



Freshers' Magazine

Featuring Owen Jones on free speech, grammar schools and the politics of hope

Daryl Davis

Uncovering organised race hate in the States **M.4**



Nouse



Est. 1964

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Tuesday 04 October 2016



Two new colleges announced as five hundred freshers miss out on campus accommodation

• YUSU President Millie Beach claims University “needs to do more” to meet housing needs as first years outsourced to private student lets in city

Amy Gibbons
DEPUTY EDITOR

NOUSE CAN EXCLUSIVELY reveal that plans to build two new colleges are underway, as the University struggles to cope with an unsustainable demand for campus accommodation.

The new buildings, which will be situated either one each on Heslington East and Heslington West,

or both on Heslington East, are due to be finished and ready for use in 2019 and 2020 respectively, although the completion dates are not guaranteed.

The news comes as this year 500 students were outsourced to private accommodation, after colleges were oversubscribed.

Hundreds were assigned accommodation in sites such as The Boulevard on Hull Road as they missed out on campus spots.

The University doesn't guarantee campus accommodation for

all, but the system, according to University Registrar and Secretary David Duncan, “is designed to be as fair as it can be”.

Increased University housing has been in demand for a number of years, as more returning and post-graduate students have opted for college accommodation.

As a result, last year the University undertook initial design work on the two further colleges to provide for new and returning students. The project involved consultation with both student represent-

atives and college staff.

The University anticipates up to 650 rooms in each college, which will also feature common room space as well as separate study and lounge areas to “encourage students to mix”.

On behalf of the planning group, Duncan clarified: “Our long-term policy is to have a balance of college accommodation and academic buildings as well as other facilities on both East and West.”

The University is now in the process of sourcing funding for the

development.

Accommodation Services apparently attempted to tackle oversubscription in September, as some returning students were approached in a bid to free up space.

One second year History student, who had been trying to reassign their room all summer to no avail, told *Nouse*: “There was an enjoyable irony about an email that arrived in early September from the Accommodation Services, which

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Ready for the Ball? Meet the new socs

Get inspired for the Summer Ball with The Shoot M10

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Rule breaches in NUS Referendum spark controversy

The NUS has come under fire for its party campaigning

Any Gibbons and Ben Rodden

THE NATIONAL UNION OF STUDENTS (NUS) has been accused of rule breaches in its party campaigning in the NUS Referendum. At least 100 NUS members have been suspended for breaching the rules of the party's constitution. The NUS has defended the actions, claiming that the suspension of members was a necessary step to ensure the integrity of the referendum process.

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Formal education

The summer shoot brings the year to a close

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Disabled student 'in disbelief' at abusive message left on car

PhD student and seminar tutor 'shocked' when her son discovered a note calling her 'fat and ugly'

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Merlin Kafka

The wizard of smartphone photography talks about the magic of Instagram

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There's a lot more to university than just your degree. It's a place to try new things, to push yourself towards new experiences, and to discover your real passions.

Student journalism. It's at the centre of everything at UoY - a university with the best student media in the country. And *Nouse*, the University's award-winning newspaper and oldest society, is among the best of the student media at York. *Nouse* alumni have gone on to work for *The Times*, *The Guardian* and *The Independent*, to name just a few.

We've been around for a while now. In fact, *Nouse* is almost as old as the University itself. Throughout our 53 year history, we've been breaking news stories that matter, interviewing big names in culture, and covering huge events like Reading + Leeds, London Fashion Week, and Roses, our annual sporting clash with Lancaster.

The paper is run entirely by students, for students, both in print and online - and we'd like you to join us. Whether you're interested in writing news or reviews, taking photos, or running

the whole show, there will be something to fit your interests.

You don't need experience or any great talent to get started - just some enthusiasm for quality journalism. We've got a section that will fit every one of your interests, and you can get writing right away - it really is that easy.

If you'd like to find out how to get your name in print and about other ways of getting involved, such as joining the editorial team, then come along to our Welcome Meeting this evening. Every one of our Section Editors will be

there to talk about what goes into running their part of the paper.

Then on Friday, we'll be electing an entirely new team. Everything from Editor in Chief to Food and Drink Deputy Editor will be up for grabs, and anyone and everyone is welcome to stand for a position.

So come along this evening, and find out how to make the most of the best years of your life. Above all, *Nouse* is a society where you can't fail to find like-minded people and make some lifelong friends.

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Concerns raised over disruptive construction works on campus

New building additions to the campuses include the Helixington East Plaza and the development of Greg's Place

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Roger Ballen

"Whatever painters do is a transformation of his mind. I don't see photography as much different."

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Failures in mental health support as 'unprecedented' demand increases

As over 1000 students seek support prior to this March, one tells *Nouse* that service 'made me worse'

Open Door 'not a special NUS service, the focus is on study support', says the Head of Student Support

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Cutting out the middleman

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Campus nightclub plans shelved

The £450,000 renovation costs ended up being more than twice the published estimate

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Part-time artist, full-time comedian and former Dondyloir

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Over two hundred students refused top ten accommodation preferences

Despite indicating ten accommodation preferences, 221 students failed to receive any of their choices

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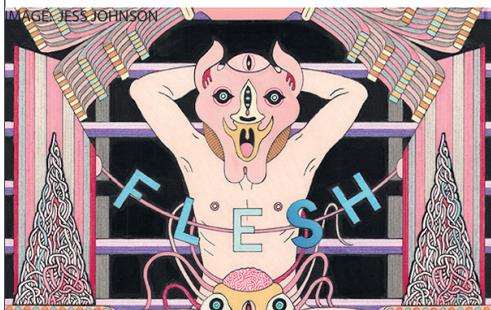
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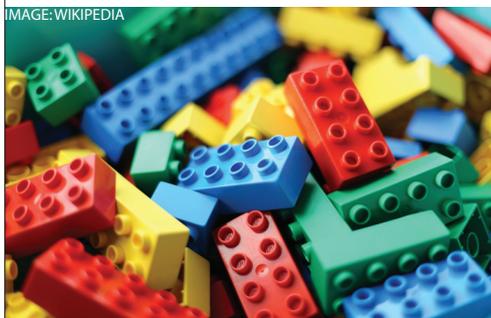
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IMAGE: WWW.PUBLICDOMAINPICTURES.NET

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Est. 1964

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR...

Seven editions ago, we instated this editor's note as a reason, more than anything, to fill some space on page 2. And, to be frank, it's probably a little bit much. Look how big it is. With a great big N on top of it. 'A Note from the Editor'. Massive.

So here it sits, a little obnoxiously but, I think, quite effectively. It has also been keeping me sane for the last 12 months. In spite of their hastily made, utilitarian beginnings, the four walls of this 10x12 text box became a place of clarity in the chaos of getting a paper out. In fact, writing down my train of thought and smacking it on page 2 became the highlight of my production week. It's one of many small pleasures that I'll miss - maybe I'll look into claiming squatters rights with the kingfisher on the top floor.

So, what to say in this, my last one? I've got six tested blueprints to pick from - there were the would-be funny ones, the try-hard philosophical ones, the sleep deprived and delirious one, and the confusing one about the EU and kebab shops.

I could rattle out opinions on why I believe giving any student a place to put words on a public page is so important. I could go on about why student journalism, under threat of extinction like never before, is more essential than it ever has been. I could go on about how fantastic this, our last edition, is, instead of just letting you read it.

I could ramble on about any and all of those things and fail to recognise that this not-so-little note isn't really about me. It's actually about this paper, and the team that

makes it - a team that stands down on Friday after a year of working together.

So, let's talk about teams. Why not. It seems appropriate - there's a hell of a big one listed down at the bottom of the page. It's an easy thing to say, but it is, truly, a team of outstanding people.

These 50 or so editors come together three times a term to make a paper. We do it to communicate stories in tonnes of different shapes and forms. As motivations for being a team go, that is, I think, a pretty nice one.

There's a dropquote in an advice column in this edition's Freshers Magazine about making the most of your time as a first year. It reads, "Most people wish they had done more with societies. No one says they wish they had done less."

Naturally the senior editors - those of us who spend hundreds of hours on each edition and botch our degrees as a result - had a laugh about this. But having sold my soul to campus news, I can still vouch for the fact that this advice is totally sound. Because, if you do them right, societies don't end when you leave them.

The reason I've loved writing each note is because it's the last story through the doors before closing time. I get to write it after having read, to a greater or lesser degree, the whole paper. So really, it isn't a note from the editor at all.

Fancy joining us?

Chris Owen

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MUSE EDITOR

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DEPUTY MUSE

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MANAGING

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ONLINE

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Greg Waddell

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Degree cheating on the rise since tuition fee hike

Chris Owen
EDITOR

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT – the collective term for incidences of plagiarism, collusion, exam cheating and fraud – almost doubled among York postgraduates in 2014 and among undergraduates in 2013, a *Nouse* investigation has found.

The proportion of the undergraduate student body found to have committed a form of misconduct rose by 78 per cent between the academic years 12/13 and 13/14. Between 13/14 and 14/15, the proportion of taught postgraduates in breach of rules rose by 93 per cent.

Academic misconduct had overall been on the decline since 2005, but began to rise again in 2012 – the same year that saw the introduction of the £9000 a year tuition fee.

The overall numbers reached a 10 year real-terms high in 14/15, though the proportion of students found to be guilty of a form of misconduct has stayed relatively low, with only 0.85 per cent of the taught student body breaching rules. However the proportion of the taught student body in breach increased by a half in the five year period since 2010, when the figure sat at just 0.57 per cent. The data for 15/16 is not yet available.

The timing of the rise correlates with evidence showing an increase in students seeking support for stress-related conditions since the 12/13 fee increase for UK students. A report from the Higher Education Funding Council for England found a “rapid and dramatic increase” in students seeking mental health support; it cited “greater financial and academic pressures on students leading to problems emerging during studies” as one of a number of central factors.

In a statement on behalf of the



IMAGE: JOHN

University, Pro-Vice Chancellor John Robinson said it was “likely” that the increase in academic misconduct at York was down to a new system of reportage, rather than greater financial or academic pressures.

“It is likely that the increase in reported cases of academic misconduct was due to the introduction, in 12/13, of a revised Academic Misconduct policy,” Robinson told *Nouse*. “One of the major changes in this policy was the introduction of Standing Academic Misconduct Panels (StAMP), which contained academics from across the faculty where the case had been raised.”

The University’s aim in introducing the StAMPs was, according to Robinson, to increase consistency and regulation across departments. However a side-effect was that misconduct cases “could not be dealt with ‘in-house’, i.e. within the home department without flagging the case to the University.”

“Under the old policy, there were departments which had not ‘officially’ had any cases for several years, but certainly they were dealing with cases internally.”

YUSU Academic Officer Tamaki Laycock commented: “Although academic misconduct is never desirable, the pressure to do better when you’re being saddled with increasing fees is a reality. I believe much of the pressure comes from heavier debts as well as the increasingly difficult job market where just an undergraduate degree won’t cut it anymore.”

“I also believe this is why it’s even more important now to work with the University and all departments to make sure that students feel comfortable voicing their concerns with particularly challenging work, or systematic hurdles that may face them. To build this system of trust is imperative if we want to make sure students are confident enough to submit their own work.”

York St John students ‘threw dead pigeon’ at freshers

Ben Rowden
NEWS EDITOR

FRESHERS FROM Halifax College have informed *Nouse* of an incident in which a dead pigeon was thrown at the large group waiting to get into Club Salvation.

The incident is believed to have involved York St John students who were heading out for a sports night at the nearby Fibbers nightclub.

Nouse understands that the dead bird was thrown at the freshers, followed by chanting from both groups of people. Eyewitnesses reported how traffic along Rougier

Street was brought to a halt as security had to step in to split up the two groups, who had met in the middle of the road.

The incident was very quickly resolved and nobody was harmed in the process, though it does raise questions over the tensions between the city’s two university bodies.

Halifax College Student Association chair Adam Walton commented: “Events moved very quickly. A dead pigeon was indeed thrown at our freshers as they waited to enter Salvation Club on Wednesday as part of their Freshers’ Week.

“Despite the event spirits did remain high among the freshers and a fantastic night was still had by all.”

Another eye witness, a STYC

for Halifax, told *Nouse* that, “our freshers didn’t respond too kindly to having a pigeon lobbed at them from the other side of the road.

“Obviously alcohol levels and spirits were running high so keeping the situation calm was always going to be difficult. That said, nobody was hurt and Halifax definitely roared the loudest when it came to chanting.”

It is unclear as to

whether there was a motive for the incident, which only lasted for a few minutes according to eye witnesses.



The University of York and York St John University are separated on some student club nights, with each Student Union assigned different dates for different events.

However when meeting on some nights, students have reported ten-

sions between the groups.

“Students at UoY and York St John can be quite hostile towards each other,” one second year Linguistics student told *Nouse*.

“I’ve seen comments made by students from either uni quickly turn into spats. It’s fun to have a friendly rivalry, but the joke ends when things get out of hand.”

Disputes between rival universities made national headlines earlier this year, as *The Daily Star* reported a brawl broke out at an annual ice hockey fixture between the University of Nottingham and Nottingham Trent University, in which dozens were allegedly involved.

York St John Student Union have been approached for comment.

New state-of-the-art YUSU building is currently “high on priority list”

Chris Owen
EDITOR

UNIVERSITY OFFICIALS have stated that they are in discussions with the York University Student's Union about the development of a “new, state-of-the-art student union facility”, as bosses claim to be aware that a building development with more available space is “high on [YUSU's] priority list”.

The University has said that while there are no “firm” plans for re-location of YUSU at this stage, they are currently in the process of developing a master plan that puts in place the next phase of campus development. The comments come after the announcement of two new colleges for Hes East, with building plans stretching as far ahead as 2020.

University Registrar and Secretary David Duncan told *Nouse*, “We are currently in the process of developing a new masterplan for the future and are seeking YUSU input to the process; we are aware that a new, state-of-the-art student union facility on campus is high on their priority list.”

YUSU has become short of on-campus space in recent years as the number of societies it supports has grown faster than the storage and floor space owned and managed di-

rectly by the Union. The Sabbatical Officer offices were recently moved from The Student Centre reception to the back of YourSpace, to make room for the growing team behind student-facing Advice and Welfare services.

It's understood that the new Union facility will look to incorporate a ‘Media Suite’ into which campus media offices may be relocated. It may also look to incorporate other student-facing services like Careers and Student Support.

YUSU President Millie Beach told *Nouse* that space in Market Square is also being considered as a possible site for expansion, though it was still “early days”.

“A new building would have to be of significant capacity to meet the expectations of a diverse and growing student body; it would also need to meet practical demands such as an increase in flat floor space and storage space for student societies. We hope to know more later this year about what potential exists for a truly dynamic and exciting space,” Beach said.

A recent *Guardian* investigation documented how UK universities had gone on a “spending spree” for new buildings and facilities, as the percentage of income that comes from tuition and teaching fees more than doubled in a 15 year period. In 2013/14, annual capital expenditure by UK establishments stood at a record £2.5bn.



The Student Centre, the current home of YUSU, under construction in 2012

Uber taxis come to York

The transport app Uber has been launched in York. The app allows users to request a trip via their smartphone and an Uber driver will pick them up in their own personal vehicle. The launch of the app in other cities has posed a threat to traditional taxi firms by offering consumers easy access transport at competitive prices. Uber vehicles can track how far away they are from you on a smartphone once they have been ordered.

Deramore Arms re-opens

The Deramore Arms pub in Heslington is to reopen this month after closing in August. Ed Mason and Pete Atkinson, the leaseholders, closed the pub due to losing too much money and not being able to continue running the pub because of financial restraints. A new licensee has been recruited and legal procedures are expected to be concluded in the coming weeks, with a view to reopening at the end of October.

Famous sword stolen

The sword has been stolen from the statue of Constantine outside the York Minster. There was a report of a man wielding a sword at around 1am on the morning of Thursday 29 September. Following the report, the man was arrested on suspicion of the crime. The Roman Emperor Constantine the Great, was proclaimed emperor of Eboracum (modern-day York) in 306AD and continued to win a series of civil wars to be ruler of both the East and West by 324AD. Constantine College, named after the Emperor, opened in 2014 and is the University of York's newest college.

York responds to ‘bronze, silver and gold’ ranking plans based on performance

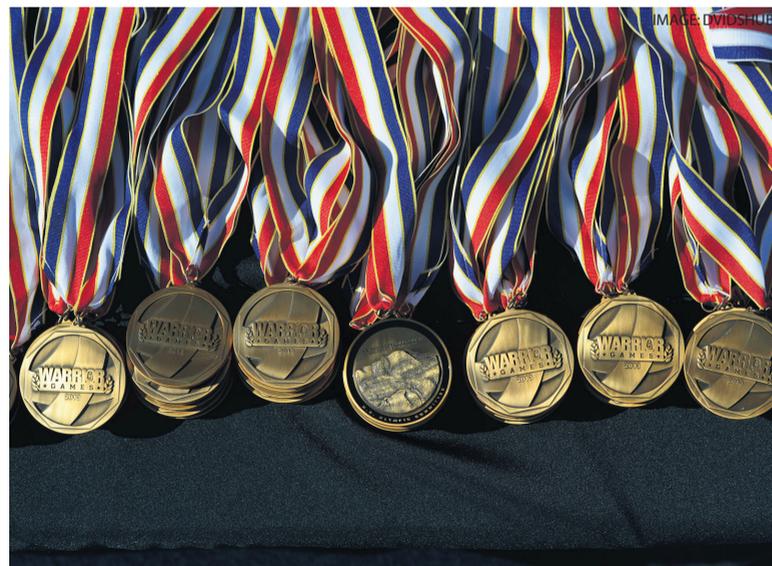
James Hall
DEPUTY NEWS EDITOR

THE UNIVERSITY OF York has responded to the announcement that under the government's new teaching excellence framework universities will be ranked as either bronze, silver or gold.

The rating that a university receives within the new league table will affect whether they are permitted to raise tuition in line with inflation from 2018.

In response to the new league tables, Pro-Vice Chancellor John Robinson said: “Although we already knew the TEF results would be in three ranks, until now we didn't know they would be called gold, silver and bronze.”

Universities who receive a bronze rating will have been underperforming in one or more areas and silver will be awarded to universities that offer courses where students are “significantly chal-



The ranking that a university receives will affect its ability to raise fees

lenged”.

He continued: “Is using medal-related terms helpful for students, universities and the reputation of British universities? Some will say that with 20-30 per cent of uni-

versities awarded gold, 50-60 per cent silver and 20 per cent bronze, the overall world-leading quality of UK Higher Education will be undermined: most institutions will be ‘only’ Silver. I don't have an im-

mediate opinion, but the names are important and I hope the effects of using them will be thoroughly tested once the results are out.

“So far as York is concerned, we will go on improving our already excellent learning and teaching, working in partnership with students, and we will do what we can to get that quality recognised nationally and internationally.”

The decision to award a bronze, silver or gold rating will be based upon “student satisfaction, non-continuation rates and employment data”.

The new rating system will commence before students who apply for university in autumn next year.

Universities minister Jo Johnson said: “By setting out clear incentives for universities, the framework will drive up quality in the sector at the same time as improving student choice and crucially, graduate outcomes - so that we can be confident we have the skills employers need now and for the future.”

Courtyard hosts Oxjam

Courtyard is to host a charity music event later in the month in aid of Oxfam. Oxjam 2016 will see four bands perform from different music genres. Entry to the event is free and wristbands will be sold on the door for £2 which will entitle those attending the event to deals on drinks. Cocktails will be £3.50 or 2 for £6 and all proceeds will be going to Oxfam. The event will be happening on Tuesday 18 October at 8pm. Oxfam raises money to help those living in poverty around the world.

York's crime rate lowest

Of the universities in the region of Yorkshire and the Humber, the University of York has the lowest crime rate. The news comes as The Complete University Guide published findings on university crime rates from across the country, which showed York as having a rate of 15.96 crimes per 1,000 residents. The university with the highest crime rate in the region - the University of Bradford - with a rate of 58.50 per 1,000 residents. In York the majority of crimes committed are anti-social behaviour at 42.2 per cent.

College expansion to meet accommodation shortfall



Amy Gibbons
DEPUTY EDITOR

>>> **Continued from front**

offered to take my room away from me for no cost as they had too much demand for the number of rooms!

"I filled in a short form and literally two hours later I was given confirmation that my room had been signed over to someone else."

The email stated the University had received "a higher than expected number of accommodation applications from first year undergraduate students", and were "offering to find replacement first year tenants for the upper year students advertising their rooms on our accommodation adverts page".

A third year English and Philosophy student was also granted a free room upgrade by Accommodation Services "in order to create empty flats and houses for first years". Also notified by email, they were informed: "We have received a higher than expected demand from first year undergraduates this year and are [therefore] moving some continuing undergraduates."

Langwith and Vanbrugh were among the colleges who sent the emails to returning students. According to an FOI response, roughly 10 per cent of applicants missed out on campus accommodation altogether. In addition, many students were left disappointed with their allocated housing on campus, with even safe offer holders finding themselves bottom of the list.

One first year student studying Biomedical Sciences told *Nouse* they were allocated only their fifth preference, despite receiving an unconditional offer from York.

"I applied the day after accom-

modation applications opened and I held an unconditional offer, so to be honest I fully expected to get one of my top choices for accommodation, as the website says priority will be given to those who apply early and also if York is their first choice," they said.

"Since I met both of these requirements and on top of this my offer was unconditional, I was very upset when I discovered I had got my 5th choice."

They added that Accommodation Services were "very unhelpful" and the stressful process made them "anxious to come to York".

"All I received was a very generic email saying there was nothing I could do and suggesting I advertise for a room swap," they explained.

"Not only did I have accommodation I really didn't want, but the University had been very unhelpful when I asked for help with this issue."

Another first year student studying English and Related Literature, and who is now living in Alcuin, said a shortage of rooms with suitable lets had cost them financially. "I quickly ran out of choices of low cost accommodation so had to put 51 week [let] options lower down on the list.

"Despite applying the day the accommodation opened, I got my 7th choice of housing," they said.

"It's ridiculous to offer so many 51-week rooms as almost all students have no need for it."

On the issue of failures in the allocation system, Duncan commented: "The current system allows students to choose their preferred college accommodation based on location, price, length of contract, facilities and so on. Inevitably, some options are more popular than others, so it isn't possible to meet everyone's preferences.

"Even so, the system is designed

to be as fair as it can be. We will review how it operates in conjunction with YUSU and GSA in the course of this year."

"We request a minimum of nine preferences (more are welcome) so we can work to offer a preference available from our supply."

Millie Beach, YUSU President, commented that the University "needs to do more" to provide for students, "particularly in the era of

£9k per year fees".

"The University must not risk damaging the experience for students [...] by taking on more students than we can cater for in regards to accommodation or any other University facility," she explained. "Great care must be taken in balancing estates development strategy with recruitment expectations."

The allocation of accommoda-

tion at York has been a controversial topic for a number of years, as the system has been changed and updated on a regular basis.

In 2015 *Nouse* reported that over 200 students were refused their top 10 accommodation preferences, and the previous year an email-based system which has since been scrapped was branded "stupid", "flawed" and a "complete joke" by freshers.

40% miss out on top 3 preferences

Amy Gibbons
DEPUTY EDITOR

ALMOST 40 PER cent of incoming York students missed out on their top three accommodation choices in 2016, a *Nouse* investigation has found.

38.1 per cent of students accepted on A-Level results day were allocated only their fourth preference or worse. The news comes in the second year of York's newest application system, which requires students to make their choices early.

The same investigation found that Vanbrugh was the most popular college choice, while Halifax trailed at the bottom of the list.

Applicants also preferred Standard Ensuite rooms on the whole, and avoided Economy Catered options in Fairfax House.

Once students have secured York as their firm or insurance choice, they can apply for accommodation from May. Unlike with previous systems, there's no need

to wait for your A-Level results. The University ensures that everybody is guaranteed accommodation so long as they apply before the deadline on 31 July.

However the system does not necessarily deliver on students' choices.

Out of the nine preferences offer holders are required to list, the University gives no guarantee that any one is secure. This is due to what the University website deems a wide variety of rooms and oversubscription of room types.

The University website states that students are expected to apply within the first week of the system being opened, as the date (but not time) of applications are taken into consideration. Individuals are then invited to change their preferences until 31 July - the original application

date still standing.

Those who have selected York as their firm choice are given priority, and students who apply through clearing are advised the University will try to help with accommodation "if it's still available".

Matt Burton, Head of Accommodation & Timetabling, commented: "For a preference system this is viewed (within the sector) as a good success rate - [...] some of this is due to preferencing options which have a very low stock

availability, so we will continue to do more to a) rationalise the preferences available and b) be transparent about the likely chances of success of particular options."

The data used in this article is of 18 August 2016 and includes those who applied after the accommodation guarantee deadline.



Porters say Vanbrugh relocation “makes no sense”

Ben Rowden
NEWS EDITOR

IT HAS BEEN confirmed that Vanbrugh College Porters have been permanently moved to the Information Centre at Market Square.

The move, which comes amid a number of changes to the porters system at York, has caused a number of students and members of staff to speak out.

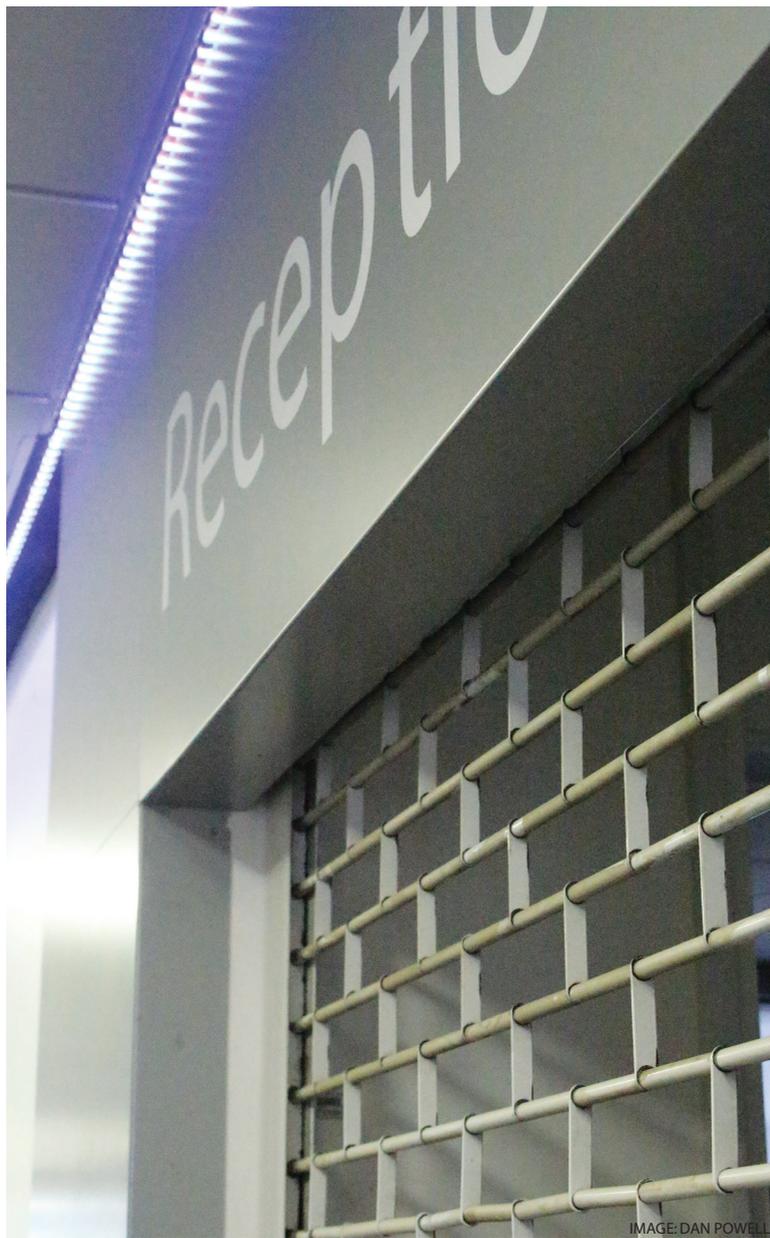
When asked, porters at the college told *Nouse* that the move “makes no sense” to them, and that porters were given “no explanation” for the change.

The permanent change will see students now have to walk further to collect mail, report issues and contact porters for basic University information.

A number of students have expressed their concern at the move, with one Vanbrugh College student telling *Nouse*, “It simply doesn’t make sense to me. The old facility could surely do anything that the new one can and it felt much more Vanbrugh-connected.

“Quite frankly, it was more comfortable to go visit the porters outside the JCR than walking to the Information Centre.”

The University has, however, claimed that the change will in fact better convenience students, with



Vanbrugh Reception closed, much to the annoyance of students and porters

the new location now promised to be open 24 hours a day.

University Registrar and Secretary David Duncan told *Nouse*, “We re-located the porters’ lodge following a comprehensive review of front-of-house reception provision. The new office is open 24 hours a day and is conveniently located for

Vanbrugh students and visitors to the campus alike.”

At a time of many changes to the porter system, with working hours and staff numbers both having been cut recently, it remains unclear if Vanbrugh will be the only college that will see the location of its porters changed.

£500,000 invested in mental health will “keep down waits”

Luke Rix-Standing
NEWS REPORTER

FOLLOWING A SIX month review, the University of York is now set to invest £500,000 in mental health provision, most of which will be channelled into the Open Door services and, according to University Registrar and Secretary David Duncan, “keeping waiting times as short as possible”.

The increase in funding comes at a time in which the mental health debate nationally is becoming increasingly prolific, and recently the think tank HEPI (Higher Education Policy Institute) released a report in which they outlined how demand for mental health services is far outstripping supply within the university sector.

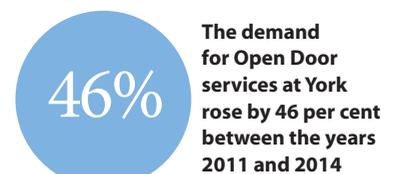
On the allocation of funding, Duncan commented “Most of the additional funding (which is spread over three years) is being spent on extra staff in the Open Door counselling team, with the aim of keeping waiting times as short as possible. We are also supporting positive interventions to encourage mental health and wellbeing, and are increasing training and awareness for non-specialist staff”.

The state of mental health at York has been under scrutiny for some time. *Nouse* revealed in May that, between 2011 and 2014, demand for Open Door services rose by 46 per cent, while issues relating to self-harm now make up around

half of all ambulance call outs to the University (up nearly 20 per cent in the last year).

York has also seen five student suicides in just the last year – reportedly a record for English universities.

Despite the increase in funding, some have suggested that other new policies may have a negative impact upon student wellbeing. New legislation means that college



tutors are not allowed to work beyond 6pm, limiting their ability to assist students with mental health difficulties.

Dom Smithies, the YUSU Community and Wellbeing Officer said: “This news is hugely positive and we are glad to see the University listening to students, engaging with the report...and establishing mental health as a priority.”

Smithies admits that the funding does not represent “the ultimate solution,” but maintains that “the commitments announced are a massive step in the right direction, and students that need support will hopefully feel the benefits immediately”.

He concluded: “We will be continuing to work with the University to deliver on the actions that were recommended in the Task Group report and to ensure that this issue remains at the top of its agenda!”

Campus clinic overhauls appointments to fit more in

Amy Bishop
DEPUTY NEWS EDITOR

UNITY HEALTH HAS made changes to its services due to feedback from patients.

All appointments are now made by an online consultation system. A team of nurses can provide advice about specific problems and conditions, and also about what some symptoms may suggest, following the submission of information by the patient.

After such consultations patients can also request face-to-face appointments by completing another form. Nurses will then give patients with more urgent needs a

same day appointment.

Louise, a third year Maths student, was pleased with the changes, as she explained in a statement to *Nouse*: “For students that live off campus it’s now going to be so much easier to check your symptoms online, rather than going to Unity Health and queuing up for a same day appointment. However, face to face advice can give more clarity on your symptoms.”

Krishini, a student in Vanbrugh College, was less satisfied, commenting on her experience of using the new appointment system: “When I tried to get an appointment I found that the online consultation process was long and complicated and this has put me off using Unity Health. There were a lot of boxes to fill in for details of each aspect of my

symptoms.”

Unity Health is currently giving feedback forms out to patients on what they think of the new consultation service which can be found in the on-campus surgery. There is a view to make further changes to their services based on this patient feedback.

Kyla, a third year History student, also told *Nouse*: “It’s good to see Unity Health listening to student feedback and improving their services.”

In addition to the online service changes, after patients have had a doctor’s appointment they will be given a slip. If they need to return in the next month, they can give this slip to the reception at Unity Health and get another appointment immediately.



Unity Health no longer offers a Stay and Wait service at Hes West clinic

Wentworth sends good quality items to landfill

Ben Rowden
NEWS EDITOR

CONCERNS HAVE been raised over the practice of Wentworth College when disposing of unwanted items at the end of the last academic year.

Reports have emerged of useable cutlery, bedding and stationery all being thrown away without justifiable reason, with one concerned student telling *Nouse* how she has tried repeatedly to have the items separated for charity but so far had no success.

It is not uncommon at York for colleges to encourage a charitable donation of unwanted items at the end of the year. Halifax College, for example, organised donation boxes for the British Heart Foundation at the end of 2015/16.

The student concerned told *Nouse* that there was enough waste to "stock a charity shop at least!" Others also commented on the piling up of waste, with four large skips being full alongside a number of other waste bags. One second year Biology student told *Nouse*: "I couldn't believe the sheer amount thrown out - and no explanation."

When asked for comment, University Registrar and Secretary David Duncan stated: "It is disappointing to hear that re-usable artefacts were disposed of in this way. Our policy is to recycle equipment and furniture wherever possible."

"Overall, we are being increas-

IMAGE: MEG STARK



There were four large skips left outside Wentworth College, prompting questions as to why so much went to waste

ingly successful in reducing waste to landfill, with over 90 per cent of waste now recycled. We will be running a number of campaigns in the course of this year to encourage students and staff to engage with the green agenda and reduce waste even further."

YUSU President Millie Beach was equally concerned. When asked, she told *Nouse*: "YUSU and the colleges already work together to organise the Big Green Clean. This involves working together to collect crockery and other items in good condition and ensuring they are clean by September. When the new students arrive, these items are sold to raise money for the various college charities."

"While this is relatively successful, YUSU really wants to tackle the issue of end-of-year waste on campus. We urge students to take things home rather than throwing them away at the end of the year, or alternatively they could donate them to a charity."

"I look forward to working with the Environment and Ethics Part-time Officers to work on ways in which we can encourage students to reduce, reuse and recycle products that accumulate through their time at York."

"Adequate monitoring and recording is in place to understand the real scale of the challenge. Where necessary this should include centralised recording. It's concerning that provision for such documentation doesn't seem to be in place and I urge the University to address this."

GSA rebrand leaves bulk merch left over

Ben Rowden
NEWS EDITOR

A RECENT REBRAND by the GSA reportedly left a large number of old and unwanted merchandise unused.

Reports of merchandise, including bags with the old GSA logo on, being given away in bulk have raised concerns as to whether the cost of the rebrand project was too high. The rebrand, which included changes to logo and merchandise, was completed in time for Freshers' Fair.

One masters student told *Nouse* that, "A great deal of money could be saved with better planning, which could go towards genuinely helping the many graduate students here at York. Action over graduate concerns is far more important than the look of the asso-

ciation."

When asked, the GSA told *Nouse*, "The GSA has been planning to rebrand for the last year to coincide with the update of our website and the move to our new office in Vanbrugh. Prior to this the GSA had been using the same branding and website for over five years. Knowing that the new branding was on the horizon, we chose to use up the remainder of our branded goods before purchasing new materials and so did not purchase any merchandise last year."

"Unfortunately we were unable to use up all of our branded bags prior to the launch of the new logo and so decided to give these out to students during the summer, rather than disposing of them. The rebrand was carried out in house which has also allowed us to reduce the ongoing costs of producing communication materials. In the past we had relied upon an external design agency."

YUSU launches year-long #WeAreYork campaign

James Hall
DEPUTY NEWS EDITOR

YUSU WELFARE Officer Dom Smithies has launched a year-long respect campaign called #WeAreYork, that aims to increase inclusivity within the University.

One of the first initiatives that has taken place as part of the #WeAreYork campaign was a series of consent talks run by the YUSU Women's Officers, Lucy Robinson and Mia Chaudhuri-Julyan. The initiative ran in conjunction with the annual compulsory fire and river safety talks, with around 5000 students in attendance.

The gender-neutral talk covered issues such as sexual consent, alcohol and personal safety.

Speaking to *Nouse* about the new campaign, Smithies said: "The #WeAreYork campaign is a Union-

wide and year-long campaign on respect and inclusivity."

"The campaign is designed to support and empower the work being done across campus by Part-Time Officers, Colleges and other student groups to ensure the message of respecting your fellow student is understood in every possible capacity. It'll be seeking to address various issues such as consent, social media citizenship and mental health as well as sexism, racism, ableism, ageism, queerphobia and xenophobia more widely."

"All of the Officers and all other students will be invited to bring their own campaigns and events into the calendar and I'm excited to see what great ideas will be suggested now that everyone has returned to campus and term is started! I'm sure there'll be much more

depth and detail to announce once the Liberation and Welfare Group have met!"

Smithies' campaign follows on from previous initiatives run by the Students' Union, such as former YUSU President Sam Maguire's campaign to tackle 'lad culture' within the University.

The handling of sexual harassment within the University was strongly criticised by the former Women's Officer Ananna Zaman last year.

Former York Sport President Grace Clarke also launched an equal opportunities scheme aiming to "kick homophobia out of sport".

The #WeAreYork Campaign will continue to run throughout the year, with more information being released over the course of this term.

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The subtle discrimination of Prevent Duty

The government's Prevent Duty is racially biased, badly managed and damagingly unclear. The government must find an alternative

Has'san Suhail



If you are a law student, one of the earliest lessons you learn is how law reflects the dynamics of a society. I personally think there is more to it; I believe it is the reaction of the members to a particular development that truly reflects the attitude of a society.

So imagine a society where members of a certain faith group become targets of racial discrimination and politicians adopt harsh tones towards the countries that are mostly populated with people of that faith group. Such developments are merely a gateway for a person to stand up and announce the plan to deport all members of that faith

Several people have become victims of the Prevent strategy ”

group back to their countries of origin. I am sure you would agree that it is support from the people for that individual person or cause, that in essence, reflects the mind-set of the society.

I believe Prevent is no differ-

ent, for the discriminatory elements concealed in it - either deliberately or partly due to its vague nature - can lead to discrimination becoming a norm.

For those of you who may not be familiar, Prevent is a counter-terrorism strategy devised by the government whereby the Local Authorities, the Police, Education Providers and Medical Practitioners are empowered and encouraged to detect an individual who starts showing signs (undefined) of radicalisation.

This legislation specifically targets two groups, 'Muslims' and 'extreme right-wing Conservatives', and as a result it has been criticised by many due to its poor drafting and unfair and biased implementation.

Major issues identified in the legislation are as follows: discrimination from the outset (due to specific mentions of two groups of the society), vagueness (poor drafting), and poor implementation (as a result of inadequate drafting).

Most of the backlash that the strategy has received is from those in society who would generally be expected to know of the developments in the efforts made to counter terrorism, such as academics, lawyers, and politicians, or in some cases the heads of the police authorities. However, there is a real need to extend this awareness to the common people so that they can be informed of how Prevent Duty risks isolation of a group of people in a community.

By now, several people have become victims of the Prevent strategy; some of these cases can be found on the following link: preventwatch.org.

IMAGE: RHAWORTH



org. And as surprising as these incidents are, one of the cases requires special mention in order to fully elaborate and demonstrate why this legislation desperately needs to be scrapped off.

This is a case of a patient (Muslim) who had a political discussion with his GP during an appointment.

The patient was reported to the Prevent coordinators by the GP as a result of speaking ill of certain countries and their actions.

Incidents like these raise questions about whether Muslims are able to safely discuss politics outside their homes: should I exercise caution in asking questions and engag-

ing with debates during my lectures, and can we go and have normal discussions with our GPs?

Therefore, the government will have to reconsider their stance on fighting terrorism, extremism and radicalisation so as to ensure that fundamental rights are not being breached.

Harambe: Don't you forget about memes

Cincinnati Zoo have requested that the internet stop memeing incessantly about its late gorilla. The internet has responded, 'no'

Elliott Banks



Now this may seem like an odd topic for a comment article but I believe it to be an important one. Harambe was a beautiful silverback gorilla, one of the world's most endangered species, who was cruelly cut down in the prime of his life at Cincinnati Zoo thanks to an incident with a small child who fell into his enclosure.

With the death of Harambe a meme was born. The meme is wide in scope, ranging from the mournful RIP Harambe to the more explicit

#DicksoutforHarambe. His picture has been widely shared as the internet keeps alive the memory of the dead primate. Now Cincinnati Zoo have stepped in, calling for the internet to stop with the memeing of Harambe, and a l l o w "its Zoo family

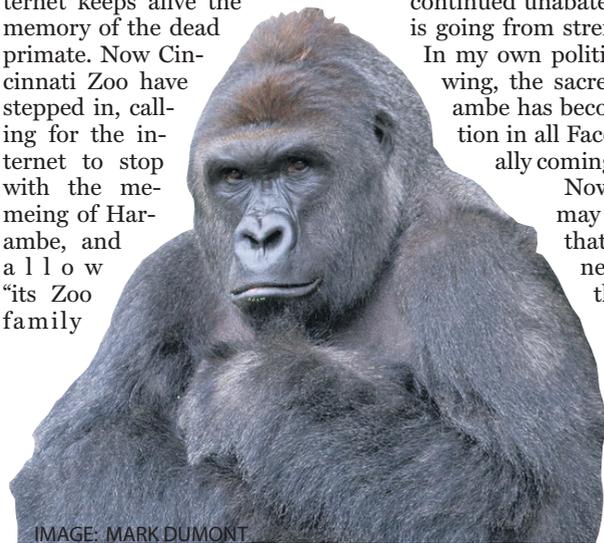


IMAGE: MARK DUMONT

to heal".

Mercifully the internet has continued unabated and the meme is going from strength to strength.

In my own political party's youth wing, the sacred name of Harambe has become a default option in all Facebook polls; usually coming in the top three.

Now some of you may be thinking that Harambe is old news, but I think the reason this latest internet craze has continued for so long is because of the circumstances of Harambe's martyrdom. Harambe was part of an

endangered species. Silverback gorillas are not common on this earth due to poaching. Zoos were on the front line of conservation designed to protect the rarest animals on the planet. The fact that Harambe was killed in a zoo by his protectors is more than ironic and the internet clearly has not forgotten.

Secondly, the fact that Harambe died because a toddler managed to fall into the gorilla enclosure begs the question of whether the enclosure was entirely secure. Indeed, the whole sorry episode seems like a catalogue of failure on the part of Cincinnati Zoo. Generally, small children don't fall into animal enclosures in public zoos.

So that begs the question: why does Cincinnati Zoo ask the public not to meme about our dearly departed Harambe? Is it because the

meme is simply in poor taste? Perhaps, but I believe it is because of the negative publicity the event has generated. I had never heard of Cincinnati Zoo before HarambeGate.

Frankly, I'm not entirely sure where Cincinnati is on a map, only that it's in the U.S. However, across the globe, tech savvy young people keep the memory of Harambe alive and with it Cincinnati Zoo's part in his death.

When a zoo has to kill an animal as rare as a gorilla it makes the news. The raison d'être of a zoo is conservation; with Harambe's death Cincinnati Zoo's reputation has been tarnished. That is why they want to stop the meme. Harambe's death was a preventable tragedy and the internet saw that. So in my opinion, carry on memeing, it's what he would have wanted.

Trigger warnings have a place in society

Trigger warnings have been unfairly demonised by the mainstream narrative: they're meant to protect people without stifling debate



IMAGE: WIKIPEDIA

Chloe Kent



Imagine, if you will, a dramatic twist in the narrative of a popular television series - let's go with *Game of Thrones*. It does have a habit of keeping you on your toes, after all. You're an avid fan. But you've not seen the latest episode yet. Thank God every major media outlet, every Facebook friend who is discussing the brutal, unexpected end of Your Favourite Character on your timeline, has the courtesy to precede the discussion with a quick spoiler warning. You don't have to confront the tragic loss of Catelyn Stark until you're settled in your living room, take-out pizza in hand, primed and ready.

The spoiler warning: widely respected, widely expected, a way of preventing one's enjoyment of a television series, film, or book from being soured. But now we turn to the trigger warning - mocked, lampooned, regarded as a means by which to coddle a generation who can't face the real world.

In a welcome letter to students, the University of Chicago Dean John 'Jay' Ellison made it clear that the University as a body does not support academic trigger warnings, safe spaces or no-platforming.

Citing this as a "commitment to academic freedom", Ellison maintained the perspective that such warnings led to students shutting down debate, hastily dashing away any worldview that may be at odds

with their own.

To view trigger warnings as a means by which those unable to face reality stick their fingers in their ears or nip in the bud a friendly discussion on a topical issue is to fundamentally misunderstand their nature. They are a way to respect people's boundaries on sensitive issues, without infringing on privacy, and forcing survivors of trauma and abuse to out themselves. Trigger warnings are not for opinions - you will never see [TW: right-wing politics] on the PowerPoint before a lecture. They are to signal discussions of topics like self-injury, suicide, and sexual assault. They allow

They are a way to respect people's boundaries on sensitive issues ”

those who will be distressed by such things to either excuse themselves from the conversation, or mentally prepare for what's to come. The individual is allowed a moment of personal autonomy, and they may then choose how to proceed.

Take this hypothetical situation: you know a friend of yours is a victim of rape. As a result, you understand it would be inappropriate to casually strike up a conversation on the subject. A lecturer or seminar leader is highly unlikely to know about your friend's experience, but as an educated individual, they should understand that tragedies happen, and thus it would still be

unprofessional to discuss such a topic as part of the curriculum without a disclaimer beforehand. This disclaimer is a trigger warning.

Many maintain that trigger warnings are still unacceptable, even as courtesies. They say that life outside of academia doesn't cater to trauma like this. People should be slowly exposing themselves to the things they're afraid of, building up a thicker skin, instead of constantly running and hiding. But this simply isn't the case. Firstly, it's probably not the best idea to push a friend into a panic attack, as if you're helping them face their fears. Exposure therapy exists, but let's leave it to the professionals.

Secondly, 'trigger warnings' permeate many areas of off-campus life. On the back of a DVD case you'll often find a list of scenes viewers may find distressing, disclosing that there will be violence, nudity, or strong language. Before a report on a terrorist attack, the newsreader will state that some viewers may find the following content distressing. Coffee cups alert us that the drink inside is hot, just in case we forget. We are constantly made aware of things which may upset or harm us, and this should be the case in our classrooms too.

Next time you see a trigger warning, try not to view it as the parody that has evolved in the mainstream narrative of a far-left strawman refusing to have a civil discussion lest their feelings be hurt. It's simply a way to keep people safe. Each trigger warning may ruffle a few feathers, but if it prevents even one PTSD flashback, then it's all been worth it.

Emergency care for all, even the NY bomber

Civilised societies must define themselves by how they treat their enemies, particularly under the pressure that comes with 'terrorism'

Jonny Moynihan



If you saw an injured man in the street, whether he was a terrorist, criminal or normal citizen, would you call for help and give him medical care? It is part of a civilised society to give medical treatment to its citizens, even if they're perceived as terrorists.

However, it is this very question that's been asked in America after the New York bombing suspect (he hasn't been convicted of anything as yet) was recently allowed medical care after a shootout with the police. Some people think it's a waste of taxpayers' money to spend it on

caring for enemies, but it's a fundamental basis of civil society that medical management be provided after such an incident.

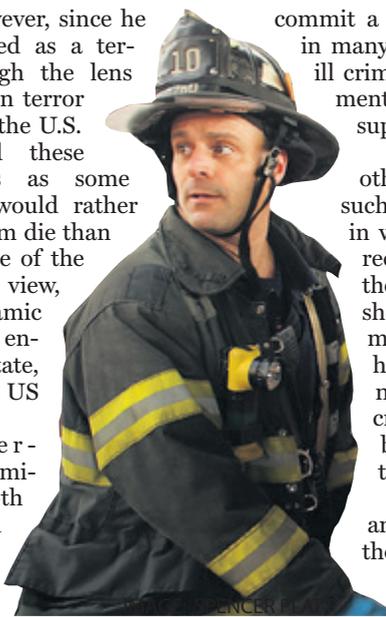
Under the the Geneva Convention, Prisoners of War are given the same guarantee of treatment as soldiers in war, but are guarded and continue to be detained once they recover.

Through the Geneva Convention, it means if you are the enemy, you are still given surgeries and medicine to cure the injuries inflicted by the opposite side in the war. Therefore, under international law, there is a legal basis for his receiving medical care for his injuries.

Moreover, he's a U.S. citizen, so that should be enough to justify him for the same level of care that any other American would have whether Black or White, terrorist or U.S.

soldier. However, since he was perceived as a terrorist through the lens of the war on terror and ISIS in the U.S. it muddled these justifications as some Americans would rather have seen him die than live. To those of the Trumpian view, he is an Islamic terrorist and enemy of the state, more than a US citizen.

Furthermore, criminals get both medical and physical healthcare when they



commit a crime. It has happened in many cases, when a mentally ill criminal needed to stay in a mental hospital under police supervision.

It occurs, too, in many other cases of criminality such as gang wars in London, in which both sets of gangs receive care provided by the NHS. Therefore, why shouldn't a terrorist get medical treatment when he is still just a criminal under the law, whose crimes have been enlarged by politics and media attention?

Some right-wingers and Trump supporters thought that it was a waste of taxpayers' money to give care to Ahmad

Khan Rahami, the terrorist suspect of the bombings, but by curing his injuries the families of the victims of the attack can seek justice through the U.S. legal and court system, which is more humane than just letting him die of his injuries at the scene.

The New York bomber should definitely have been issued medical care at the scene as is allowed under international law. Furthermore, he is a U.S. citizen so he is equal to every other American in the same situation, such as the policemen at the scene.

Lastly, criminals get the medical attention they need, and as he is just a criminal, he should be allowed medical care. It matters little what crime he had committed from robbery through to murder, and through that, to terrorism.

IMAGE: MYSTYSLAV CHERNOV



When left and right bicker, their refugee hopes flicker

With both parties engaging in ideological sparring, we must find a pragmatic consensus

Robert Tibke



Europe is in crisis. Upheaving dictator after dictator without any strategies for reconstruction has left the Middle East seething in bloodthirsty chaos. With the explosive growth of ISIS and carnage in South Sudan and Syria, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees estimated there were 65.3 million displaced citizens in 2015. This crisis demands a humanitarian response.

How we honour our commitments to others not only forms who we are, but fundamentally shapes our future. The way our elected politicians respond to this crisis will define westerners for decades. Yet the responses from both the right and left are inadequate, if not dangerously insane.

The influx has piled pressure upon European welfare-states and amounted to a conflict of values. The right's response has been a nationalist reassertion. German Neo-Nazis are back. The Alternative für Deutschland declare Islam incompatible with Germany, and 726 criminal attacks on German refugee camps have occurred this year. Sweden accepted 163,000 refugees, bankrupting the nation. Foreign Policy estimate the bill will

double Sweden's 2015 \$100 billion budget.

In disgusting revolt, the paramilitary vigilantes Soldiers of Odin attacked immigrants throughout Scandinavia. Even in Austria, the far-right Norbert Hofer almost won a presidential election. Hofer is known as the European Donald Trump.

And of course there is the man himself - Trump. Trump signifies a tribal worldview that manifests itself through bullyboy patriotism.

This crisis demands a humanitarian response

For all his messianic blustering, Trump's policies are Politics for Dummies. Walls and blanket bans on Muslims, instead of vetting processes that admit respectful citizens. He demonises without recognising the character and worth that individual immigrants can bring to his country. It's what terrorists want: to sow division and violence instead of building human commonality between cultures. Under the right, westerners will define themselves as failing our duty to aid dispossessed and war-broken refugees.

However, the right's monop-

oly on the refugee crisis debate has been assured only by the left's refusal to engage with the issue. Fearing being branded xenophobic themselves, politically correct zealots dismiss genuine concerns as xenophobia.

In reaction to the onslaught of terrorism and sexual violence in Cologne, Stockholm and Vienna, the mainstream left offers nothing but sentimental diatribes against 'climates of hatred'. Left-wing commentators disgrace the victims of these crimes with their righteous disregard. Now Jeremy Corbyn advocates an entry of 20,000-25,000 per year, with no regard for the financial demands of helping refugees, or the brutality their presence can unleash.

Under the left, westerners will define themselves as naïve fantasists and, ultimately, fail in our obligations to these ravaged people. Neither right nor left have offered satisfactory answers.

A coordinated response that distinguishes between refugees and economic migrants, and legal transportation for both over the Mediterranean is ethically sound. We can't accept 65.3 million refugees into the west, but we can take some, and teach them the host nation's language so we can communicate, and thus recognise our mutual humanity.

We can define ourselves with dignity in this crisis, without destroying ourselves.

Consent education must start earlier to change minds

Consent is a crucial issue, but is uni the arena to address it?

Luke Rix-Standing



Last week, York welcomed the next generation of wide-eyed students into the vodka-soaked embrace of Freshers' Week. By all accounts they enacted the usual montage of wasted loans and chunder sessions; some passed their first evening singing extremely loudly outside my bedroom window. But this year, amid the trays of jägerbombs and awkward drinking-game revelations, each trembling fresher had one extra date in their welcome pack. A briefing on the issue of sexual consent.

Consent talks have courted controversy from the start. On their announcement last year, opponents lined up to denounce the talks as insulting and patronising. Supporters have been equally pugnacious, decrying the attacks as "misogynistic" and "reactionary".

Nationally, the rhetoric has been even more heightened. Take the tale of George Lawlor, a student journalist at Warwick whose online article 'Why I don't need consent classes' went down almost as badly as the closure of Willow. The accompanying picture - of an unfortunately smug-looking Lawlor holding up a sign reading 'This is not what a rapist looks like' - was demolished by the Twitterati.

As Lawlor discovered to his cost, the case in favour of consent talks rests on one highly compelling principle: if even a single potential victim can be saved, then it's tough to argue that your sensibilities should trump sitting through one short briefing.

But is lecturing people who are already

adults, mostly hungover, and in the middle of one of the most tumultuous weeks of their lives so far, really the best way to address the crucial issue of consent? Might school, for example, not be a more effective and less controversial arena for educating young people?

Currently, school sex education is at best a mixed bag. I recall that my school sex ed classes were taken by the headmaster: a verbose and austere elder gentleman, about whom the very thought of him doing the deed was a greater deterrent for teenage pregnancy than an entire warehouse of prophylactics. Far from his natural home of 2nd century Roman history, he decided to broach the subject through a group viewing of teen-drama *Skins*. "So you see boys" he concluded, with steepled hands and his trademark soporific delivery, "Sid really shouldn't have become entangled with this 'Mad Twatter' fellow, and losing one's virginity can be a decidedly funny business." This was perhaps the extent of my 'relationship' education, short of one biology lesson involving cucumbers.

Given that the age of consent is 16, improving this sorry state of affairs seems the obvious way forward. By putting consent onto the school agenda you sidestep accusations of patronising adults, you reach everyone rather than just those who go to university, and, perhaps most importantly, you teach children at a formative age when they're still developing their ideas.

Furthermore, even the talk's most ardent supporters accept that, at university, they're wielding a blunted instrument.

If Johnny Rapist has reached adulthood secure in his conviction that every arse in the club is rightfully his to pinch, then two women lecturing him for 15 minutes the morning after Hawaiian night is unlikely to change his mind.

And so consent talks can go one of two ways. They can remain a potential distraction; an excuse for gender political point scoring and a way for campaigners and institutions to pat themselves on the back and claim that they've done their job. Or they can provide a platform for further, more constructive action at a younger, more appropriate age.





Britain Elects @britainelects
Not saying this was what swung it, but the Labour councillor who resigned did so because he bit a teenager on the nose in a bar
15 Sep 2016

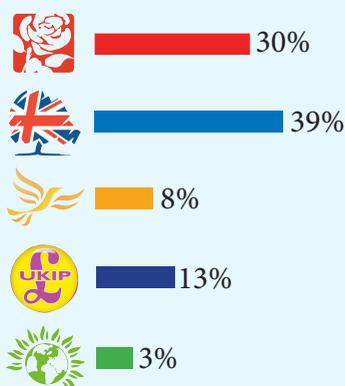
CourtNewsUK @CourtNewsUK
Train flasher is 'an inveterate winkle exhibitionist' says prosecutor
29 Sep 2016

Stephen Harper @StephenHaarper
I don't understand the stigma against liking your own tweets/statuses I wrote it dammit i know it's top!
18 Apr 2016

chloe @chloekentm8
A guy cycling by dabbled then nearly fell off his bike as a result it was the worst thing I've ever seen
12 Sep 2016

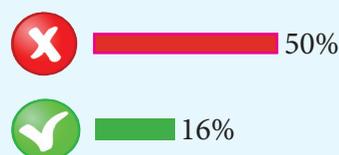
BY THE NUMBERS

Westminster voting intention September 2016



Source: Britain Elects

Is the government handling Brexit well?



Source: Britain Elects

CLASH OF COMMENTS

Should Jeremy Corbyn still be leader of the Labour party?

YES.

Jacob Miller



The question 'Should Corbyn be leader' should not have to be asked. I say this because when the mass resignations and leadership contest began, he had been in the job for less than a year, having been elected by 59.5 per cent. This is not a fair chance. If MPs had been serious about making it work, they should have rallied together at a time of national crisis following the Brexit vote, when the Tories were vulnerable. I support Corbyn because this situation indicates a need for the democratisation he has been proposing. For those talking of electability, we would be a laughing stock if we deposed a democratically elected leader and then claimed to be a democratic party in a general election.

I do not support Corbyn in the belief that all is rosy. I accept that the polls are dire - with one putting Labour on course for its worst election defeat since 1935. But we can't blame this all on Corbyn.

Prior to the resignations Labour was 4-5 points behind, with the gap narrowing in May and June - not fantastic, but not catastrophic. The current shift followed the mass resignations and the ascension of Theresa May.

Most polls show support for Corbyn's policies, with 60-70 per cent supporting public ownership of the railways, and 61 per cent supporting a 50p top rate of tax. It's not policy but ineffective com-

munication which is his major failing. The Conservatives are adept at crafting concise messages which resonate with people in their everyday lives (e.g. "fixing the roof while the sun is shining"). In contrast, when Owen Jones asked Corbyn to summarise his Labour leadership in a sentence, it took him about four. A number of miscommunications by Owen Smith, such as the infamous smashing Theresa May back on her heels, reveal that he was no more competent a communicator than Corbyn, and therefore hardly a better choice. Corbyn should be leader provided he tries to improve, which is likely given John McDonnell's suggestion that he and Corbyn could take lessons from more experienced MPs.

Ultimately, there is no way to predict, especially after Brexit, events which could profoundly alter the political landscape. As I said in an article following Corbyn's first victory, the fact that Margaret Thatcher was once considered unelectable by many of her MPs indicates that the centre ground is constantly shifting. In order to offer a real choice, parties have to break out of the consensus. We want power, but while in opposition we can make a real difference.

We've had our victories, with U-turns on tax credits and the Saudi prison contracts, as well as in Mayoral elections. Corbyn is a leader. Leadership requires courage and determination, something he has undoubtedly shown after attacks on all sides, and pressure under which most would have buckled. If he listens to criticism and works on his flaws, Corbyn could yet be PM, but in opposition

NO.

Rory Kelly



First, an important concession. Since the birth of empire, brave dissidents have been dishonestly and acrimoniously slandered as traitors who hate their own countries. Many of us on the left, sceptical of American and European foreign policy, learned to roll our eyes at the over-used pejorative "anti-Western" and grew tired of hearing that to oppose any one of "our" own policies was to support various dictators around the world. This inoculation became a necessity when debating foreign policy - but in Jeremy Corbyn's success we see a dangerous consequence of this defence mechanism.

Corbyn's foreign policy record is not only anti-imperial, as he would have us all believe, but supportive of almost any movement, no matter how thuggish, as long as it is anti-Western.

Corbyn has legitimised the state propaganda channel of the Iranian theocracy by making five paid appearances, without raising a word in protest against the state's human rights abuses. He was consistently against negotiations in Northern Ireland during the 1980s and 90s, on the grounds that the IRA should take up arms until they received an unconditional surrender. He used the word "friends" to describe a delegation from Hamas, a group who explicitly call for genocide and rule out a peaceful resolution to the Israel/Palestine conflict in their charter.

At this point, I can hear the road-blocks being thrown up in the heads of the Corbynistas. To anyone thinking that way, I beg you - ditch those excuses. These are not slanders against Corbyn, nor exaggerations, but facts. Were these positions not so controversial, he would likely wear them with pride, as he has done in the past. Corbyn is part of the section of the left wing that have long found it impossible to oppose the policies of the west, without giving support to any anti-western group that saunters by - no matter how morally repugnant.

For the most part, Corbyn was not elected on these grounds but as the most authentically anti-austerity and anti-neoliberal candidate on offer. But this foreign policy record still cripples the case for Corbyn. First, it damages his wider electability, as being able to show the left as rabidly anti-west is always a huge asset to the right wing.

Furthermore, given Corbyn's lack of experience in government, the positions that he has taken over the years are almost all he can be judged on. They reveal the intellectual and moral calibre of the Labour leader - and they show him to be seriously lacking.

Finally, any feeling that Corbyn's record on foreign policy is not important only emerges from a sense that he will be more focused on domestic policy. But anyone who looks at the struggle in the Middle East between democracy, theocracy, and military dictatorship and thinks we can shirk that conflict is seriously misled.

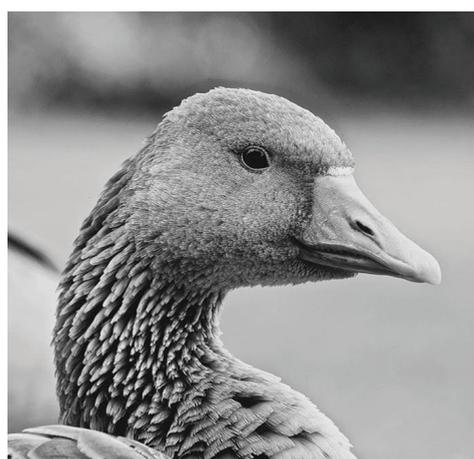
Unfortunately, Labour have made their disastrous decision clear - twice - meaning that there is only one option for the rest of

#minstergram

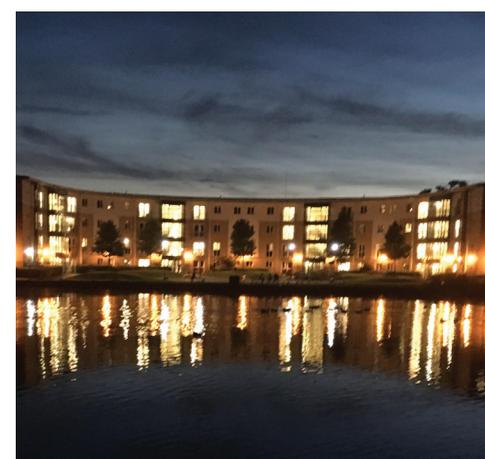
Nouse takes a look at what you've been Instagramming recently in York



@someonecalledemily_ walking to lectures is slightly easier when you have such a gorgeous campus #uniofyork #UoY #York



@tomcat_97 I like how this goose has more photogenic skills than I ever will in my life #york #goose #uni #uniofyork #cute #smile



@daysofamy Wentworth last night, from the bridge

MUSE.

Beneath the sheets

Black musician
Daryl Davis on
lifting the hood of
the modern Klan



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FILM & TV

M13 Andrew Kendall and Malou Van Rooij trawl their watch list to give you the top TV shows and films that will see you through the year

FEATURES

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M18 *Woman's Hour* presenter Jenni Murray and author Kate Pankhurst turn back the clocks to the women that changed the world



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*“Why comedy?
Because life is so sad.
And I have no other talents”*

Canadian comedian **Mae Martin** talks about stand-up across the pond and the importance of discussing sexuality

Why comedy?

Because life is so sad. And I have no other talents.

You studied at the Toronto campus of acclaimed comedy school **The Second City**. Why did you choose to study there for four years?

I had been obsessively going to see comedy shows at Second City, so when I was 13 I got stuck in at the comedy school there for a few years. I made lifelong friends and laughed more than I ever have since! (That wasn't meant to sound so bleak.)

What was your student experience like - similar or different to that of your peers who went to more traditional colleges?

Well this was just weekly night classes for a few years, so it wasn't very intensive. It felt good to be doing something I was passionate about, and I'm sure it was similar to other colleges in its levels of debauchery. I dropped out of high school when I was 15 to pursue comedy full-time, so I feel like I learned everything I know about life on stages and in dark basement venues. I hope it works out because it's my only skill set.

We've a comedy society here at York; how important are groups like this to the future of stand-up and sketch?

SO important. It's really unique to the UK, this rich history of university comedy being a training ground for the greats of tomorrow. A lot of my friends here, especially sketch comedians, started in comedy societies at uni. What a great way to meet funny people, too.

How is the UK's comedy scene different to Canada's?

In Canada the audiences at shows often consist of other comedians and friends of friends, but in the UK it seems like the general public really like going out to see comedy, which means there can be way more live acts making a living at it. Also in the UK a lot of the scene is structured around the Edinburgh Fringe, where people are churning out a new hour of material every year.

That's different to North America. It's also a bit more theatrical here and alternative, whereas in the States and Canada it's a bit more joke centric! I'm not great at writing 'jokes', I mostly tell uncomfortably personal stories, so that works for me.

A big project this year for you has been putting together your new **Radio 4** show, *Mae Martin's Guide to 21st Century Sexuality*. Why did you choose sexuality as the topic for your first radio programme, particularly on a station which is rarely listened to by younger generations?

I'M SO PUMPED ABOUT IT. I hope people will listen to it. Sexuality's a pretty massive and universal and relatable subject matter, I think. Everybody's got a sexuality. So I hope even the older generation can get into it. Most importantly I hope I've made it funny.

Despite how far we've come, gender fluidity remains a taboo or difficult subject in many areas - even typically progressive university campuses. Do you think our society is headed in the right direction when it comes to addressing notions of gender and sexual identity?

Sometimes when my dad talks about growing up in the glam-rock scene in London in the 70s, in an era of really quite mainstream acceptance of androgyny, bisexuality etc, I wonder why we slipped backwards. It's definitely been exciting to see that in the past few years, though, we've begun to loosen up about things.

It's an exciting time to be young - almost half of people under 25 are not identifying one way or the other, or feeling the need to label their sexualities, which is great. I think we'll look back in a century and shake our heads at the time we wasted being so rigid about things.

Interview by Lucy Furneaux

Editor's note



Muse Editor Jack Richardson is nearing the end

And so we come to the beginning of another academic year and the end of another editorial team. Yes, for while so many people reading this might have only been here a week, some of us have spent longer than that in the *Nouse* office alone, and it's time for us to leave.

One doesn't have to be a Romantic poet to feel the sense of ending which autumn brings, but to freshers more than anyone it's also a time to look to the future. Old and new so often collide in life, and so too in *Nouse*.

Features straddle the timeline, with a look at how some of the great women in 'her-story' are being brought to new and younger audiences (M18), but also a look at how Uber is continuing its startup disruption all the way to our ancient city (M16). In the middle of the timeline is an interview with Daryl Davis (M4), a musician who turned to simple conversation to fight the racism that has plagued his country, and the world, for centuries.

New beginnings continue, with Food & Drink's interview (M17) with Hungarian chef Eszter Takacs, whose patisserie talent continues to grow and will hopefully soon be manifested in a permanent shop in York. Music not only look back over the best albums for the year ahead (M14) but also to the cutting edge, with analysis of the first wave of AI-composed music (M15).

Another London Fashion Week comes around with all its zany trends, as Fashion show us (M9). The boundaries of visual art are pushed further and further by Jess Johnson's bizarre creations (M7), even as more and more people return to the media of their youth, namely film photography and children's literature (M6). The proliferation of reboots in today's film industry may hammer the point home a little harshly, but it remains important to remember one's roots, even as you move into situations and pastimes that might have seemed completely alien just a few months ago. Editing a student newspaper, for example. Hint hint.

In among all of this terribly symbolic birth, death and renewal, however, it is important to have some downtime. Film & TV's list of the best movies and TV series to sink your time into (M13) is an ideal candidate for this.

Whatever you do, this is bound to be a standout year in your life. Come next edition, a new Muse editor will welcome you to an edition they've worked for hours to produce. Come next autumn, they too will be showing themselves out, as they welcome new faces in.

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Klandestine Konversations

Daryl Davis talks to Jack Richardson about befriending the KKK and overcoming prejudice

Born in Chicago, Illinois, in the early 1960s, Daryl Davis is best known as a musician. Torn between computer programming and espionage when it came to boyhood aspirations, he realised that the people (discounting James Bond) he most looked up to were Elvis Presley and Chuck Berry. “What I admired about them was the fact they had made millions of people happy all over the world with their music,” he recounts. “They had never met most of these people, but had touched them with their music.”

Having decided overnight to become a musician, he started learning keyboard by ear, and graduated from university in Wash-

“
What I keep hearing from neo-Nazi members I talk to is ‘I don’t want my grandchildren to be brown’

ington, D.C. with a degree in Jazz music. Unfortunately, Elvis died just one year after Davis graduated, but he was able to play with The Jordannaires, Elvis’ backing singers, on tribute shows. His professional relationship with Chuck Berry came later, and lasted 32 years until Davis’ current semi-retirement after decades playing just about every musical style one could imagine.

For most of us, this would be enough reason for Davis’ fame, albeit confined to musical circles. There is, however, another side to the man’s story.

His parents worked for the U.S. State Department, meaning that he travelled all over the world as a child. Combined with his music tours, he says he has visited 53 countries on 6 continents and played in all but 1 state in America. One doesn’t go through something like that and come out closed-minded, and Davis was no exception. He credits his childhood with broadening his horizons and exposing him to many different races, religions and cultures.

Late one night in 1983, he pulled into a truck stop to get some food after a gig and came across a man beating a woman on the pavement. When he tried to pull the man away, he shouted “What the fuck are you looking at, nigger?” A fight ensued, and it was only once Davis started to win that bystanders (“voyeurs” is Davis’ word) called the police. The police seemed unwilling to arrest the man, but were eventually convinced on the evidence of Davis and the woman.

On the day of the man’s court hearing, all became clear. As Davis was picking up the woman who had been attacked to take her to court, she told him that he was her ex-fiancée and a member of the Ku Klux Klan. The Klansman himself had told no-one about him



IMAGE: MICROCHIP08

beating the woman, only that he “had a fight with some nigger”. He was arrested, fined, and ordered to pay Davis and the woman damages. This was to be Davis’ first experience with the KKK.

The Klan has been through three iterations since its original founding in the late 1860s in the Southern United States. They gained greater notoriety in their second active period from 1915 to the mid 1920s, during which time they adopted the infamous white robes and cross-burning practices. They grew significantly in response to the growing civil rights movement of the time, and were responsible for numerous lynchings and mobs, especially targeting African Americans. Nowadays, they exist as a number of groups under the same name. While (it seems) the lynch mobs have ended and the Klan continues its decline, this is still not a group around whom many people would feel comfortable, especially if they were black.

A few months later would come Davis’ second and far better reported association with the Klan. He was playing in a typically white country music bar which was ironically part of the same company which owned the truck stop.

After he had finished playing, a man came up to him and said “This is the first time I’ve ever heard a black man play piano like Jerry Lee Lewis.” Davis has, in fact, played with Lewis, as well as Bill Clinton and many others. He told the man, “Jerry Lee learned

to play from black blues and boogie-woogie piano players, and he’s a friend of mine.”

The man was skeptical of both claims. Davis offered to discuss it in more detail, and over a drink the man admitted to being a Klansman. Davis’ reaction was not to insult, as we might at a distance, or get the hell out of

The lesson learned is: ignorance breeds fear

that bar, as we might were we in his position, but to talk. “When two enemies are talking, they’re not fighting,” he says. Astoundingly, the two became friends, united by music.

Davis believes that this approach is the best way to combat racism and intolerance. Although he had experienced racism before, the encounter with organised hate groups was something new. Thinking of his own upbringing, he realised that ignorance was the crux of the issue, so talking directly about what Klansmen thought and why it was

wrong would remove that ignorance.

Eight years later, Davis realised he wanted to write a book about racial hatred, using the Klan as a focal point. He turned up to the man’s apartment unannounced and, after some persuasion, was able to find out the address and phone number of the head of the KKK in Maryland, Roger Kelly.

The meeting required significant planning, and not just because of the organisation’s secretive nature. “My secretary called him,” Davis says, “and I told her, ‘do not tell Roger Kelly I’m black. Just tell him I am writing a book on the Klan.’ I wanted her to call because she’s white. I knew enough about the mentality of the Klan that they would never think a white woman would work for a black man. She called him and he didn’t ask what colour I was, so we arranged to meet.”

Unsurprisingly, the meeting was tense. Kelly brought with him an armed bodyguard, a ‘nighthawk’ in Klan-speak, in military fatigues. Neither of them had expected Davis to be black. Every time Davis reached into his bag to change the tape, the guard reached for his gun. Tensions rose even further when “a loud, strange noise” began to occur. Starting to fear for his life, Davis stood up and slammed his hands on the table.

“When my hands hit the table, my eyes locked with his, and he could read them. We stared into each other’s eyes. The bodyguard was looking back and forth at us, but then my secretary Mary realised what had happened.”

A bucket of ice and soda, brought in for refreshment, was shifting as the ice melted. Suddenly, everyone relaxed.

"We all began laughing at how stupid we all had been. In retrospect, it was a very important lesson that was taught," he says. "All because a foreign entity of which we were ignorant, entered into our comfort zone, we became fearful of each other. The lesson learned is: ignorance breeds fear. If you don't keep that fear in check, that fear will breed hatred. If you don't keep hatred in check it will breed destruction."

His book, *Klan-Destine Relationships: A Black Man's Odyssey in the Ku Klux Klan*, was published in 1998. Now, Davis estimates he has around two dozen KKK uniforms hanging in his closet, given to him by ex-members who changed their views after talking with him. "I never set out to convert any of them," he says. "I simply engage them in conversation and exchange ideas, opinions and facts. If they are smart enough, they come to the conclusion on their own, that they need to reconsider their ideological position. That's always better than trying to force your own ideology on someone else."

He doesn't only have hoods and robes as trophies. Davis has served as a pallbearer for one Klansman's funeral and attended another's wedding. He even has a medallion with the words 'KKK - Member in Good Standing' on it. His involvement with hate groups and the Klan in particular may strike some as not only brave but ghoulish. Many are rightly astounded that these people are afforded any respect at all, especially by a man they consider fundamentally inferior and violent.

In reality, Davis believed that "a Klansman or Klanswoman is not stamped out of a standard cookie cutter. They come from all walks of life and have various reasons for join-

Trump has allowed the world as well as a lot of dumb Americans to see this country for what it really is: hypocritical and racist

ing the organisation." Some may join out of family tradition; others may feel they need to be a part of the organisation because it seems like the only way to get by in a community. The appalling views are, of course, part and parcel of the Klan's identity, but Davis sees this as the manifestation of ignorance and fear, even brainwashing.

He remembers a conversation with a Klansman who said that black people were naturally violent due to their genetic makeup: "I said 'Gary, what are you talking about?' He said 'Who's doing all the shootings?' I said 'Let me tell you something, I am as black as anyone you've ever seen and I've never done a drive by or a shooting.'"

When he challenged Gary to name three black serial killers, something seemed to click. Davis claimed that maybe white people had a violent gene, and that this claim was just as ridiculous and inflammatory as what had been

said about black people. "He was very quiet after that," he remembers, "and I knew it was sinking in."

Donald Trump might not (openly) be in favour of the KKK, but given his words and actions of the last few months, and the fact that KKK leader David Duke has offered him his support strikes a worrying note. Davis, however, sees Trump's rise as fitting with the current mood of many Americans, and not even totally negative.

Whites are becoming less and less of a majority racial group, going from about 80 per cent in the 1960s when Davis was a child to 66 per cent nowadays. By 2042, it is predicted that America will be 50/50 white and non-white. Add to this tension a black president and the fact that white supremacist group membership is on the rise even as the Klan continues to decline.

Davis describes how groups aim to legitimise themselves by claiming to fight against illegal immigration, but that this is just code for 'non-whites'.

"There are plenty of people here from Canada, the UK and Eastern Europe, who are here illegally, but the KKK is not concerned about these folks," he says. "What I keep hearing from the Klan members and neo-Nazi members I talk to, is, 'I don't want my grandchildren to be brown.' They are very concerned about miscegenation/race mixing."

Trump provides a focal point for these views, and carries with him the legitimacy of the Republican Party, even if this legitimacy was unwillingly bestowed. After decades of decline, these groups feel emboldened to speak their minds, knowing that they will be tolerated or even mirrored by potentially the most powerful man in the world.

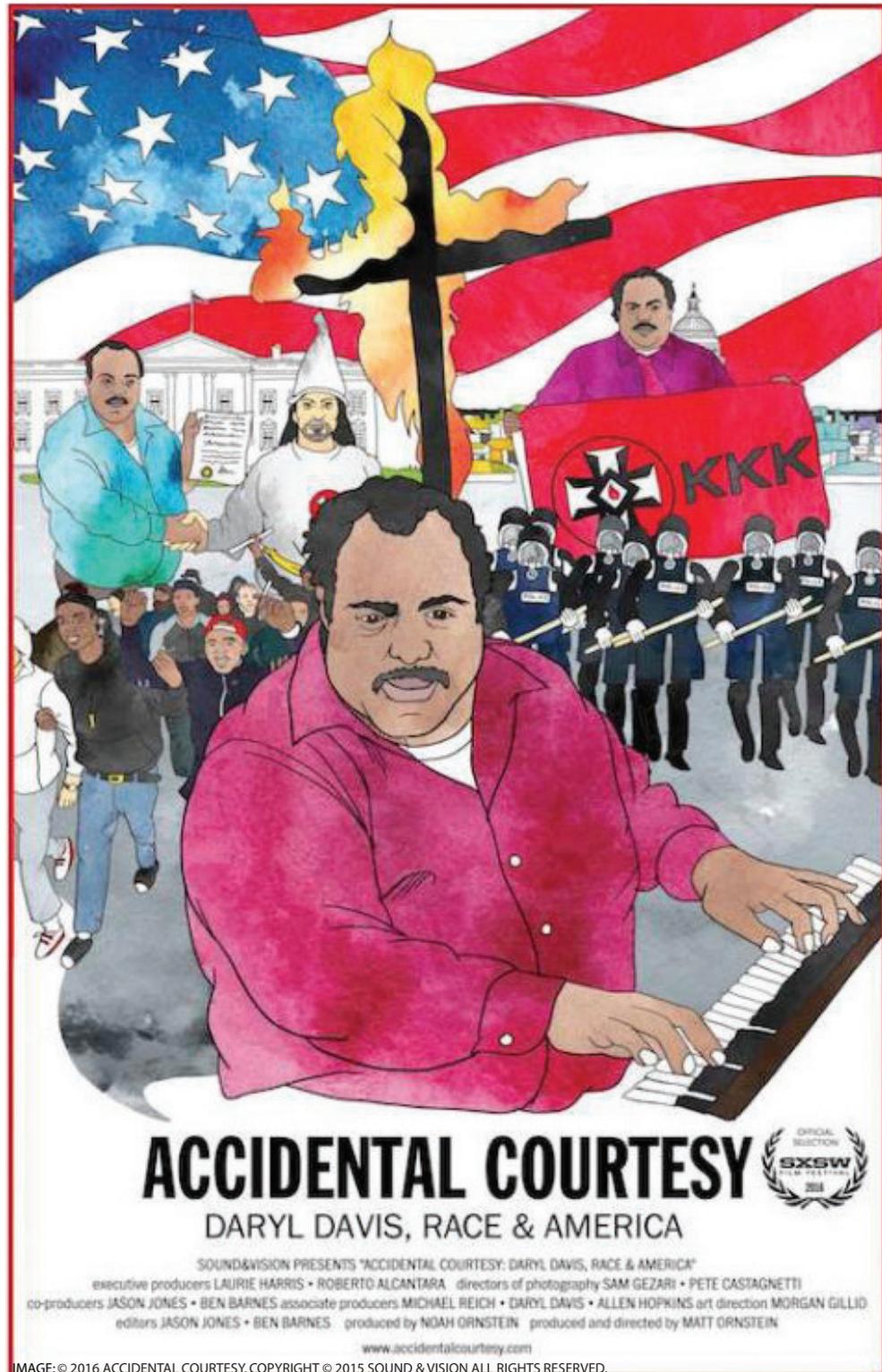
However, Davis believed that there is an upside: "Trump has allowed the world as well as a lot of dumb Americans to see this country for what it really is; hypocritical and racist. People are lifting the taboo off the conversation of racism and beginning to speak honestly with each other. This is a great improvement." Implicit racism, arguably the more dangerous variety, has burst into explicit racism, which is far easier to combat and far harder to turn a blind eye against. People of all races have united against this trend.

The fact that this situation exists at all, however, is proof that there is still much more to be done. While Trump's rise and Davis' example certainly help, there remain many who are totally unwilling to talk to those they disagree with.

"A lot of people have anti-racist groups. They get together and meet in a diverse group and all they do is sit around and talk about how bad discrimination is." But the problem comes later, Davis says. "Someone says 'there's a Klan group across town. Why don't we invite them to come and talk to us?' and the other person says 'Oh no! We don't want that guy here!' Well, you're doing the exact same thing they are. What's the purpose of meeting with each other when we already agree? Find someone who disagrees and invite them to your table."

This behaviour, all too common nowadays, stands in the way of progress, and not just for racial equality. The unwillingness of one party to talk to another, even if they think their views are reprehensible, fosters further hostility and mistrust. Just look at the Brexit vote, where Leavers were patronised and insulted by a lacklustre Remain campaign and supporters who were too assured of their victory. Only with honest debate can social divisions truly be solved.

"Invite your enemy to talk," is Davis' advice. "Give them a platform to talk because then they will reciprocate. You never know, some small thing you say might give them food for thought, and you will learn from them. Establish dialogue. It's when the talking stops that the ground becomes fertile for fighting." **M**



Lost in adaptation

Jaz Hayward considers whether we should regret the adaptation of classic children's literature beyond the book

Many of us can say we came to properly discover books as a child originally through another medium. Perhaps you watched Danny DeVito's 1996 film adaptation of *Matilda* and just had to know more about the wretched Wormwoods, or maybe you saw a theatrical production of *Peter Pan* and had the desperate desire to become a lost boy; either way, your love for those cherished childhood stories didn't necessarily start at the source. When done well, adaptations of children's books can drive their target audience to read, providing them with a thirst to

know more. Not only this but they also provide a good medium for those children that struggle with reading.

It's not surprising then that there has been an influx of adaptations of children's books recently, from the new live action version of *The Jungle Book* to a Sky 1 television series of *Fungus the Bogeyman*, and the trend doesn't appear to be waning. Nonetheless, Holly Williams recently wrote in *The Independent* that many of the adaptations of Roald Dahl's unconventional novels diluted the "pure imagination" found in his works. It begs the ques-

tion whether the same could be said of others.

Franchising is certainly a drawback that often comes with adaptation. On the one hand it allows a real life connection to our favourite stories. What child doesn't enjoy dressing up as their literary alter ego? The more merchandising, though, the further away we get from that enclosed world of the book. You can always have too much of what you love and with popular adaptations often comes a bombardment of franchise where the series arguably loses its original charm. That story we loved as children ultimately becomes more about that Mattel action figure than anything else.

Many adaptations do not even show a sign of connection to the original. Take *Frozen*, for example; very few could tell you that it was originally inspired by Hans Christian Andersen's *The Snow Queen*. Other books suffer because the adaptation seems to give all that the book ever could, too. This perception doesn't encourage the hordes of young readers that adaptations potentially could which seems a missed opportunity in a world where literary reading is still sparse. We could even argue that adaptations do little for children's books. There are still many *Artemis Fowl* fans despite the lack of film franchise.

Many who take on the challenging step of adapting children's literature do so in their own unique style. Though some often put a fresh spin on our old favourites - Wes Anderson's version of *The Fantastic Mr Fox* for example - others lose the pivotal themes of the original. The various failed attempts at adapting Dr Seuss works are essentially down to focusing too much on the humour than any-

thing else. With children's books being especially moralistic, this is a shame.

When done right, adaptations are able to appease all generations but this can be dangerous territory, as adapters often try to cater for a more mature audience than the

When done well, adaptations of children's books can drive their target audience to read

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books intended. Very few who have seen Peter Jackson's often violent *The Hobbit* trilogy would agree that that was entirely what J.R.R. Tolkien had in mind when he created the original bedtime story. Moreover, the ease of adaptation encourages a form of lazy parenting where adults no longer have to necessarily read to their children.

It seems then, that although we love literary adaptations, we should be careful with our favourite children's books. Just as we are sick and tired of the Hollywood remakes that degrade our beloved classics, we should extend this cynicism to works for children too. Either we do things with care and consideration, or we let the child pick up the book.



Let's get physical

In an era of digital cameras, Jack Richardson considers whether we should be returning to film stock

Go out to York or anywhere else on a sunny day and you'll see more and more film cameras slung around the shoulders of passers-by. Like vinyl, film photography is experiencing a resurgence, especially among those for whom the medium was already outdated when they reached their teens.

Film has always been the technology of choice for some professional photographers. Not only is it much cheaper to use large film sizes than it is to use large digital sensors (which regularly run into the tens of thousands of pounds for the body alone), but film still has an advantage with things like dynamic range, which allows it to show both the very bright and the very dark parts of a scene. Try taking a photo of a sunset on your phone and you'll see how far behind our eyes digital sensors still are.

The fact that film photography often requires much more manual control, and is comparatively less forgiving than digital, also makes it a common step for those wishing to improve their photography.

These two groups, in my opinion and experience, have existed since digital cameras became mainstream. But just as vinyl has moved out of the basements of audiophiles and into youth culture, so has film use boomed. To a significant degree, I put this down to a desire to reclaim those aspects

of film that were lost in the move to digital: physicality, randomness and ritual.

A mobile phone now has a camera that's good enough for just about anyone. Just look at the shots taken by David E. Klutho on the new iPhone 7 at an NFL game to advertise the device's camera. Now we expect this level of performance. This takes the pressure off image creation. A film camera from the 1980s isn't too big, looks nice and can be used to take an excellent photo, but there's nothing stopping someone from taking out their phone straight after to snap exactly the same shot. Nevertheless, the ritual of physical dials, a mechanical shutter, winding the film on and later getting the photos developed is something that's as novel to our generation as it was inconvenient to our parents and grandparents.

To those unused to film photography, and especially those unused to manual controls, the experience carries with it a degree of randomness. Messing up an exposure, blurring the image or missing focus are increasingly difficult to do on a mobile phone but are the blights of a film photographer's first attempts. For us, who can get a technically perfect image without trying, this randomness allows us a new, more conceptual vision of the world around us.

The price of being able to carry every photo we've ever taken in our pockets is that they are stored digitally, not physically. This has its

benefits, but to those who see this as expectation, not convenience, its flaws are apparent also. File formats change, for one thing. In 10 years time, I'm unlikely to be able to display the photos I took yesterday without some serious jiggery-pokery. Physical prints last as long as you can keep them, with no special equipment needed. Especially with the trend towards instant photography, these prints are not only physical but unique. In a world where sharing is key, the ability to only pass on a single version makes the action all the more special.

Apple was lambasted for saying it 'took

courage' to remove the headphone jack from the iPhone 7 and for describing the industry standard audio connection as 'old' and 'analogue'. They were not wrong on any count. But while advances towards digital have been a major factor in the death of analogue technology, they have also allowed an entirely new generation of photography enthusiasts to experience the latter with the former as a kind of safety net. Committing photos to a 36-exposure roll of film nowadays takes courage also. Ironically, the very technologies that pushed film away now allow more of us to experience it.



Panoptical illusions

Liam Mullally speaks to artist **Jess Johnson** about world building, her fascination with 1980s sci-fi and bringing her work to virtual reality

Experiencing Jess Johnson's work for the first time can be a disorientating experience; it appears to have its routes in a very specific, although perhaps not immediately accessible, mythology. This does not, however, mean that it is not immediately compelling or intriguing - on the contrary it boasts a certain weirdness which draws the viewer in. Her latest installation, *Eclectrc Panoptic*, is no exception.

The images that make up her work appear to visually represent the coming together of specific influences that are not immediately clear to the viewer. "Part of my formative mental stew," explains Johnson, "was an interest in comic books, science fiction, horror movies, early videogames, all that stuff...I'd devour anything detailing highly fantastic imagery." Through to adulthood, this interest has manifested itself into an interest in world-building, into "the construction of entire fictional universes across books, art, movies, role-playing games, computer programming, real-world cults and belief systems". Her work represents a holistic approach to world building, which is perhaps why it seems to be reaching to a specific mythology or language, because it is gradually developing these things through self-reference and the repetition of visual tropes.

Johnson's work is very much pre-occupied with the languages it speaks, both visual and verbal. She expresses, for example, an interest in Russel Hoban's book *Riddley Walker* where "a new world has been formed from the wreckage of the old. Language itself has been shattered and put back together." The thing which strikes Johnson is language's ability to steer how we see the world: "It's incredibly restrictive in this way. It's like it has a stranglehold on how you experience reality. If there's no words to describe an experience then it's like you're wading through mud... If you want to build a new world you need a new language to describe it. Language brings the world into focus. So naturally the language of my artwork is evolving and the language is gaining form at the same time."

The name of the installation itself seems to demonstrate this interest in how the restrictions of language construct our understanding. Johnson explains how 'Eclectrc' is taken from the work of Edward Deeds, an artist who spent the majority of his life in a Missouri mental institution, drawing on office stationery. "In this one drawing I saw," she describes, "he had misspelled 'Electric' but it had this powerful deliberation about it. I loved how he'd very intentionally made the word his own." The second half of the exhibition's title, 'Panoptic', is derived from the Panopticon. "As a work of architecture, the Panopticon allows a watchman to observe without the occupants knowing whether or not they are being watched. As a metaphor, the Panopticon is used as a way to trace the surveillance tendencies of disciplinary societies." In both instances Johnson is intervening with language on a structural level in an

attempt to describe, and perhaps even influence, its ability to control our understanding of her worlds.

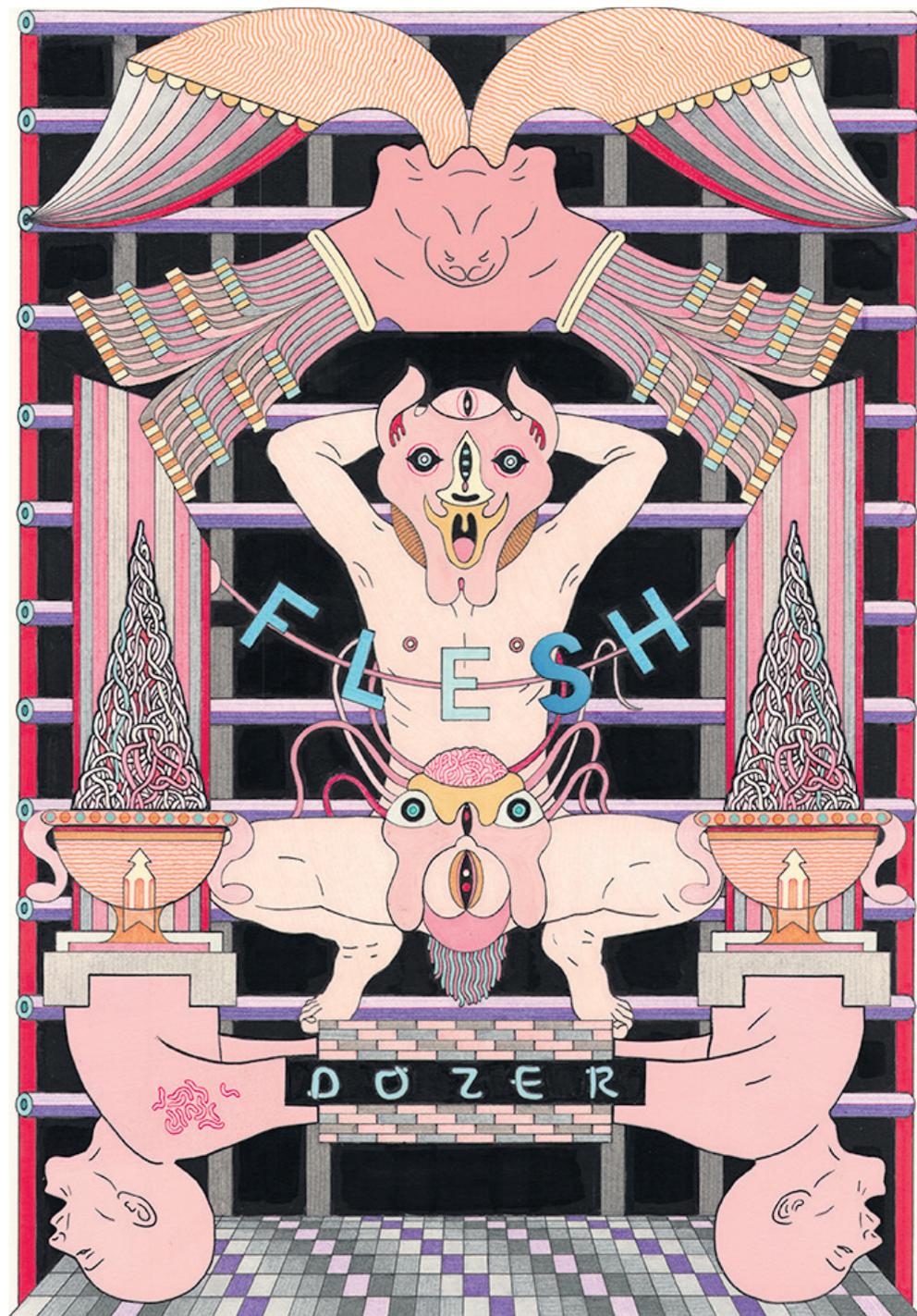
The very authoritarian, architectural elements of Johnson's work are also met by uncanny organic forms that move through her imagined spaces. Johnson's contorted and sometimes demonic humanoid figures will occasionally look mockingly out of their frame. Johnson describes this as a tension between the rigid and organic elements of her work: "I have the tendency to get lost in repetitive drawings and endless detail... but I find that tendency in myself irritating too. It's like being on the end of someone's long drug monologue. If I let it go unchecked I'll create this impenetrable wall of pattern. That's where the organic elements and bodies come into play. The figures and organics give people a way in." So while they may be otherworldly, Johnson's humanoid figures exist ultimately to make her spaces more accessible, for her viewers to project themselves into.

The centre piece of *Eclectrc Panoptic* is *Ixian Gate*, a virtual reality experience that arose from collaboration with Simon Ward. It makes a particularly interesting addition to Johnson's work by immersing the viewer in her imagined world. It is perhaps the natural progression to her use of human figures to allow her viewers a way into her work, literally placing them within the spaces. *Ixian Gate* is a truly immersive experience, not only because of how it looks but also because of how it sounds. Collaborator Simon Clarke approaches sound design from the perspective of someone influenced by the 8 and 16 bit eras of videogame sound: "He uses the ideas of musical economy, enforcement through repetition and the notion of heavily

If there's no words to describe how you're feeling then it's like you're wading through mud

delineated sound that hangs in space." In the context of *Ixian Gate* this approach draws its audience in gradually, starting out as relatively sparse and becoming more complex as the piece's visual elements develop.

For Johnson, the creation of worlds isn't something which sits comfortably within the borders of picture frames, in fact a quick Google image search of Johnson's work will reveal plenty of constructed spaces. "It seemed the logical step for me to extend the fictional world of my drawings out into physical space... my intention was to create these

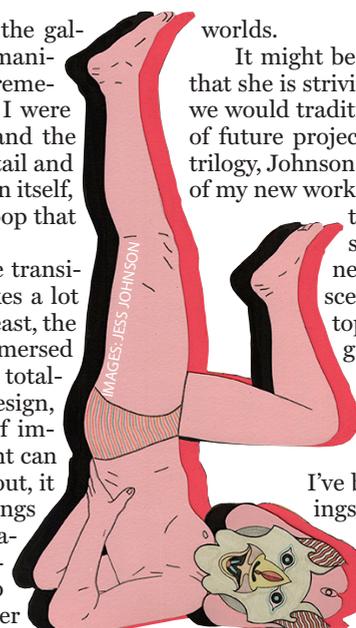


parallel worlds carved out of the gallery corners...The notion of 'manifesting your own reality' is extremely appealing to me. It's like if I were able to render the drawings and the environments with enough detail and internal logic that feeds back on itself, I'd be able to create a reality loop that will spark it to life."

From this perspective, the transition of her work into VR makes a lot of sense. For a brief period at least, the viewer can be completely immersed in a foreign environment. The totality of the visual and sound design, along with the unique kind of immersion that a VR environment can bring (if you have yet to try it out, it really is on another level), brings uncanny life to Johnson's creations. It is from this disoriented position that she is able to rebuild how you understand her

worlds.

It might be a mistake, however, to think that she is striving to build a fantasy world as we would traditionally understand it. Talking of future projects and a possible *Ixian Gate* trilogy, Johnson describes: "The compositions of my new work have been moving away from the conventional narrative scenes of earlier works. The new imagery is more chaotic; scenes appear to be layered on top of each-other and time and gravity stretches out equally in all directions...I think I'm less interested in the mythology of the world, or trying to ascribe structure to its stories. I've been thinking of recent drawings as being analogous to a computer data scroll printout; or revealing the engine room of a gigantic planetary organism." M



Power dressing: The politics of fashion

Grace Howarth explains that the art of being taken seriously has never been so difficult

With the presidential election looming, the latest quips, satirical articles and political arguments being thrown about by the public and indeed the party leaders seem to be the only thing that news feeds consist of these days. As November approaches, the race to see who will become the next president is on everyone's minds for many reasons. Fashion and style choices may not be many people's priorities and are arguably of small bearing in the grand scheme of the presidential elections, but it is an aspect worthy of some attention never the less.

Back in February the former Prime Minister David Cameron made plain his disapproval of labour leader Jeremy Corbyn's lack of a proper suit and done up tie, and generally unkempt appearance during a debate in the House of Commons. Despite having no connection to the NHS statistics being discussed at the time, the comment clearly proved that a smart, sharp and high end suit is still an expectation in many people's eyes when it comes to a politician's apparel. This expectation is a fairly new phenomenon.

The idea that the smarter and better dressed that a politician is, the more supporters from entire demographics he or she will gain, makes sense. Of course a person can do their job just as well dressed in a dated, frumpy suit of indeterminate colour as they would were they dressed by the tailors of Savile Row; it is the impression the clothes give of the wearer that is important and most people, especially politicians, need to make a good impression.

Before TV existed this was arguably not such a big deal; fairly few people would have much of an idea of what style choices or designer a politician wore, being only able to base their opinions on grainy black and white photos in the newspapers. The age of technology has of course changed things significantly. Self-awareness and self-image are of great importance, especially if you want to attract followers.

Nowadays, things are different. Politicians are very much



IMAGE: HELLOGIGGLES.COM



IMAGE: COMMONS.WIKIMEDIA



IMAGE: COMMONS.WIKIMEDIA

in the know. They are aware that the public seek leaders whose style and dress appeals to them. They want a leader they can relate to and feel at ease with. The bold, red, Ralph Lauren power suit worn by Hillary Clinton at her first face to face debate last Monday, speaks for itself. The warm bright colour is inviting, TV friendly and most of all, very top level professional. This staid style of suit is often worn by Clinton, but it does not perhaps reach out to all demographics, such as younger voters for example. The sturdy 'pantsuit' has come under some criticism, with the former editor of *Vanity Fair* Tina Brown highlighting its lack of authenticity, which matters more than likability.

It's not enough these days, to look and be nice: a politician needs to not only create a stylish image but create an atypical one too, if they hope to appeal to young voters in any case. If the majority of those who are eligible and use their vote are over the age of 30, then Clinton's choice works. A politician in a democratic country need only cater to the majority and here she is succeeding.

Appealing to millions of people however is understandably difficult, but none make it look as easy and effortless as First Lady Michelle Obama. Favouring the clothing lines of some lesser known designers such as Jason Wu and Isabel Toledo as well as the big names in the fashion world such as Alexander McQueen and Givenchy, Obama's stylistic choices have made her somewhat of a style icon in the fashion world. Appearing on the cover of *Vogue* twice, Obama's penchant for flared skirts and a bright colour palette appeals to all demographics.

Back in July Obama gave an excellent speech, endorsing Clinton at the 2016 Democratic convention. Dressed most appropriately in a stunning blue, cap sleeved dress with a flared skirt and sleek shoulder length wavy hair, the first lady's attire epitomised the perfect professional dress. Obama's style is a combination of warm and serious, thus, she continually wins in the style stakes.

Fashion review: The Kenzo for H&M collaboration

The unveiling of the new distinctly diverse collection

Few collaborations create such a stir as H&M and whichever big designer label they are partnering with this time round. The annual catwalk meets high street partnership has taken place again; this autumn H&M and Kenzo have joined forces. The combination of the very exceptional and classic garments of Kenzo with the ever popular and more modestly priced H&M make for an irresistible mix. This one off partnership ensures that every item in the collection will be special and, as Kenzo's designers Carol Lin and Humberto Leon stated, "create a once in a lifetime experience".

Lin and Leon have continued to push the boundaries with this latest offering to their customers by making people take risks with what they wear, as opposed to playing it safe. They wanted a diverse collection and in this they have certainly delivered. Instead of approaching the biggest, most powerful women of the catwalk (last year Jourdan Dunn and Kendall Jenner fronted Olivier Rousteing's Balmain Nation campaign to great success) Lin and Leon have recruited super model Iman Abdulmajid and actresses Chloe Sevigny and Rosario Dawson, as well as rapper Suboi and hip hop art-

ist Chance The Rapper. Kenzo and H&M have certainly put forward a diverse line-up, demonstrating that the collection is about more than what lies on the surface but instead is looking to make a deeper, more serious connection with its buyers.

With the most recognisable face in the line up, Iman carries the campaign. Her awe inspiring career in fashion has spanned three decades. Now retired and in her sixties, she is still a firm favourite with both *Vogue* and *Harper's Bazaar*. Her close connection to the brand and the eminence of its designs in the fashion world made the decision for her to be the face of the campaign an obvious one.

The collection is a mix and match of colours and patterns, giving the line a fun loving, youthful appeal. The prints-on-prints effect of tiger stripes and leopard spots against the brilliance of an 80s inspired colour palette provides a particularly eye catching design. Royal blues, vivid greens, bright pinks and reds are given a new lease of life when added to loose fitting, casual items such as jogging bottoms and sweaters. Knowing the success of H&M's previous partnerships, this will truly be one to watch.



IMAGE: KENZO

The top trends from LFW SS17

Grace Howarth looks at the trends to tap into next spring

AVANT-GARDE

Avant-garde fashion very often falls on the precipice of what most people judge to be wearable; more often than not it falls into the decidedly unwearable. However, quirky and unconventional were key looks across the catwalks this season. The Gareth Pugh collection in particular saw statue of liberty-esque spiked crowns, adorning the heads of models. These were worn with contrastingly slim fitted severe black dresses, decorated with mosaic gold pieces. Pugh cites the “greed and narcissism” of society, as the stimulant behind his creations. The golden spikes from the head wear represent the sun’s rays creating a further analogy of the warming yet destructive capabilities society has, which is an all too relevant subject. However, some designers focused on the more whimsical and casual side of things. Bora Aksu’s collection featured floaty fabrics and huge frills that seemed to take up entire dresses. Aksu’s preference for a lighter more pastel colour palette suited the outfits and demonstrated that clothing can still be beautiful and awe inspiring without following the rules.



IMAGE: INDIGITAL



IMAGE: INDIGITAL



IMAGE: IDIGITAL

SUPER SLEEVES

The length and shape of hemlines have been subject to change since time began. Nowadays, the length of a hemline is usually just a good indicator as to the occasion. Over the past few seasons the sleeve has until recently managed to avoid much alteration. However, designers are now drawing attention to this much forgotten area - after all sleeves are not just there for simply practical reasons. Sleeves were a key feature of LFW SS17. Simone Rocha, Christopher Kane and JW Anderson collections showcased puffed, gathered and bell shaped sleeves, adorned in lace or floating way past the fingertips. Such looks are more commonly associated with fairy tales and wizards and may not be the most functional, but then fashion rarely is.

RUFFLES & LACE

After deciding that sculptural shapes and avant-garde style are on trend, to now look to the past seems a little indecisive but that is in keeping with fashion’s nature. Designers often use nostalgia and memories from childhood to inspire their collections. This season lace and ruffle have been revitalised and brought back to life, from elaborate trimmings on floor length gowns by Ashley Isham, to the ruffles that adorned the Zeynep Kartel and Erdem collections. These two classical features of fashion, more commonly associated with the Elizabethan period, made a huge reappearance. Erdem’s SS17 line was largely inspired by the British Queen Henrietta Maria, wife of Charles I, and her court dresser Jean Ker. The jacquard trousers and suits in charcoal and cream floral patterns elegantly lace up using only black ribbon, highlighting the history simply in the manually laced up fastenings. The 17th century styles shone in Kartel’s collection with waterfall ruffle details, and high necked gowns and oversized cuffs, showing that the classics never go out of style.



IMAGE: INDIGITAL



IMAGE: SIMON ARMSTRONG



IMAGE: CLEO GLOVER

HEADWEAR

In keeping with the occasionally outlandish nature of the fashion world, hats and head accessories cannot go unmentioned. There were the fairy like floral crowns in Bora Aksu’s collection, and the more stiff and structured spiralling details on the headwear from Sadie Clayton’s SS17 line. In contrast Erdem opted for shapeless black sun hats, which obscured the models’ faces and gave them the appearance of a DIY castaway look, while Christopher Kane featured more modern creations with distressed leather hats and Ryan Lo’s designs conjured images of the circus, with half piratical and half Napoleonic hats. The takeaway is, despite not always being selfie friendly, hats will be an essential part of the spring summer wardrobe.



90s

Revival





Fashion Editor: Grace Howarth
Photographer: Malik Haddington-Ahmed
Model: Martha Moutsipai
Clothing: Dog & Bone Vintage



Game review: *Virginia*

Platform: PC, PS4, Xbox One
Release date: 22 September 2016

The game begins with a close-up shot of a face, my own face, the anxious face of soon-to-be FBI Special Agent Anne Tarver. That close-up shot slowly relaxes as Anne breathes deeply, composing herself in a bathroom mirror. Soon after, we walk down a long, colourful, wood-panelled corridor as the lighting plays with the shadows on the wall and Lyndon Holland's beautiful orchestral score grows louder and louder. Before long,



however, all that we've seen thus far - the regular and the mundane - is thrown out, mixed in with the surreal, with the dreamlike, with a world of symbols and images that come to haunt us throughout the game. In these first moments, we get a glimpse of what sort of game *Virginia* will be.

Drawing heavily on the language of cinema, *Virginia* feels more like a two-hour playable film. There's little room for player expression, the game corralling you through a series of scenes, sometimes minutes long, and sometimes just a few seconds long, cutting between a scene in a diner to a scene in a car, or cutting

from the present to the past, or from waking life to a dream.

This lack of player expression isn't a dig at the game. It knows its strengths. It works as a tightly-paced, narrative-heavy game. It works as a game too. It isn't just a film disguised as a game. In someone's living room, for example, it's important that you're able to walk around and learn things from the environment at your own pace.

It's especially important because *Virginia* has absolutely no spoken dialogue, relying instead on the characters' expressive faces, its well-detailed environments, lots of smart, cinematic editing, and a strong orchestral score. This is probably the greatest of *Virginia*'s achievements: its ability to introduce some of the great elements of movies without shitting on that which makes games great too.

But if all this sounds too high-minded and intellectual for you, there is a great story being told here too. The problem, however, is that the story is hidden in flashbacks, surreal dream sequences and recurring enigmatic symbolism. It takes its cues from some of the work of David Lynch in that way, and, if that form of storytelling, one which forces you to think and rethink what you know, is something that appeals to you, then *Virginia* is for you.

It left me, after its two hours, deeply confused, but still intrigued by all its secrets and mysteries. I remember my confusion at the game's final 30 minutes most of all, but I shouldn't fail to mention several expertly crafted sequences in the game, its editing and



IMAGES: VARIABLE STATE

score, most of all.

And in remembering those moments, and even remembering my confusion, I certainly want to come back to it a second time. Much like *Mulholland Drive* and *Thirty Flights of Loving* before it, *Virginia* can be frustrating, but it can also be an intriguing, wonderful experience if you let it be, one that asks its players to return to it again and again, to better piece together the narrative puzzle it has intricately laid out.

Naveen Morris

To Praise or to Curse him

Callum Sharp talks about *Hearthstone* and the problem of RNG

I play *Hearthstone* a lot. Like, a lot. Most of my spare moments at home are taken up with the bite sized experience. It's not hard to see why. I have a history with card games, from my youthful days trading *Yu-Gi-Oh* cards, to my awkward pubescent years with the *Pokemon* trading card game, and finally to my sixth form career as a *Magic the Gathering* player. I am the perfect target to spend a lot of time (and money) on Blizzard's time sink. To be honest I don't know if I enjoy it anymore, I just play it, usually with a YouTube video open in another tab, sucking most of my attention away.

So why do I keep playing? I'll get back to that question later. What must be first addressed is a recent drama in the *Hearthstone* community surrounding random number generation (RNG) in competitive *Hearthstone*. Especially surrounding the card of Yogg-Saron.

Yogg-Saron was introduced in the recent full expansion of *Hearthstone*, *Whispers of the Old Gods*, and has found his way into decks in recent tournaments. For those unfamiliar with *Hearthstone*'s expansion systems, they are released once a year, introducing a number of new cards into the collection. The competitive mode (Standard) allows only cards from the last two expansions to be used. Yogg-Saron, introduced in April will be around until April 2018.

The issue many people seem to have with this card is its massive swing poten-

tial. Its effect when played has the potential to clear your enemy's minions, create your own, deal significant damage to your enemy, and heal yourself. Due to this potential, many players view this card as unfair because a losing player can win very suddenly.

From a game design perspective there are several things that defend Yogg-Saron. Firstly, he is a 10 mana card, which makes him extremely difficult to play. If he didn't have a dramatic effect, there would be little point in playing him.

The other, and most important, reason why this card is fair is its delta of randomness. When you play

Yogg, the only thing you know is how many spells will be cast, you have no idea what will be played and who it will target. All you can do is hope. This gives the card such a delta of randomness (potentially for a fantastic or terrible effect and all possibilities in between) that it is a huge risk to play.

Taking a more statistical approach, using the analysis of IgnatiusHS from Reddit, Yogg has a 42.04 per cent chance to cast a spell that has very little impact. It only has a 1.77 per cent chance to heal a random target, and a 7.96 per cent chance of dealing relevant (3+) damage to a random target. There is no guarantee this card will be good,

hence its title as 'Hope's End'.

But for me, the biggest reason that Yogg-Saron is not the bringer of all that is evil is how much fun I have every single time he is played. If I am watching competitive play, when a player plays Yogg-Saron it's desperate. A random flurry in an attempt to claw back from the jaws of defeat. Even when it doesn't work, it is always entertaining to watch the faces of the players as they react to each new spell.

Going back to my original dilemma, Yogg and randomness in general is the main reason I still play *Hearthstone*. A virtual card game is able to achieve randomness that a physical one would never be able to. Whenever Yogg is played, I pause my YouTube video, and my entire focus is on the game in front of me. The joy of a successful board clear, only to be met with dismay as I draw too far into my deck and enter fatigue, is a rollercoaster of emotions that I can not seem to quit.

At the end of the day, video games are entertainment. If a game wants to be successful then it needs to entertain a variety of player types, not just the competitive ones. I quit *Magic the Gathering* because I was sick of losing on turn three to a meticulously crafted token deck. I play *Hearthstone* for the colourful moments of pure luck that shock, scare, and excite me. If *Hearthstone* truly wants to be competitive then maybe it does need to limit the number of dramatic RNG cards at tournaments. As long as that doesn't affect the game I play. However, I definitely won't be watching any more competitive play.



IMAGE: HEARTHHEAD.COM

Getting through the term

Andrew Kendall and Malou Van Rooij recommend six films and TV shows to survive autumn term



BACK TO SCHOOL (1986)

Rodney Dangerfield heads back to university as a 65-year-old freshman to help his son get on to the diving team. *Back to School's* plot is nothing if not ridiculous. Beneath the unbelievable plot, though, is great hilarity, and an undervalued comedic classic of the 80s. In that way its ridiculous, bathetic charms make it perfect for the return to school. I admit, I have seen this mega-hit at least 30 times so I'm never certain if my penchant for it is borne out of nostalgia or actual critical insight. Still, the most important thing we can pack in our arsenal to get through the dark and dank autumn term is a sense of humour in the face of the ridiculous. For example, do not ask yourself why a first year Politics student is doing an advanced English course on Ulysses on his first day; instead, forget logic and just enjoy the zany meanderings on show and hope, like Thornton Wilder, that you can pass your end of term exams by lustily reciting Dylan Thomas' 'Do Not Go Gentle into that Good Night'.



BUFFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER (1997)

'Welcome to Hellmouth'. Title of *Buffy's* first episode or a metaphor for the return to university? You decide. But in your television and film journey throughout the term it's important to remember your classics and few shows marry teen hysteria, adult wit, sci-fi blood and gore and inappropriate humour as well as *Buffy*. Rewatch the 100+ episodes to see just how excellent and subversive Josh Whedon was before he became (partially) responsible for the onslaught of superhero movies. You may not be navigating through vampires and demons with your trusty stake, but *Buffy* offers an essential capsule to the not so distant past and a great reminder that teen drama can be art. Moreover, if you feel jaded by the difficulty of the autumn term and you foolishly, nostalgically, begin to yearn for younger days at high school, *Buffy* will quickly remind you that high school is the one true horror of human life. You'll probably conclude that university is not so bad, after all.



BROOKLYN (2015)

Brooklyn emerges as one of the finest British films of the current decade and will forever be remembered for its lead performance. Of the films listed here, it's the most likely to resonate with the international students, who make up roughly a third of students at University of York. But you do not have to be a stranger in a strange land to understand the charm of Saoirse Ronan and this lovely 2015 film. Eilis Lacey moves to New York from Ireland and deals with the difficulty of living away from home. The sweetness of *Brooklyn* is almost too good to be true but this little film manages to avoid being saccharine or twee and instead offers a mature perspective on coming of age. Don't let the DVD cover misrepresent the film as simply a romantic foray in New York. *Brooklyn* offers a layered perspective on the joy, sadness and inevitability of growing up and away from the place you were born, with the reminder that you will never be the first nor the last to experience those changes.



STRANGER THINGS (2016)

This sci-fi/horror series about the investigation of a 12-year-old boy's disappearance will get you through a long day, while teaching you valuable and sacred wisdom. The dedication that the boy's high-school friends devote to finding him should not only serve as a source of inspiration for you to locate and safely bring home that one drunk friend on a night out, but also as a metaphor for sticking together through dark uni days. They have walkie-talkies, we have phones; they have telekinetic powers, we have text-messaging; they ride together on their eighties bikes, we ride on the 44 and 66. All with the very same motto: we're all in this together. No matter how crazy campus will get in essay, exam or duck-breeding times, just remember it will never be as frightening as living in Hawkins, Indiana (unless you greatly enjoy long dark hallways, flickering lights and the company of slimy supernatural creatures). Yay for York!



SCOTT PILGRIM VS THE WORLD (2009)

Scott Pilgrim must journey through his beloved's torrid past before he can win the prize of her affection. And on the way he must wage battle with her seven terrible exes, each one more dastardly than the last. If that's not the ideal metaphor for university dating then what is? If you are wary about approaching this film in general, your trepidation would be understandable - a fear of Michael Cera? Scepticism at its overly busy visual palette? The ostensibly too smarmy humour? But fear not. The unusual melange of oddity works to *Scott Pilgrim's* benefit - most of it emanating from Edgar Wright's pitch perfect direction and the ensemble's inarguable charm. Ultimately, the sheer irrepressible joy of the entire film makes it a necessary autumn term staple. Bring it out in week six when you realise you've made a mess of the first term. If Michael Cera can find love and success, so can you.

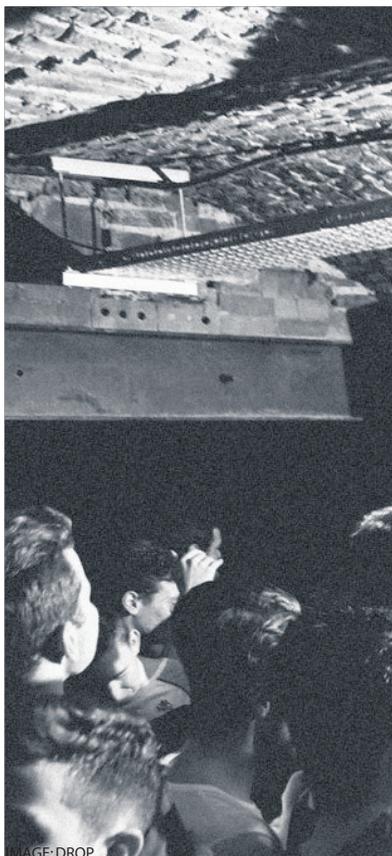


UNBREAKABLE KIMMY SCHMIDT (2015)

This is currently the best original show on Netflix. Sure, *House of Cards* has the sleekness, *Orange is the New Black* has the zeitgeist and *Get Down* has the hipness. But this Tina Fey comedy is consistently excellent with its charm, warmth, wit and effectiveness. And those qualities coupled with a continuous comedic flair make it the best choice for a new term at university. We all should aspire to be as happy-go-lucky and brashly positive as the eponymous heroine, Kimmy Schmidt. With 26 episodes of 23-30 minutes the show won't last very long if you're prone to binge watching. But they're so good, that rewatching doesn't make it lose its flavour. So as you prepare for Freshers' Week, there's nothing wrong with starting on *Kimmy Schmidt* to put you in a positive mood. If *Kimmy* can be a ray of sunshine after years of being kidnapped and trapped in a bunker, you can get through the stress of Freshers' Week.

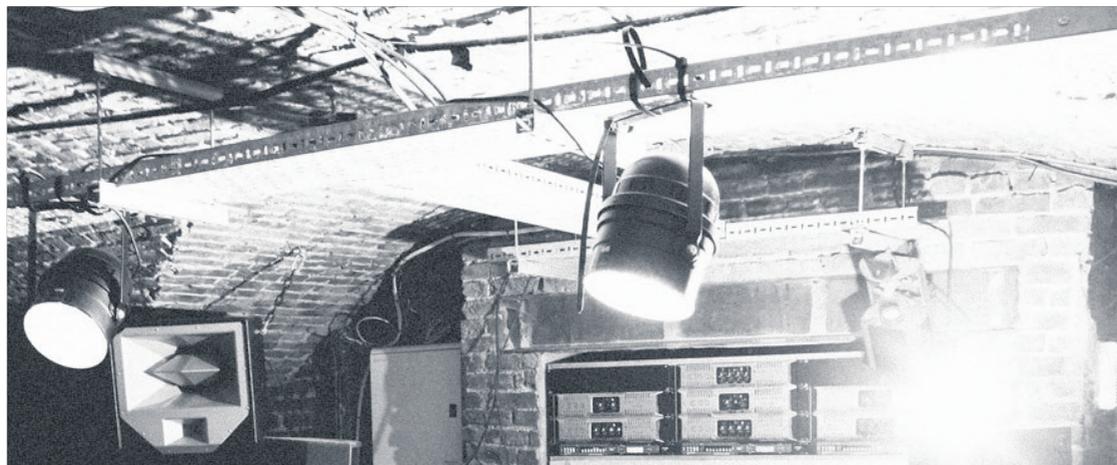
The ultimate freshers' anthology

Nouse Music offers the essential records to kickstart your university experience



The chill out: Jamie Cullum - *Twentysomething*

When university life takes its toll and you're craving a little space, let Cullum's silky smooth vocals melt your worries away. Its youthful bounce and gentle demeanour make this album a perfect middle ground for any music taste. Next time the deadlines are getting you down or your housemates are driving you mad just block out the world with 'Singing In The Rain'. His soulful timing gives every track a little skip, just enough to perk you up on the rainiest of days. Stay upbeat with 'I Could Have Danced All Night', mellow out to 'These Are The Days' or dream of romance to 'Blame It On My Youth'. The deluxe edition features a cover of Pharrell's 'Fronin', the perfect post-party chill track. Even after a dozen listens, *Twentysomething* still manages to bring rich relaxation, and is essential for any music collection. **EL**



The all-nighter: Burial - *Untrue*



When it comes to actually getting work done, music is an invaluable tool to help us wade through the mire of last-minute essays and assignments. For those who will inevitably experience the feeling of snuggling down in bed only to be stabbed with anxiety and awoken by the realisation that the 2,500 words close analysis you were set two weeks ago is due in approximately four hours and thirty two minutes, *Untrue* is your answer. The musical equivalent of 200mg of modafinil, the South London producer Burial doesn't pull punches with your situation. Over an array of dark synths, Playstation 1 samples and garage beats, Burial's *Untrue* is a persistent driving force that displays itself as a warped and oppressive experience that instils determination and focus like nothing else. Dance music never sounded so thick and imposing as it does on *Untrue*, and if you've left that assignment to the last minute at 3.08 AM on a Sunday, it's certainly the record for you. **AN**



The Friday feeling: Foster the People - *Torches*

The days may be getting shorter and darker, but Foster the People's 2011 album is drenched in Californian sunshine. Right from the start, 'Helena Beat' throws you into an upbeat mood before reaching their hit, 'Pumped Up Kicks'. This is, of course, equally suitable for personal listening to put a spring in your step on the way back from the last seminar of the week, or to put on the speakers as you crack out the beers at 6pm on Friday afternoon, ready for a weekend of blissful sleep and rest. Delving deeper into the album reveals some 1970s disco beats and falsetto vocals, all with the relentlessly cheerful and inspiring synth that forms the core of their sound. It's not all the same, however. Later tracks become more introspective, but this has the effect of easing you out of the high gently, rather than letting you come crashing down at the final crescendo. **JR**

FOSTER THE PEOPLE
TORCHES

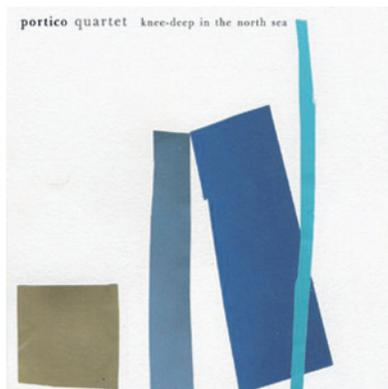


The noise blocker: Godspeed You! Black Emperor - *Lift Your Skinny Fists Like Antennas to Heaven*

Through the natural progression of the academic year, the number of students retreating to the overly-heated library walls increases, and with this so does noise. Of course if you're lucky enough to find a seat in the silent areas of the JB Morrell in mid-May then noise is the least of your worries, but if you're like the vast majority of students stuffing themselves onto the floors of the studious buzz-zone you're going to struggle with noise. This is where post-rock steps in and why we should all be eternally grateful to groups of long-haired politicos scraping screwdrivers across guitars, because they are grade-savers. Godspeed You! Black Emperor really are the kings of post-rock and know how to blot out external noise allowing you to be absorbed in a wave of horns, blaring guitars and percussion. *Lift Your Skinny Fists Like Antennas to Heaven* delivers on all fronts of great post-rock being overwhelming, all-encompassing and simply captivating, allowing you to remove distractions and get stuck into your revision. **AN**



The 4am comedown: Portico Quartet - *Knee Deep in the North Sea*



With the sudden and shattering removal of Willow two years ago, York students have unfairly lost out on post-club nightlife leading to more students rolling out of Mansion or Kuda to simply go home. Once you've made the trek back from town you're pretty much zonked but you're not ready for bed just yet. You need something calm to accompany the world-solving conversations that are bubbling to the surface as you drink milk from the carton and try to form a nutrient rich meal out of tinned sweetcorn, pitta bread and pesto. Portico Quartet's first LP *Knee Deep in the North Sea* delivers calm more than anything else. With the virtuosic yet tasteful sax playing of Jack Wyllie and exotic hang-drum counter melodies provided by now-indie pop darling Nick Mulvey, *Knee Deep in the North Sea* provides the sultry and relaxing air needed after a stonker of an evening that has left your trainers and head in similar states. **AN**

SHIT MUSICIANS SAY.

Bon Iver on if he stops doing music

"[I'd] open a small breakfast joint, play the music I want, maybe have shows in it at night; people could drink whiskey"

The *Nouse* guide to live music in York

Ant Noonan reflects on the surprising vitality of York's underrated music scene

For me, music has always been integral to the places I've lived in. I'm very fortunate to live in South East London and despite the state of gentrification contorting the city and its inhabitants, I've been lucky enough to have been surrounded by one of the largest music scenes in the world.

Stretching from the psychedelic circles of Dalston pulsing with colour and haze to the ecstasy fuelled streets of Elephant and Castle that spill out soft-focus scenes of reverie and fast forgotten friendships under the covers of the Ministry of Sound smoking area, music is awash in the capital.

When I first arrived in York, I was apprehensive to be quite honest. It's quite clear to most people, students especially, that York is the tranquil and sleepy medieval city that once prided itself as England's second capital, but in comparison to the stereotypically (and laughably) 'EDGY' cities of Manchester, Leeds and Bristol it doesn't quite cut the mustard with regards to a great musical nightlife. Please, if you think like I did, understand that you are quite mistaken.

Despite its size and stature, York guards an incredibly intimate and passionate music scene that burns brightly within its walls, and for someone to overlook this they are missing out thoroughly. One of the best parts about York's musical landscape is the sheer variety. If your tastes feature thumping house and shuffling garage in a sweaty setting of intimacy and closeness then the underground brick walls of Mansion are your best bet, promoting York's surprising dance and techno scene that easily rivals our neighbours Leeds.

For those into more experimental and

'indie' flavours, look no further than the bustling punk and noise-rock scene that has been gradually emerging over the past few years with fierce and fiery gigs regularly taking place in The Fulford Arms and Dusk.

Of course, these are only small and specific examples but if you're looking for something different and interesting, then simply walk into either The Nook or Fossgate Social to indulge in a wide array of alternative openmic events that promote a welcoming and easy-going attitude reminiscent of the surrounding city that clearly breathes music and culture.

On the outside, York may appear to be a community based on tea-shops and pensioners but within the hallowed walls lie musical power and depth. With York hosting little trinkets like Earworm records which is a small cottage turned record store behind the hustle and bustle of Goodramgate and the enthusiasm that leaks out of The Inkwell on Gillygate, the city's music scene shines brightly.

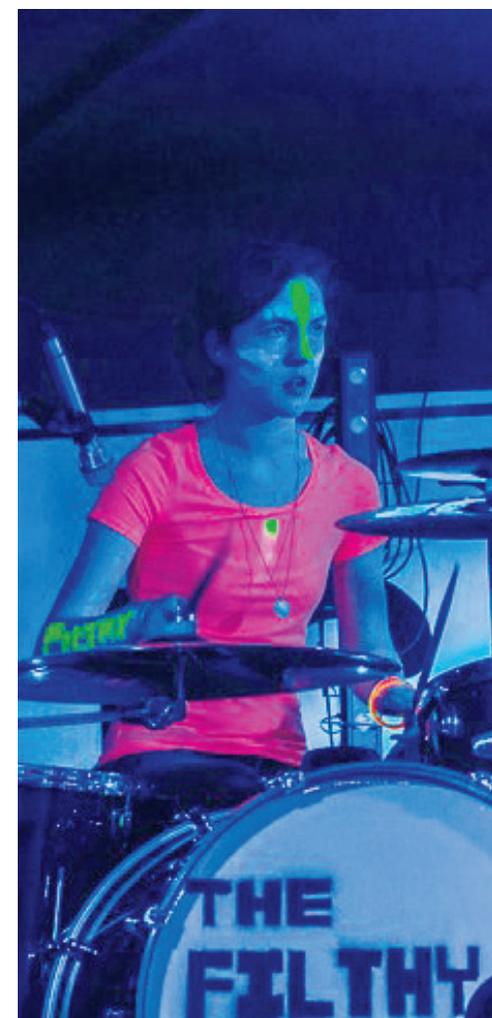
Like these stores, clubs and venues, York emerges strong against the aesthetic-driven facades of Manchester or Bristol which lack intimacy, tenderness and honesty.

As someone who thinks about music every waking second I was worried when I came to York, but now as an elderly third year I'm looking back and realising the idiocy that I wrongfully held.

The beauty of York is that if you look for greatness you will find it in abundance and with music that is certainly no exception. I wish you many happy, music-filled days and nights within this celestial city I love and will dearly miss.



IMAGES: CHRIS MACKINS



OK...computer?

The Music Editor considers the future with the advent of AI composed pop music

In observing the lightning-paced changes in technology over the past few years such as the rise of app-based conveniences and the emergence of self-driving cars, it is very clear that the future has crept up on us fast.

With traditional professions like engineering, medicine and even law being gradually swallowed up by the advent of computer-programming and exponentially increasing AI technology, the world of art has smugly tried to convince both the world and themselves that they are separate from this technological revolution, yet as we have recently seen, this is not the case.

Jangling with the harmonies and throwaway psychedelic lyrics of The Beatles, Sony CSL Research Laboratory have written the first ever AI composed pop-song, 'Daddy's Car'. Arranged by feeding over 13,000 lead sheets featuring melodies and chord diagrams that imitate the style of world famous artists into the AI Flow Machines software, 'Daddy's Car' has caused a peculiar reaction to this incredibly futuristic and Kubrick-esque sensation.

Objectively, it's a great track featuring floating John Lennon style vocals and pop-hooks aplenty as well as experimental reversed breaks and warbles, but it just feels a tad strange to know the backstory.

Now, the Flow Machines software isn't



technically playing or producing the tracks; that is done by French composer and arranger Benoît Carré who receives the sheet music from the AI before writing the lyrics and playing the physical instruments, but there is a peculiar sense of perfection that feels somehow unhuman.

Here positives may emerge though. Cynicism aside, having computers compose music for us may open up completely new and left-field options for experimentation.

While the human brain may only be able to imagine and create art based on experience and memory, a computer has an infinitely expanding database that unlike humans, doesn't forget information.

This allows for songs like 'Daddy's Car' to sound almost exactly like a Beatles tune by being able to research the style of music, process it and create a variation similar yet distinct from the information it was built from.

Yet, that all sounds a bit false to me. I'm a sappy art lover who believes that the beauty of art is in its innate humanity and by having a computer create that is almost blasphemous.

Sure, technology is going to make our lives easier and faster and more convenient and for a lot of people, infinitely better, but maybe for things like music or literature or visual art, they should be left to human hands rather than robotic ones.

All hail Uber?

Lucy Furneaux joins the debate on the impact of Uber taxis following the launch in York

Most of us have heard of Uber, but since its launch in 2009 the company has attracted a remarkable amount of controversy. First founded in San Francisco, Uber allows members of the public to earn money by effectively becoming self-employed taxi drivers; the company has now spread to more than 66 countries and over 500 cities worldwide, 20 of which are in the UK. As of September this year, one of those is our own city of York – so will it be of any use to us as students? And what impact could it have on York's local taxi services?

Once registered as an Uber driver (according to the website, the process takes less than four minutes), you use your own car to pick up members of the public and transport them to wherever they need to be, earning money in the process.

Customers (or 'riders') can 'hail a cab' from the free-to-download Uber app, which tells the closest driver that a journey has been requested. The rider can then see the driver's photograph, along with their name and car registration number. They then watch the car arrive in real time on a map, and receive a notification when the driver has arrived to pick them up.

Since its launch, Uber has become remarkably popular and a whole host of other similar applications like Lyft and Hailo have followed in its wake. Although these are also rising in popularity, none can really compete with the success of Uber which even launched a helicopter service in Sao Paulo, Brazil, earlier this year.

It's true that there are numerous benefits to using Uber, and it's easy to see why many opt for them over alternative transport services. For instance, Uber is a cashless system: riders register their credit or debit card with the app before requesting a ride. During the ride the app calculates the fare, usually depending on the amount of time the journey takes; upon arrival at the required destination, the app automatically transfers payment directly to the driver.

For students, Uber could be particularly handy: the majority of us will predominantly travel between town and campus or surrounding areas, and if somebody is already in an Uber taxi and travelling in the same direction, you can request a ride from that cab and share the fare with the other rider.

Ellie Stott, a second-year English student, thinks the Uber service could be useful for students who club regularly: "[on nights out] we've been told a taxi couldn't come for another hour to an hour and a half to pick us up", she says. "Getting an Uber would probably reduce the waiting time as I can see one that's nearby."

It's also claimed that Uber is cheaper than other services. Speaking to local media, an Uber spokesperson claimed that to travel from York train station to main



IMAGE: WWW.PUBLICDOMAINPICTURES.NET

would cost between £6-7, and to Heslington East campus between £8-9, depending on traffic. There's also the fact that Uber drivers don't have access to riders' personal numbers, unlike taxi drivers, which can make some customers feel safer, as can the fact that drivers and riders can rate and review each other through the app.

However, Uber has attracted huge amounts of criticism since its launch, being labelled 'pirate taxis' by some taxi drivers' unions. In February of this year, around 8,000 London black cab drivers staged a protest against regulation changes by Transport for London which licensed Uber in the capital by halting traffic around

Whitehall, Westminster and the West End, blocking whole lanes with their iconic black cabs. It's believed that this one day of strike action cost the economy around £125 million, which only goes to show the significance of their industry.

London black cab drivers have to pass the 'Knowledge of London' course and test, first initiated in (and little changed since) 1865. It is the world's most demanding training course for taxi cab drivers: by the end, black cabbies are supposedly experts on London, so it is little wonder that it takes 12 examinations and an average of 34

months to pass.

Uber drivers, on the other hand, have no such test to pass in any of the cities they work in; this means it cannot be guaranteed that your driver knows the best or shortest route, so it may not work out cheaper after all. Uber has been criticised for its 'surge pricing' – a system whereby prices rise when there is excess demand for drivers, such as on busy nights or in bad weather.

What's more, it has been argued that although Uber drivers are licensed by local city councils and suchlike, there is little stopping

“ More than 30 claims against Uber drivers of sexual assault or rape were made within 12 months

them taking advantage of, say, intoxicated students after a night out; given that payment is transferred automatically, the driver could theoretically take a longer route back in order to earn more money.

In May of this year, new figures revealed that violent offences against taxi drivers have risen from 856 in 2014 to 1403 the following year – a rise of more than 60 per cent. Black cabbies have since blamed Uber for the large increase, citing their inadequate knowledge of

the city; since Uber arrived in London in 2012 the total number of offences against cab drivers has almost doubled.

It also doesn't take a particularly lengthy web search to find horror stories of incidents against riders, too – in May this year, the Metropolitan Police Service revealed that 32 claims of sexual assault or rape had been made against Uber drivers in London in the previous 12 months.

Yet there are many untrue rumours that circulate about the danger of Uber drivers, one being that their required CRB check only goes back six months, while for other cab drivers it stretches back six years; in reality this is not the case – the checks are exactly the same and cover the same time period. Uber argues that their rating service, GPS tracking and the fact that their drivers carry photo ID (unlike many other cab services) all make their service much safer than some professional companies.

Here at the University, Streamline Taxis is the recommended service for students; their business cards and number are handed out in Freshers' Welcome Packs. They provide a reliable 24-hour service, let you know the price of the journey before you go into the car, and even open their taxi office up during the night so students have somewhere safe to wait for a cab after their night out.

Streamline provide a 10 per cent student discount, and also have a safety policy in place specifically for students at York universities. If students have run out of cash or are too intoxicated to pay for their taxi ride, they can instead show their student card for a free ride home, and then pay the following day at the Streamline office.

It's hard to say for certain what impact Uber will have on York's current taxi services or on its residents, students and locals alike. Its lower prices and easy-to-use app might seem an attractive prospect to students, but as with any similar service it's important to exercise caution and, as ever, keep yourself safe.

Bake to the future

Eszter Takacs brought her fine art to her cakes. Now she talks to Lara Medlam about bringing those cakes to York



IMAGES: ESZTER TAKACS

Shutishuti Patisserie is a one-off in York. Eszter Takacs' exquisite patisserie creations are a real cottage industry. I met up with Eszter to discuss the finer points of European patisserie, starting from scratch in new towns, the pros and cons of social media, and why tradition and innovation are such natural bedfellows.

Unsurprisingly, Eszter's beautiful cakes are informed by an artistic background. After studying painting in her native Hungary, she came to London to pursue an MA in Fine Art. And in among all this creative endeavour, the need to make a living arose. So she waitressed, and as is often the case for anyone with an interest in food, the kitchen side was far more appealing. "I started training in the pastry section. I sort of asked myself onto the job," she confesses. Life oscillated between art and patisserie, working as an artist's assistant, then making cakes in a café in Greenwich.

But the real turning point came when she moved to Falmouth: "Going down to Cornwall was a big change, and I thought 'What else can I do?'" So she turned her mind to what interested her, what she was good at, and began to make cakes independently. "I started doing markets and festivals, all just myself. And a bit of bespoke. People who wanted something for a special occasion." Similarly, she missed the tradition of cake shops in Hungary and Europe more generally, and wanted to offer something different: "I want to try and show what else is possible."

Having established a new guise as a pa-

tissier, life threw a new flavour into the mix: she moved to York only a year ago. She quickly took up a position as a pastry chef at a busy hotel but realised that she was ready to do it herself. "Because it's too important not to try" she adds, and since no independent patissiers exist in York, it's all for the best that's Eszter's so busy. She jokes that "There's always something to do" but you can see why: designing and maintaining your own website, forging links with other businesses, doing all the photography, social media and PR. Not to mention actually making the cakes!

One challenge is ensuring everything stays as delicious as when first baked. "When you bake just for home, that's a different realm to baking professionally, where the product has to stay the same for five days. Or if it's a mousse cake it has to remain fresh and enticing at least for a few days."

However, as every imaginative chef knows, not everything turns out perfectly, especially if you experiment with interesting ingredients. A recent green tea roll experiment didn't pass the test: "Green tea oxidises in the air. So it gets less green over the day, especially if the sun shines on it. For me that's not good enough so I'm not going to sell it."

Her creativity is fuelled by a mix of food cultures and her love for visual art and craft. "I love the French for their technique in pastry, but my childhood food memories are all related to Hungary, so it's poppy seeds and layer cakes, but now I live in Britain and I want to relate to the people here and so I am constantly thinking about the local palate and bridging that gap of French-Hungarian-British with a

new creation that doesn't necessarily match any nationality."

Take the Shutishuti lemon cake. Rather than classic lemon drizzle, Eszter uses a French recipe for a more aerated sponge, and always tries to infuse it with an additional seasonal flavour - a rather appealing passionfruit at the moment.

Eszter seems to work with a quiet fortitude; it's not surprising that's she been able to anchor herself in York so seamlessly after

The way you present what you make is just a representation of what's going on

”

so little time. She consistently highlights the importance of locality. "Everyone uses social media, so do I. It's nice to have a growing visual portfolio on Instagram but in the end that's not going to make it or break it, because you really have to be in touch with what's local. Talking to people directly can lead to great friendships and bring real opportunities. I'm so happy I met Rebecca and Russ (owners of Kiosk). I work with them very closely and it's more of a collaboration really. We do a regular supper club, where I get to play with plated

desserts."

Insight into the reality of starting a business isn't all Eszter knows - it's fascinating hearing about the intricacies of patisserie. Layer upon layer, multitudinous techniques and elements, with texture just as important as flavour.

But the perfect appearance is no conceit: "The way you present what you make is just a representation of what's going on inside it. It's not to show off, but it signifies the amount of work, also in the flavour of things."

And the flavours reveal a true playfulness, such as her miso cookie. "I like it when desserts don't have an overwhelmingly sweet flavour. It has to have balance, if it's only sweet then it's not interesting". Eszter's approach is holistic, taking the technical expertise of European patisserie, the best of local produce and a lot of effort and imagination.

All her learning and practice has been "a natural progression", but certain technical points have to be fully understood, especially with cooked creams. "In cooking you have your mother sauces, you have the same in patisserie, where more than one dessert can originate from one base recipe.

"I didn't always think this way, that if you alter one ingredient it will result in a new creation, but it's logical and practical to work this way, and it was a revelation when I discovered it." If revelations like this can deliver basil, mint and raspberry choux tarts, or little grape, fig and poppyseed cakes, bring them on.

And because you're probably all wondering, the endearing name Shutishuti comes from süti, the Hungarian nickname for cake. Yet another innovative take on tradition. **M**

Eszter's pop-up can be found at The Rattle Owl, 104 Micklegate, Fridays 10-3

Making Herstory

Authors **Dame Jenni Murray** and **Kate Pankhurst** speak to Becca Challis about fantastic women and where to find them



MARY SEACOLE



JANE AUSTEN



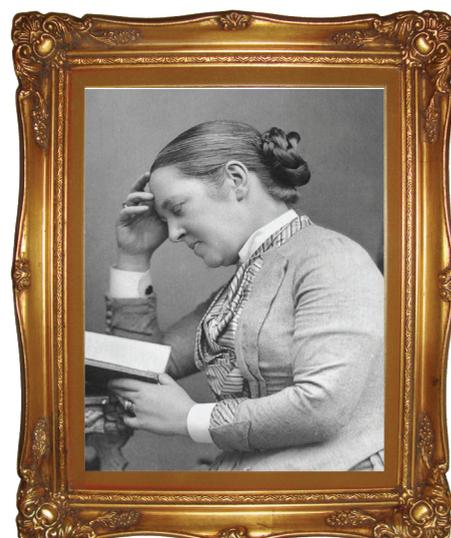
MARY QUANT



ADA LOVELACE



DAME JENNI MURRAY



ELIZABETH GARRETT ANDERSON



MILLICENT GARRETT FAWCETT



QUEEN ELIZABETH I

Dame Jenni Murray is no stranger to feminism or writing. Her new book *The History of Britain in 21 Women* combines these in a new way, by writing Britain's history through the women whose lives and achievements have helped to shape it. Worryingly, a large proportion of these women are likely to be unknown to readers, and even those who are famous have faced obstacles and challenges that you might not have heard about. The book is a re-education, informing you of those lives that were missed from the history books because of a male-centric society.

In fact, there's a recent trend in publishing books which seek to re-educate the public by raising awareness of women who were previously invisible and silenced. These titles include Murray's upcoming release, as well as Rachel Ignatofsky's *Women in Science*, Anne Shen's *Bad Girls Throughout History*, Kate Schatz's *Rad Women Worldwide* and Kate Pankhurst's new children's book *Fantastically Great Women Who Changed the World*; all of the books have been or will be published in September or October of this year.

So why is this surge in feminist history, or 'Herstory', happening now? The upcoming

election could see the first female President in the United States, the second female Prime Minister has taken office in the UK, Nicola Sturgeon is in power in Scotland and women like Angela Merkel are maintaining power in Europe. It is becoming more and more common to see women in positions of power, however there is still a real taboo around feminism. Emma Watson's recent UN speech was dismissed as "whining, leftie, PC crap" by a Sun columnist. Women are criticised by anti-feminists for fighting for equal pay, while in 47 countries women are not legally protected against spousal rape. Feminism has been criticised for its name, with some arguing it should be renamed 'Equalism'.

It is a confusing time in the history of feminism. These books, though, are taking the movement back to its roots by celebrating the women who began it: those who helped to prove that women are capable and intelligent and should have equal opportunities. These are books of hope, to look back into the past and give faces and personalities to feminism, to help focus feminism now on the integral values of the movement and inspire people once again.

It is clear to see in her book that these

are women who have made a deep impression on her. In her chapter on Elizabeth I, Murray admits that "I became obsessed with her during my teenage years. She may have been born to her job, but her journey to the throne was long and hard." Elizabeth I is the only Queen included in the book, which may seem strange to some considering the achievements of both Victoria and Elizabeth II. Murray's justification? "My main interest lies in the women who made their impact not because they inherited their role but because they fought prejudice and succeeded despite their background and their gender."

This can be seen in her selection of women like Mary Quant, who worked her way up in the fashion industry, becoming a success through her innovative ideas such as buying clothes 'off the rack' rather than buying a pattern. Murray remarks, "my wardrobe, freedom of movement, confidence and, I guess, liberation, and that of so many of us, would be poorer even now without [her] genius." Another pioneer was the remarkable Ada Lovelace, the daughter of Lord Byron, who led an incredibly interesting life and is now acknowledged to have helped pave the way for computer science: "I like to think Ada

Lovelace is the ultimate confluence of art and science, genetically programmed to be her father's and her mother's daughter – a poet and a computer buff," and it is a very special talent regardless of gender to be gifted in both sciences and humanities.

In her writing about these women, Murray is nothing but honest. She does not expect these women to be perfect (the men certainly weren't!) and this is evident in her chapter on Mary Seacole. Seacole desperately wanted to be a nurse in the Crimea, however she was rejected by the British nurses on the basis that she was half Jamaican and half Scottish; they also did not approve of her nursing technique. This did not stop Seacole, who went to the Crimea anyway and set up her own hospital, helping hundreds of British and Russian soldiers. After her return she "wore medals including the British Crimea Medal and the French Légion d'honneur, but there's no record of her being awarded such honours" and as Murray points out, "it's difficult to know how much of Seacole's history can be assumed to be true, given so much of it comes from the memoir where she describes herself as wonderful."

An example of a woman whose ambition



changed history is Elizabeth Garrett Anderson. She was the first woman to qualify as a medical doctor against all the odds, facing huge opposition from her male classmates – aside from Dr James Barry who had to pose as a man to be admitted to medical school. She also cofounded the first medical school for women, as well as the New Hospital for Women in 1878 which employed an all-female staff and focused on women's health. A figure in politics as well as feminism, Garrett Anderson was the younger sister of Millicent Garrett Fawcett, a leading suffragist; Elizabeth joined her sister in the fight for women's right to vote. She was the first female to hold a Mayorship as Mayor of Aldeburgh in 1908, though sadly Garrett Anderson died a year before women received the vote in 1918. "I just wish I could tell her that in 2016 60 per cent of all medical students are female," Murray says. "They have a great deal for which to thank her."

In 1999 Murray was awarded an OBE and was made a Dame in 2011 for her services to broadcasting and the groundbreaking work of *Woman's Hour* – the first programme to ever discuss homosexuality, breast cancer and prostate cancer. Murray is also patron of the Breast Cancer campaign (having survived the disease herself), a patron of the Family Planning Association and President of The Fawcett Society. She really is an inspiration, and by writing this book she is further promoting feminism: "I kept finding more and more women who needed greater exposure. We'd spoken about all of them before on *Woman's Hour* but the idea of putting them all down on paper permanently was fascinating to me."

I asked Murray what feminism meant to her: "It means equal responsibility. My feminist lightbulb moment happened when I was 14-years-old. My mum had got a job, against her will after I'd told her that she was bored and should get one. She was mortified; she said 'People will think Daddy won't be able to keep me!' Our daily routine involved me coming home from school to lay the fire and help prepare supper, only to have my father come home, sit by the fire with the newspaper, eat supper with us, say thank you and then get up and go and sit by the fire to finish it. One day I just simply asked him why he didn't help us with the clearing up or cooking. He was the loveliest man, none of it was on purpose, it

just hadn't occurred to him. He said 'I don't mind helping'. This was not the point. I replied 'It's not about helping, it's about doing your share.'"

Murray's advice to men on becoming feminists? "Men have to change their attitude and the way they see things, to accept that you share everything: working, having a family, the washing – it's all a shared responsibility."

"They should also read my book! It's terribly important that people learn a feminist history. It's nonsense that no women's history is taught on the A-Level syllabus; these women completely changed the way in which we live. We need to know." This is something that has been an integral part of her sons' upbringing. "They would never have left the table without clearing it, I was always making them aware of women's equality. They're better cooks than I am! They're both incredibly respectful towards women; I kept telling them that they may grow up to be doctors, vets, lawyers one day but that women will too."

Another issue that Murray highlighted was childcare. *The Sunday Times* revealed that a mother returning to work after having two children needed to earn £40,000 a year to pay her childcare bills and not be out of pocket. This leaves £4 a day for other bills like shopping or electricity. Murray adds, "It's always assumed that if a child comes into the family the woman has to stay at home and look after them. This is not how it should be; there is a real struggle to find good quality child care."

Women's issues often come hand in hand with those that affect children. I spoke to Kate Pankhurst about her new children's book *Fantastically Great Women Who Changed the World*. When I asked her about the issues that affect women today and as a new mum she highlighted the difficulties around gender stereotypes, "which are thrown at children still in the womb!"

Pankhurst is aiming to achieve the same as Murray, but by re-educating our youngest generation and focusing on women all over the world, not just Britain: "I really hope the book offers a starting point for children and families to further discuss and explore the lives of all the great women featured in this book including Mrs Pankhurst." With Pankhurst as a surname, immediate connec-

tions with Emmeline, the leader of the Suffragette movement, spring to mind. For this Pankhurst, "to have any sort of connection to a family who sacrificed so much to change things in such a dramatic way for women feels extremely humbling."

Pankhurst's selection process was similar to Murray's: "I found the best way to narrow down the list was to try and include women with a range of skills so we have a scientist, a sportswoman, an artist, an adventurer and I also wanted to include a girl's story (Anne Frank)." Kate also discovered unknown names in her research, "for instance Gertrude

“ These are books of hope, to give faces and personalities to feminism

Ederle, the first woman to swim the channel". Ederle completed her swim two hours faster than all the men who had achieved this before her.

What does feminism mean to Pankhurst? "I haven't felt that being a feminist is something that has to be named. It's a way of life and an understanding that equality is our right. But that doesn't mean I'm not a feminist. I felt like Caitlin Moran summed it up for me well quite recently: 'What do you think feminism IS? Ladies? What part of 'Liberation for Women' is not for you? Is it the freedom to vote? The right not to be owned by the man you marry? The campaign for equal pay? 'Vogue' by Madonna? Jeans? Did all that good shit GET ON YOUR NERVES?'"

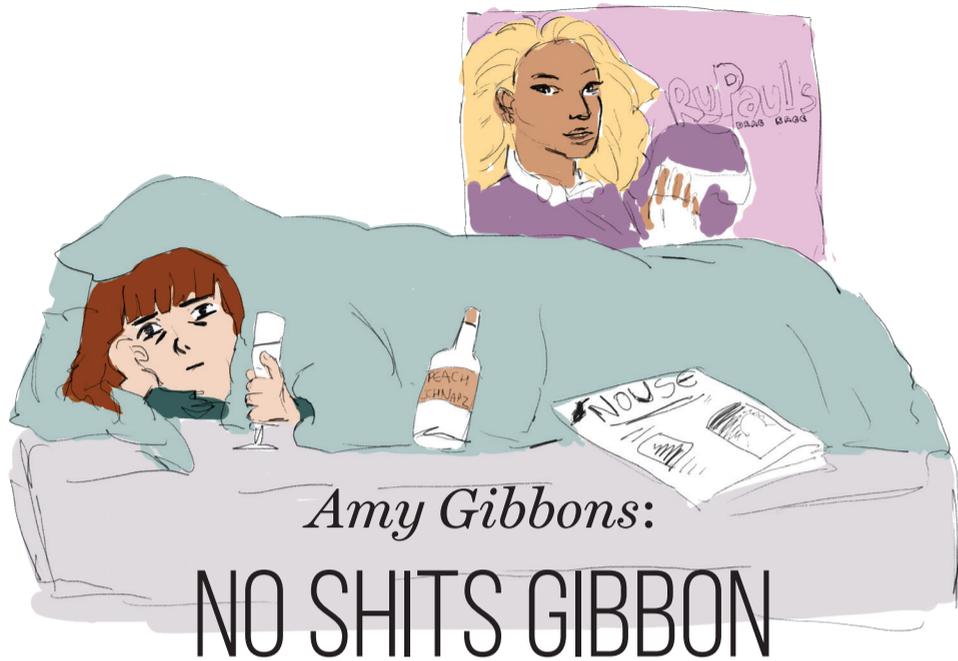
These women's achievements have helped to improve the lives of women or im-

pacted the world in some way. The books also highlight the many obstacles facing these women. Both Mary Somerville (mathematician and astronomer) and Caroline Herschel (astronomer) were made honorary but not full members of the Royal Society, despite their huge contributions. They also both had to publish their work under a different name: Mary under her husband's and Caroline under her brother's. Similarly, Jane Austen had to publish her novels as 'By a Lady' because writing was not seen as the right profession for a woman, and her father had to publish her novels for her. The artist Gwen John was overshadowed by her brother Augustus, also an artist, during her lifetime, but he recognised her talent, writing, "her pictures are almost painfully charged with feeling, while my own are almost painfully empty of it". Augustus correctly predicted the turning of the tables: "Fifty years after my death I shall be remembered as Gwen John's brother."

Elizabeth I was buried with her sister Mary Tudor, which Murray remarks is "odd, when they're known to have so disliked each other". The explanation given to this all lies with James I, whose duty it was to bury Elizabeth. He saw her as inferior to his own mother Mary, Queen of Scots because she did not produce a legitimate heir, and her legitimacy was questioned constantly through her childhood. The peace that she brought to England and all of her accomplishments were forgotten by James, who instead focused on Elizabeth as a woman, whose role should have been to continue the line. Through this one action, James helped to rewrite history.

Similarly, the playwright Aphra Behn was received well at the time she was writing, but, as Murray explains, after her lifetime writers including Alexander Pope, Samuel Johnson and Samuel Richardson "criticised her for writing like a man". This led to her being almost forgotten "until the women's movement of the 1970s began to uncover the history of women who had made their mark".

This goes to show the importance of re-discovering a feminist history and educating younger generations with a full history: one that includes women and their achievements. Murray dedicates her book: "For all the young people who need to know" and I'm so glad that now, I do. M



Amy Gibbons:

NO SHITS GIBBON

Returning to university after a summer of rambling, rest and resits, there's actually just one thing on my mind: this bloody paper.

I've painted the town red (or a sort of amaranth, I suppose) in York. I've hit up the Edinburgh Fringe, London and even Chicago. And yet, *Nouse*. How do you say it? Like 'mouse', surely - *Nouse*; or is it a misspelling of 'news' - *Nouse*; or the river? Yes, I mean that's where your mind immediately goes. 'Ouse' - *Nouse*, obviously.

But I'm not supposed to be looking back, at least not according to the brief Jack gave me. This time next week I'll have handed

“ I'll probably speak the words 'Christ, not Kuda' eight or nine times

down my position to the next silly bugger who fancies a shot, and I'll probably be sat at home bleary eyed and hungover. Four episodes of *Come Dine With Me* will have come and gone, as I'm sure will have an array of £1 bargains from Nisa. I'll feel a little deflated, but not completely. After all, I like to think I'm beginning again with the freshers. Peach schnapps at the ready, I'll dig out, dust and rinse the house shot glasses, and scour Spotify for whatever Calvin Harris last released. Then I'll blacklist that and queue the crowd-pleasing 'Pres 2.0', before somebody tracks down 'Mr Brightside'.

This week I'll probably speak the words "Christ, not Kuda" eight or nine times. Then somebody will suggest Salvation, and I'll burst into tears. I'll forget where I stored

that infamous UV face paint from first year and invest in a wavy lipliner. I'll consider purchasing a year's bus pass, purchase a year's bus pass and then buy myself a bike. If I'm lucky, I won't sleep through my supervisor meeting on Tuesday.

I'll laugh with a sort of catch in my throat at the incessant emails from The Bright Network. I'll read a few pages of Defoe's lesser known, and lesser celebrated novel *Roxana*, before returning, obviously, to *Drag Race All-stars 2*. I'll probably get that rejection email from the BBC. I'll text a friend from home once or twice. I might even Skype my mum.

Meanwhile, the world will continue to turn. J.K. Rowling will have something to say, I suspect. I'll go another day without seeing or hearing from Tim Farron. Thousands more will lose their iPhone 7 wireless headphones, and England will draw in a spectacularly dull fixture with Malta.

As the race for American President heats up even more, Donald Trump will replenish his toupée. Barack Obama, or his dogs, will make the news. As what may be the most important day of many of their lives approaches, the people of America will collectively hold their breath.

Back home, I hope this week we all learn something; whether that's to switch from Viking's Pizza to stale toast after a night out, or never to leave your door unlocked in halls. I hope no one falls in the lake, as I remember somebody doing on my first night after one too many cocktails at the Lounge. I hope nobody endures the party that I did in the Roger Kirk Centre during my freshers' week. Most of all, I hope nobody goes to Yates's. Don't go to Yates's. Respect yourself.

My advice? Don't take your first few weeks too seriously. Lose your student card, lose your door key, lose your hair, lose your inhibitions; enjoy yourself.

Be safe, though. And remember, much like Brexit, university debt is forever.

COFFEE SHOP TALKS

...in which Ben Rowden fails spectacularly to talk about coffee

Practically every new columnist struggles to know what to write about. I am no different. With that in mind I turned to an issue of simplicity and relevance: Freshers.

This whole column is based on the idea that I will review various coffee shops around York, of which there are many, while offering some mildly pessimistic advice/comment on a topic of choice.

With the scene set, let us begin.

You may expect me to write about how fun Freshers' Week is, or to offer some advice for these people we call 'freshers'. I

have no such intention because I simply do not care. Freshers, try to stay safe and have fun. There. Done. Now let's get onto business.

To STYC'. This, a verb that belongs in the depths of York jargon. Alongside other such stains on the English language as 'Derwent' or 'Central Hall', the York-only verb sends shivers down many second and third years' spines.

You see, this year I decided it would be wise to be a Head STYC, which I ought to state has been a thoroughly rewarding experience. It has also been a week in which I have been sleep deprived, seriously undernourished (for a man who usually scoffs two brownies in a day at least) and dubbed 'bus-man Ben' by half of my college's freshers. A name which I can't exactly complain about: after all my childhood dream job was to be a bus driver.

I have been vomited on. I have been to hospital. I have chased after some very drunk people. Indeed, I have felt remotely

responsible. But, as I sit at my desk, which is perhaps the best place for anyone to consume coffee, I have had an epiphany. It's all been worth it.

When I decided to write about my time as a Head STYC, I had a genuinely huge array of truly horrid experiences that I could have shared with you, good reader. I could have easily fuelled my pessimism and general distaste of anything fun and whinged about having to be responsible.

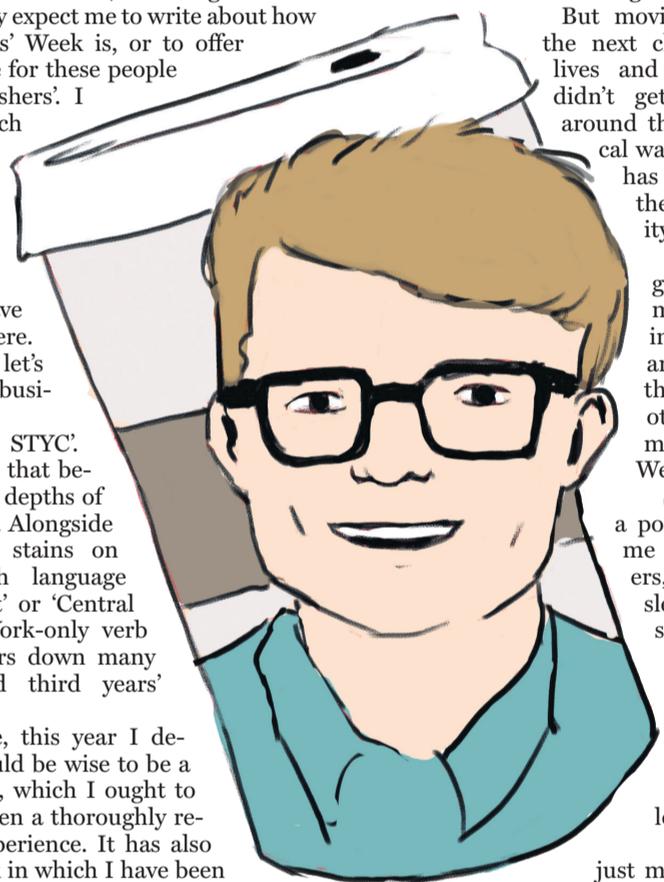
But moving people into the next chapter of their lives and ensuring they didn't get lost roaming around the great historical walls of Eboracum has been a mildly therapeutic activity for the soul.

One may argue it has allowed me to appreciate, in hindsight, the amazing work that STYCs and others put into my own Freshers' Week.

So while I'm in a positive mood, let me say this: freshers, if you see a sleepy looking second or third year, it's probably because they've been out getting too pissed or working ridiculously late.

But maybe, just maybe, they were on the front line we call Freshers' Week. Show them some appreciation and make sure you have an amazing first year, otherwise what would the vomit and ambulances all be for?

Oh, and by the way, Gatehouse coffee shop at the bottom of Hull Road is a great place to escape to write your columns when you're definitely late and hiding from your editors.



All images by Harriet Cheshire

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Israel says goodbye to Peres

Luke Rix-Standing
POLITICS CORRESPONDENT

ON 28 SEPTEMBER the man called 'the last founding father of Israel' passed away at the age of 92. Shimon Peres was an ex-President and Prime Minister of Israel, and one of the last survivors from its foundation in 1948. Elected to the Knesset (Israeli parliament) in 1959, he retired in 2014, 12 cabinets, and nearly 70 years later.

His death prompted tributes from fellow world leaders, including Barack Obama, Vladimir Putin and Xi Jinping. Perhaps most notably of all Mahmoud Abbas, leader of the Palestinian Authority, attended the funeral - his first entry to Jerusalem in nearly 20 years.

But Peres' reputation as a unifier owes little to his early career: initially a hawkish, military man, he was a protégé of David Ben-Gurion in the 1940s. It was only during his middle age that he mellowed politically, and produced his two most celebrated achievements: the Oslo Accords of 1992 and the Israel-Jordan peace process of 1994. For the former - a peace treaty between Israel and the PLO - he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize, with fellow Israeli Yitzhak Rabin, and Palestinian counterpart Yasser Arafat.

His stature only grew with time - in 2007 he became the 9th President of Israel, a role he held until his retirement, two years before his death. Not bad for a man already in his 80s.

A famously brilliant orator, he was always quick with a witticism, whether critiquing current events or the state of global society. "Television" he once quipped, "has made dictatorship impossible, but democracy unbearable." He pre-dated Batman by more than a decade when he stated (after the assassination of Rabin): "you can bring an end to life, but you cannot kill an idea."

With Peres, Israel has lost its last link to its founding principles, a dignified and globally respected advocate of a two-state solution, and arguably its most experienced statesman of the modern era. Netanyahu was a guest of honour at his funeral, and sat through eulogy after eulogy. Perhaps he learned something.



Jeremy Corbyn was, to the surprise of few, re-elected for the second time in the most recent Labour leadership election with an increased mandate

'New new Labour?' Jeremy Corbyn's second bite at the Labour leadership

Oliver Alderton
POLITICS CORRESPONDENT

JEREMY CORBYN, once again leader of the Labour party, emphatically defeated Owen Smith in the recent Labour leadership election.

It appears to be a tagline that Corbyn wears proudly, and almost as a representation of what he stands for; the 'unelectable' candidate has now been elected twice in succession and, with some calling for early elections, Corbyn appears focused on mounting a challenge to the Conservative party. In his post-victory speech Corbyn has pledged to campaign for a "socialism for the 21st century".

The result of the leadership race was never realistically in doubt; Smith's challenge to Corbyn never took off with the same fervour which surrounded Corbyn and the Labour leadership elections following Ed Miliband's departure. In part, this may be simply because the discontent arose only from the Parliamentary Labour Party; not so much from Labour Party members. From them, Corbyn has continued

to enjoy an overwhelming amount of support.

Soon after Corbyn's first election victory, I argued that he would be instrumental in returning the political Labour Party to adversarial politics. While it has been admittedly divisive within his own party, it appears the Labour Party is doing its best to return to its roots. One thing that no one can deny after this second victory is that Jeremy Corbyn has managed to reshape the Labour party completely. With Theresa May leading the Conserva-

of British politics is perhaps demonstrated by the breakdown of Corbyn's votes. 68 per cent of those who became a member of the Labour Party after Corbyn's previous victory voted for Corbyn, and he also holds a majority among those who did not vote Labour in the 2015 general election. It is decidedly a demographic with different values than those who were members before Corbyn's election victory, from whom he received significantly less support.

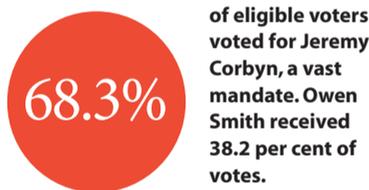
Despite this change, in June of this year a YouGov poll for *The Times* found that 29 per cent of Labour voters would rather have Theresa May as Prime Minister than Jeremy Corbyn. However, these recent figures may be a symptom of the torn image of the Labour Party rather than a prophecy of an electoral disaster. Corbyn still has the task of uniting the party. Divisive issues include how Britain is to deal with the terms of Brexit, immigration, the NHS and even more mundane issues such as the unfair party membership payment.

On Brexit, Corbyn was effectively a Remain campaigner but admits himself that it was not a primary concern for him. As such,

criticisms have been levied against him for relative passivity and not campaigning hard enough for the party's official position. With 'Brexit' ultimately having divided the nation, it is no surprise that it has divided the Labour Party also. Corbyn is far more popular among Remain voters than he is Remain voters. This may be a sign that Corbyn's efforts were viewed as inadequate by those who felt sorely let down by the results.

These are the problems that Corbyn has to remedy before mounting a successful challenge in the next general election. With the Labour Party currently in a transitional phase it might be unfair to label it as broken and Corbyn as a weak leader; no doubt the MPs of the old guard will leave now that Smith's bid, or failed coup, for Labour leadership was unsuccessful. Irrespective of how long it will take, we now know for certain that Corbyn's 2015 victory was no mere protest vote.

It was a vote for a change, for Labour, which had abandoned the left, to go back to its roots. It was a vote which has won yet again, just over a year later, almost as if it was inevitable.



tive party, decisions have already been made within the cabinet that signify a change in direction.

In all, it surely seems that the days of the 'New Labour' dynasty are dead and the nature of the Conservative Party remains unclear, perhaps even a little lost, but certainly different from Cameron's party. This change in the mindset

NEWS IN BRIEF

The presidential debate

On Monday 26 September, the first debate between Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump occurred. A strong performance from Clinton has left the Trump camp scuttling.

"Barbaric" bombing campaign

Russia has come under pressure after a series of aggressive actions torpedoed the second attempt at a Syrian ceasefire to provide humanitarian relief, leaving a diplomatic solution in limbo.

Tiangong-1 Tian-gone

China's attempt at launching a space station were grounded after central command lost control of the craft. The 'Heavenly Palace' is expected to re-enter Earth's atmosphere sometime in 2017.

Brexit brief

Certain EU leaders have offered to come and explain the Lisbon treaty to Boris Johnson after he alleged that no link existed between access to the single market and freedom of movement.

Comment: "Brexit" - ugly phrases for ugly words

Elliott Banks
POLITICAL ANALYST

DOG MEANS DOG, cat means cat, "Brexit means Brexit". No, I am not attempting to be a poor imitation of the Oxford English Dictionary but the latter 'definition' seems to have become the government's official plan for Brexit.

Unsurprisingly, this non-phrase has proved more unpopular than Michael Gove at parents' evening. "Brexit means Brexit" was conceived in the midst of the Conservatives' mercifully short leadership election by Theresa May, attempting to woo hardline Tory Brexiters flocking to Andrea Leadsom. The phrase ap-

peared to work. Chris Grayling, a Brexiter, helped organise May's campaign. High profile Brexiters such as Boris Johnson, Liam Fox and David Davis all got cabinet positions related to Brexit. Mission accomplished, Mrs May probably thought as she tottled off to Switzerland as Parliament went into recess.

Three months later however, this throwaway catchphrase that was espoused during the heady heights of a leadership contest appears to have become the official government plan. Actually, not plan, as it is increasingly clear from May's repeated use of this hollow, ugly phrase, that the government does not have a cunning plan of action up its sleeve.

Now that everyone has cottoned on to this elaborate ruse,

May has a problem. Brexiters in the Tory ranks are getting restless. Mumbblings on the green government benches of the Commons are getting louder. *The Daily Mail* and *Daily Express* are getting more and more outraged. Boris Johnson is calling for the government to get on with it and start negotiating Britain's independence. Fox and Davis are battling it out for who has the toughest plan for Britain. Meanwhile Joe Public watches on with confusion and anger on both sides of the debates.

For starters, May would do well to abandon this stupid glib phrase. Everyone has seen through it: the press, the public and politicians of all stripes. Nick Clegg probably summed up this phrase best as "being up Brexit creek without a pad-

dle, canoe or map".

Now we have parked the most disingenuous political stunt since Ed Miliband unveiled his tombstone... sorry, pledge stone, we need a plan. May needs to give the public some clue as to the government's thinking and regain control of her team. With Davis, Fox and Johnson bickering like school-boys over whose remit o n

Brexit is bigger, the confusion is causing more problems than it's solving. With each of the three Brexit musketeers having different opinions, public confidence is dropping and Europe's leaders are hardening their position.

If we are to do Brexit as the public demands, we need cool heads, not appeals to the *Daily Mail* by the three cabinet ministers most involved in the process of renegotiating our EU relationship. Instead of bickering, May should sit down with Messrs Johnson, Fox and Davis and start planning, not use an empty meaningless phrase which is fooling no-one.



A nuclear North Korea: Turning up the heat

Geoff Glover
POLITICS EDITOR

ON 9 SEPTEMBER, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) announced that it had conducted its largest nuclear test to date, further escalating regional tensions. Condemned unanimously by the United Nations, this latest experiment is merely the newest development in a program that began in earnest in 2006.

Various sources (South Korea, the Middlebury Institute of International Studies) have stated that the test yield was between 10 and 30 kilotonnes (kT) but due to the DPRK's isolated nature, more precise measurements have not been possible. This would make the latest test more powerful than the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima.

"The important thing is that, five tests in, they now have a lot of nuclear test experience," stated Jeffrey Lewis of the Middlebury Institute in an interview with Reuters. This is alarming. The international community has struggled to respond in any meaningful way to the continued development of the program; the UN Security Council voted on 2 March to impose new sanc-



Monument of Kim Il-Sung (right) and Kim Jong-Il on Mansu Hill, Pyongyang

tions in response to a test conducted in January and yet this has proved ineffective at curbing the North's determination to acquire weapons of mass destruction. Further concerns, particularly for South Korea and Japan, are that the North may now be able to mount nuclear warheads to long range missiles leaving questions such as "What do we do?" all the more pressing.

Eyes are on China to properly enforce sanctions and place pressure on Pyongyang to disarm. Although condemning the program, China's role is complicated by geopolitical forces; it opposes the deployment of the THAAD missile defence system in South Korea, arguing that it threatens China's national security by curbing its retaliatory capacity in the event of a nuclear attack.

Furthermore, it and Russia remain sceptical about new sanctions. Russia in particular has signalled that it prefers to explore options to revive multilateral talks that collapsed in 2008. The result is a deadlock and headache that the next President will inherit.

Nuclear weapons are infamous for being able to level entire cities. Both East and West during the Cold War agreed that proliferation of nuclear weapons would disrupt the delicate balance of power. By

ensuring mutually assured destruction, an incentive to not use nuclear weapons remained in place, but allowing third countries to acquire them would have jeopardised this. The result was the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) which limited the proliferation of nuclear warheads, entering into force in 1970 with 190 countries party to the agreement as of 2015.

To tackle the North's transgressions, new methods should be tried. Further UN sanctions would simply be brushed off, further discrediting the Security Council. Focus should be on targeting US, Chinese, and EU sanctions so that they affect the Pyongyang elite, squeezing their finances, as previously the burden of sanctions has fallen on North Korea's citizens, and securing bilateral cooperation between China and the West. This may include giving ground in defence policy, a bitter pill to swallow.

What must not happen however is for the North's actions to go unpunished; not doing so would amount to tacit acceptance, and therefore legitimisation, of the North's status as a nuclear-armed state, thereby shattering the credibility of the NPT. With the risk of a new standoff turning hot, not doing so will have dire consequences.



LEFT WING RIGHT WING

Thoughts from the Politics Editor

Well here we are again, the beginning of a brand spanking new year in wonderful York. I trust everyone had a fun and not completely and utterly soul crushing summer with one sitting down to reconcile the reality of one's own powerlessness and

meaningless existence in the face of what seems like the spectacular immolation of the Western order. Alternatively, grab a drink and watch it all hit the fan.

Between the seemingly never ending dumpster fire that is the election for the highest office in the

most powerful country in the world, good ol' Brexit - now three months old already - and the incessant vitriol thrown at refugees fleeing war zones, it is easy to become a cynic with a mild alcoholic substance abuse problem.

Ahem. Never mind that. Your editor is looking forward to being gently placed back into the liberal bubble that is being a university student in a pretty, idyllic, and wonderfully charming university town.

It is for the aforementioned myriad of listed reasons that the

prospect of going back has been weighing on my mind. For any fresher reading this - first off, congratulations for making it this far into the paper - the first piece of advice yours truly would give would be simply to make the most of the opportunities that present themselves on a silver platter.

Before you know it, you've taken over a job that you never saw yourself doing from someone you barely knew, struggling to get to grips with a hair-ripping piece of software that hardens your convictions that you're

indeed not wasting your life pursuing your chosen dream career instead of doing that CompSci degree your mum thought you'd be good at. Ah well.

There are some universal truths that should be borne in mind. If you're a humanities student, your degree isn't a good enough justification to sit around. You may as well suck it up; no one else is going to let you forget it. If you're a sciences student? Well, you keep doing you I guess. Bottom line though, welcome! Oh, and write for *Nouse*.

McDonnell's speech: Labour's old left is reborn

Elliott Banks
BUSINESS EDITOR

LAST MONDAY Labour's Shadow Chancellor John McDonnell stood on the rostrum and delivered a barnstorming speech to the party faithful promising a new era for socialist economics.

Following the re-election of Jeremy Corbyn, the left's ascendancy now looks assured. McDonnell unveiled a raft of policy ideas which drew loud applause from delegates

In this party you no longer have to whisper it - it's called socialism ”

but the policies will need to attract a wider audience if Labour is to win in 2020.

But what were the key ideas from McDonnell's speech? Well, firstly the broad theme was state intervention in economic matters. For businesses, this statement will be one of particular interest as, for the past 30 years, UK governments and political parties have broadly accepted the post-Thatcher settlement of the principles of free market trade.

Indeed, New Labour under Blair's leadership largely adhered to Thatcher's economic arguments by deregulating the economy and moving towards co-operation with business in a plan dubbed as the 'Prawn Cocktail Offensive' in the

early noughties.

McDonnell, on the other hand, represents an older idea of Labour in which the government intervenes and regulates more. He said: "Be certain, the next Labour government will be an interventionist government." Specific ideas which would involve said interventionism included the power of workers to buy their companies with state assistance if the business fails and the selective nationalisation of businesses such as railways.

This has alarmed some business leaders, who fear state encroachment into their companies, but Mr McDonnell believes this will chime well with voters fed up with big business having a free hand.

Expanding on the basic premise of interventionism, the Shadow Chancellor also pledged to borrow up to £500 billion to invest.

The investment plan is not new, as Labour under Ed Miliband planned to borrow to invest but the scale of the borrowing is colossal when compared. Detail on how this £500 billion would be raised is limited but it would require significant amounts of borrowing every year and would increase the budget deficit.

Indeed, this may be a hard sell with international markets given that the current national debt stands at £1.6 trillion.

Another big announcement was McDonnell's pledge for a £10 per hour minimum wage by 2020 which would mean that the lowest paid full-time workers would earn £19,250 per annum, according to EEF. This is more than the new National Living Wage introduced by George Osborne, which is set to reach £9 per hour in 2020.

However, experts are not on the whole convinced. Based on the Bank of England's inflation target of two per cent and starting at the

IMAGE: THE LABOUR PARTY



John McDonnell unveils the Labour Party's economic plan to a packed hall of delegates at the party conference

independently calculated National Living Wage of £8.25, as opposed to George Osborne's £7.20, £10 per hour would not be reached until 2025.

Jonathan Portes from the National Institute of Economic and Social Research told the BBC that "John McDonnell has taken George Osborne's made-up number and added some more, so we're seeing a bit of an auction." Critics of the policy say that this would increase employers' costs and could actually lead to an overall increase in unemployment. For low paid workers, however, Mr McDonnell's plan would be significant and highly welcomed.

Interestingly the £10 minimum wage did not receive the biggest cheers from delegates. That hon-

our was reserved for one pledge - to repeal Thatcher's Trade Union Act. For those on the hard left of the Labour Party, the Trade Union Act is a hated piece of legislation which in their eyes curtailed workers' rights and weakened unions. Indeed, since the legislation came into force in the early 1980s, Britain typically has fewer days lost to strike action than most of Europe.

This plan to repeal is pure bread and butter socialist policy for the Corbyn camp. Both Corbyn and McDonnell were vocal critics in the 1980s when the legislation was passed and this repeal appeals to their supporters.

However, critics will argue that this is an ideological crusade rather than what is best for the economy. This pledge, coupled with Mr Mc-

Donnell's policy of reintroducing collective bargaining powers for workers, could lead to a rise in strikes.

As expected McDonnell's speech received a standing ovation from delegates but more moderate members in the Labour Party will question this new direction. New Labour was so successful electorally in their eyes because it largely accepted the Thatcher settlement of market liberalism and limited intervention.

McDonnell summed up this new direction well with the line: "In this party you no longer have to whisper it - it's called socialism." Thanks to Corbyn's re-election it looks as if the New Old Left is now undergoing its renaissance within the Labour Party.

Zero hour contracts: Due for a major overhaul?

Laura Henrique
DEPUTY BUSINESS EDITOR

ZERO HOUR contracts have been a source of great controversy. Following the massive increase in zero-hour contracts over the last year, critics have suggested that this may be indicative of an exploitative job market whereby employers gain maximum benefit while being able to offer fewer rights. This is simply the result of a difference in title. Although there is no accurate definition of what constitutes a 'zero hour contract', a common feature seems to be the uncertainty.

Unbeknown to many, a working individual may be given either a 'worker' status or an 'employee sta-

tus', both of which offer a difference in employment rights, including but not limited to: protection against unfair dismissal, time off for emergencies and statutory sick pay.

According to the most recent report by

the Labour Force Survey, 903,000 UK workers work under zero hour contracts - a 2.4 per cent increase since this time in 2015. Those who are in a zero hour contract are

predominantly young, or working part-time. While there are those who undoubtedly prefer these contracts for the flexibility offered, it seems that there may be some truth to TUC General Secretary Frances O'Grady's comment which said that

such contracts are merely "an easy way for bosses to employ staff on the cheap". TUC analysis shows that those on zero-hour contracts earn £3.80 less per hour than the average worker while receiving no holiday or sick pay.

Sports Direct seem to be the biggest perpetrator of "potentially oppressive practices" and have given into the pressure of offering shop staff the option of a fixed minimum number of work hours per week in an attempt to restore consumer and worker confidence.

If Theresa May is to live up to her promise to give working class families greater job security, then she must tackle zero hour contracts which fail to deliver as staff are unable to sufficiently plan due to the unpredictable income and variable hours offered by employers.



Sports Direct were heavily criticised by MPs over the company's use of zero hour contracts earlier this summer

'Trumped up, trickle down' and prosperity

James Humpish
DEPUTY BUSINESS EDITOR

THERE'S A GREAT degree of anxiety surrounding the 2016 U.S. Presidential Election between immigration, foreign and social policy, but in the first of the presidential debates, the key differences between Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump was their disagreement in economic policies: Trump is an advocate of trickle-down economics.

Trickle-down economics has never lent itself to a formal economic theory but the principle is clear. It posits that by creating conditions for the wealthy to thrive, their increased wealth will be passed on to the middle and working classes as there is greater demand for labour and more aggregate capital for investment. Trump is a clear advocate for this, proposing to reduce corporation tax from 35 per cent to 15 per cent for big businesses as a means to convince them to remain in the United States and not look to base their businesses elsewhere.

There's an appeal to the theory that panders to Trump's populist campaigning tactics. If effective, the result is that no one is made worse off and nearly everyone is made bet-



Donald Trump is a firm believer in trickle-down economics and advocated it at last week's presidential debate

ter off - at least in the country. Companies are persuaded to produce in the United States, thereby increasing product and employment, with it even being possible that the business' greater presence could actually increase the tax revenues as well as

stimulate private investment in the place of public investment. The flipside of the theory is that it's unlikely that the increased number of corporations paying out could hope to meet the revenues generated through a tax reduction. It's also a

recipe for propelling inequality by making the rich many times better off compared to the extent by which the poorer could hope to be made better off. That's without considering the more detached view that other countries make a loss from the

businesses being lured back toward America.

Whether the presidential candidates would succeed in improving the country's economy and employment probably depends on a clearer understanding of who the candidates are trying to improve the economy for. Trump proposes a cut in corporation tax in an echo of 1980s President Reagan, which would favour the wealthy and possibly extend favours to the citizen base as a whole...so long as it was in the interests of said wealthy. Secretary Clinton, on the other hand, has invested in closing off corporate loopholes, and a focus on the rich paying their share so that the economy can be focused on supporting the middle class and on growth, notably pointing out that all-spend and no tax has the capacity to produce a troubling degree of debt.

Having listened to the debate twice, what seemed absent from either of the candidates' arguments were mentions of the working class. *The Economist* notes that four fifths of white men without higher education qualifications are in support of Trump at the moment. This is typically for reasons external to economic policy but it was a noteworthy omission when each of the candidates articulated their means of generating American prosperity.

GoCompare to go elsewhere?

James Humpish
DEPUTY BUSINESS EDITOR

PRICE COMPARISON websites such as GoCompare, Compare the Market and MoneySuperMarket are to be investigated by the competition watchdog The Competition Markets Authority to better understand how the companies earn their revenues. The investigation is provoked by concerns that the websites are not always ranking the cheapest or best deals first. This is due to some service providers paying out up to £30 to the websites for every customer that has been directed and incentivising comparison sites to feature those providers more prominently. These concerns are increased because of the difficulty in switching provider and it being hard to assess what is actually the best deal.

Often serving as an effective menu for consumers, the websites have the capacity to influence both a company's profits and the costs consumers face for services such as utilities, house and car insur-

ance, and bank accounts. As such, misinformation has the capacity to affect consumers' expenditure as MoneySuperMarket noted that 3.5 million households had collectively saved £900 million through their site.

The investigation is to run for six months with a public consultation. If the comparison sites fail to meet the Watchdog's standards, then the websites will be compelled to either give more information to consumers, recommend that they are subjected to tighter regulations or face an extended more comprehensive investigation.

The CMA decided in June that price comparison websites would not be obliged to show consumers the cheapest deals for energy options, overturning Ofgem's decision that all deals would have to be made available. As it stands, if a price comparison site wanted to, it would not have to include the cheapest providers on its rankings.

Consumer minister Margot James stated that: "Consumers deserve to have access to the best deals and the clear, reliable information they need to make the best decisions."

LEGO: A worthy addition to your investment portfolio

Jordan Hulse
BUSINESS EDITOR

WITH THE POUND decreasing in value, people begin to worry about how far they can stretch their family budget. It may, however, be worth thinking about Christmas gift ideas that could help with any future money woes.

Lego, a household name, may not be the first thing to come to mind when considering a financial investment; however, it is certainly better than many other commodities.

Lego has seen an increase of almost 12 per cent in value every year since 2000, meaning that it is deemed a better investment than gold or shares. For reference, individuals who invested in gold would have received a 9.6 per cent gain each year, an ISA would have fetched them a profit of 2.8 per cent; whereas Lego sets from last year are already being sold for 36 per cent higher than their original face value.

In order to receive maximum

profit on Lego sets, it is vital to keep them in pristine condition and in their original boxes. Although less valuable than those kept in original packaging, used Lego sets are still fetching hundreds in return.

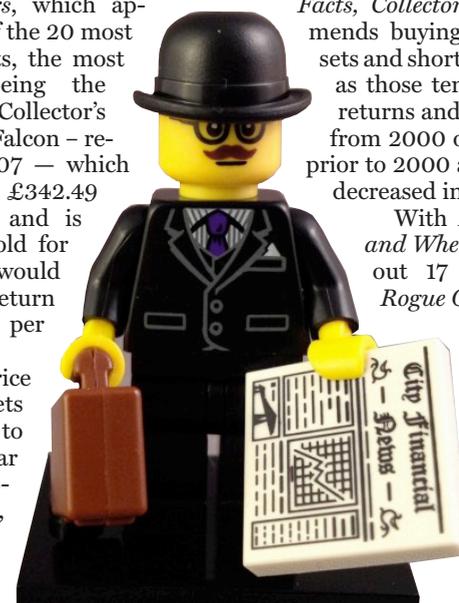
As with most toys today, you are expected to make a greater return on sets which are based around major films or franchises, such as *Star Wars*, which appears in 10 of the 20 most profitable sets, the most expensive being the Ultimate Collector's Millennium Falcon - released in 2007 - which retailed for £342.49 at the time and is now being sold for £2,712. This would make a return of over 600 per cent.

The price on Lego sets looks set to rise each year with no bubble in sight, as investors around the world con-

tinue to buy up the rarer sets to sell later. With hundreds of Lego sets being retired by Lego each year, it may be worth having a look at those you may have stored away at home as Lego appreciates in value rather well.

Ed Maciorowski - author of *The Collectible LEGO Minifigure: Values, Investments, Profits, Fun Facts, Collector Tips* - recommends buying limited edition sets and short production runs as those tend to see greater returns and investing in sets from 2000 onwards as those prior to 2000 are likely to have decreased in value.

With *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*, out 17 November and *Rogue One: A Star Wars Story*, out 14 December, this Christmas it may be worth getting some *Harry Potter* and *Star Wars* themed Lego sets for that important someone.



Cowspiracy: The truth about animal agriculture

Eleanor Mason
SCIENCE EDITOR

MISCONCEPTIONS associated with the meat industry and the world of animal agriculture is the product of a controversial topic that isn't talked about enough. It is time for the polarised argument on meat-eaters versus vegetarianism to be thought of as a debate between sustainable and unsustainable choices.

The impact that animal agriculture has on the environment may come as a surprise, and with the human population set to reach 9.7 billion by 2050, some may ask, is an omnivorous diet sustainable for the earth? It appears it may not be all that simple, but the debate has to begin somewhere.

We are all discouraged from wasting water in our homes. However, this may not be an issue of such significance in comparison to the 34-76 trillion gallons of water that is consumed annually through animal agriculture alone. According to the United States Department of Agriculture Economic Research Service 2013, agriculture is responsible for 80 to 90 per cent of US water consumption.

The crops used to feed animals that are bred for human consumption and use must also be considered; growing feed crops for livestock consumes 56 per cent of water in the U.S.

One third of ice-free land on earth is occupied by livestock or livestock feed where grazing animals are constantly releasing methane. Ruminant livestock (grazing animals who have four stomachs),

IMAGE: PIXABAY



Cows are a main contributor to methane emissions, produced by bacteria in their stomachs that aids digestion

emit methane when they digest their food, a greenhouse gas that has a 23 times more powerful impact on the atmosphere than carbon dioxide.

Animal agriculture is responsible for 18 per cent of greenhouse gas emissions, more than the combined exhaust from all transportation. However, carbon dioxide is also produced in its masses from this industry: livestock and their by-products account for 32,000 million tonnes of carbon dioxide

per year.

Consider species extinction, ocean dead zones, water pollution and habitat destruction. Animal agriculture impacts species extinction in many ways: forest destruction and the conversion of land to grow feed crops and animal grazing further reduces the extensive range of grasses, plant and animal species that could potentially thrive in these areas.

Predators and 'competition species' are often targeted and

hunted as they are seen as a threat to livestock profits. The widespread and often unchecked use of chemical fertilisers, pesticides and herbicides used in the production of feed crops can have huge impacts on mineral soil depletion, air pollution and the acidification of soil, to name just a few.

Whether or not it is worth cutting meat entirely out of your diet based on these reasons is questionable; for some, it is from a morally conscious perspective.

Videos leaked on social media of the slaughter of livestock seem to horrify some for all of about 10 minutes, and then it is forgotten. It should be remembered that the actions performed in those videos are not a one-time thing; it is happening right now, and millions of animals will be slaughtered in an inhumane manner every day.

The counterargument for this problem is that meat and dairy products are enjoyable and full of protein. The difficulty of cutting meat out of your diet is understandable when it is considered by many as a valuable, primary source of protein. However, there are many other easily accessible foods that contain large amounts of protein. For example, green peas, quinoa, almonds, beans, soya, chickpeas, tofu, and 'mock meat' supplements are equally high in protein and other nutrients.

The livestock industry is a controversial one. Meat consumption of course has its benefits, providing creatine that creates energy reserves in muscle and brain tissue and vitamin B12 for the health of nerve cells and prevention of certain types of anaemia. However, as vegetarian and vegan diets are becoming increasingly popular, it should be reassuring that if done properly, it can be a very healthy way of living for both your health and the environment.

The western pride that comes along with eating meat shouldn't be used against those who choose not to, and of course, vice versa. However, it should be something to consider, but if cutting down on your meat intake is not of your interest, try avoiding any industrially processed foods and purchase locally produced meat if possible.

Apple's next bite: The evolution of the iPhone

Will Gibbs
DEPUTY SCIENCE EDITOR

LOVE THEM or hate them, the fact that Apple made 273 million iPhone sales in the 2015 calendar year demonstrates how successful the company has been in the past nine years, since the first iPhone was released in 2007.

Throughout these past nine years, it could be argued that Apple have dominated the smartphone market while releasing new innovative technology in the form of the iPad, iMac and the Apple watch to name a few...

The latest addition to Apple's growing iPhone range, the iPhone 7, was released on 7 September 2016. Over the last nine years, we have seen improvements in design, screen quality, processing

speed, camera quality, and water resistance to name a few. Each year, there is a rush to grab the latest version, and rumours normally surface almost immediately after the an-

It's important to look at how the now-iconic device has matured ”

nouncement of the current iPhone on what the next one's features will be.

At first, the next generation of iPhone had fairly substantial upgrades. Take the retina display and change in design from the iPhone

3G to the iPhone 4, with the iPhone 4 including a screen packed with just over 300 pixels per inch, and the iPhone 3GS just 163 per inch. The iPhone 7 Plus has a resolution of 401ppi, a 5.5 inch HD retina display, a 12 MP camera and a 25 per cent brighter screen than the iPhone 6s.

The iPhone 7 is faster, thinner and for the first time, water resistant, protecting the phone from 'splashes, spills, and even dust'. Apple have previously included new 'revolutionary' features such as Touch ID and Apple Pay which in reality haven't been that much of a game changer, unlike the changes made in the early days of the iPhone.

The iPhone 7 includes the controversial wireless earphones, or

Airpods, which are available from late October.

Apple notoriously increase their prices year on year, as well as updating and evolving their operating system which tends to outmode older models. Take the original iPhone which retailed for around

£460 on release; the iPhone 7 sells for a staggering £599 and £719 for the 'Plus' version. Add £50 or so and you could probably buy the brand's notebook hardware, the MacBook Air.

These numbers put into perspective how much money we spend on our iPhones. Apple isn't the only guilty culprit; Samsung have followed a similar pattern with their Galaxy series of smartphones.

It is unknown how far Apple will go with their products. However, the evolution of the iPhone, and mobile phones in general may be determined by the evolution of how we utilise our phones and what we demand from our tech.



Is homesickness an innate response?

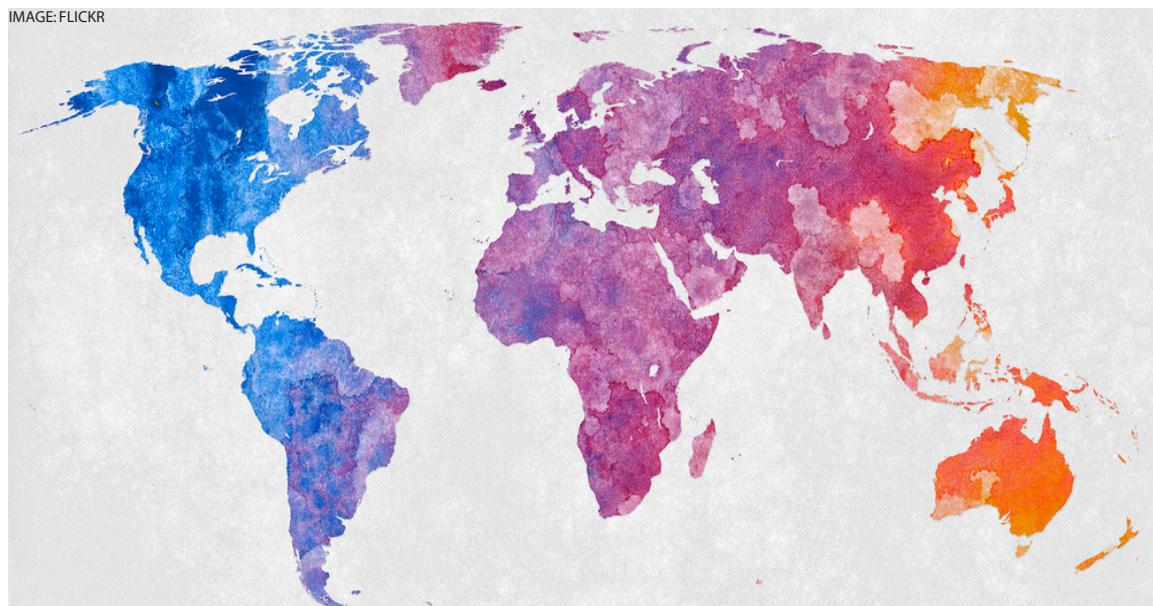


IMAGE: FLICKR

A study revealed that a third of all students have felt depressed or homesick during their university life

Hebe Halstead
SCIENCE CORRESPONDENT

HOMESICKNESS has always been an integral part of the freshers' experience - many people have to deal with it. It is a concept recorded over hundreds of years all over the world; this nostalgic pining is harder to escape than the awful society club nights.

Scientifically speaking, home-

sickness is the emotional distress experienced when you spend prolonged periods in an unfamiliar environment. Its cognitive hallmark is preoccupying thoughts and feelings of missing home. What humans experience when they move away from home can be dated back to Greek soldiers during the Trojan War. The ancient phenomenon was also mentioned in both the Old Testament books of Exodus and Psalm; Hippocrates, a Greek physician, even believed homesickness to be the product of

an excess of black bile in the blood.

The reasons behind this affliction can be traced back to our evolutionary roots. Firstly, it must be accepted that as a species, humans are a bit rubbish. We don't have claws or fangs to fight with, and we are generally a bit sluggish compared to many other animals; we are so vulnerable to predators on our own we had to stick together for our own protection.

Hominid ancestors formed complex social groups, dividing responsibility for food, childcare and

protection demonstrated by our nurture-nature model.

Evolutionary pressure has made us very sociable animals, and also incredibly needy. We innately want to belong in our group and stay there, because at a primal level we know that the person who wanders too far from the group ends up getting eaten. So, when we are isolated from a situation we are comfortable in, we sometimes don't know how to react. On the other hand, many students come to university and have no desire to return home after the 10 week term.

Saber-toothed tiger attacks may be getting increasingly rare, but homesickness is still a driving force in how we act. A cure dating back to the 17th century in Switzerland, still used today, is to simply go home. That is no longer a reasonable thing to expect people to do. So instead of running back to your cave, make where you are your new home.

By being the very sociable animal you are so perfectly evolved to be, meeting people, joining societies and making friends, anxiety and loneliness associated with homesickness dramatically fall. To stop feeling homesick completely all you have to do is overcome four billion years of evolutionary drive, which might sound difficult, but you are at a massive advantage as tiger attacks in York are currently at a record low.

SCIENCE SNIPPETS

Head transplants

A surgeon is planning on carrying out the first head transplant by the end of 2017. He says the first step would be to freeze the head and body to stop brain cells from dying. The complex procedure would involve cutting the neck and tubes connecting arteries and veins, cutting the spinal cord and moving the head onto the donor body. Components are then reattached and skin is stitched together.



IMAGE: WIKIPEDIA

Three way DNA?

The world's first baby with DNA from three different 'parents' has been born. When a mother's mitochondria have problems, a three person technique is needed where-by the mother's and father's DNA is used so the child is genetically theirs but a mitochondrial donor is also used. This method could eradicate mitochondrial diseases.



IMAGE: WIKIPEDIA

A 2000 atom mirror

Physicians have created a nanoscale mirror from just 2000 atoms. Mirrors are by far the simplest means to manipulate light propagation. Usually, a mirror is a macroscopic object composed of a very large number of atoms. By engineering the position of cold atoms trapped around a nanoscale fibre, the researchers fulfil the necessary conditions for Bragg reflection, a well-known physical effect in crystalline solids. The key ingredient is the nanoscale fibre, which had its diameter reduced to a remarkable 400 nanometres.

GBBO: Chemistry really is everywhere

Jessica Pound
DEPUTY SCIENCE EDITOR

THE ONSCREEN chemistry between Paul and Mary, nevermind between Mel and Sue, completes the bake off. Sadly, only Paul will remain when *GBBO* moves to Channel 4 from the BBC, causing controversy and a Twittersphere explosion. No more soggy bottoms, however will we cope?

Enough about the heartache, let's delve deeper into the chemistry behind the baking to achieve the honoured Paul Hollywood handshake.

Yeast is an important ingredient in bread baking, helping the bread to rise during the vital proving period. Yeast is a living organism and in order to respire it consumes sugar (from the enzymatic breakdown of flour) and releases CO₂ and alcohol. This fermentation also gives bread its beautiful smell and flavour, as the carbon dioxide and alcohol react with the air causing an acidic environment in which large molecules are broken down into their constituents, such as carbohydrates into their

smaller sugars, and proteins into their amino acids in addition to the natural enzymatic processes in yeast. The rate of anaerobic respiration, or fermentation, in yeast eventually starts to decrease as its own alcohol production inhibits it in a feedback inhibition pathway. The yeast is also killed off when exposed to high oven temperatures.

During kneading, the proteins in flour mix with water and bond to each other forming stretchy gluten fibres which trap the CO₂ in small air pockets. This allows the bread to rise as when more CO₂ is excreted into the pockets, the larger the pockets get, like inflating a balloon.

Baking soda also releases CO₂ to help the mix rise but requires an acidic ingredient with it for activation and neutralisation of the base produced, as there is no yeast to naturally start fermenting. Baking powder is added to normal flour to make self-raising flour, which is easier than using baking soda as it already includes the acid in the correct stoichiometry to neutralise the basic by-product.

To make your own self raising flour, a heaped teaspoon of

baking powder is needed for 150g of plain flour. Once the dough is in the oven, the Maillard reaction, which is essentially amino acid-catalysed caramelisation reactions in which a sugar aldehyde or ketone is converted to an unsaturated aldehyde or ketone. This reaction takes place in which sugars

and amino acids react at high temperatures to generate new flavours and aromas. The amino end of the amino acid attacks the carbonyl group of the sugar in a nucleophilic attack mechanism. These are evident as the bread browns and darkens.

To finish the baking process, caramelisation occurs in which the sugars breakdown further and release steam. More flavours are added to the bread from diacetyl (caramel), furans (nutty), esters and lactones (cyclic esters) give a rum flavour and maltol gives the toasty flavour. Sugar is often thought of as just a sweetener; this is untrue. In baked goods, sugar is also involved in several other processes. It undergoes a series of complex browning reactions above 160 degrees celsius, and the products of these form the brown crust of many baked goods.

Chemistry really is everywhere. It may not be thought of as being a large part of baking, but without it, self-raising flour and tasty bread wouldn't be either understood or made. Maybe Paul does know what he's on about.





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L'ORÉAL

Great Britain's superhumans have set a future benchmark

Team GB's triumph at the Paralympics exceeded targets and broke records



IMAGE: THE NATIONAL LOTTERY

Eden Gallant
DEPUTY SPORTS EDITOR

GB'S PARALYMPIC team delivered a sensational medal haul at Rio 2016, even surpassing the victorious summer of London 2012. The gold-laden medal total amounted to 147, featuring 64 Golds - 30 more than in London.

This was Britain's third largest haul in history and largest since 1988, placing them second on the medal table - also achieved by Team GB at the Olympics.

The team exceeded UK sport's target of 121 medals and the team medalled in 15 different sports ranging from Boccia to Basketball.

UK Sport invested a record £73 million of National Lottery and government money for Rio 2016, an increase of almost 45 per cent when compared to London 2012. This large investment has clearly paid itself back.

Russia's controversial exclusion from the Paralympics also helped Britain's medal haul, as Russia finished second in the medal table at London 2012. Nevertheless, it was a very impressive feat from the British team, who applied themselves very well to the competition put in front of them.

Paralympics GB dominated proceedings in the velodrome with 12 gold medals, three of which were courtesy of Dame Sarah Storey.

She became Britain's most successful Paralympian, winning three more golds to add to her already glittering medal cabinet. She overtook Tanni Grey-Thompson's previous record and Storey now has a staggering 14 gold medals spanning 7 Paralympics in swimming as well as cycling.

One of the most inspiring athletes of the Games was Alex Zanardi. He was a former F1 driver and during an accident he had both of his legs immediately severed off and he lost three quarters of his blood.

Zanardi then decided to take up the Paralympic discipline of Handcycling. He won two golds at Rio 2016, and said after the race that "I feel very lucky that my life is a never ending privilege."

His incredibly positive attitude towards disability epitomised the spirit of the Games.

The poster boy of the Games, Brazilian swimmer Daniel Dias, delivered for the home crowd as he won a magnificent four golds, three silvers and two bronzes and fourteen golds in total over four Paralympics. Another extraordinary story of the Games was Egyptian table tennis player Ibrahim

Hamato.

At the age of 10, he lost both of his arms in a train accident. He unbelievably manages to use his foot to flick up the ball and his mouth to hold the bat.

Even though he lost all of his matches, he became a symbol of the Games. After much trepidation surrounding the build up to the Paralympics concerning unsold seats, reduced funding and of course the infamous Zika virus, Rio 2016 proved an undoubted success.

The #filltheseats Campaign reshaped the outlook of the Games, from a reluctant prerequisite which would be overshadowed by its Olympic bigger brother, into an opportunity to inspire the younger generations of Rio, who would not usually have the opportunity to be spectators at similar events.

The campaign drew on the Games' corporate sponsors and celebrities, such as Prince Harry to raise a huge US \$300,000.

The campaign allowed 10,000 young children to experience Paralympic spirit and Rio became the second most popular Paralympics ever after London with 1.9 million tickets sold.

The Paralympic torch will now move eastwards to Tokyo in 2020, where Great Britain will look to emulate their triumph from Rio 2016.

EDITOR'S COMMENT

Anna Coughlan
SPORTS EDITOR



All games come to an end. There is a winner, a loser. An underdog and a front runner. As such, my writing endeavours as Sports Editor of *Nouse* must also draw to a close.

Perhaps an underdog to the role, I'd like to think that if you have at least made it to this sentence in my final Editor's Note I have won at my own sport in some small way. However, the beauty of sport is in fact, that you never know how the game will end.

I often get mixed replies when I say I write about sports and in many ways I did not know what to expect. Some look confused by the idea that I'd want to spend my time sometimes in the rain and nearly always in the cold. That is, stood on the side of a pitch trying to take notes with frozen fingers and pictures of fleeting moments.

In fact, one of my favourite moments at *Roses* involved Editor Chris Owen confessing that actually, he hated sports. However, much like art imitates life, sport too assimilates aspects of one's trials and tribulations. The drive for

success, importance of decency and tolerance, honesty as opposed to cheating, hope and disappointment, rules and respect. These are all things that can be simplified in a match in contrast to the way they often bewilder us in day-to-day life.

Playing in games, watching games, writing about games. All three thrive off questions. Players questioning themselves as to what shot to take, supporters cheering from the stands on the tip of every touch of the ball, and finally again, writers wondering how and why a team won, just as much as the team members themselves.

The clinch point being if we knew the end result of the game and the answers to these questions we wouldn't be there in the first place; just as I'm sure if we all knew the results of our degrees and the jobs we might have we would probably just skip to the ending.

It's about how the game transpires. The people you meet and the team you create. Those that I have been privy to are often some of the tightest groups of people on campus.

This edition in particular has really tried to make apparent the range of clubs here at York who want you to join them. Although I might not have played, I always felt welcome on the side lines, and I certainly had my own team at *Nouse* who worked much in the same way. I will miss them all dearly.

TEAMMATES

60 seconds with UoY Hockey Club's Daniel Proud

Name: Daniel Proud

first team captain very seriously. Makes sure we're all playing our best and enjoying it.

Role: Forward, Social Secretary

Year: 2nd

Course: Interactive Media

Biggest snake?
So many to choose from, the club is nothing but a snake pit.

Strongest player?

Pete Newton: El Presidente, amazing skills, non-stop commitment.

Best trainer?

Johnny Mohinda: Always working hard, constantly striving to improve. Absolute Warman.

Gym rat?

Hash Syed: Too big for hockey to handle.

Most hardened drinker?

Alex Calderley: His night-out antics are something that could have come from the Lad Bible, yet the ladies are never impressed.

Best motivator?

Alex Lake: Taking his new role as



IMAGE: UYHC

York Sport's lesser known clubs

From Dancesport to Quidditch, the *Nouse* Sport team spotlight some teams you might not have thought to join

York Octopush Club

UNDERWATER HOCKEY, or Octopush, is possibly the quirkiest sport played at the University of York. Two teams attempt to manoeuvre a puck across the bottom of a swimming pool with miniature-style hockey sticks. Points are won by getting the puck into the opposing team's goal, which is also underwater.

The concept of the sport seems utterly bizarre. However, with a track record of competition success, a strong social side, and its enthusiastic welcome to new members, Octopush has become one of the fastest growing sports on campus.

Players are kitted out in a snorkel, fins and a mask as they frantically attempt to score against each other in a game like no other. This British-made sport is fast and furious. Anyone who plays is bound to increase their strength and endurance, while mastering the sport requires the team to communicate with each other clearly and coordinate as a single unit.

This is, of course, difficult, as teammates are constantly diving

in and out of the water to take a breath.

Founded in 2006, The University of York Octopush Club has gone from strength to strength. This year they hosted Student Nationals in Leeds.

Two teams were sent, one of current students that finished sixth, and one of former students (Octopush lays claim to a strong alumni network) that came seventh. In last year's Roses they thrashed the Lancaster team in their own pool 12-1, retaining York's winning run since the sport was introduced to the inter-university tournament.

Like many of the sports played on campus, most Octopush players have never played before they arrive at university. Teams are mixed, and the only pre-requisite for potential beginners is a basic swimming ability. The Octopush team does not hold trials, but recruits members throughout the year as and when they fancy joining.



IMAGE: OCTOPUSH CLUB

Mixed Martial Arts (MMA)

MIXED MARTIAL ARTS is one of the fastest growing sports in the world. It involves elements from many different martial arts. Opponents fight one another in a fenced arena that is usually either six or eight-sided, referred to as either a Hexagon or an Octagon.

Victory can be secured in a number of ways, such as a knockout, submission, or by the judge's decision. UFC, the premier global MMA organisation, and its star fighters such as Holly Holm and Conor McGregor have taken the sport from obscurity and turned it into one of the most valuable entertainment products in the world.

The University of York Thai Boxing and MMA Society is one of the most inclusive sports teams on campus. York MMA also boasts world class training from two-time world Muay Thai champion Richard Cadden.

York Quidditch



IMAGE: HOG YORK HORNTAILS

REAL QUIDDITCH WAS invented in the U.S. 11 years ago. It is now widespread in the Americas and Europe and has recently found its way to York.

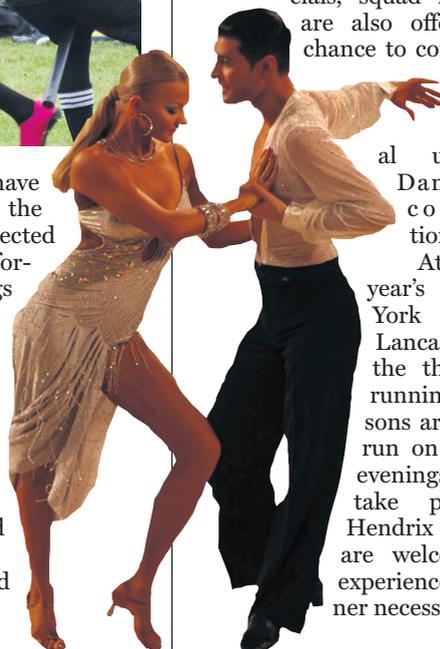
It grew from humble roots as an extension of the Muggle Society. Members gathered "behind the sports centre" just "throwing balls at each other", Co-Director Lauren Herdman explained. Now it is a "fully fledged team".

The Hog York Horntails have made a rather dramatic rise in the last year. This is due to their recent success at the British Quidditch Cup where they won the lower bracket.

As such they have gone from 25th in the UK to 17th. As expected the team can "look forward to great things this season."

"It is a fun, inclusive, friendly, full contact sport" according to Harry Smith. Both genders go head to head, tackling and scoring.

It's inclusive and boasts a "really great community. Come and ta this awesome, magical sport."



York Dancesport

YORK DANCESPORT provides lessons in Ballroom and Latin American dance. Lessons are for both students and non-students and they are taught by a quality tutor in a friendly environment. The society runs weekly practice sessions where you can dance for your own enjoyment or compete from a beginner to an advanced level. Besides the lessons and socials, squad members

are also offered the chance to compete in regional and national university Dancesport competitions.

At last year's Roses, York defeated Lancaster for the third year running. Lessons are usually run on Tuesday evenings and take place in Hendrix Hall. All are welcome, no experience or partner necessary!

UoY Fencing Club



IMAGE: PENELOPE LANE

FENCING IS A fantastic way to immerse yourself in a sport that's both physically and mentally engaging, and here at York we pride ourselves on having a wide range of ability.

Whether you're interested in a competitive environment to showcase your skills, or a fun evening with friends, the club has something for everyone.

Fencing is one of the most fast paced sports. The first few minutes decide the outcome of the fight so speedy footwork and quick tactics are a must for this sport.

For the first and second term

they aim to give you a good grounding and teach you footwork, blade-work, and the rules of fights. After this you can choose what weapon to continue with: foil, épée or sabre.

There is also the promise of using the electric kit to determine who hit first once you really begin to understand the sport.

They field men's and women's teams to compete in the Roses tournament against Lancaster, the annual BUCS individual Championships and plenty of other student and Open competitions across the country.

York Darts

DARTS MAY HAVE AN image of an alcohol based, male dominated and generally quite laddish sport, but Club President Jack Alsopp says the club has worked really hard to include people of all abilities: "We are the first team to have a women's team play in the league. We're open to everyone, we have a good laugh."

Darts is a small and close-knit club with a strong sense of community. Team members are involved in preparing the stage for matches and compete in a friendly yet competitive atmosphere.

Headlining opening and closing nights of Roses on a regular basis, Darts has become a fixture at York.

As Club Secretary Jack Worrall says, "It's really about trying to get everyone who plays darts to play together, no matter what background they have."



York Squash

SQUASH IS ONE OF the most fast-paced, energetic sports going, burning more calories per minute than any other sport, and very few sports are easier to pick up. It's more dynamic than the repetitive back and forth during tennis, for example. Positioning your opponent around the court is a key tactic of the game, in order to fatigue them and force them into mistakes. Played with a small teardrop racquet and hollow rubber ball, the sport is wonderfully unique.

There are three teams at York: two men's and one women's. The men's and women's first teams play BUCS and the men's seconds play local league matches. There is also a development squad who train alongside the teams.

If you are looking to play more casually, there are social sessions on Thursdays and Saturdays. All abilities are welcome and the Squash club are running an 'England Squash 101' programme, where you improve your Squash skills, as well as being a part of the new York Active programme. There is also College Squash for a friendlier rivalry, which involves training and matches weekly.

York Kendo Club

KENDO IS A Japanese martial art that uses bamboo swords and full-body protective armour. The literal translation of the sport's name is 'way of the sword', and it is as dramatic as it sounds.

Kendo may now be a modern sport, but it retains much of its martial art trappings like discipline, focus, and hitting things with big sticks while screaming your guts out. Many who have been to the Sports Centre may have heard Kendo practising. The sport is renowned for being very loud, especially when compared with other martial arts.

York's members have represented their University and even their country in the sport. However,



as almost all of the team started learning at university you're welcome no matter what your level of experience.

One of the advantages of joining a lesser-known club like Kendo is the sense of community.

Not only is it a friendly club in itself, but the nationwide Kendo community is a tight-knit one where everyone knows each other.

As Club President and Kendo expert Jack Richardson says, "We all do this ridiculous thing because we love it, and that means we're enthusiastic enough that you will love it too."

Ultimate Frisbee

ULTIMATE FRISBEE is a fast-paced team sport incorporating elements of American Football and Netball. It is a non-contact sport where players score by catching the 'disc' (frisbee) in one of the two designated end-zones at the edges of the pitch.

As it is entirely self-refereed, there is a real spirit of fairness and sportsmanship. Fouls or other transgressions are called out, resulting in a short stoppage of play, where the players involved discuss the issue and determine the outcome based on a set of rules for conflict resolution. The game is played indoors (5-a-side) and outdoors (7-a-side) and a s

women's, men's and mixed (minimum three players of each gender at a time). Most players have never played Ultimate before arriving at university, so it is an excellent sport to pick up if you've never taken part before.

Having said that, play can be intense and competitive if you want to take that approach, with several ex-York players going on to compete for or coach GB Ultimate teams.

At York we have a strong social scene, with regular socials and a very welcoming and inclusive group of people.



York Centurions

AMERICAN FOOTBALL is a tactical, fast paced and aggressive game played by people of all shapes and sizes. A sport that truly has positions to suit all, it has seen a meteoric rise in popularity in the UK over the past decade, with NFL games now regularly played at Wembley Stadium.

The University of York has an American football team that is improving season after season: The York Centurions. The Centurions boasted an impressive 5-3 season, including the outstanding scalp of Roses rivals Lancas-

ter. The Centurions are currently preparing for what looks to be another challenging and hard fought season, playing teams across the North of England and Scotland in their campaign to make the playoffs.

The Centurions take pride in being a competitive yet inclusive club. Every year the Centurions' committed coaching staff train up rookies with little or no experience of the game into a tightknit and effective team.

All are encouraged to try their hand at this fantastic sport.

York Croquet Club



CROQUET IS a new sport at York this year, and club founder and President Izzy Le Fevre is keen for people to come along, pick up a mallet, 'run a hoop', and make some new friends in the sun. With an emphasis on a relaxing and easy going atmosphere, she says: "When's better to socialise than when playing sport?"

Croquet involves striking a wooden ball with a mallet through a series of hoops across a grass lawn. Skill and patience are required to outmanoeuvre one's opponents as players attempt to knock each other off track. There

are a number of different variations of the sport, though Le Fevre is keen to play Golf Croquet, the fastest growing version of the sport credited for its simplicity and broader appeal.

Croquet will be played in the spring and summer terms, when weather and ground conditions are better suited to play. The club is providing all of the equipment to its players and encourages students of all experience levels to come along.

Croquet has even featured in Roses in recent years and the new committee is looking to be involved in this year's showdown with Lancaster.

Sport Union: Meet the 2016 Committee

Joining York Sport President Isaac Beevor, meet the new faces with big plans for sport at York



COLLEGE SPORT OFFICERS
Matt Smith and Kate Wilkinson

This role often comes under great scrutiny. They are responsible for College Sport and College Varsity. As such they liaise with the representatives of 15 different sports clubs, which come in all shapes and sizes.

Matt and Kate are responsible for all college fixtures, from Football's College Cup to Mixed Hockey at the weekend. They also arrange opportunities for cross-team training, co-ordinate college events, and provide a direct link between captains and the committee.



FUNDRAISING AND EVENTS OFFICER
Joy Mendes da Costa

This role is important in supporting the President in that it creates a clear point of communication between the clubs and RAG - both of which are needed to create necessary funding and donations.

Up and coming events for this year from Fundraising and Events hope to include "a York Sport Naked Calendar in partnership with RAG and have it on sale by Christmas" and "a Ladies day in the summer term for Marie Curie".



EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES OFFICER
Josie Phillips

Responsible for keeping up Grace Clarke's work last year Josie's role is to ensure inclusivity at York remains a priority in sport.

York is seen as a leader in inclusivity and minority support in UK sport, and Josie will have the task of maintaining the scope of the Equal Opportunities ethos.

The recently announced BUCS transgender policy in sport may provide an opening for EO to capitalise on ever greater inclusivity.



TREASURER
Prasham Patel

Responsible for the financial side of this committee, this role seeks to advise clubs in moments of financial need and seek out emergency funding when required.

With the future of College Sport funding hanging nefariously in the balance, Prasham could have a task on his hands in the months ahead.

A key aspect of the role is an advisory one, and clubs are encouraged to approach the Treasurer if they find themselves with funding difficulties.



TOURNAMENT SECRETARIES
Zac Sheppard, Laura Carruthers,
Duncan MacGregor

Their main role is to help organise York's two main sporting events: College Varsity with Durham and Roses against Lancaster. They are in charge of coming up with new and exciting ideas to make these events the biggest and best they can be.

Last year's Tournament Secs had the task of working with Lancaster to bring together an away-Roses. Zac, Laura and Duncan will have the challenge of making 2017's home Roses a hit.



COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER
Oli Withams

This role revolves around developing and maintaining the York Sport brand. This includes managing all social media accounts and digital activity, which can range from being a point of contact for clubs and students with queries.

This latter aspect will be crucial during the home Roses and it is what makes the role so exciting. It also involves liaising with campus media to bring the sporting atmosphere during tournaments.

Lacrosse lunge forth with a win



IMAGE: PENELOPE LANE

York's women showcasing their impeccable form against Harrogate Ladies

Anna Coughlan
SPORTS EDITOR

AS THE SPORTING community at York begin to prepare themselves for the upcoming season, the leading ladies of lacrosse took on a more novel approach to improve their already high standards by playing against the sixth form of Harrogate Ladies College.

On 22 Acres they repeated last year's success and won with a rather impressive goal margin of 16-4. The teams share coach Jude Kilburn who thought that the friendly competition made for an excellent opportunity to re-evaluate both teams ahead of next season.

The exercise was a great help in deciphering who was best suited for the firsts or seconds. Especially for the younger team, Kilburn mentioned how "good" it was "for our girls to play a university team and get ready".

As is expected, playing for a university team is yet another step up in terms of ability, experience and understanding of the game. In the past the players from Harrogate Ladies College have also gone on to play for York - some might say a natural progression.

Most University teams have been preparing for the new BUCS season before their lectures com-

mence and it may well be said that the flailing teams of the University such as Rugby could learn a few things from Lacrosse's successes of last year and into this one.

Although this was a "nice friendly game" it was also the opportune moment to begin to "push each other to do better" according to Coach Kilburn. For the younger team their attack really had to work to push through York's defence.

After all there is no escaping Beth Reynolds' brilliance as goal keeper when she only conceded four goals. That is also not forgetting old hands Laura Carruthers and Connie Shaw who always anchor and ensure the team's confidence. Speaking to Harrogate Ladies College student Elizabeth Gill it was understandable that they were "a little bit nervous" as York is "older, more experienced" and of course they "know that they are very good".

It was interesting to hear however that she felt it forced the team to "gel a lot more" and that they were "talking because they have to" especially as they were "outside of their comfort zone".

York's Captain Charlotte Weston seemed happy with the outcome of their first game at the end of pre season: a "solid first, everyone played beautifully and put in 100 per cent". It looks like another big year lies ahead for Women's Lacrosse.

Going the Extra Mile

THE CITY AND University of York will welcome the annual Yorkshire marathon on Sunday 9 October at 9:30am with the Start/Finish area on the Heslington West Campus itself. Since its inaugural 2013 event, the event has been filled to capacity within a few days and has quickly become a popular feature of Yorkshire's sporting calendar.

This year 7,000 runners will take on the gruelling 26.2 mile challenge, including our very own York Sport Committee member Zac Sheppard.

He stated "I wanted a challenge and completing a marathon was something on my bucket list of things to do. After a night talking with my flatmates and the cocky statement that it wouldn't be that hard, I decided to sign up. However it's definitely not easy!"

"Having to train through summer and everyday, especially hunger during Freshers' Week is bloody tough though." Zac is running and raising money for the Alzheimer's Society charity, which tackles dementia. So far he has raised an impressive £303, beating his target of £250.

Third York Scholarship

ONE OF YORK'S MOST prominent sponsors Santander Elite Sports Scholarships have increased their funding from two to three £5,000 scholarships.

These scholarships are incredibly important for athletes who wish to maintain both academic and sporting excellence. They allow for a greater focus on both for the students.

York Sport President Isaac Beevor reiterates this, commenting on how "every year the Elite Sports Scholarship makes such a huge impact in the lives of the athletes that are chosen to be a part of the scheme."

"This is a fantastic gift from Santander and to have an increase in the number of Scholarships is amazing, it will go a long way to improving our elite sports programme here."

Focus Teams delay

THE QUALITY OF applicants this year has meant that the decision on this year's Focus Teams for BUCS has been postponed, pending further assessment. They are now set to be announced for next week so that greater time and consideration can be dedicated to all potential contenders.

Usually it is the First or Second teams that show the greatest improvement and are therefore the ones who attract attention that comes with Focus status.

For the first time, joint clubs combining men and women are now being considered as separate entities. This further narrows the performance programme but will also hopefully allow for greater improvement.

Transgender policy for York sport

Anna Coughlan
SPORTS EDITOR

THIS YEAR WILL hopefully see the introduction of a transgender policy in sport. Recently put to the advisory board of the Yorkshire Regional Committee it means that at the very minimum a discussion has been opened.

An increasingly prevalent issue at York, it is only just beginning to make some sort of headway in the context of team games.

Currently there are few policies even in mainstream sports that target transgender issues and instead gender policy tends to take centre stage. The encouragement of female participation for example, is well known with campaigns such as "This Girl Can". However, the two are of course very much linked.

It is encouraging that steps are now being taken to approach both campaigns with vigour. The popular culture of sport and the ideas that surround a male dominated arena of laddish culture and behaviour is hopefully being quashed, and slowly turned into one of great-

er inclusivity.

York can proudly say that in many ways it is paving the way for other universities.

Also progressive is the relatively new sport Quidditch. It seeks to promote the inclusion of all genders - no matter what you individually identify as.

Their gender rule means that there can be no more than four people of the same gender on the pitch at a time. It prides itself on "being a game that people of any sex or gender can all play together" as cited by the club here at York.

A recurring feature of the Sports section is Equal Opportunities. Last year's Sport President Grace Clarke went to great lengths to ensure that it was a prevalent topic across the sports community at the University.

Whether it was rainbow laces or simply creating discussion they became two inescapable words. This year's Sport President and fittingly last year's Equal Opportunities Officer Isaac Beevor has pledged to continue this focus.

Already there are talks to introduce the logo for Equal Opportunities into team's kits, the front runners being Table-Tennis, La-

crosse and the Boat Club.

A more permanent fixture than Clarke's laces, it only further cements the subject into the community. At this year's BUCS National Conference York went on to win the TakeASand award specifically for their work in this arena.

As part of the conference a stall was presented full of all of last

year's admirable work.

Beevor has also become the new student chair of the Yorkshire Regional BUCS Committee, a role which brings greater influence and scope for York's progressive aims. The introduction of a transgender policy ultimately falls nicely into the overarching focus on Equal Opportunities here at York.



IMAGE: HOGYORK HORNTAIL

Quidditch is one of the most progressive and inclusive sports at York

Golden Storey

Eden Gallant considers what Team GB's Paralympics success might mean P.23



Sport Committee

Nouse Sport introduce the faces of the York Sport Union P.26



Lesser known clubs

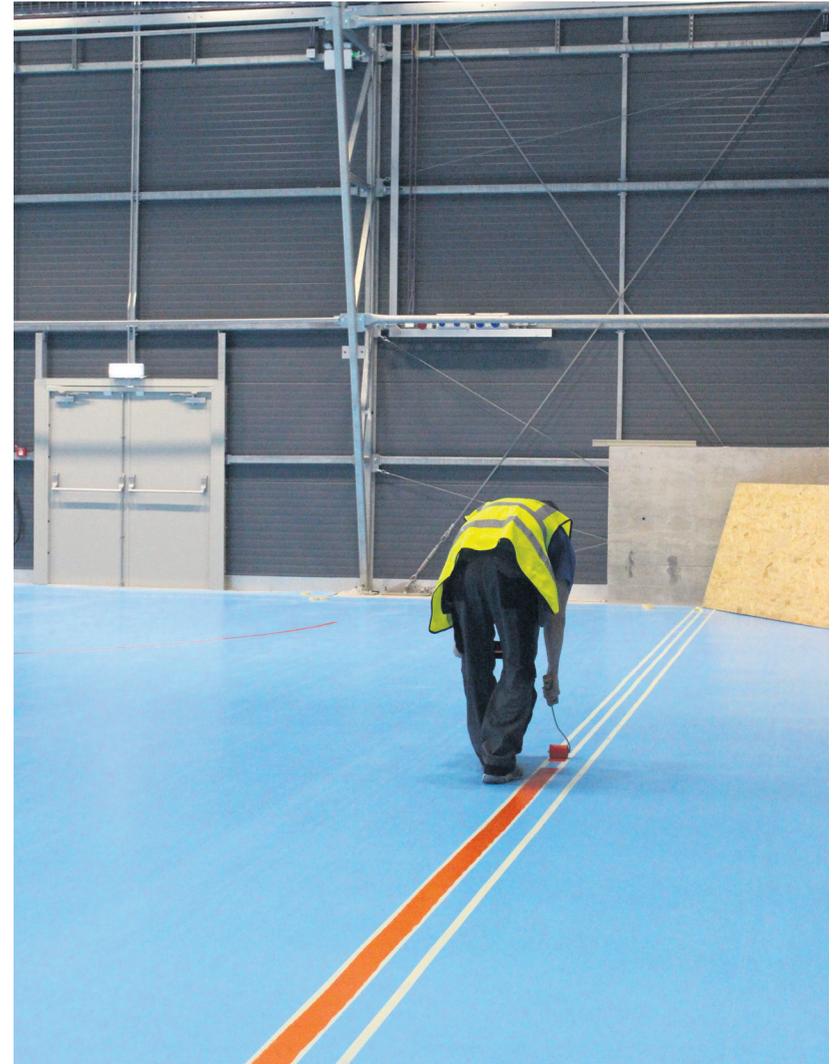
Take a look at a few you might have missed P.24-25



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Late sports tent disrupts BUCS fixtures

James Voyle
DEPUTY SPORTS EDITOR

THE OPENING OF THE new sports hall at the York Sports Centre on Heslington West has been delayed.

The rebuilding of the new sports tent and hall has failed to keep up with the allotted schedule, which has caused difficulties for training and preparation for the upcoming season.

Further to this, BUCS games have now been affected as new fixture lists are to be drawn up. Not only is this inconvenient logistically but it also puts York's teams at a disadvantage. Playing away continuously adds further stress and strain to what could be a slightly easier af-

fair on home turf.

University sports clubs have been told that the new facilities will be available for use by November, but *Nouse* understands that the refurbishments may not be fully completed until the spring term.

Construction work began at the end of May, meaning that total construction time will exceed seven months. Over the summer the closing of these facilities naturally had a lesser effect on the sporting community.

However, already events such as the Freshers' Fair have had to be rethought and re-planned. YUSU and University officials are frustrated that construction of the new sports hall and tent has not been finished in time for the new academic year, and will not be available for use by incoming first year students.

Despite the setbacks, York

Sport President Isaac Beever is confident that the solutions put in place will result in minimal disruption for the University and College sports teams: "Despite the Tent being late we have created immediate solutions to limit the negative impact on clubs and students.

"We created a Sports Zone for Freshers' Fair and we have also worked hard to reschedule BUCS fixtures."

Once work at the Sports Centre is complete, there will be plenty for York students to look forward to.

The new £2.2m Sports Hall will offer 20,600m² of playing surface, 65 per cent more than the old structure.

This will allow space for more sports to make use of the new scoreboards, drop down basketball nets, and vertical netting that allows the facility to be divided into three dif-

ferent sections so that separate sports clubs can use the hall simultaneously.

The tent will also be receiving a major overhaul, with new features including Wi-Fi, more floor space, new equipment and the installation of a much needed heating system.

"What is also exciting is the little touches that will go into it," Beever says. "We have a branded team tunnel and lobby which means that clubs that come here know that this is the home of sport at York."

Improvements to the York Sports Centre are part of a wider set of projects on campus set to be completed over the coming months, including a new lecture building and biology laboratories, totalling over £59m worth of investment.

The new sports hall complements the refurbished Athletics Stadium that was completed earlier

this year.

The old astro-turf pitch was removed and replaced with an eight-lane running track, a grass infield with Shotput, Javelin, Discus and Hammer Throw stations, and the construction of a 500 seater stand.

The Athletics Stadium now meets both UK Athletics and IAAF specifications.

Despite the efforts being made to finish the construction work as soon as possible, the setbacks will come as a disappointment to new arrivals at the University who were looking forward to utilising the new facilities in their first term at York.

Returning students will be equally frustrated as the improvements to the Sports Centre, which have been partly funded through tuition fees, will not be realised until the second term, inhibiting full access to the University's facilities.