henry Olonga** about his beliefs, his career, and standing up against Robert Mugabe



TARA OLONGA

We live in an age where totalitarian dictators hold an iron grip over their respective nations. There are countries in the world that are ravaged by war, poverty, and famine, and have been that way for many decades thanks to the selfish ambitions of certain individuals.

It is unusual for a sports personality to take a stand against their nation's dictator, but Henry Olonga is in a category of his own for many reasons.

As the first black Zimbabwean test cricketer and the record holder for the best bowling in a One Day International for his nation, things were going pretty well for Olonga. He had a good quality of life in his home country, he had friends and family around him, and he had a career that many sporting fans would give anything to have.

But in 2003, Olonga took the bold step to stand up in protest against Robert Mugabe, the man who has been the source of so many of the problems in Zimbabwe for years. After he met with his teammate Andy Flower, the pair wore the now famous black armband in a World Cup match against Namibia to "mourn the death of democracy" in Zimbabwe and "stand up for what is right."

Both men understood the consequences of what they were doing. In a country where Mugabe's terrifying Green Bombers exercised his absolute power, these men knew that they would have to leave the country as exiles; their lives in Zimbabwe were effectively over.

In the weeks that followed he received death threats and was stalked regularly. In his autobiography, Olonga states that the only thing that kept him alive at the time was the fact that the eyes of the sporting world were focussed on Zimbabwe whilst it hosted the World Cup. Mugabe would have to wait before he could have Olonga quietly killed.

In person, Olonga is level-headed and doesn't strike me as someone easily frightened. But he admits that he was terrified until, after a series of highly unlikely events that he attributes to "an act of divine intervention", he managed to escape the country with his life.

Olonga says that his Christian faith gave him the courage and conviction to stand up for justice. But before tackling what difference his faith had in this life-changing instance, I

want to take a look at the bigger picture.

Throughout his career, his faith in Jesus, which Olonga describes as something personal and not just something distant (a "friendship with Jesus" as he puts it), impacted almost every decision he made on and off the pitch. On the pitch he was fiercely competitive, but he rarely took his competitiveness too far.

"I generally tried to avoid sledging people. If you're a fast bowler you're going to hit [and injure] a few people along the way. It was never deliberate, I just wanted to get the guy out. So there were a couple of stories in my time where I've hurt and injured a few people, but people who know my nature will know that I

"I didn't hate batsmen. They were just human beings in the way of the stumps."

wasn't an angry fast bowler who wanted to kill people. There were a few other bowlers [who] wanted to hurt you and they hated batsmen. I didn't hate batsmen. They were just human beings who were in the way of the stumps."

Cricket is a game rife with various forms of cheating, but Olonga is aware of the hypocrisy Christians can be justly accused of if they claim to be followers of Jesus yet still cheat.

"My Christian faith had an enormous impact. It meant that I had to look different and behave differently because of what Jesus has done for me. There is no point saying you're a Christian and living a life that doesn't match up to that. I'm not saying this in a way that means I had to set rules for myself that I had to live by, because Christianity is not about that and it's not about trying to be a good person, but I guess what I mean is that my faith had to be lived out among my teammates and [the] crowd. I couldn't be seen to be an idiot and do crazy things."

I ask him what difference it makes to believe that all his wrongs against God and against others have been forgiven, a core Christian belief.

"Well," he says. "Forgiveness of sins makes an enormous difference to my life. It is a wonderful thing to know that all the wrongs you've done against God and against others are forgiven. It's a tremendous weight off your shoulders to know that you don't have to strive to be acceptable to God, or anyone for that matter, because God has done it all. It is amazing to know that we can have peace with God because of what the Lord Jesus did by dying on the cross. I've done nothing to save myself - it is all the work of God."

This seems to be the belief lying behind Olonga's boldness and courage.

Having been forced to retire from cricket in order to protect himself after the protest,

his political actions against Mugabe?

"Ultimately [I saw] so much injustice in Zimbabwe. It's a country with lots of challenges. There was the challenge of reconciliation after it had been a segregated country for decades. Under Ian Smith's government it was almost the same as apartheid... You had this strange little time in the early 1980s where the transition between a segregated country to a free integrated country took place.

"That had its problems, and Mugabe is guilty of a number of human rights violations. When I got wind of those things and discovered what had happened, it shocked me. Then I did more research and I stumbled upon scandal after scandal. Then I asked myself 'What am I to do?'"

"My Christian faith played a huge role in that. It [finally] culminated in myself and Andy Flower discussing what we were to do about a country we felt the same way about.

"God has preserved me through many challenges in life and the great thing about knowing God is that you can call on his name whenever you are in trouble. The Bible makes that very clear. He brought me out of some very tricky situations. Not only when I was the victim of a carjacking and had a gun pointed at me; but also after the protest there were all the issues with the press getting quite nasty. And there were the death threats. All of that led to me praying. That's what you do when you are in trouble as a believer.

"You know that you can call on God when you are challenged with all sorts of troubles, hardships or dangers. There were many things that happened along the way that led to my safe arrival in this country. And here I am now, still alive and still kicking. Clearly God is there when we call on his name."

Olonga believes that the decision to stand up for the good of his country is a mark of his Christian faith being lived out. But it is also clear that his faith has impacted his decisions in more than just that moment of his life.

Whether it's on the pitch or off it, Olonga's faith is centred around the belief that he's not freed by his own goodness but only by the cross of Jesus. This means that for Olonga, it's worth taking risks, telling others about his faith, and putting his life in danger for the sake of justice in Zimbabwe.

Olonga currently lives in exile in England, having lost his Zimbabwean citizenship. He travels up and down the country speaking and singing at dinners and various conferences. Frequently Olonga's talks have a Christian dynamic to them.

"I don't just want to sit there and enjoy the message of Jesus for myself, I want to share it as well. I go round telling people that there is this good news and anyone can have peace with God if they receive him.

"There are many people who think 'there probably isn't a God, but if there is then I'm in trouble.' But God can transform people's lives by getting rid of the guilt of sin.

"Anyone who feels dirty and unclean on the inside, and has got an unclean conscience can come to him. God allowed the barrier between us and him to be taken away... through his extraordinary work on the cross. Anyone can know him because of [that]."

But Olonga makes it clear that he doesn't want to "force [his] beliefs down other people's throats." That's not a philosophy he buys into. He is a firm believer in healthy and respectful conversations. How did that belief play out in

Sport

Do You Even Lift?

After spending a week watching the York Hornets in action Beth Jakubowski speaks to their President, **Hannah Denham**, about the intensity of cheerleading and their national championship winning season

AGATHA TORRANCE

YORK HORNETS



Brave. That's the first word that comes to mind after spending a week watching the York Hornet's taster sessions. Brave, audacious and fearless, the Hornets are one of the most successful sports clubs on campus and I thought I should find out what they are all about.

Last season the Hornets were university national champions with their all girl level three competition squad, and national champions with their level four co-ed group stunt squad. Overall, they brought home 13 trophies. As well as wowwing crowds all over campus. That's a phenomenal achievement.

At the annual 'bring a boy' taster session I was able to watch the routine that won the group stunt squad their national championship. It was utterly terrifying. Having no prior experience of cheerleading I was just stunned by how physically demanding it is.

With this in mind, I spoke to the Hornet's President, Hannah Denham, about just how insane what they do is. I asked her what she'd say to those who are completely unaware of the type of stunts they do.

She said, "I'd say YouTube it, if you just put in cheerleading stunts into YouTube you'll literally find the most incredible athletics and gymnastics going on."

"It's the highest serious injury rate for college sport in America, you get thrown very high in the air, there's tumbling (gymnastics) involved, it's incredibly hardcore and dangerous."

She's got that right; I was at the taster for no less than five minutes before I saw my first injury. It drew blood. I realised how high the stakes were for those who stunt. Hannah was quick to reassure me that the Hornets take safety very seriously.

"Obviously we are very, very safe here and we would never do anything we weren't capable of," she said. "We always have spotters and crash mats, no one's ever got seriously hurt. But the potential [to get hurt] is there because it's dramatic sport. It's effectively gymnastics with air time."

Gymnastics with air time - it's an incredibly accurate description of what cheerleading entails. There is a serious trust element involved with cheerleading; Denham agreed with me.

"Yes definitely. You're literally putting your life into each

other's hands so you've got to trust who you're stunting with.

"The amount of time you spend together and the amount of physical contact with everyone, if you're spending your time falling out of the air into people's faces you're going to end up being pretty close friends!"

It reminded me of what Competition captain, Ellie Rice, told me as I quizzed her about the Hornet's season, "I just really want to have a good last year, these people are my family and it's going to be really difficult to leave them."

As I popped to different sessions I kept in mind that word, 'family'. It struck me that the Hornets had a unique selling point that is unlike many sports clubs on campus.

"It's effectively gymnastics with air time."

I also spoke to Denham about the extreme nature of the sport.

"There are so many different disciplines involved which is what makes it such a good sport... because it takes four people to lift someone in the air you have to be so on point to work together. It takes a lot of practice and a lot of skill; I've never found a sport which has been as challenging as cheerleading."

But there is more to the Hornets than meets the eye. They also have dance squads, including their new addition, Hip Hop squad.

Ellie was keen to talk about the dance squads, telling me, "We have a new Hip Hop squad this year, so we're really expanding on our dance. Pom was a new squad last year and they improved every competition we went to, we came away with a few trophies."

In light of the new squad this season I asked Ellie about their hopes for the year ahead, "This season it would be great to repeat our success again, we're looking to expand more and

really push our dancing.

"People don't tend to know that we dance and we win a lot in dancing as well. Because we're not a dance society, we're a sport, it's a bit tricky to get it out there."

Denham also reflected on the success of their previous season: "I'm really proud of national success, we'd love to come back as defending champions and see if we can do it again."

As Hip Hop is a brand new squad this year, I got in touch with captain, Eden Sparke.

"The dance squads are different because we don't have the stunting and tumbling elements... This gives us the advantage of being able to focus on just one element and to give members a variety of styles."

It's clear the dance squads (Pom, Jazz and Hip Hop) aim to achieve the same success as the stunt squads and the competition squads. Eden acknowledged this, saying, "We are always aiming to place at the competitions we go to - last year the Jazz squad brought home a third place trophy from ICC Nationals, so we'd like to bring home some trophies of our own this year!"

Considering the nature of the Hornets' success over the past year, I asked Eden why she thinks they have achieved so much.

"I think a lot of the success comes down to work ethic. It's made very clear when we join that you are expected to commit fully to the squads that you join, so the people that we end up with are enthusiastic and incredibly motivated."

The dance squads are not as well known as the main cheerleading, Group Stunt, Events and Competition squads. But they've progressed dramatically over the past few seasons.

"A lot of people I talked to at Fresher's Fair weren't aware of our dance squads," Eden says, "so I tell them that if you want to dance, but also be a part of the Hornets, joining one of our dance squads is one of the best decisions you could make."

It feels like the right message to finish on: that the Hornets are a family, and that being a part of that family is the best choice you'll make at university.

From what I've seen this week, it's a message that I definitely buy into.

Tension in the Tent

Beth Jakubowski
SPORTS EDITOR

THERE WAS late drama in both of this weekend's headline college netball games.

Both Derwent and James beat their opponents by a single goal, with Derwent winning 10-9 against Alcuin and James winning 14-13 against Halifax.

The Derwent match was an intense and frenetic affair, though the first attack of the game belonged to Alcuin who had a spate of slick and swift passes up the court.

But Derwent's defence, which was excellent all afternoon, was more than up for the challenge. Goal keeper Lauren Kiy snatched the rebound and sparked the first Derwent attack of the game.

Derwent were in fine form as goal defence Meg Opie strengthened the Derwent defence with some brilliant interceptions.

It was Derwent who opened the scoring through their goal shooter Amy Goodfellow.

In no time at all Derwent were 2-0 up, but Alcuin managed to pull one back through their goal attack, Catherine O'Mahoney.

But Derwent surged ahead

through Goodfellow and wasted no opportunities in front of the net.

Despite the modest half time score line of 5-2, Derwent had been dominant in the first half.

Derwent made some changes at half time, bringing on Lily Horton for Kiy. Alcuin were still wasting opportunities in front of the net while at the other end, Derwent's goal attack, Rosie McCluskey, was spotted to make the score 6-3.

But the game was far from over as Alcuin mounted an incredible comeback, as the score hovered at 7-6 spectators were in for a tense finish.

The netball turned rapid and fiery, as both sides launched ferocious attacks to try and settle the game. O'Mahoney finished an impressive sequence of Alcuin passing to draw the scores level at 9 all.

The game was on a knife edge as Derwent were awarded a penalty pass just outside of the shooting circle.

As the ball passed between Derwent players, McCluskey grabbed a hold of it, lined up for the shot and made no mistake.

Seconds later the whistle blew to give Derwent a 10-9 victory. Derwent captain McCluskey was im-



Defending champions James and last year's runners up Derwent were victorious in the sports tent on Sunday

mensely relieved after the game, saying "Great, great first time out. I think we probably got a little bit tired, fitness is probably a problem. But it was exhilarating and I'm so pleased we managed to get that final goal in. The girls have been working hard so I'm really happy with that result."

The second game proved to be just as thrilling as the first. It was first blood to Halifax through Becky Gabbitas and in no time at all it was 3-1.

Halifax surged ahead in the

first half thanks to some exquisite passing between Lo Verokken Jones and Sarah Tyson.

Gabbitas was in brilliant form and was complemented well by their goal attack, Emily Woodings.

Halifax were ahead at half time with the score standing at 8-5, but James weren't going to fold to defeat and were resurgent in the second half.

They pulled back the deficit immediately after the break through their excellent goal shooter Alison Pullman.

Soon there was only a point separating the sides and it was James that were finishing strongly, centre Ellie Redwood was controlling the game masterfully while their defending was exceptional.

James eventually edged ahead despite a tense and tumultuous final few minutes. The final score of 14-13 to James proved just how close this encounter was.

Captain Ellie Redwood spoke after the game, "Both teams played fab and it's a really great start to the season for us."

Vanbrugh coast past postgrads

Vanbrugh 3
Wentworth 0

Jamie Summers
SPORTS REPORTER

VANBRUGH EASED past a notably lethargic Wentworth side on Sunday at 22 Acres, with a brace from Elliot Rous-Ross and a fine solo effort from Clemens Blasius sealing a deserved 3-0 victory.

The Postgrads enjoyed a brighter start to the game, as Vanbrugh took time to settle into proceedings; good runs down the left from Chris Papoui and Wayne Paes looked threatening. However, despite enjoying more possession early on, Wentworth were sloppy with the ball and allowed Vanbrugh into the game with some slick passing.

The Postgrad defence soon had to contend with a succession of corners and a neat move between Harry O'Brien and Elliot Rous-Ross led to a chance. Liam Craine then had a stinging effort well-saved by Jon Cook. By now Vanbrugh were dictating the tempo of the match.

Vanbrugh deservedly took the lead shortly before half time, as Blasius coolly slotted the ball home from a corner. Wentworth responded immediately

ly with a rapid attack down the left wing, but the danger was averted by O'Brien to ensure that Vanbrugh went in ahead at the break.

Max Brewer replaced James Wilson in the Vanbrugh goal at half time, and Wentworth came out looking to exploit the change. Good efforts from Papoui and Wayne Paes were well mopped-up by the Vanbrugh back line.

Vanbrugh almost grabbed another goal 5 minutes into the second half, as a stinging shot from Grout fell to Rous-Ross on the rebound, but Rob Sellers snuffed out the danger.

At the other end of the pitch, Ibrahim turned in the area before being blocked by Blasius, while a good cross from Oleg Beresch was also strongly defended.

Vanbrugh's lead was doubled shortly afterwards. Joe Lund, who was enjoying a number of good runs down the right wing, was hauled down in the area by Papoui, and the referee pointed to the spot for a penalty. Rous-Ross duly obliged, smashing home from 12 yards to make it 2-0.

With their lead now more secure, Vanbrugh introduced some changes, with

Vanbrugh:	Wentworth:
Wilson (Brewer), Wignall, Blasius, O'Brien, Coy, Lund (Sanderson), Grout, Picknell (Woodall), Craine, Watkins, Rous-Ross.	Cook, Papoui, Sellers, Cantrell, Cukurova, Hulme, Paes, Cox, Beresch, Ibrahim, Green.
Man of the match: Harry O'Brien	

Callum Woodall and John Sanderson replacing Kyle Picknell and Joe Lund respectively. This breathed an extra spark into their attacking play.

The game was put beyond doubt in the 80th minute. Grout picked up the ball in the middle of the park, before neatly laying it off to Woodall, who elegantly threaded through to Rous-Ross. Although his first shot was saved, the Vanbrugh frontman grabbed his brace from the rebound.

Wentworth continued to press for a consolation goal towards the end, with a good move between Beresch and Ibrahim breaking down. However, Vanbrugh finished with a flourish to ensure they wrapped up a convincing 3-0 victory.

Wentworth's Wayne Paes gave a fair assessment of the game, telling *Nouse*: "We were missing players but we need to get used to playing at this level."

"We were looking for a clean sheet today," said Vanbrugh captain Max Brewer. "I thought we dominated possession, looked like the better side throughout the game and were worthy of 3 points."

New club sponsorship deal for college sport

George Barrett
SPORTS EDITOR

COLLEGE SPORT officers Dave Washington and Tom Merriman have announced a new sponsorship deal with York Parties to increase the financial position of college sport.

The deal sees college sport link up with Salvation Wednesdays, Kuda Tuesdays and Revolution Sundays. The university is set to receive 1500 cards similar to the University club card.

These cards act as a queue jump for each of the student nights. However, the most important aspect of the cards are the financial benefit to college sport.

Every time the card is used college sport will receive 50p. This should provide college sport with a regular income over the course of the year.

The cards will cost £1 each and there is the possibility that the university will be given more cards if the scheme is successful.

The cards provide 50p off entry before 11:30, and if you arrive before 11:00 a free shot will be provided on arrival.

The cards are due to be similar to the University club cards, except the college ones will be white with the college sport logo printed on the front.

York Sport President Cass Brown said of the new deal, "I'm thrilled with the new college sport sponsorship deal."

"If advertised and utilised properly, college sport could end up with a lot of money to put back into things like equipment and coaching."

College Sport Officer Dave Washington was thrilled with the new deal.

"We're delighted to have signed this deal with York Parties, and thoroughly believe that it will be beneficial to all parties."

"Helping students to add a more social side to college sport, whilst providing us with the funds to push forward college sport over the coming months."

He outlined their plans for the money and their hopes for its impact on college sport.

"Over the course of the year this money will be re-invested into the college sport system, and we hope that all students will feel the benefit of the steps forward that we are taking."

Fellow College Sport Officer Tom Merriman was also delighted with the new scheme.

"We're really excited about this sponsorship deal, it really elevates college sport to a new level, providing great new benefits for both funding and all participants."



Sport

Four-goal James hold off spirited Halifax side

Halifax 3
James 4

Nick Morrilt
SPORTS REPORTER

JAMES SAW off a valiant second half comeback from College Cup holders Halifax to bag their second win of the autumn season on Sunday.

With the scoreline at 4-0 going into the break, Halifax mounted an impressive fightback to come close to taking a point.

A strong James side took to the pitch in the first half, producing several good attacking runs against the beleaguered Halifax defence.

The early pressure paid off for James when a well-placed corner resulted in a strong header past Halifax keeper Tom Blessed to open the scoring at 1-0.

After two more rapid but fruitless attacks by the James side, Halifax took some much needed possession of the ball in the opposition half but were unable to make it past the James defensive line.

This inability to capitalise resulted in another flurry of attacks from the James forwards; however this time, no-one was able to get the better of Blessed.

Halifax made another counter from a goal kick. However, this proved short lived as the attack was stalled by a spirited defence and possession was once more seized by James.

And James' defensive resilience was quickly rewarded, along with a well-placed goal by James Spilsbury to make the score 2-0 to the Swans.

With the Halifax side now firmly on the defensive, James continued their onslaught on goal, slamming yet another past the keeper to make it a convincing 3-0 scoreline.

After one last effort in the first period of play, the score stood at 4-0 and James looked in total control of the match.

However, as time wore on, Halifax were offered some hope as fatigue began to show amongst the

James side.

The second half began with a much different tone to the first, with Halifax appearing to look stronger while James seemed to be dogged by the fatigue which had begun to show towards the end of the previous half.

Another quick Halifax attack faltered when Conner Meckin found himself without support.

However, this was rapidly rectified in the next Halifax push and the ball was rolled past a mortified James defence into an empty net to drag the score back to 4-1.

Capitalising on their newfound momentum, Halifax pressed against a decidedly tired looking James, eventually managing to find another gap.

Heath was able to drive home his first goal of the day to make the score a more respectable 4-2.

The remainder of the second half comprised predominantly of missed chances by both sides and long shots over the cross bar which were never more than speculative efforts.

In the dying moments Halifax were able to use a corner to once more go on the offensive, allowing Heath to slot a last goal past Andrew Balzan to bring the scores to a hard-fought 4-3.

James will be pleased to have held such a commanding lead at half time, but will be disappointed to have so spectacularly capitulated in the second half as fatigue got the better of them.

Halifax, on the other hand, will take some positives from working their way back into a game that had looked to be over at half time – although questions will be raised as to how they came to concede so many in the first period of play.

Having secured a convincing 3-0 win over Vanbrugh a week earlier, there is still clearly much work to do for a Fax side that has lost the likes of Matt Mawdesley, Ash Daly, and Tom Day from the side that lifted the College Cup for two of the last three years.



James have recorded back to back this season, after a whirlwind first half saw them put four past Halifax

The result leaves James with a 100 per cent record so far this term, having beaten Langwith on the opening day of the college football season.

After the match, victorious James captain Ralph Gill told *Nouse*; "The first half was spot on. We cancelled attacks through the midfield and were able to exploit key openings.

Halifax:

Blessed, Brooke, Seed, Bull (Miller), Howarth, McCoy (C), Pilides, Kenney (Dunn), Jones, Meckin, Heath.

James:

Blazan, Payre, Elliot (Axford), Gill (C), Sangha, Alhasan (Spurling), Ferrao, Spilsburg, Baker, Williams.

Man of the match: Freddie Ferrao

"In the second half, our performance was worse because of fatigue, which really highlighted early in the season how important fitness is."

Meanwhile, Halifax's Connor McCoy commented "It was a game of two halves really. The first half was dreadful but we were much stronger in the second.

"Our performance just wasn't as strong as last week."

Derwent destroy dire Alcuin

AGATHA TORRANCE



Derwent 10
Alcuin 0

Aaron Stennett
DEPUTY SPORTS EDITOR

DERWENT BOUNCED back from their surprise defeat to Goodricke

on Matchday One with the emphatic double-digit destruction of a slightly depleted Alcuin, 10-0.

On a crisp morning of the 22nd, from start to finish, Derwent dominated the proceedings, and missed several chances to improve their goal difference even further.

From the moment the whistle

blew, there were signs that Alcuin were in trouble.

Derwent showed few signs of struggling, as they had done against Goodricke last week.

Alcuin also had several players missing, either through injury or from running the Yorkshire mara-

thon. Derwent soon began to make it rain, however.

Joe Easter was first to get onto the scoresheet, pouncing on a loose ball in the penalty area as Alcuin failed to clear from a corner. His driven shot was deflected into the far corner.

Another goal swiftly followed, as Tom Brandreth headed in from close range from a corner.

Eddie Fotheringham was next to get in on the act with a tidy near-post finish. With 25 minutes gone, Derwent were 3-0 up.

Alcuin, who were playing a false number nine of sorts, simply could not get out of first gear.

Derwent were faster to every ball, and seemed to always have a spare man in the midfield.

Alcuin, to their credit, dug deep and managed to hold on another ten minutes before conceding once more. Michael Thurloway, the veteran Alcuin keeper, made an impressive series of saves, before undoing all of his efforts with a howler.

A tame effort from Andy Naylor was spilled right into the path of Josh Bew, who promptly made the score 4-0, right in time for half time.

No let up came for Alcuin as the second half began. Derwent, intent on sending a message to their rivals, immediately put their foot down and punished Alcuin.

Man of the match Josh Bew was on fire, scoring three more goals to add to his effort at the end of the first half.

Derwent:	Alcuin:
Aylett, Askham, Sherbourne, Belshaw (C) Harrison, Brandreth, Easter, Kirby, Naylor, Fotheringham, Delay, Bew	Thurloway, Petrides, Kennick, Tuton, Nazzicone (C), James-Williams, Carver Harget, McConnell, Fernando, Kalonis
Man of the match: Josh Bew	

Bew's third, and Derwent's sixth, was particularly of note, as Ollie Harrison and Jules Delay combined intricately on the left wing.

Harrison, receiving a delightful, defence-splitting return pass from Delay, unselfishly teed-up Bew who finished neatly at the far post.

The confidence of the Derwent team was evident by this stage, with players from all positions trying to get in on the act.

Fotheringham added another to secure a brace, gliding in unmarked at the far post after a Harrison long throw was not dealt with.

Joe Kirby added a late brace to push Derwent into double digits.

After a sublime Easter effort pinged back off the bar, Kirby remained composed to go past an Alcuin defender on the edge of the area before finishing with a low driven effort at the far post.

His final effort was even more impressive, stroking the ball in from 25 yards out, to complete the rout.

Derwent Captain Dave Belshaw praised the "great response" his team had made after their disappointing start to the season: "We weren't happy with last week.

"This week there was change in mentality. We were much more efficient on the ball, and man-for-man, we performed much better than we did last week."

It was a disappointing display from Alcuin, who drew 2-2 with Wentworth last week and were clearly hoping for a credible start for the season. But it was a far better display from Derwent. After their shock defeat to Goodricke, they'll be hoping to build on Sunday's success.

No one from Alcuin was available for comment after the match, though one Alcuin player talking under conditions of anonymity did insist that "the best team lost."

Goodricke take victory in Hes East Derby

Goodricke 8
Langwith 1

Tom Fennelly
DEPUTY SPORTS EDITOR

IN A game interrupted by helicopters, pitch changes and injuries, Goodricke came out as the clear victors after thrashing their campus rivals with a seven-goal deficit on a sun-drenched 22 Acres.

The early stages of the game were even between the sides as both teams got into the spirit of the derby.

Joe Mann and Fabian Ashurst looked the most threatening for Goodricke, whilst Andy Hutt was equally looking dangerous for Langwith.

Nevertheless, Goodricke began to get a foothold on the game and they deservedly broke the deadlock after ten minutes.

Mann rounded centre back Mark Starling before laying the ball off to the supporting Ashurst on the left.

The winger beat the full-back

with a quick run towards the by-line before squaring the ball to lone-striker Simon Hurst, who slotted the ball home with a simple finish.

In fairness, Langwith did try to force an equaliser as they continued to look dangerous from set pieces.

However their rivals were dominating the level of possession and chances; too many Goodricke shots were firing too close to Langwith talismanic goalkeeper Kris Cheshire.

After Mann narrowly missed a chance to double his side's lead, he then went on to assist the goal that would double Goodricke's lead on the half-hour mark.

His mazy run through the centre was forced to the left by Starling and the approaching Cheshire, but he still managed to lob them all in a cross that found Hurst once again waiting in the middle as he scored with an easy header.

Goodricke looked con-

fidant with their 2-0 lead going into half-time as both sides moved to the adjacent pitch when they were told they were at risk of being hit by a nearby landing helicopter close to the pitch.

However, despite Goodricke's confidence, Langwith forced a goal back shortly after the restart when Matt Jones won his header from a corner.

But the leaders were quick to squander any chances of a comeback and five minutes later Ashurst got himself onto the score sheet when he beat the Langwith defence to a dangerous cross fizzing through the six-yard box.

On the hour mark, continued

Goodricke pressure led to a fourth goal.

A long ball across the box was not cleared by full-back Tom Bennie, allowing James Lewis to chest and volley the

ball into the net from the right-hand side.

Mann then decided to put Goodricke out of sight just three minutes later when he was given too

Goodricke:	Langwith:
Neil, Angel (Sullivan), Anderson, Watkins, Campbell, Ashurst, Gilbanks (C), Cottingham, Lewis, Mann, Hurst	Cheshire, Beanie, Hughes, (El Saarany), Starling, Rodgers, Jones, Campbell (C), Morton, Hemmingway, Abubaker, Hutt (Parsonson)
Man of the match: Joe Mann	

much room and the edge of the box, allowing him to pick out the top corner with his terrific curler from his prolific left boot.

Substitute Jack Parsonson forced an athletic save from Tom Neil in Langwith's best chance of the second half.

Goodricke captain Johnnie Gilbanks made it 6-1 as he tucked the ball home after finding himself in space due to confusion between Langwith's defence and goalkeeper. Sadly for Langwith, 7-1 was

just round the corner as Joe Mann scored his second goal of the match.

Some clever footwork from the former captain opened up some space for him to fire low past Cheshire.

Goodricke completed their rout in the final minute of the game.

A ball over the Langwith defence was neatly latched onto by Hurst and he smartly lobbed the onrushing Cheshire to complete a well-earned hat-trick.

Speaking after the game, Johnnie Gilbanks told *Nouse*: "When it was at 2-1 I was a bit worried. In the second half, we didn't come out playing as well as we should have.

"But then we fought back a few more goals so I'm happy with that. We've six goals from two games with a great goal difference, so I'm pretty pleased with it!"

Elsewhere, a downtrodden Langwith captain, Marcus Campbell explained: "We were missing a few of the starters but it's no excuse to get beat by seven goals.

"We just didn't turn up - didn't play well - so we'll have to come back next week and do better".



Sport

Autumn Term Week Four
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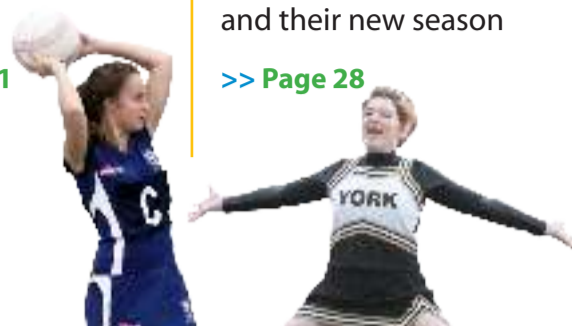
Reports from Sunday's college football and netball action

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Cheerleading

The York Hornets talk about national success and their new season

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AGATHA TORRANCE



Football teams appeal points deductions after YUSU error

● Appeal lodged with BUCS as all five football sides are penalised for YUSU missing deadline

Dan Holland
Tom Fennelly

AN APPEAL has been launched after all five of the University's football teams in BUCS leagues were deducted points.

The four men's football teams and the women's first team were each deducted one point before the start of the season because of "failure to submit County FA Affiliation before [the] deadline" to university sport's governing body.

It has since been confirmed to *Nouse* that an appeal has been launched on the grounds that the mistake in question was made by YUSU rather than the football clubs.

Luke Bradley, UYAFC President, told *Nouse*: "Cass [Brown,

York Sport President] has made an appeal to BUCS on our behalf because UYAFC have been punished for an error made by YUSU.

"The appeal accepts the fact that a mistake was made, but states that as the mistake was not made by UYAFC, it is only right that YUSU suffers the penalty.

"We can't be overly confident of a positive outcome as the deadline was indisputably missed. However, we do hope that BUCS will understand our appeal and will consider changing the penalty in future.

"For now, the point deduction has really brought the lads together and made the club even more determined to succeed. That, for me, is the biggest positive."

The potential effects of the one

point deduction will be well understood by the men's first team, who narrowly missed out on promotion last year due to the technical irregu-

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Cricket legend Henry Olonga on taking a stand against Robert Mugabe

larities of the BUCS league table system.

They did make the perfect start to the campaign on the pitch, however, with a convincing 5-0 win over a hapless Sunderland side on the 3G Pitch last week. In the same league, the men's team from York's former White Rose Varsity rivals Hull have

also been hit by a one point deduction for the same offence.

The deductions also represent an early blow for the women's side, who drew their opening match of the season last Wednesday, in their bid to consolidate their league position after last year's promotion.

And the move could be particularly detrimental to the men's seconds and thirds teams this season, who have to compete against each other in the BUCS Northern 5B league.

Brown confirmed that YUSU were still waiting on the result of the appeal and were hopeful that the ruling, which has affected several other universities, would be overturned: "An appeal was submitted to BUCS two weeks ago. It is yet to

be officially launched as BUCS are being slow at replying to emails and keep asking for more information.

"I have to be at least hopeful of a point reversal for the club's sake ... There's no use in thinking nothing's going to come of it, otherwise what's the point in appealing? I've been in contact with unions from other institutions affected who are also keen to appeal the deduction.

"Hopefully a strong negative reaction will encourage BUCS to do just what I've asked."

Nouse reported a similar incident this time last year when the University's swimming teams were left without any entries in the first of three major galas after YUSU missed BUCS' registration deadline by ten minutes.

22.10.13

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