

Leeds University Union

ELECTION FOR

Cultural Affairs Sec. (Sabbatical)

DAVID

Candidate's Name ... **MARSHLAND**Candidate's Dept. ... **Law**Year of Entry to
Leeds University ... **1970**Proposed by **J. BERGEAT**Seconded by **B. MacDONALD**

Union Positions held:

News Editor, Leeds Student, 1971

Editor, Orange Peel (Liberal Broadsheet) 1972

Elected Member, Union Council, 1972/73



I came here in 1970 with every intention of studying hard for a degree and keeping well away from those "nasty" Union politics. Six weeks later I was bored stiff with the course and working for "Leeds Student", first as a reporter and then as News Editor. The latter job needed at least 12, and up to 18, hours a week. It demanded organisation and hard work, and I think I proved my capacity for both.

In my second year, since I'd left Leeds Student, I had some time for other activities. I joined the Liberal Society, and also took over the society broadsheet, Orange Peel. I stood for the post of Union Treasurer, but lost by less than a 100 votes to Martin Scicluna. Later in the session I was elected on to Union Council, which should prove useful if (when?) I am elected C.A.S.

This Union is badly in need of a shake-up. There is a vast gulf between the bureaucrats who run this Union and you, the people we are supposed to be running it for. We must involve people, not just in O.G.M.'s but in as many other activities as possible. If you are not using Union Facilities, you won't feel much responsibility for the running of your Union. In addition you won't feel any interest if you don't know what is going on, and who is running it.

The C.A.S. is in charge of most of the non-athletic activities, notably Arts Festival and Ent's. While these must continue to be run largely by their respective committees, the C.A.S. can, and must, influence their work.

If, as I would like to see, the C.A.S. goes out to Halls, Departments, and the three S.R.C.s, he should be able to find out your opinion on what events are occurring, what should be put on, and why, perhaps, you are not going to those which are being staged. Equally he should explain why we can't do certain things. We need more information on what you want, in detail, and we will have to go out to find it.

Arts Festival and Ent's will be an important part of the duties of the C.A.S. There are equally important jobs which are less obvious. The C.A.S. is largely responsible for deciding and allocating society grants. Since the C.A.S. knows more of the background facts, there is a tendency for him to dominate the other members of Cultural Affairs Committee. This should not happen. I would do my best to give all members of C.A.C. enough information to make proper decisions, something which has been lacking in the past.

Cultural events in this Union often appeal only to a small proportion of the members. I would like to see more events being staged for a wider selection (perhaps along the lines of the free films shown during weekday lunch-times).

I've proved I can work hard, I believe I've got the right ideas for the job and the role of the C.A.S. Now you've got to give me the chance to prove it.

David Marshland.

Candidate's Name ... **MICK JENNINGS**Candidate's Dept. ... **Economics**Year of Entry to
Leeds University ... **1970**Proposed by **F. ARMSTRONG**Seconded by **I. JETHA**

Union Positions held:

Union Council 1970/71-72/73

Vice-President, Economics Society

Acting Cultural Affairs Secretary 1972

Vacation Work Secretary 1972/73



Having done this job for one term I realise that although the most time consuming part of the Cultural Affairs Secretary's job seems to be the distribution of finance. While recognising the importance of this aspect I do not believe that this is the most important part of the job: I would do my best to ensure that the Cultural Affairs budget is distributed fairly and equitably.

The crucial task facing a C.A.S. is to encourage societies to attract membership and to encourage societies to become more active. Only a lively society can satisfy its members. A full time official presiding over societies should give every society his time and effort to promote interest and help society officials in any and every way he can.

This Union must help students to further their extra-mural activities by providing a strong and well organised societies; the provision of such will encourage students to develop interest outside their academic courses.

As Chairman of Entertainments I would like to hear what type of band the audience would like to listen to; should we have the best in one field or the best in all fields? I would like to see Ent's co-operating more with societies such as Folk Song, Jazz, Blues and Film, in order to broaden the scope of entertainments. At Leeds we can afford, deserve and are entitled to the best in the field of entertainments.

Similarly with the Arts Festival, as Chairman I would like to see a greater involvement of societies leading to a wider range of events.

What I am asking for and what I would try to implement is greater participation: without participation our Union becomes pointless. It is in societies, in the field of entertainments, and in Arts Festival that participation must begin and thrive before we can act as a united Union.

FOR A BETTER SOCIAL LIFE VOTE FOR

MICK JENNINGS

RAJ TEE WAXUM

Candidate's Name ... **DASWANI**Candidate's Dept. ... **Sociology**Year of Entry to
Leeds University ... **1970**Proposed by **K. BERRY**Seconded by **J. BEEKEN**

Union Positions held:

NUS Delegate, Nov. 1971

Committee Member of:

Social Studies Society, since 1971

Film Society Committee, from 1971-72

Leeds Arts Festival, Spring 1973

Other Societies and Activities

Member Network 4 1970-71, also Philosophy, SSRS.

African, Poets, Indian, Socialist, International,

and have contributed articles to some of these

Active participant in Publicity Section of the heady and picturesque (Abdul Hai) presidential campaign where he received largest vote in Union history

Delivered an original paper on the Sociology of Culture at the First National Undergraduate Sociology Conference

Proposer and founder of live events in the MJ

I'm known generally as Waxum, and I'm standing because I feel I could contribute substantially to the continuation and enhancement of the cultural life of the campus, the Union, cultural liaison of the Union with the Poly Union, with the city, and where possible, nationally, the job demands somebody with a fairly varied experience and approach, and I feel that I'm up to it. My experience with societies has taught me that Cultural Affairs needs to fight for more money for societies from the Union Budget. My experience with the Arts Festival has taught me than an Arts Festival, (which I'd rename the Arts and Sciences Festival) which has traditionally, except this year, made chaotic losses financially, and that this, especially as the free student performances which I organised, and the Festival Theatre, which I engaged with the other members of the committee, is completely, as can be seen, avoidable in practice and in principle. My acquaintance with publicity (I've also worked in an advertising firm), would enable me to improve publicity substantially, and my experience with chaotic room bookings may be of use to those who encounter much the same. My direct, day to day involvement with the various facets of societies, conferences, arts events, would be used to the best of my abilities to co-ordinate and assist all clubs and societies, Record and Picture Lending libraries. Also, all the above combined would be of great use in preparing Playhouse Reviews. I've redrafted this manifesto from a considerably headier one simply to make a point, that I'm competent for the job at hand. Allow me however, to capture its theme as there won't be enough space to spell out my own original proposals. It remains a matter of open discussion whether a UC member, or one who has worked within the interstices of the student world and culture on other planes is the best for the job. My strongest points to date also include organising poetry reading eg Hugh MacDiarmid (I tried Mitchell, Auden and others who can't make it yet), arts events, conferences, and and awareness of the suffocating effect of bureaucracy, on the creative energy of all students. I've found

pretty hard against the bureaucracy on the issue of installing acoustic equipment in the MJ, the Union's largest coffee lounge, (and hope to extend this, if medics are keen, to the Lipman) for months. The idea? That it develop into an area of ongoing creativity for students and/or guests to put on their own music, poetry, drama, mixed media events, whenever they want.

The events over the festival in the MJ show and testify how tremendously capable you, the ordinary student is, given favourable circumstances for self expression. I plan to extend this to the lower bar, and if engineers want and the University co-operates, to all rest rooms. Of course, all these events would be free as already, and I would make sure that in the ultimate events of necessary expenses, (eg for guests). Cultural Affairs not students pay. As Chairman of Arts Festival, which I would also become on election my idea of an Arts Science Festival* would make way for scientists to make and play with their super toys, alongside arts events. Also, more overall participation of all of students and societies over the year. I plan to create a Games library, eg, Scalextric, Chess, Go, especially for use in the Belton Coffee Lounge, and if the medics want it, the Lipman. What do you, and other students, think? As students and amateur musician I stand, willing to learn as well as offer. It remains with you, the ordinary students, in your variety of life, social, and cultural gamut of thoughts, feelings and experiences, who, after all make up the culture on this campus, and the final verdict as to whether to elect me as a representative and link-man is in your hands

*SORRY for the misprints, for Arts-Science Festival, read, after "super Toys", also, electric, electronic, audio-oscilloscopes, the lot!" after "mixed-media events" or anything your imagination brews up." PS At time of drafting this sheet, I've remembered that the results of the election will be on my birthday. Also, that some of the proposals I've made are being discussed at the OGM in a few minutes. Got to dash.

Love, Waxum.

USE YOUR VOTE

ELECTION FOR SECRETARY (Sabbatical)

Candidate's Name ... **MIKE HODDER**
 Candidate's Dept. ... **Chemistry**
 Year of Entry to
 Leeds University ... **1971**
 Proposed by **P. McSORLEY**
 Seconded by **I. HARTLEY**



Union positions held:
None

I believe that the position of Union Secretary has to be seen in a different light than a purely organisational role. We are in a position today where the question of autonomy is still a threat to the Students Union, and students should be under no illusions that the question has been dropped. The whole position and living standard of students today are under attack, grants are inadequate to meet our basic needs. That students are prepared to fight for their rights was seen on February 21st, by the big response all over the country to the demonstrations called by the N.U.S. But the futility of the N.U.S. Exec's call for protest "to change the government's mind" must be clear to all in this political situation.

The government is in no position to meet our demands. This is because of the complete breakdown of the whole economic framework internationally which was initiated when Nixon took the dollar off the gold standard in August 1971. The low amount of confidence now felt

in paper currency can be seen by the fact that at the time of writing the price of gold had risen to almost 80 dollars an oz, compared to the "official" rate of 36 dollars an oz. This world economic crisis is the driving force behind the government's attack.

Bearing this in mind I believe that people who hold union positions should be under no illusions that concessions can be won from this government by putting various forms of pressure on it. There is no room now in the union just for bureaucrats who are isolated from the needs of the mass of students. Only somebody who understands the important role of unions today can carry out this job efficiently and fight to defend students unions.

As a member of the Young Socialists if elected I promise to carry out this job to the best of my abilities and in the interest of members of this union.

M. W. Hodder.

Candidate's Name ... **PETE READER**
 Candidate's Dept. ... **Geography**
 Year of Entry to
 Leeds University ... **1970**
 Proposed by **N. TAGGART**
 Seconded by **F. ARMSTRONG**



Union Positions held:

Union Council 1971/72/73
 Education Secretary 1971/72
 Services Section Board 1972/73
 Ents. Committee, Stage Crew, 1972/73
 Leeds Student Editorial Board 1972/73
 Technical Services Working Unit 1973
 Geographical Society Committee 1972/73
 University Committee on Accommodation 1972/73
 Leeds Student, News Editor Apr.-Dec. 1971
 Leeds Student, Sports Editor 1971/72
 Leeds Student, Business Manager 1972/73
 Press Delegate to NUS Conference Nov. 1971
 Editor 'Tyke' 1973; Jt. Editor 'Thrust'
 Union Handbook Sub-Editor 1972
 Geography Staff/Student Committee 1972/73

The new office of Sabbatical Secretary is not only one of great importance, but also a great challenge. I have been involved in the Union since the term following my arrival in Leeds and it is because of this sustained interest, hard work and experience, both on and off Union Council, that I hope to be given the chance to accept this challenge.

Co-ordination

The Union Secretary's job is primarily one of co-ordination. For without this, the new system of 'Field Officer' Deputy Presidents is doomed to failure, as these DPs will become office-bound and will never leave the Union building in a working capacity. The Secretary has got to be prepared to slog away in the Exec. Office all day ensuring that when the President and the DPs are out of the building, their areas of responsibility are not neglected. At the same time, he must ensure that the day-to-day running of the administration is smooth. This I know I can do.

Union Handbook

The Union Handbook is the largest single unit of information, published by the Union, and it is the Secretary's job to assist with its production. As a member of Leeds Student staff for over two years and as last year's sub-editor of the handbook, I have the necessary experience to make sure that the Handbook continues to expand as it has over the last two years. This year, I would like to see the section on Aid and Welfare at least doubled in size from last year's apology of thirteen pages.

Information Sheet

The information sheet at present is pathetic. What it should contain is a short **readable** list of motions to be submitted to meetings, both to OGMs and UCs, as well as what has been passed in recent meetings, details of campaigns of the day and up to date information on Events and society functions.

As a back-up to the information sheet, a whole wealth of up-to-date leaflets must be produced each on specific issues, such as Rent Tribunals, Contraception and Legal Aid. A lot of the information is already there — there is simply a need for someone to get down to preparing it, and publishing it widely to the members.

Meetings

At present, the attendance at Union meetings is poor, whilst on a smaller scale Union committees are often barely quorate. I mean to change this by, in the case of the committees sending reminders to all their members, and for General Meetings ensuring that as many people as possible receive information about them **BEFORE** they take place. This is not an empty promise. For example, for the last AGM (and the reconvening meeting), I was one of a handful of UC members to actually get out of the Union building and distribute posters and agendas.

The job of Secretary is in many respects all embracing and it is necessary for the Secretary to have a good knowledge of all sections of the Union. This I know I have and if I am elected, I know that I will be able to get on with the job straight away, without spending half the year finding out what the job entails.

Thanks for reading all this, please vote for me

Pete Reader.

TIMES OF POLLING

Polling will take place on Monday and Tuesday (5th and 6th March) at the following polling stations and at the times stated:

UNION BUILDING

10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

MEDICAL SCHOOL COMMON ROOM

12 noon to 2 p.m.

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

12 noon to 2 p.m.

PARKINSON BUILDING

12 noon to 2 p.m.

Voting Monday 5th March

Tuesday 6th March

DON'T WASTE YOUR VOTE