

# Leeds University Union

## Election of House Secretary for the session 1974-75

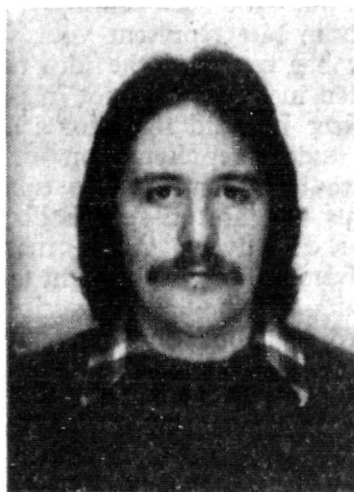
Candidate's Name ..... **TOM BURKE**

Candidate's Dept. .... **ECONOMICS**

Year of Entry to  
Leeds University ..... **1972**

Proposed by ..... **JON SILSBY**

Seconded by ..... **CAROL JELLEY**



Union positions held:

Member of Entertainments Committee 1973/74.  
Member of University Sub-Committee on Halls of Residence.  
Past President, Science Fiction Society.  
Member of Executive Committee at Tech. College previously attended.

### AS HOUSE SEC.

The House Secretary's job, as defined in the Constitution, is basically bureaucratic. It is his business to remove the tedious, run-of-the-mill organisational jobs such as the supervision of cleaning, portering and room preparation from the D.P.S., and leave that field officer to devote his or her energies to Higher Things. Despite the current unfashionableness of all bureaucratic affairs, I feel that the success of the House Sec. — and through him, the D.P.S. — depends on the ability of that House Sec to be an efficient organiser.

This does not mean that I am opposed to innovation. Genuine creativity is, and always will be, a benefit to any community, but it needs an efficient administrator to apply it and extract the maximum good from it.

The current lack of concern felt by many about the Union and its property reveals that some radical new directions are needed, not only in the political framework, but also in the running of the Building. Waxum's do-it-yourself' decoration is a step in the right direction, but much more is needed.

But no matter how radical the solutions, they will certainly need to be efficiently applied, not only to set up, but to keep running.

I believe that I have the organisational skill

and imagination to be a successful House Sec. I am well used to administrative work and procedure and to taking responsibility for work to be done, for before returning to full-time education I was working for three years, mainly in offices.

### ... AND AS EXEC MEMBER

I will work to implement Union policies, especially with regard to the Union Building and the Grants Campaign. Although I have not been active on G.C.A.C. I support the Grants Campaign and have worked for it by speaking on its behalf in my Hall of Residence, and by taking part in the Rent Strike.

I will certainly follow all mandates as I fully support the General Meeting as being supreme in Union affairs.

I am not attached to any political party, organisation or group, and will therefore be able to treat each question on its own merits, without having to follow any 'party line'.

### CONCLUSION

In general then, I believe that I have the capabilities to be an efficient House Secretary and the awareness and honesty to be a good Exec member.

I therefore ask you to support me by voting for me on March 4th and 5th. **TOM.**

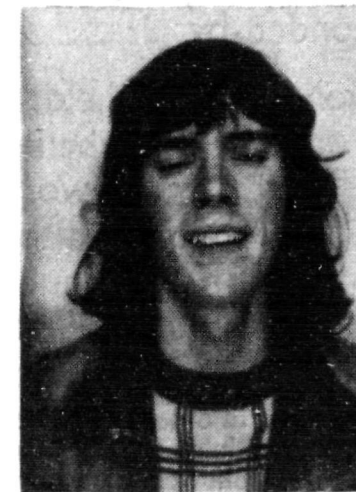
Candidate's Name ..... **BOB SHEPHARD**

Candidate's Dept. .... **PHYSIOLOGY**

Year of Entry to  
Leeds University ..... **1973**

Proposed by ..... **PAUL VALLELY**

Seconded by ..... **DAVE SINFIELD**



Union positions held:

**At North-East Essex Tech.**

President of the Union.  
Student Rep. Academic Board  
3 N.U.S. Conferences (1 Specialist)  
Initiator Overseas Students Society.

**At Leeds**

**ACTING HOUSE SECRETARY**  
2 N.U.S. Conferences (1 Specialist)  
Active N.U.S.P. and G.C.A.C.  
Assistant Treasurer Rent Fund  
Entertainments Committee.

On the basis of my experience of student affairs as detailed above I see efforts in the fields briefly listed below as essential to the fulfillment of the position of House Secretary.

It is necessary to co-operate with a number of diverse bodies and individuals, including full-time staff, routine committees and working parties and other Union officers. Also maximal feedback and criticism from members must be actively sought.

Although the position is not a very political one, the Grants Campaign is an issue which affects us all and it must be faced in a realistic way, without isolating large sections of the student body from it. In relation to my post I would regard it as most hypocritical to blame the University for increasing catering prices unless every attempt was made to rigidly control prices in Union controlled outlets such as the bars.

At my last College, with no social facilities, I tried to assist the large Overseas community in adaption to life in a foreign country. With a large Union building I feel that much more could be achieved here.

In conjunction with the D.P.C. I would attempt to improve contact with outlying parts of the campus and Union buildings. When the Lipman building is demolished I would strive to obtain adequate replacement facilities as a high priority. MY previous experience of representation on College bodies would be useful here.

I feel that I have the experience and ability to carry out the above policies and more; if you think so then please vote for me and urge your friends to do the same.

Best wishes anyway,

**R. Shephard.**

Candidate's Name ..... **KEVIN**

**THOMPSON**

Candidate's Dept. .... **COMBINED STUDIES**

Year of Entry to  
Leeds University ..... **1973**

Proposed by ..... **S. P. WHITTAKER**

Seconded by ..... **E. C. GRIFFITHS**



Union positions held:

publicity sec., house comm., arts festival, comm., nus policy comm., grants camp.

The house secretary in the union is an important job, it is a job which directly affects the comfort of all union members. The house sec. works in conjunction with the house manager on items such as fireproof curtains in the Riley Smith hall, the televisions and the new paintings on the walls of the extensions.

I think it is important for everybody to have a union building which is safe, clean and comfortable. On the former I shall investigate means of brining the union building into line with proper fire safety standards. On cleanliness it is unfortunately necessary to ask dog owners not to bring their pets into the union building and to strictly enforce that rule, and I would as house secretary be always open to suggestions on how to make the union a more comfortable place. As house sec. I should like

to see the extension paintings through, and as a present member of house comm. would like to receive designs and criticism from members about the paintings.

I think house sec. is a necessary member of exec because with the number of sabbatical officers we have, it is very easy for exec to become divorced from the needs of ordinary students, so non-sabbatical officers have an important role to play in that respect.

If elected I shall gladly talk to any student about criticisms and new ideas. I am a socialist and as such want to make the union more open, and not less so as has possibly been the trend in the past. I will obey mandates and will resign if I find these impossible to carry out.

## Election of Education and Welfare for Session 1974-75

Candidate's Name ..... **CHRIS PIKE**

Candidate's Dept. .... **COMPUTER STUDIES**

Year of Entry to  
Leeds University ..... **1973**

Proposed by ..... **KEVIN DRURY**

Seconded by ..... **ANDY MORGAN**



Union positions held:

Acting Secretary

Since the post of Education and Welfare Officer was only created at this year's AGM its duties are not yet clearly defined. I have been an active member of the staff/student committee and Academic Board on Education at college and therefore have some previous experience of the tasks incorporated in this post. As EWO I shall instigate campaigns based upon complaints concerning course content and presentation that I receive from the Union membership because I feel that it is imperative that students have a say in the structure of their courses; after all it is their life which is being shaped.

Contrary to popular opinion, the AGM did not dissolve the Education and Welfare Secretaries so consequently the EWO is responsible for co-ordinating the activities of these officials in such a way that they corporately serve the best interests of the student body. This should markedly strengthen the services provided by the Union in this field.

On the welfare side, I shall ensure that a system is set up so that all students will be able to obtain any information that they require on welfare such as legal advice, social aid, etc.

After being involved in exec as Acting Secretary for the past few weeks it is obvious that exec does have a major part to play in the running of the Union. Because of this it is important that exec does not remain in the control of the usual collection of graduates and perennial students. As a first year I feel that exec needs new members who are not steeped in its age-old traditions.

If elected onto exec I will vote as a socialist on those issues where a political stand is necessary. I feel that a strong united exec is needed and that I could contribute to this.

Anyone wishing to contact me for further information can find me in the exec office. If I am not there leave a note on the Secretary's desk and I will contact you. **Chris Pike.**



# Election of Education and Welfare cont'd

Candidate's Name ..... **PETER WALKER**

Candidate's Dept. .... **COMBINED STUDIES**

Year of Entry to  
Leeds University ..... **1973**

Proposed by ..... **DICK PENNELL**

Seconded by ..... **NICK LAMMING**

Union Positions held:

None; but I believe I have sufficient experience of how the union bureaucracy works to carry out the responsibilities of the post effectively. I also have the advantage of not being a member of any of the cliques that are more interested in helping each other than you.

The post of Education and Welfare Officer was created in order that there should be a member of the Union Executive responsible for co-ordinating policy on matters which directly affect you as a Leeds University student. It was not created in order to provide another rung on the ladder for people whose only wish is power in the Union.

The E & W Officer is the old post of Education Secretary, now directly elected by you, and



given the additional responsibilities of looking after the interests of welfare, accommodation, overseas students, and the union nursery in Exec.

I am standing for this post because of the abysmal lack of interest shown by members of Exec. and other Union hacks in these matters this session. The university is holding elections for Student 'representatives' on Senate and some of its sub-committees by a means that will result in the persons elected having no way of knowing the wishes of their electorate. It will be almost impossible for you to find out what is happening in these bodies and there is no way you can ensure your 'representative' does in fact represent your views. The University has conceded the idea of student representation in theory but not in practice. As E & W Officer I would fight for a more effective form of student representation on University bodies. I would also attempt to ensure that those students who are on such bodies are able to function effectively. More matters affecting the university must be brought to General Meetings. Issues within the university should be publicised in a bulletin which should be distributed so that every union member knows what is going on in the university and can thus make sure their representatives know their views. The student representation on university bodies is so small that all members must present a united front and be bound by mandates of the student

body. Student members of all university committees must meet prior to the main meeting for the same reason and the time and place of such meetings must be advertised in order to give you a chance to put your views.

The union already does a great deal to help the problems of student welfare are not ones on which it is possible to take a dogmatic stand. The union already does a great deal to help the welfare of its members but much better publicity is needed for these services. As a member of Exec. I would be prepared to help anyone who wanted help in getting the union to do anything for them. Far too often members not involved in the union find it hard to get even the simplest things done.

There are a large number of overseas students at the university who have the additional problems of studying in a foreign land with the many difficulties this can cause. I will try to ensure that the union does all it can to iron out these problems.

If you elect me as Education and Welfare Officer I will do my utmost to attain the ideal of a more democratic, concerned, university and the union.

I ask for your vote not because I want to join the ranks of the Union hacks but because I believe I can achieve something of benefit to all union members.

Peter Walker.

## Election of NUS Secretary for Session 1974-75

Candidate's Name ..... **KEVIN DEVANEY**

Candidate's Dept. .... **ECONOMICS**

Year of Entry to  
Leeds University ..... **1971**

Proposed by ..... **H. REMSING**

Seconded by ..... **F. MOORE**

Union Positions held:

L.U.U. Delegate N.U.S. Conference (Margate); Easter 1972 & 1973  
Trades Council Representative 1972/3/4.  
U.C. Rep. L.U. Trades Union Representative Committee 1973/74.  
Elections Committee 1971/2/3, Security Committee 1972/3/4.  
International Cttee. 1973/74 L.U.U. Miners Strike Cttee. 1972.  
L.U.U. N.U.P.E. Strike Cttee. 1973. Miners Strike Cttee. 1974  
NUS Policy Cttee. 1971/74 Grants Action Cttee. 1972/74  
Editorial Board "Red Star".

I am standing on the basis of both my experience and activity in the Union since 1971 and my political perspective. My experience ranges from being an active Trades Unionist in the National Union of Mineworkers to my involvement campaigns such as Grants, Anti-Apartheid, Autonomy and Representation. My political perspective is based on the belief that the majority of students can be mobilised on issues that affect them.

**GRANTS**  
Clearly, the main issue facing students today is that of Grants. The success or failure of this campaign will have important consequences, both for students and the educational system as a whole. If it fails, we face reduced living standards and an educational system that will be the sole preserve of the rich. The Governments threat to introduce Loan-Financing is an example of this, we must fight against it. Success depends, more than anything, on the extent that students become ACTIVELY involved in their campaign, there is no substitute. Without mass involvement tactics become irrelevant. Therefore I see this as a prime task.

To win the campaign, by the very nature of our position, we need allies to enable us to make the necessary political impact. The Trade Union Movement has already given concrete support to students, in recognition that we both face the same attacks — from the Tory Government. We must also recognise this — and act upon it. Therefore we should support the Miners in their fight against Phase 3.

**FUTURE OF N.U.S.**

The National Union must continue to develop as a mass campaigning organisation, only

in this way can it serve the interests of students. To fulfil this role it must have the correct policies, policies that will unite actively for their demands. The N.U.S. secretary can play a vital part in formulating such policies.

However, we must also remember that students are engaged in a process which we need to analyse and expand. Education itself is an area of debate in which N.U.S. and students must be drawn. We are not only fighting for higher Grants but for access to education itself. This cannot be seen in isolation from the nature and content of education. The difference between what is taught and what we students see as relevant to us is widening. We need to have some control over courses, not just the structures, but the ideas contained within them. A radical examination of our own education is something we must embark upon in a way that involves all students.

**THE UNION**

As a member of Exec. I would be concerned to end the "mystique of the bureaucracy" and the consequent apathy. I would be in favour of having public meetings were Exec and U.C. present themselves to answer questions on their (non) activities and policies. Also to hear the views of those they represent.

In the past Leeds and the N.U.S. have played a vital part in the progressive movements such as Anti-racism, Women's rights, Gay rights, anti-fascism and support for National Liberation. As NU secretary I would carry this on. I feel that the N.U.S. secretary role is more than formulating policy, it is involving students actively in their implementation.

KEVIN DEVANEY.



Candidate's Name ..... **MARK TURNBULL**

Candidate's Dept. .... **ECONOMICS**

Year of Entry to  
Leeds University ..... **1973**

Proposed by ..... **G. BENTON**

Seconded by ..... **TONY HYNES**

Union Positions held:

NUS Secretary Loughton College F.E. 1972/73  
Academic Board Loughton College F. E. 1972/73  
J.C.C. Loughton College F. E. 1972/73  
Delegate to NUS National Conference April and June 1973.  
Delegate to South Essex Area NUS 1972/73.  
Delegate to Leeds Area Grants Action Committee 1973/74.

**BUILD THE GRANTS CAMPAIGN. NO RETREAT UNTIL ALL DEMANDS ARE MET!!!**

The last few years have seen a resurgence in the radicalisation of students but the emphasis is now upon domestic issues that students face eg grants, education cutbacks, course content, as opposed to International questions, the most dominant being the Vietnam war. If you want to know my tasks as NUS Sec see page 198 of the Union handbook. Below however I outline what I see as the main issues facing LUU and the NUS and how they should be taken up. Please vote for me on this basis.

**GRANTS AND EDUCATION**

As each day brings news of more price increases the value of student grants is rapidly deteriorating. In the colleges we are witnessing drastic cutbacks in every aspect of education as the crisis of social expenditure (of which education is but one part) becomes more acute.

Last week Leeds Student reported that hall fees will have to rise by up to £98 if the University are to balance their books.

The University have been forced to shelve the construction of the Social Studies block, due to start in April, by over a year, probably longer.

We must fight against these erosions wherever they occur and direct our campaign against the government and the implementors of these policies — the LEA's and college administrations.

This means mounting a National campaign to fight for a full grant of £655 for all students over 16, regardless of sex or parental income.

At the same time we must resist the various attacks that are implemented locally and at Leeds University this means:—

- \* freeze on all University owned accommodation rents at Jan. '74 levels with reductions where level exceeds notional element.
- \*15% reduction in all catering prices with no staff redundancies.
- \*hardship fund be set up to give money to students whose parental contribution is cut by the 3 day week.
- \*all buildings begin construction on schedule.
- \*no reduction in student intake — all expansion targets kept to.

**STUDENT-WORKER SOLIDARITY**

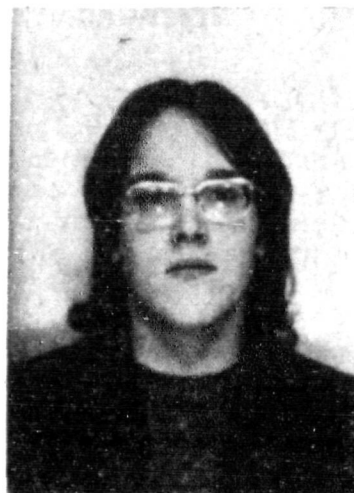
We are not the only sector of society suffering from the present crisis, all sectors of the working class and pensioners are equally hit by rising prices and rents. I believe that not only should all workers unite to smash Phase 3 but also students should become involved in this fight to defend their living standards. I urge all students to aid the miners financially and assist on picket lines if the miners need us.

**TURN THE MINERS STRIKE INTO A GENERAL STRIKE!**

**OTHER CAMPAIGNS**

In my leaflets I will explain my positions of utmost support for the NUS campaigns on Gay Rights and Women, what they mean and how they must be fought for and Indochina, Northern Ireland and Chile.

I AM A MEMBER OF THE INTERNATIONAL MARXIST GROUP. (BRITISH SECTION OF THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL).



# USE YOUR VOTE