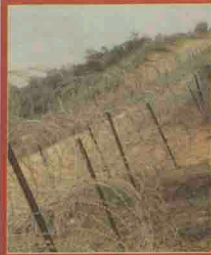


# Leeds Student

Friday, February 20, 2004

Britain's biggest and best student paper

Volume 34: Issue No. 16



## The other side

**Najette Ayadi O'Donnell travels to Israel to witness firsthand the troubles in Gaza**



## Baftarama

**Becky Barnicoat reveals all back stage at the Baftas**



## In the net

**Sports officers at the Met and Uni look at current provisions and where they could go in the future**

LS pages 12 -13

Juice pages 12 -13

LS page 22

# SHUTDOWN

**Lecturers walk out**  
**University closed for business**

**Alice Ross**

Day of Action on variable top-up fees.

**UP TO 1,500 lecturers and university staff will stage a two-day strike in the battle over pay and conditions.**

Picket lines, demonstrations and rallies will hit the University campus on Tuesday and Wednesday's industrial action as lecturers and researchers strike alongside computing, library and administrative staff.

The NUS is also urging students to strike on Wednesday as part of its National

The strike, called by the Association of University Teachers (AUT) will take place on Tuesday and Wednesday next week. Up to 47,000 lecturers and academic support staff are expected to take part in the shutdown nationwide, with 86 universities affected in England alone.

Leeds Metropolitan, whose staff belong to the Unison and NATFHE trade unions instead of AUT, will not be affected by staff strikes. Meanwhile, at Leeds University, lectures and seminars will be cancelled,

deadlines moved back and computer and library services could face serious disruption.

The AUT has been angered by pay proposals which it claims could cost staff as much as £40,000 in the course of their careers. According to AUT statistics, university staff salaries have risen by 40 per cent less than the average wage.

Currently the average pay for lecturers peaks at just £38,441 - 35 per cent less

**FULL STORY PAGE 5**

## IT DOESN'T ADD UP: THE PAY DISPUTE IN NUMBERS

- **£22,893** - Average starting salary of a fully-qualified lecturer
- **£24,000** - Average salary for any worker in UK
- **33.6%** - Leeds Met VC's total pay rise since 1994
- **46.9%** - Leeds Uni VC's total pay rise since 1994
- **1,500** - Number of Leeds Uni staff the AUT hopes will strike
- **47,000** - Number of staff the AUT expects to strike nationally

**SUSPECTED KIDNAP CAUSES SAFETY BUS CHASE - SEE PAGE 3**

# Leeds Student At a glance

## News



### Anti-Jewish verbal attacks on campus

page 5

### Pot holes cause havoc in Hyde Park and Headingley

page 4

## Sport

### BUSA knockout draw - we have the results

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## Space



### Jo Shipley asks whether Maxine Carr has become a victim of the all-powerful media image

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## Plus

### Letters

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### Patrick Smith

page 11

### Reviews and Listings

Juice

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 TELEVISION Patrick Cragg, John Holmes  
 OUTER SPACE Hannah Thomas-Peter

### LEEDS STUDENT MEETINGS

Arts: Mon 5.30  
 News: Mon 5 & Fri 4.30  
 Sport: Mon 12.30  
 Music: Mon 6  
 Comment: Mon 4  
 Global: Tues 3.30

Photos: Mon 6  
 Books: Mon 5.15  
 Clubs: Mon 5.30  
 Features: Mon 4.15  
 Style: Mon 4.30  
 TV: Weds 1

ALL MEETINGS WILL CONVEY IN OUR FIRST FLOOR LUU OFFICE UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

[editor@leedsstudent.org.uk](mailto:editor@leedsstudent.org.uk)



### Sketch Mark Powell

Everyone is entitled to make formal complaints. It's a crucial part of the democratic process, and a part that everyone should take full advantage of.

The reason everyone should take full advantage of it is that it's potentially so much more constructive to make a considered, formal complaint than to just sit around whinging about stuff without pro-actively trying to change anything for the better.

What's really irritating and pointless, though, is when people waste everybody's time by logging a bitter, half-arsed moan that falls somewhere between the two.

Like the people who seem to find endless glee in spending 10p on a

text message pointing out a typo or glitch they've spotted in the paper. If you're offering your services as a proof-reader (as one girl did this week - unfortunately, she didn't spell-check her email first, but hey, the sentiment was there), that's great and we really appreciate it. If not, what's the point in playing a one-person game of Anal I-spy? Rest assured, we'll already have spotted any mistakes, slapped our foreheads in collective self-loathing, and be well on our way to getting over it (types being the print equivalent of spilt milk) by the time you stumble upon an error and decide to write in and tell us you found it. Yeah, thanks for pointing that one out - what do you want, a biscuit?

But by far my favourite pointless complaints are the savage, sarcastic, utterly unconstructive ones. The ones that moan about a single minuscule element of a much bigger article, without even seeming to register what the piece in general was trying to convey. Like one three-line grumblefest we received this week, which, word for word, read:

As a postgraduate student at Leeds and an employee of Scope I was appalled at the use of language on

page 3 of this weeks paper. I find it particularly insensitive when Leeds uni has the countries leading centre of disability studies. Perhaps your journalists would all benefit from a short session on the correct use of language surrounding disability.

And that was it. No explanation of what was actually wrong with the article, no suggestions of how to make anything better, just an irritating (and irritating) whinge. I went back over the article with a fine-toothed comb, horrified at what screaming arocity I'd let slip through the net, and the only possible basis for gripe that I could find - admittedly, I'm not an expert on medical terminology - was that once cerebral palsy was referred to as a 'disease'. Which it probably technically isn't.

If that was the oversight in question, I'd hate for it to cause anyone offence - but from the point of view of an employee of Scope, was it not more relevant that we dedicated an entire half page lead to plugging a student's attempts to raise money for their excellent charity? Perhaps not, but Christ that's a depressing prospect to face.

Ever get the feeling you're

banging your head against a brick wall? Lately we can't seem to get away from it. Only it sometimes feels more like we're smashing our faces repeatedly into a big pile of broken lightbulbs and hot gravel, and, just to add insult to injury, the whole time there's some fifty people standing behind us telling us we're not doing it right. Which gets pretty lame after a bit.

So many people write in with really great constructive criticism, and believe me, that is massively useful and always treated with the greatest respect. But, without wanting to lower ourselves into a playground slanging match, I know that several people working on Leeds Student have recently felt like throwing down the gamut and saying "come and have a go if you don't think it's hard enough."

Because, at the end of the day, that is by FAR the best way to influence our output. And we desperately want you to come and pitch in - it's just such a shame that a few bored individuals would rather sit at home chuntering than put in the time and have a crack themselves.

The meeting times are down there in the corner. Come on people!

# HIV WARNING: DON'T BE COMPLACENT

Karl Mansfield

A HEALTH expert has warned young people not to become complacent about HIV and AIDS.

Dr John Hubley, principal lecturer in health promotion, urged those who are sexually active to take precautions and not put themselves at risk.

He said: "There is a danger that after the bombardment in the late 1980s highlighting the threat of AIDS and HIV that we have become complacent about the dangers of the disease."

"We need to put AIDS into the context with other issues of sexual health, including other sexually transmitted diseases and teenage pregnancies."

"There is quite a lot of information about HIV and AIDS from the health services and programmes on TV.

"But there is a need for programme makers to act responsibly to present the issue of sexual dangers in the right light. Some programmes show a lot of unprotected sex, which sends out the wrong message."

The Leeds Metropolitan

University lecturer's warning followed the announcement on Saturday of near-record levels of new cases of HIV in Yorkshire. Provisional figures show that 269 people in the area were infected with the virus last year - and campaigners fear the final total could be even higher.

Dr Martin Schweiger, communicable disease control consultant for Leeds, said: "The challenge we now face is to ensure young people are aware of the dangers and how to prevent them. Whenever someone is infected it is a tragedy, particularly when it is an avoidable situation."

"HIV is an issue which is as much about prevention as it is the treatment of the illness, and that is where we must now look for the future."

Since 1994, when the number of new annual infections in Yorkshire was just 65, the figure has quadrupled.

Organisations providing help to those living with HIV fear the final 2003 figure could top 300 for the first time since records began. The statistics are provisional as they do not take into account new infections recorded at the end of last year. Nationally 5,047 new diagnoses

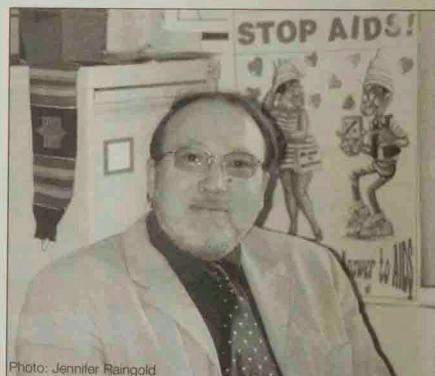


Photo: Jennifer Raingold

### TAKE PRECAUTIONS: Health expert Dr John Hubley

were recorded - a massive leap from the previous year's figure of 4,204.

An estimated 50,000 now have the virus in the UK, with around a third unaware they are infected. Last year 56 per cent of new cases were heterosexually acquired, a 27 per cent rise on the previous year. But despite the evidence, safe sex campaigners are still fighting the percep-

tion that HIV is an exclusively 'gay disease'.

David Greenway, regional manager of Leeds-based Terrence Higgins Trust Yorkshire, said: "There is still a massive perception that HIV doesn't affect everybody - we are desperately trying to get across that it does. No one is immune."

# Tell us your opinion: Met President

NOW'S the time to give the power back to students. That's the message from the President of Leeds Met's Students' Union Ben Gibbs.

His call followed an executive meeting at LMUSU on Tuesday.

Gibbs said: "We inherited a history of poor attendance in our democratic structure which has made our communication and policy changes at the Union difficult."

"One of the problems is that students don't realise how they can

make a difference to the running of their union.

"For example, we have separate NUS and library cards because when people register for the discount cards they provide more contact information each year. This allows us to email and text students, keeping them informed of important events and issues."

Gibbs stressed the importance of communication to make changes and improve facilities.

He said: "The turnout at our

Ordinary General Meeting in November was disappointing.

However, it was also encouraging as the students who attended showed that they did not realise how much difference their opinions and views could make. We hope they attend future meetings.

"We also need course representatives to come along to the Student Senate which meets every two months. This is where concerns regarding such issues as times when tutors are available for advice to

problems, or problems with getting library books out can be discussed.

"Get in contact with us, give us feedback. We are here to campaign for what you want as students."

NUS cards are available at any time during the year from LMU's City Site and Beckett Park. Part-time students can also get the cards by post. The Union's AGM will be held in May.

For more information email [b.gibbs@leedsmet.ac.uk](mailto:b.gibbs@leedsmet.ac.uk) or log on to [www.lmusu.org.uk](http://www.lmusu.org.uk).

# Police give prank kidnap the boot



EASY RIDER: The Safety Bus chased the suspected kidnapers for three miles PHOTO: PADDY PLUNKETT

Karl Mansfield

POLICE were led on a three-mile chase after a safety bus driver at Leeds University thought that a man had been kidnapped and put in the boot of a car.

Karl Harrington, 33, who has been driving the night buses since September, couldn't believe his

eyes when a white Polo reversed up to an entrance barrier at the institution with its car trunk open and a body inside on Monday evening.

He said: "When I saw a person in the back of the car in a foetal position I went into automatic and dialled 999 - it could have been anything - even a dead body in the car."

The bus, which had three female students on board, gave chase while Mr Harrington made a trunk

**'When I saw a person in the back of the car in a foetal position I went into automatic and dialled 999'**

call to give directions to police.

Four police cars took over the chase on Queen's Road, Hyde Park, before stopping the car on Cardigan Road near the Co-op ending a 15 minute ordeal.

Harrington, who is an ex-police officer, said: "Playing with man power is not a joke. Officers have enough to do without chasing around after idiots."

A spokeswoman for West Yorkshire police said: "Two occu-

pants were found in the boot of the vehicle who were being carried as passengers.

"Officers stopped the car on Cardigan Road just after 6.30pm on Monday.

"The driver was spoken to and we would like to remind people that it is an offence to use a vehicle in this manner."

The driver and passengers in the white Polo are believed to be students.

# Runners warm up for marathon day

Kate Eddison

THREE keen runners are taking to the streets of London to raise money for children's cancer charities.

Tim Pountain-Holes, Sarah Ferguson and Jonathon Potter each want to raise £2,000 for their charities.

Tim, a first year Physiology student at Leeds Uni, is raising money through sponsorship and donations for Children With Leukaemia.

Second years Jonathon and Sarah plan to donate the money they raise to Sargent Cancer Care For Children and the Teenage Cancer Trust respectively.

History student Sarah wanted to support her charity having experienced the devastating

effects cancer can have on the lives of young people.

Her sister's friend died of cancer when she was 14. The Teenage Cancer Trust is dedicated to lobbying the NHS to allow adolescents with the disease to take control of their own treatment rather than condemning them to children's wards.

Emma Jackson, from Sargent Cancer Care For Children, said: "All marathon money raised will be used to support youngsters and their families who are coping with cancer, and provide them with the social, emotional and practical help they need."

The three students have never attempted a marathon before, but 19-year-old Tim plays tennis for the University, and hopes that this will help his fitness.

Runners pound a course taking in 26 miles of the capital's streets. The three fundraisers have started training for the event which takes place on April 18.

Jonathon, who studies Sociology and Social Policy, aims to complete the course in under five hours. His training mainly consists of road running.

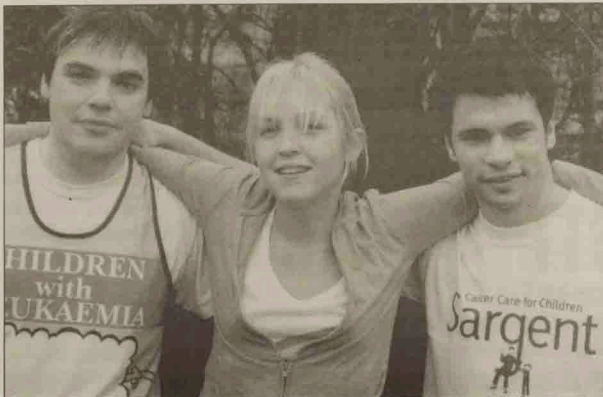
He said: "I am running about 25 miles a week at the moment, but I'll be increasing the distance over the weeks.

"I'm doing it partly because I want to get fit, but also because the charity is such a good cause."

If anyone would like to sponsor Tim they should visit his website at [www.personal.leeds.ac.uk/~bms3tph](http://www.personal.leeds.ac.uk/~bms3tph).



STRETCHING THEMSELVES: The three joggers will pound the London streets on April 18 aiming to raise thousands of pounds for children's cancer charities



IN IT TOGETHER: From left to right, Jonathan, Sarah and Tim PHOTOS: RUFUS HALL

# Hole lot of trouble

Anna Roberts

**RESIDENTS in Headingley and Hyde Park have complained about uneven and crumbling road surfaces.**

Samantha Robinson, a second year English Literature student at Leeds University who lives on St Michael's Terrace, Headingley, one of the roads pitted with holes.

She said: "It's dangerous and awkward. We're forced to drive on the wrong side of the road - my

boyfriend's car has low suspension and it can't really take it.

"Something needs to be done and very soon." Damage to the roads is also a problem for people living on Chestnut Avenue.

Richard Paris, who studies History at Leeds University, said: "There are huge potholes on my road and loads of bumps.

"Driving over them is quite literally a pain in the arse."

Manor Drive in Headingley has also been condemned by residents.

Second year Zoology student James Dean, who is also a driver, said: "The surface is completely rutted. With the steep incline and the potholes it just becomes almost impassable.

"I think my exhaust fell off because of the condition of the road."

Since the beginning of the year First Leeds, which operates buses on roads including Chestnut Avenue have lodged two complaints with the local authorities about the state of the street and Victoria Road.

Kamron Abkar, 26, who lives in Hyde Park, said: "The council has let the people living in this area down.

"The state of the roads are damaging our cars. Hyde Park is a nice area to live and work in but the condition of the roads puts people off coming here. The roads are in a terrible state. The Council just needs to spend a little bit of money to make a big difference to the area."

Leeds City Council admits that a problem does exist.

A spokesman for the council said: "Manor Drive is currently on our list of roads requiring maintenance and we hope to carry out repairs during the period 2004/2006 depending on funding.

"St Michael's Terrace has only recently had repairs carried out upon it. Its overall condition does not make it a priority for major maintenance."

Gerry Harper, Executive Board member responsible for city services, said: "We received a report three weeks ago about potholes on Chestnut Avenue and the road was made safe within 24 hours."

Leeds City Council urges anyone who is concerned about potholes to contact their call centre on 0113 247 7500 and the hole will be filled within 24 hours.



**HOLD UP:** Kamron Abkar says it's time for Leeds City Council to plough more money into the roads in Hyde Park and Headingley  
PHOTO: ANNIE MOSS



**PITFALLS:** Just two examples of the state of potholes in Hyde Park  
PHOTOS: ANNIE MOSS



<p><b>LEEDS METROPOLITAN UNIVERSITY STUDENTS UNION</b> www.lmusu.org.uk</p>		<p><b>Sun 28 Mar</b></p> <p><b>LAURA VEIRS</b></p> <p>£5 Adv 7pm</p>
<p><b>Thu 5 Feb</b></p> <p>BBC presents <b>RAW TALENT</b></p> <p>FREE 7pm</p>	<p><b>Sun 25 April</b></p> <p><b>KOSHEEN</b></p> <p>£14 Adv 7pm</p>	
<p><b>Sun 15 Feb</b></p> <p><b>SOLD OUT</b></p> <p><b>LOOT PROPHETS</b></p> <p>£12.50 Adv 7pm</p>	<p><b>Mon 26 April</b></p> <p><b>THE WILDHEARTS</b></p> <p>£12.50 Adv 7pm</p>	
<p><b>Tue 24 Feb</b></p> <p><b>THE ATARIS</b></p> <p>£11 Adv 7pm</p>	<p><b>Wed 7 July</b></p> <p><b>marillion</b></p> <p>£18 Adv 7pm</p>	
<p><b>Sun 29 Feb</b></p> <p><b>Dropkick Murphys</b></p> <p>£11 Adv 7pm</p>	<p><b>STAR ELECTRICHEAD</b></p> <p><b>Every Friday</b> Star - Indie, Rock &amp; Alternative Electrichead - Metal, Hardcore &amp; Emo £3.50 Adv / £4 Door</p>	
<p><b>Tue 9 Mar</b></p> <p><b>STIFF LITTLE FINGERS</b></p> <p>£14 Adv 7pm</p>	<p><b>OTT</b></p> <p>Every Wednesday Room 1 - Cheese, Party &amp; Dance Room 2 - RnB with R Naughty Free Entry B4 10pm with NUS £3 Alter</p> <p>Returns - 7th Jan</p>	<p><b>THE BOP</b></p> <p>Every Saturday Room 1 - Cheese, Party &amp; Anthems Room 2 - RnB &amp; Funky House Free Entry B4 10pm with NUS £3 Alter with NUS / £4 without</p> <p>Returns - 10th Jan</p>
<p><b>Thu 18 Mar</b></p> <p><b>LIVE SET E-Z ROLLERS</b></p> <p>£7 Adv 9pm</p>	<p><b>Tickets available from The Met Bar, LUU, Jumbo &amp; Crash Records</b> 24hr Credit Cards: 0113 244 4600, 244 6677 &amp; www.lmusu.org.uk</p>	

# ANTI-SEMITISM REARS ITS HEAD ON CAMPUS

Lucy Margolis

**JEWISH undergraduates have allegedly been targeted in a series of "serious" anti-Semitic verbal assaults on the Leeds University campus since January.**

All of the incidents occurred within the vicinity of the Union, and all were verbal attacks, according to a spokesperson for the University.

A representative from the Jewish Society - one of the largest of its kind in the country - confirmed the confrontations had taken place.

The student, who wished to remain anonymous, said: "I can think of three serious anti-Semitic incidents on campus in the last month. They have been very bad."

Three written complaints have been made to LUU following the incidents.

Karolyn Power, Societies Officer for LUU, said: "We've had three people come in over the last month to say they'd felt some comments made weren't OK. Two written accounts given were anonymous."

"I think it is one or two individuals that are causing this, but I have no idea what incites these things."

"We take anything of this nature extremely seriously, and the cases that have come to light will be discussed at Union Council and action will be taken in due course."

A spokesperson for West Yorkshire Police said they had not had any complaints regarding the alleged attacks on campus.

But Jewish students have decided enough is enough, and leaders in the community have called for the assaults to stop.

Ashley Lerner, the President of the Jewish Society in Leeds, said: "We want to eliminate these incidents. These are isolated incidents and people can practice their religion without fear of attack. I feel completely comfortable on campus - this is not a time for worry."

An assault which occurred adjacent to the campus has also been reported.

On February 4, a confrontation took place at The Library pub on Woodhouse Lane, where a football match between Tottenham Hotspur and Manchester City was being screened.

One witness, a Sociology fresher, who wished not to be named, said: "Spurs were winning at the time. Some Man City supporters picked up that the Spurs fans were probably Jewish."

"There were comments along the lines of 'F\*\*king Jews' and 'I hate you f\*\*king Jews'. The pub staff were extremely quick to intervene, and the trouble-makers were thrown out."

The manager on duty at the time was Mel Newbold.

She said: "One Spurs fan I spoke to said they'd had to tolerate racist abuse all night. I heard later that Spurs fans were called 'Jewish bastards'. The Man City fans involved eventually moved away from the pub."

A spokesperson for West Yorkshire Police said: "We were called to a report of a fight at 9.04 pm at a public house on Woodhouse Lane. No one was injured."

The UK Jewish community classifies an anti-Semitic incident as being a malicious act aimed directly at Jewish people.



**SINGLED OUT:** Jewish students at Leeds University have been targeted in a series of anti-Semitic verbal assaults

PHOTO: RUFUS HALL

The Union of Jewish Students of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (UJS), which was set up to challenge anti-Semitism on campuses, estimates that there are 1,200 Jewish students at Leeds Uni and Leeds Met.

Danny Stone, the UJS Campaigns Organiser, said: "There is an increase

in anti-semitism in general society which is reflected on campus. We've seen incidents of intimidation rise, which is a worrying trend."

"Those out to attack Jews will use the Middle East conflict as a cover. Misrepresentation of the conflict on campus leads to tension and misunderstanding."

## Lectures will be stopped by strike

FROM PAGE 1

than they would be paid for the same job in America. Meanwhile Vice-Chancellor Professor Sir Alan Wilson earns £166,000; a salary which has increased by 46.9 per cent in the last eight years, to the fury of the AUT.

Leeds University AUT spokesman Malcolm Povey said: "I've worked in the University for 30 years and this is the worst thing I've seen happen. Our employers have refused to negotiate and simply haven't taken us seriously."

"There is a huge funding crisis threatening Higher Education and we feel we have little choice but to strike to protect it for future generations of students."

The NUS has announced its support for the AUT strike and has timed its own action so that lecturers and students can take a stand together against the Government's plans for Higher Education funding.

Tom Wong, LUU Communications Officer, said: "Students will stand united with their lecturers in opposing the introduction of market forces in the Higher Education, and the continued under-investment in the sector."

Nick Surgey, Vice President Student and Community Affairs at LMSU, said: "We are joining the national shutdown of Higher Education on Wednesday. We're asking students to walk out of lectures at 9.30am and meet up at your student union bar at the City Site or Beckett Park."

Many staff have expressed their dismay at the disruption the strikes will cause to students.

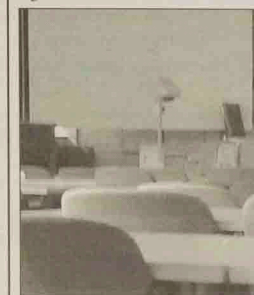
English lecturer Dr John McLeod said: "It makes me very, very angry that students will suffer. I think a lot of lecturers are exasperated and simply don't know what else to do. Since I began teaching in 1992 I've seen conditions get worse and worse - bigger groups, fewer staff, more administration and paperwork - while resources get cut."

He added: "I hope that all students realise that for staff the option of a strike is not something we take at all lightly."

If the strikes prove unsuccessful the AUT have planned further action from March 1. Under this 'non-strike action', AUT members will refuse to assess work and boycott the writing of exam papers.

Despite the disruption, which comes at a critical time of year, many students have expressed their support for the lecturers and administrative staff.

Geography finalist Ian Woodcock, 21, said: "I can't say I'm angry - even though this has affected me in my dissertation deadline. If they won't assess my work then clearly that'll be a problem but I understand that they have a right to strike."



**EMPTY CHAIRS AT EMPTY TABLES:** What the strike will mean

PHOTO: PADDY PLUNKETT

# £50k for Barrish killer



**BRING HIS GUNMAN TO JUSTICE:** Flowers paying tribute to John Gordon were placed outside Barrish following the shooting on October 12

Beth Southall

**THE family of a man shot outside Barrish have offered a £50,000 reward for any information which may result in the conviction of his killer.**

John Gordon from Harrogate, married with a three-year-old son, was shot at least twice as he stood outside the bar in Hyde Park shortly before 6am on October 12.

Det Supt Graham Shaw, of West Yorkshire Police, described the public response as "particularly disappointing" despite estimates that as many as 50 people were drinking in the bar on the night Mr Gordon, 32, was shot.

Det Supt Shaw has repeated his promise that anyone with information who attended Barrish on the night of the murder would not be investigated in relation to whether alcohol was served out of hours.

He said: "I can assure them that I'm interested in who killed John Gordon and not in who was in an illegal drinking club."

Mr Gordon's brother-in-law,

Christopher Deering, said: "It's been four months since John was murdered on October 12 and we want this reward to remind people that his death has not been forgotten."

"His murder means his son Jacob has to face growing up without his father."

The whole family was distraught at the murder and raised the reward in the hope of finding Mr Gordon's killer.

In October the police arrested a 30-year-old man in connection with the murder who was later released on bail. No arrests have been made since.

The suspect is described as being about 5ft 8ins tall and of medium build. He wore a crash helmet with a Mohican-style design on the front which officers believe was put on at the bar.

Police believe Mr Gordon was deliberately targeted by his killer, although no motive is known.

Pav Akhar, owner of Barrish, closed the venue in January and renamed it Sufit.

Anyone with information relating to the murder should contact Westwood CID on 0113 2413459 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

## Met's courses could save Hall

THE Met is the new hope to help save the Royal Hall in Harrogate, writes Luke Popleton.

Planners have offered to help safeguard the future of the 100 year old building.

Detailed plans have not yet been released, but Leeds Met hope to add to facilities for students in Harrogate and they believe the Royal Hall could be used to host courses.

The university will also support the Harrogate International Festival which is facing financial difficulties.

Plans to restore the hall have stopped as the project is £5m short of the £13.7m needed.

Frank Griffiths, Deputy Vice Chancellor at the Met, said: "The university needs to consider how it can extend physical facilities in Harrogate. There may be something there for us."

The move comes days after the university launched the Yorkshire First Foundation, a new effort designed to increase access to training across Yorkshire.

Leeds Met are trying to focus more on vocational training rather than being just a research based university.

The university's support of the restoration of the Royal Hall and its backing of the Harrogate festival will be seen as branching out from the traditional academia.

# Is it God to talk?

Alastair Beach

**A HYDE Park church is considering putting a mobile phone mast on its roof.**

If it is sanctioned, the structure will be built on the grounds of All Hallows Church on Regent Terrace. News of the possible development came as a surprise to students living nearby.

The company behind the planned installation is QS4, which has signed a deal with the Church of England that could see hundreds of parishes nationwide hosting mobile phone masts. Rental from a mast could generate as much as £45,000 a year for the church.

Hamish Glenn, a fresher at Leeds Uni who lives on Regent Terrace, said: "It could be a bit of an eyesore, but I don't see it as much of an issue. There's a couple where I live, and it's the same risk as using a mobile phone."

The Sports Materials Technology student welcomed the potential profit. He said: "I think the church should get some money. I know it's a substantial sum, and that it could be seen as selling out, but the money could be shared with other communities."

At a special meeting this week, representatives of the church and QS4, as well as campaign group Mast Sanity, discussed the plans.

The Reverend Ray Gaston said: "The meeting was to tell the council and members of the congregation about the issues, so they can make up their minds."

"If there was any resistance in the community, we wouldn't go ahead."

Lisa Oldham of Mast Sanity expressed her opposition to the scheme. She said: "The church is there to look up to, not to profit, however much the money is needed, from people's misery."



PROPHET? Rental from a mobile mast could make up to £45,000 for All Hallows church in Hyde Park PHOTO: JONATHAN ROSE

## Top marks for uni

Luke Popleton

**IT'S official - Leeds Uni is the most popular university in the country.**

Figures published by UCAS reveal a staggering 49,000 people applied for undergraduate places at Leeds University this year.

The results also show the number of applicants has increased by four per cent since last year, higher than the national trend which saw overall applications increase by 3.4 per cent.

Leeds Metropolitan University remains one of the country's most popular higher education institutions. But the number of

people applying there fell by 1.3 per cent on last year's figures; 21,669 applicants listed the Met on their UCAS forms.

Second on the list was the University of Manchester with 47,000 applicants, followed by Nottingham University with 46,000 applicants.

A spokesperson for Leeds University said: "We're delighted that Leeds continues to be one of the UK's most popular universities for home and EC students."

"Students enjoy the widest choice of courses in England as well as getting the benefit of excellent teaching."

"All this in one of the country's most vibrant cities, which hosts an excellent range of bars, clubs, shops, theatres and cinemas."



THE PLACE TO BE: Applications to Leeds University are higher than ever

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## National Express

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# First class hoax fails to deliver

# News in brief

Ben Robinson

A SECOND year has backed West Yorkshire Trading Standards' warning to avoid an envelope pyramid scam targeting people in the area.

Kate Southwell, 19, who reads Philosophy and Psychology, thought the job, which involved sending out envelopes to encourage more people to sign up to the scheme, would be an ideal way of earning some money without interfering with her studies.

The company, South Wales-based Delta Data Services, responded to Kate's application, asking for a refundable sign-up fee of £14.99.

It was not until she searched for the company on the internet that the Leeds University student realised it was a pyramid scheme. A pyramid scam is a fraudulent system of making money which involves recruiting endless numbers of people who pay a signing up fee. The recruiter is then paid a commission, in this case £1.30, for any envelopes forwarded to the company. Kate had to recruit 40 people to the scheme to have her deposit refunded.

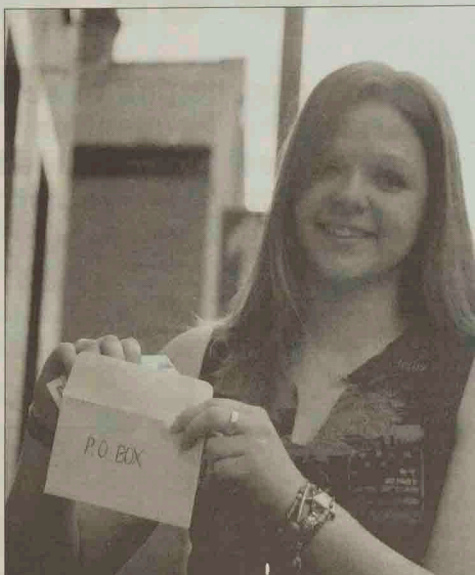
She said: "I was in real need of money and the advert was so convincing, I thought I would be able to start earning money straight away."

"I felt cheated and annoyed that the company had conned me into thinking that I was signing up to a good money making scheme, I would warn others to avoid it."

West Yorkshire Trading Standards received 45 complaints about the company in 2003.

Graham Hebblethwaite, divisional manager of the consumer watchdog, said: "It's a classic envelope addressing scheme that never works. You have no chance of making any money from them, the only people who gain from them are those in charge who register the £14.99."

"They are very difficult to stop because every time a new legislation is introduced they find a new



RETURN TO SENDER: Pyramid scams wont pay off PHOTOS: JOHNATHAN ROSE

way around it. It is like a virus, you catch it by responding to the advert and then it spreads very quickly."

LUU Welfare Officer Leyla Okhai said: "I hate to say it, but if it sounds too good to be true it probably is. We strongly advise students

to seek employment with reputable employers through LUU Joblink. If you have been treated unfairly by your employers get in touch with Welfare Services in LUU."

Delta Data Services were unavailable for comment.



YOU'VE GOT MAIL: Kate Southwell learnt the hard way

## Anti-HMOs lobby in Westminster

INCREASING numbers of student houses have prompted campaigners to lobby parliament with their concerns, writes *Jes Salter*.

Dr Richard Tyler, co-ordinator of Leeds HMO (Houses in Multiple Occupancy) Lobby, visited Housing Minister Keith Hill, on Thursday with a joint delegation from university towns Leeds and Nottingham.

In the forthcoming Housing Bill, the council will have to license houses in multiple occupancy (HMOs), such as shared student homes, but only those over three storeys high and with over five tenants.

Dr Tyler wants Mr Hill to 'cast the net wider' to include more properties.

The licenses would put rogue landlords out of business and discourage new landlords from the area, reducing the number of student properties in the area.

This proposal is backed by other interest groups, such as

Shelter, as it will make properties safer.

Dr Tyler said: "Statistics show that typical student housing is dangerous because landlords don't always properly maintain them, there are more people living in the house than there should be and it's not the responsibility of one person to be in charge and sensible, as in a typical family situation."

He said: "Our aims weren't to convince the minister that there is a problem; he already recognises the problems that the expansion of higher education has caused. I think the government has set its face against HMOs."

Dr Tyler also wants changes to planning legislation, which would place a limit of the number of HMOs in one area and place a block on new student buildings in Hyde Park and Headingley.

Students now account for over 65 per cent of Headingley's population.

## Walksafe stamps down on break-ins

Jes Salter

BUGGLARIES in Hyde Park and Headingley decreased by 18 per cent over the Christmas period, saving students on average £2,500 per burglary.

Estcourt Terrace and Estcourt Avenue in Headingley were targeted by West Yorkshire police's Walksafe winter initiative, where police identified high density crime patterns. They were offered free storage in Spaces storage company for valuables over the festive period. 43 households took up the scheme, costing the police over £2,500.

Police visited 463 properties in Headingley, giving out 2,000 UV pens and timers, 200 panic alarms and 10,000 leaflets on crime prevention. An exhibition vehicle was available for advice, positioned between the two university campuses. There was also a high visibility police patrol the week before

and the week after the Christmas holidays. If the patrol wardens saw an open window would inform the tenants in the property and promote crime awareness.

Joanne Field, Inspector for Student Safety, said the scheme cost £1,600 but estimated it reached over 1,600 students. She said: "The problem we have is getting the message across to students. They are an easy target but you think it will never happen to you. Second steps just take five minutes, like taking down the serial number on you laptop, or marking your property with a UV pen, but if it does get stolen we've got more chance of a conviction."

She said there are no plans to repeat the free storage for Easter, because of funding, but that mainly "we wanted to give a taster of storage."

She added: "Students just need to take a little more care of their property. We'd like to initiate a scheme similar to neighbourhood watch, where everyone looks out for one another."

## Leeds Met Exec elections

FOR Leeds Metropolitan University it's that time once again where the new Sabbatical officers and Union Council will be elected.

Ben Gibbs, current LMUSU President, is hoping for a large number of candidates. Gibbs, whose tenure runs out in July, has sent a letter to all members of the student union personally encouraging potential nominees.

He said: "This will make things a bit more democratic, a bit more interesting. It's a win-win situation all round."

The voting process, which takes place on the March 5, could be revolutionised this year with the introduction of e-voting. If the system is a success, it will be used in the selection of delegates for the NUS national council along with the more traditional ballot box.

Gibbs said: "I'm confident we can have a good turnout this year. E-voting is a step toward our aim of 24 hour learning".

Met students also have the chance to become Union Council members. There are 12 positions up for grabs and nominations are open from Monday. LMUSU's Union Council holds the executive officers to account and provides the chance to debate issues concerning the institution. It meets every two weeks at 5pm on a Tuesday.

For more information email the President on b.gibbs@leedsmet.ac.uk or log on to www.lmusu.org.uk.

## New RESPECT coalition is formed

AN ORGANISATION which includes anti-war activists, students, trade unionists and pensioners has been formed.

RESPECT, which stands for respect, equality, socialism, peace, environment, community and trade unionism, is holding a launch meeting on Wednesday at 7.30pm in the Rupert Beckett Lecture Theatre.

Writer and Broadcaster Mark Steel will headline the launch at Leeds University.

## Refugee week kicks off at Met

LMUSU has dedicated the past week to drawing attention to the plight of refugees and migrants around the world, especially in Britain.

Refugee Awareness week was supported by organisations including STAR (Student Action for Refugees) and Amnesty International. It featured films, guest speakers, live bands and even a special pants-themed OTT night at the Met bar supporting STAR's 'refugee policy is pants' campaign.

Nick Surgey, Vice President for Student and Community Affairs and organiser of the activities, said: "This week was really about raising awareness. If we can get people together to campaign on this we can make a big effect."

Noa Kleinman, US coordinator for Amnesty, was one of the main speakers at the week-long event. She raised issues including the negativity of the current UK Asylum & Immigration Bill and also the often inaccurate and damaging portrayal of migrants in Britain by the media.

She said: "In reality more UK citizens are leaving as economic migrants than refugees coming in."

"The best you can possibly do in this life is make things better for one or two people."

## Leeds Student SAYS Lecturers' pay is a disgrace

The strike action by up to 1,500 lecturers in Leeds who are calling for a hike in wages is something that we should all support. The average salary for a lecturer starting to teach at university is £22,893 compared to the average wage in the UK of £24,000, while a senior lecturer receives £38,441. This compared with the salary of Leeds University's Sir Alan Wilson and Leeds Met's Simon Lee is laughable. Sir Wilson earns £166,000 while Simon Lee earns £167,000. While Vice Chancellors nationally have seen an increase in their salary from 1994/95 to 2001/02 of 49 per cent, lecturers have actually seen a fall in their pay by 40 per cent compared to the rest of the work force in the last 20 years.

Leeds University will see its teaching provision seriously disrupted on Tuesday and Wednesday after a failure by the lecturer's union and Higher Education bodies to come to an agreement. The AUT estimate that between 50 and 60 per cent of their members will picket all entrances to Leeds University.

However admirable the AUT lecturer's strike is, universities must make sure that the level of education available to students does not suffer. Action plans must be implemented, particularly in the light that from March 1 lecturers could refuse to mark or write any exams or assessed work or cover colleagues' absences.

On Wednesday lecturers will also be joined by students as part of the NUS's national day of protest against top-up fees. This is once again an action that we should all join. You may think that top-up fees will not affect you but they will affect your children when they get to applying for university. Degrees should not be judged by their cost but their academic worth. The Higher Education sector does need an overhaul and much more money ploughed into it but top-up fees are not the answer. You make up your mind but make your voice heard and support the lecturers and the NUS in any way you can.

## Anti-Semitism needs to be stamped out

It's absolutely ludicrous that even within the ostensibly diverse and cosmopolitan cultural fabric of university life, some people are still unable to go about their daily lives free from intimidation and prejudice.

It goes without saying that this is not an exclusively 'Jewish problem'. Whatever your views may be, numerous people are clearly still being victimised or made to feel vulnerable purely on the basis of their belief, appearance, sexual orientation or ethnic origin. At university - supposedly the breeding ground for the open-minded, intelligent, independent social leaders of tomorrow - the fact that people are still suffering at the hands of a tiny minority of ignorant, bigoted cowards almost defies belief.

We are all here because we want to study, socialise, meet new people, have new experiences, and generally give ourselves a great chance of a life we can look back on and be fiercely proud of.

It falls to the majority of us - who are able to remember this fact on a daily basis - to keep reminding the ignorant few that their damaging, pointless views carry no weight beyond the school play-

# Apathy or activity?

As the dust begins to settle on last week's LUU AGM, Adrian Prandle questions whether it really was the radical meeting it seemed to be and asks if Leeds has seen a true return to active student politics

Like that week for Tony Blair, the LUU AGM proved an utter anti-climax in the end. Sure, a number of arguments were presented eloquently and passionately and turn-out was excellent, but little of any surprise or with far-reaching consequences was actually passed. Pretty much every motion reached a sensible conclusion. Where was the controversy?

The controversy of course had already happened in the weeks leading up to the AGM with the extremely dubious behaviour of the Exec. The nature and value of democracy means that leadership is contested and often hated but coupled with agenda fixing, the subsequent lies told to cover up this action and the basic stupidity of a number of key proposals, it was actually of no surprise that sabbatical reform was voted down in dramatic fashion.

A number of comments from the floor questioned the Labour Party membership prevalent within the Exec. Whilst this was generally irrelevant to the debate, typical New Labour arrogance and bad humour was on show in abundance from those running the union. And, similarly to the situation that Tony Blair has found himself in in recent months, when things are beginning to go wrong, people grow in confidence to vote against the leadership line on policy. And so no surprises ensued.

Perhaps the most interesting thing to note about the Exec's behaviour was their lack of reaction to the rejection of the sabbatical reform motions. They didn't seem too upset or bothered when these fell. Could it be that the proposals had been short-term, rash decisions that they didn't actually care about

**The student voice spoke only to say that it couldn't be bothered dealing efficiently with the proposal**

and that their only benefit would have been to save the effort of having to think up some sensible solutions to the financial trouble that is on the horizon?

Adding weight to this theory was Simon Young's insistence that the union is 'not about to go bust' and in comparison, Tom Wong's delight with the passing of his motion to lobby NUS for the cre-

staff and students', to oppose landlordism and the onset of privately owned halls of residence, and to ensure the recognition of racial diversity. Each of these was passed with ease. Tom Wong's procedural motion to move straight to a vote on the Nightline proposal did not indicate that the Exec wanted to argue their case, which for the proposal to pass they would have needed to do

ordinary student members of LUU came to was the implementation of smoking restrictions within the union building.

Whilst those who have viewed the decision with disgust but weren't at the meeting to vote against the motion don't have a leg to stand on, the motion did not represent the voice of a politicised student body. For the proposed motion



PACKED HOUSE: The AGM attracted a record crowd, but for what reasons? PHOTO: PADDY PLUNKETT

ation of Yorkshire and Humber region.

Maybe, however, the nonsensical sabbatical reform motions that were presented (three of which with the backing of Union Council, whose role in this has somehow escaped criticism) were simply designed to be controversial - with ready made opposition in the form of the Incorporated Bodies' committees - and planted cynically in an attempt to boost attendance.

The benefits of this? Well, it would save having to give away a free sandwich to everyone present, as happened last year, for a start. But more relevantly, it meant that the numbers were there to give proper legitimacy to the other ('real') motions that various members of the Exec championed. These included the NUS region motion, the Leeds Against Fees motion and the straightforward, uncontroversial and blatantly beneficial proposals to campaign for 'a better future for

in dramatic style, but rather that they wanted to move on to other policies (the NUS region vote directly followed) before everyone got bored, ran out of time and left.

Thankfully, the ordinary student members didn't begin to leave until they'd ensured the Exec remained in place. Despite their actions, where would we be without them? Student representation would have been heavily diminished and the power firmly in the hands of the union's general managers. Just like New Labour, they got away with it. This happened because the Exec is needed - it was a matter of common sense and not controversy that they kept their posts. Let's hope lessons have been learnt though.

With three of the four sabbatical reform votes not just uncontroversial but falling to even be closely fought, perhaps the only controversial decision that the

to deal with properly it needed taking to parts; the rights of workers, promoting health advice and blanket bans are far from being the same argument. Sadly, the lowly place on the agenda that the motion received that had seen the meeting reduced in population to only the hardcore, almost meant that it was dealt with in one go. The argument from the floor being that to take it to parts would 'take ages'.

Such an attitude can hardly be seen as advocating the strength and democratic nature of student politics. The student voice spoke only to say that it couldn't be bothered dealing efficiently with a proposal that would impact upon anyone entering the building it calls home.

It wasn't all bad on that long Tuesday afternoon, but let's be honest in our appraisal of the events and admit that whilst student politics is far from dead, the AGM could hardly have been seen as dynamic.



# Fighting the war on war

Following last year's Iraq war and the perpetual 'War on Terror' Matt Kennard argues that unless we act seriously to prevent such events then mass human destruction will never be too far away

Let me start by taking you back to a couple of decades before most of us were born. It is 1962 and the Cold War between the United States and Soviet Russia is at its height. On October 22 1962, after reviewing newly acquired intelligence, President John F. Kennedy informed the world that the Soviet Union was building secret missile bases in Cuba, a mere 90 miles off the shores of Florida. In response to an American naval blockade, Russian Premier Khrushchev authorised his Soviet field commanders in Cuba to launch their tactical nuclear weapons if invaded by U.S. forces. Deadlocked in this manner, the two leaders of the world's greatest nuclear superpowers stared each other down for seven days – until Khrushchev blinked. After several days of teetering on the brink of nuclear holocaust the world breathed a sigh of relief.

These are distant memories now, but the climate of militarism and terrorism proliferating throughout the globe since September 11 and the war and repression of 2003 should bring them back to the forefront of our consciousness. During that October week the world came close to apocalypse. Soviet Russia and the United States had a combined nuclear arsenal powerful enough to destroy the human species many times over. The posturing and machismo of the two countries' leaders was not a reflection of the aspirations of their people but, once again, a powerful man's war nearly became a weak man's fight. Ring any bells?

So, we arrive at 2004. After a year where thousands have been killed and maimed, the question still remains, when will the human fascination for toying with our very existence end? Will that end be averted by the people of the world pressuring for the destruction of the arms in which the seeds of our destruction lay? Or will it result in the nuclear Judgment Day we all fear.

Ernst Mayer, a contemporary biologist, wrote recently that the "average life expectancy of a species is 100,000 years". The human species has had the intelligence to develop civilisation for about that same period. Our time is not up just yet, but the most frightening prospect is that war throughout human existence has, from troglodyte tribalism to First World War trench warfare, never been armed with such destructive weapons that we now see in the coffers of all the major powers. If nuclear weapons had been developed even 200 hundred years ago you would surely not be reading this now.

**Our time is not up yet but the most frightening prospect is that war has never been armed with such destructive weapons as we see now**

The one hope for the future comes from the fact that as the technological armaments have advanced so too has the human realisation that one more large-scale war would put an end to our species. However, this optimism for the future is fading fast in light of the emergence of a United States superpower that continues under the most radical and corrupt right-wing administration in its history to launch a succession of erroneous wars under the extraneous pretext of September 11.



PEACE OF THE ACTION: Demonstrators march to oppose last year's war in Iraq

The anti-American feeling felt across the globe, specifically in Muslim areas, will not go away. The current schism being drawn between the West under the evangelical guidance of Blair and Bush and the Muslim "barbarians" who need to be "civilised" is wrong and archaic. Nevertheless, it is extremely powerful and has entered popular discourse like never before. The enmity resulting from the Western media and academic construction of a "clash of civilisations", is slowly becoming ingrained in the psyche of every Muslim man, woman and child. The exploitation, oppression and murder suffered at the hands of their Western masters are now more palpable than ever. The Muslim world will surely one day throw off its shackles, terminate its inhuman subordination and economic strangulation by the West and get hold of nuclear weapons in large numbers. And, in light of Western moral codes they have every right to possess them. The West's grisly histories may then come back to haunt it.

So far the "war on terror" has been a misnomer, far from stopping terrorism it has merely served as justification for the next round of reciprocal violence. It is this destructive cycle that has been the hallmark of human violence from time immemorial and it is this fact, that history can be seen to be repeating itself again, that should make it impossible to stand by and watch – particularly when this lap of the circuit may be terminal.

But if something is to be done to stem the worst elements of human nature from realising its macabre conclusion, it is us that must do it. Throughout the history of the second half of the twentieth century, students have been at the forefront of dissident and anti-war movements. The obvious case is the Vietnam War where large-scale student protest and civil disobedience arguably

brought an end to the war and saved thousands of lives. But also, throughout the third world students have joined with trade unions, peace activists and political parties, often in much more dangerous countries than our own, to form formidable opposition to a whole host of brutal tyrants, including General Pinochet and Saddam Hussein himself. Mindful of Edmund Burke's maxim that "All that is needed for evil to prevail is for good men to do nothing", now is the time and 2004 must be the year that students across the country reject war and militarism and combat the spread of the illegal and perilous Bush doctrine of the pre-emptive strike. Nowadays, when a voice is raised in protest at the outrages that we see every week on our television screens and in our newspapers; outrages that any healthy social morality and civilisation would try to prevent, people laugh in his face – for he is ingenious, he is not acquainted with the Machiavellian niceties that govern political life.

Despite this, we defied our politicians and media last year and tried in our millions to stop the bloodshed in Iraq. But now, as Iraqis wake from the nightmare, they see armed thieves in their house stealing their possessions. They act like they are asleep because they do not want to be shot in their home. Author Arudhatni Roy has described a scene from Iraq in 2003: "On the steel torsos of their missiles, adolescent American soldiers scrawl colourful messages in child-like handwriting: For Saddam, from the Fat Boy Posse. A building goes down. A marketplace. A home. A girl who loves a boy. A child who only ever wanted to play with his older brother's marbles." While the US, with our help, murders and loots, it is vital to our existence and our humanity that we do our utmost to prevent such scenes appearing anywhere else in the world in 2004 and beyond.

# Letters to the Editor

Leeds Student is your newspaper and we welcome your views. Please try to keep letters to a maximum of 250 words. The Editor reserves the right to edit letters for legal reasons.

Write to: Letters to the Editor, Leeds Student, Leeds University Union, PO Box 157, LEEDS, LS1 1UH.  
Alternatively, email editor@leedsstudent.org.uk  
Letters published do not necessarily reflect the views of the newspaper.

## Two sides to every story

I read the 'free-Tibet' article (January 30, 2004). While I'm not arguing against independence, the article was misleading.

The article claimed that Tibet was independent until 1950. However, China and Tibet has been one country since the Mongolian occupation in the 13th century. Tibet was a Tributary-Region, not a Tributary-Kingdom (like Japan/Korea). For three dynasties Tibet never demanded a change. After the dissolution of Manchurian-Empire in 1910, China (Republic) retained a similar relationship with Tibet, as evidenced by the crowding ceremony of Dalai-Lama (present) in 1939, which was chaired by Chinese officials.

The article based its argument largely on racial discrimination, and claimed that it resulted in prosecution, cultural destruction, and religion suppression. What the article failed to mention was that China went through the Cultural Revolution. In mainland China, millions of Chinese people were persecuted and temples were destroyed. It's also unfair to say that the destruction stopped because China realised the potential of tourism because it also coincided with the end of the CR.

Tibet was not as pacific as some Hollywood films portrayed. Monks possessed excessive wealth and power as was in medieval Europe. Crime (often related to monks) was a serious problem. Illiteracy was high (95 per cent), and the majority of people lived in extreme poverty. It's wrong to assume that with a Tibetan government things would have been better.

The article blamed China for introducing shopping-malls and karaoke. However, same thing happened across the developing world. It is a shame that cultures are destroyed through the process, but unfortunately, this is the nature of development.

Caleb Kwong  
3rd Year PhD East Asian Studies

## 'Conservatives

## tried to ban festival'

Your article "Rocky road ahead for festival" (Leeds Student January 30, 2004) downplays the role Leeds Conservative Councilors have had in trying to ban the Leeds Carling Festival from the City. First the good news, the City Council's Licensing Panel has granted permission for this years event. However, the fact that the city still has this amazing event is no thanks to the Conservatives. No-one denies there were serious problems in the past when this event was held in a public park in Temple Newsam. However, rather than trying to fix things the Tories predictably used every trick in the book including a sophisticated media campaign to get the thing banned. Poetic justice was served when the promoter moved the event from Temple Newsam - but to another Conservative held ward. Last years event thankfully turned the corner and passed off with a remarkably low number of arrests. Wetherby residents deserve that preparations are properly scrutinised. However, pretending that Conservatives are friends of festival goers is ridiculous. If they had had their way the event would be in Sheffield or Manchester now.

Clr David Morton  
Liberal Democrat, Hedgesley Ward  
Leeds City Council

## Docs against euthanasia

I was disappointed to see a full page article in Leeds Student (A Time to Die?, February 13, 2004) arguing for the legalization of euthanasia. Doctors have been opposed to this from the time of Hippocrates (Hippocratic Oath: "I will neither give a deadly drug to anybody who asked for it, nor will I make a suggestion to this effect") to the current day. The British Medical Association (BMA) currently opposes legalising euthanasia: "The BMA considers that acceptance of euthanasia as an option could exercise a detrimental effect on societal attitudes and on the doctor-

patient relationship, jeopardising in particular, the fate of vulnerable individuals."

The idea that something should be legalised because it currently happens is a dangerous one. If doctors currently go beyond what they are legally allowed to do, there is no reason to believe this would not be the case if euthanasia were legalised. The experience in the Netherlands would support this view. One study into deaths in the Netherlands (published in the Lancet) found that "0.8 per cent of all deaths each year involved doctors terminating a patient's life without an explicit request, although the Dutch regulations prohibit this" (Source: BMA website).

Ben Stevenson  
2nd Year Medical Student

## And for our next trick...

I was very pleased that you published my article ('Live Aid - just where did all that money go?' January 16, 2004), but less so to see the following week a letter by Professor Ruth Pearson from the Centre of Development studies, strongly criticising some sentences which appeared in my piece.

Perhaps the odd sentence was slightly ambiguous, and I do appreciate the pressure of restricted space, yet it seems bizarre that Amyarta Sen's name was entirely omitted and his life's achievement attributed to a BBC reporter. More concerning, however, is that a letter criticising a specific aspect of an article was published, without referring to the original article as I submitted it, and that no responsibility was taken by the editorial team for what I assume must have been their error.

Whilst I was entirely prepared for negative feedback concerning what I wrote, and some of the criticisms in the letter were helpful, I am reluctant to accept responsibility for changes made by the editorial team. I appreciate the pressure the editorial team must be under, and that certain oversights are inevitable, and generally enjoy reading the Leeds Student each week. Perhaps I was simply unlucky, but it was a little disappointing nonetheless.

Zoe Bedford

Sorry Zoe - the editing of that article and the subsequent publication of the critical letter without yours alongside it were both entirely our fault. Your article was correct, and those responsible for soiling it have been savagely fayed. Our sincerest apologies.

## Letter of the week

## Blair should shorten terms

I am writing to you in response to Mr. Blair's ongoing plan of implementing topup fees for university students. It would be much more useful if Mr Blair looked at addressing the length of graduate courses available at present if he is serious about providing a fair education for all.

A typical degree course requires three years of full time study, however, if you look closely at the syllabus you will see that the course is well suited to be studied over a two

year period. This would allow students to acquire less depth and go into full time jobs sooner. As a qualified nurse, my three year full-time training, notched up a total of seven weeks off per year to cover the Easter, Summer and Christmas vacation. This amount is minuscule when compared with 20 weeks off per year that most university students receive.

If Tony Blair wants to do students a favour he should look at using his influence to shorten the timetable of current degree courses. After all less time taken up studying will benefit not only students but the economy as well.

Tara Finch



MAKING A POINT: Tara reckons the Prime Minister should look towards shortening term times to cut costs

## Keep the pedal to the metal!

Tom Wong ironically celebrates the "victory for union democracy" and thanks us for moving on from "the time when ordinary student members didn't really care what was happening in their Union" (Leeds Student, 13/02/04). It's as if the Exec - with its half-baked schemes for the Sabbatical Officers - was trying to see if we'd been asleep all along. Alas, it wasn't a dream. Leeds Student deserves credit for the determined stance it took coming to the defence of the other Incorps. These were real proposals, which have probably been under discussion since the financial difficulties were "spotted" in June 2003.

It is noticeable, to say the least, that the very people charged with overseeing the Union's accounts and advising the Finance and Commercial Officer on his proposals escaped any of

the Exec's search for efficiency savings. Are these not the "high calibre" people whose share of the budget grew 125% at the same time as they banked on running a public building, two bars and a night club without paying a water bill?

The problem, however, is that neither Leeds Student's valuable resolve nor the "acidity and poison" Patrick Smith sensed would be apparent to anyone reading last week's unusually timid issue. Whilst admiring the magnanimity demonstrated in the Editor's "Sketch" and the paper's adherence to journalistic impartiality, it's just not time to step off the gas. Some degree of reconciliation is, of course, to be welcomed but there is a forthcoming Strategic Review that may do just as much harm to student representation.

Please stay vigilant for us!

Kate Grady  
Finalist, Law

# Textual harassment...

\* The new smoking ban is a pleasant surprise! Personally I think smoking is a dirty, selfish habit and it's about time we stood up for non-smokers! - Anon

\* We'll now be going to the eldon for lunch...the Old Bar is a pub therefore respect-peoples rights and let them smoke whilst they relax. - Jo

\* There should at least be some smoking areas in the Union during the day. The bars will lose business, and many non smokers with friends who smoke will stop going - Anon

\* Congratulations to all those who fought for the new non-smoking policy! It's not fair that non smokers have to choke and suffer from the anti-social habits of others. - Charlotte

\* Re: the new smoking ban i think it is fair but it will stop people going to the bars during the day my friends and i now walk down to the fav for lunch etc. - Anon

\* I suffer from asthma,with new smokin bans,i4 llwill B much more willin2eat in the union bars. Just cause a few l\*\*\*s wanna smoke, they have no right2poison us all. - Anon

\* I like to smoke the reef because i think it's really cool. That's right i sed it! Smoking is still cool! - Mark "mega-lungs" Hannington

\* So glad smoking is banned, im an athlete and hate smoke for fitness and health. - Anon

\* I think the smoking ban is a farce. the bars takings will suffer as smokers will go elsewhere. if you want a smoke free environment move to the usa! - Anon

\* Smoking bans are a brilliant idea. Smoking is a disgusting habit. I'll definitely spend more time in the union now without the foul smell of cigarette smoke. - Anon

\* What's with the Uni bias? It's boring! We won't continue to use the Union bars because

we're at the MET! - Anon

\* Good luck to all the leeds uni cheerleaders who are competing in the western classic in bath on sunday! X karen X

\* What a fabulous paper. Three mentions of Colombo in one issue just serves to confirm that the LS is the best rag around! - Gertie xx



## Text us at Leeds Student

This week we want to know what is your favourite part of the paper and your favourite writer Text your comments on that or anything you want to us - we'll print the best ones here.

07969 549125

# Patrick Smith

## Hope of the states?



The lights had gone down and the music stopped. Only the faint humming of some forgotten r'n'b single could be heard in the huge auditorium as record company executives and cronies made their way back to the after-show party to break some serious deals. ITV had ended their coverage of the Brits already, and kettles were being boiled in the 10million-odd houses that tuned in to watch. The best in 'British' music (Outkast, Kylie Minogue, Gwen Stefani, Alicia Keys, Beyoncé, 50 Cent, all from America) and some other, lesser-known artists actually from England, had strutted their stuff at the annual (now alcohol-free) industry shbang.

Everything went off without a hitch. No water was thrown over portly Deputy Prime Ministers, no swearwords were uttered, and all breasts lay safely housed in Dior dresses and D&G bras, both strapped down with metres of tit-tape. About as interesting as reading two-year old magazines in a Doctor's waiting room, though not nearly as informative - the whole thing was, needless to say, utterly woeful. Not even Cat Deeley straddling a twenty-foot long Champagne bottle could generate excitement. It looked sad, I felt sorry.

I wanted to turn it off and forget about the whole thing. "THE BLUES ARE BACK...ROCK 'N' ROLL IS BACK!" - hang on, where did they go? They're certainly not here, sunshine. Find them quick, lest we be doomed to endure three hours of pointless collaborations and half-hearted acceptance speeches from popstars with no talent, grace or attitude! Oh, too late.

**Rock'n'roll is back? Where is it? Find it quick, lest we be doomed to three hours' worth of popstars with no talent, grace or attitude**

The coverage then turned to Kate Thornton on ITV2 for the 'after-party' celebrity schmoozing bit. Who should they be interviewing on a night like this? Maybe a British artist or band? Maybe even someone from England with perhaps a passing knowledge of music? Nope. Instead they had the delectable Scarlett Johansson (she even has a Viking name - cool!), the star of the very wonderful *Lost in Translation*. Good guest, sure, but on a night celebrating the British music industry all they could come up with was 20 minutes of uninterrupted chat from an American film star with absolutely no knowledge of, or even slight interest in, British music.

"Did you like the show?" Kate asked her several times. ("No, it's a free party", thought Scarlett). "Did you like the bands?" ("Look lady, they're all American anyway"). "Had you ever heard of the Brits before?" It got more and more desperate. "What would it

take for you to like me? Please give me and my country a chance!" ("Maybe you could shut the f\*\*k up and get me a Champagne...")

Rather than celebrate what's good about Britain and our music, the Brits simply continued to reflect the chronic UK fascination with America. In the music industry, Americana is the yardstick of cool: developments there in pop and rock reach here eventually, filtered through the European arms of global record companies for English tastes and sold to us relentlessly all year round. White artists have wanted



to sound black, many of them wanted to be black, since the dawn of rock'n'roll, and that's more true now than ever - no self-respecting work with Wyclef Jean? The only test of failure or success for a British act is whether they're 'big in America'. Coldplay and Radiohead are the only two to have achieved this recently (in any significant way), and are thus accordingly revered. Being big in the States is the musical equivalent of giving a woman multiple orgasms. For many it's just unrealistic, whilst some may even argue it isn't actually possible. Trudging around the vowel states in a bus with 12 degenerate men playing to hill-billy audiences in half-empty city halls isn't the life for me, I'll stick to trying the sex for real. (It may be more effort, but it's from the comfort of my own home, and I have a bit of a bad knee anyway.) It didn't used to be this way.

world. In 1965 The Beatles, The Rolling Stones, The Yardbirds and The UK. Now that's a gig. These days, British acts are treated as a novelty! An also-ran, like the disabled kid that scores the goal against all the odds on those lame government adverts. "Give him a chance, he's disabled/English!" (delete as appropriate). "Be fair, he's had a hard time!"

And wheeling out Duran Duran just isn't necessary at all. All close harmonies, huge synths, daft lyrics and ridiculous outfits - they looked like a community theatre group that had been told to dress like a male prostitute for a alcohol exercise. If they'd have flopped in America in the 80s, they'd be filed under 'average synth pop group, atrocious clothes, contemporaries of ABC and Human League but not quite as good, now playing the 'hits' at the Duck and Partridge in Aston twice monthly, bingo starts at 7pm sharp'.

What The British have are celebrities. Tons of them. More famous people than you could shake a famous stick made from famous wood at. Increasingly, it doesn't take much to be one - just go on a reality TV show. Easy. One thing I am proud to say is a fine British tradition is that we defend our celebrities' right to get naked and parade in front of cameras, accidentally or otherwise. It's not so much the pornography side of it that I like (that's more...an 'academic interest'), it's that we didn't crucify Judy, of Richard and Judy, when her boobies fell out on camera, *live*, last year. We thought it was funny. She was back at work the next day, laughing about it with guests.

The tabloids had a field day, of course, and according to the crap that fills my inbox everyday there were even a few tribute porn sites with doctored Judy's heads on pornstars' bodies. They're now saying Janet Jackson, not that she needs to, will never work again. McDonald's are seriously considering (so seriously that one of their CEOs came back from a family holiday) sacking poor-old Tungsten Kimberlake from their cringeworthy "I'm Lovin' It" world-wide ad campaign.

You'll get a job in England, Janet. We have a show called *Celebrity Big Brother* for people like you. Just don't bring Michael along. No, wait - on second thoughts, do.

The internet is a strange place. Some people out there rely on it for human interaction. You can buy groceries online, do your coursework and send it to your tutor online, keep in touch with friends online, or, if you're especially secluded, even have sex online. The belt-buckle-tapping-the-floor-rapidly kind of relationship.

Or, if that's not enough, you can make your own website. That's what Steve Vear's done. At [vear.co.uk](http://www.vear.co.uk), now enjoying something of a cult following after it was voted officially the worst website in the world two years ago, you can find

out everything you ever wanted to know about young webmaster Steve, and tons of things you never, ever want to know too. He has 'tried to make this web domain reflect parts of me and the things that are important in my life' such as: his CV, friends and family photos, his personal DVD collection (all rated and filed alphabetically, of course) and his very own chatroom. Avid Vear-ites can even sign up to the VearWorld e-mail list and keep up to date with daily bulletins on Steve's life.

Even though he hasn't updated it in years, it's still worth a look. Most worryingly, see how some of his friends and family don't actually look like

people who know him - more like people he's either met there and then, or paid to sit with him, or, most probably, abducted.

Big shout out to the LUU drama students performing some weird play outside the Michael Sadler this week. I couldn't quite figure out what was going on, but I noticed that two people were stood against a wall and no one was talking to them so it must have been about 'alienation' and 'despair' in some Brechtian nightmare world.

I might also take this opportunity to reserve the

right for critics to, um, criticise uni productions of things like musicals. It'd be a bit tight to slate them when they're an amateur production and everyone's doing it for fun, but come on! *7/10* was a pretty good score! I'm sure *Jesus Christ Superstar* was the best thing ever, but it is really necessary to refer to Lloyd-Webber as 'Lord' throughout your complaint letter following a review? He's a total fool who looks like Quasimodo and creates some of the most awful, embarrassing productions in the history of humanity. As I recall, it was him getting a slanging in *Leeds Student*, not the well-executed LUU show. Lighten up, guys!

# Love thy ne

**With the building of the new separation fence, the political environment in Israel has never been so volatile. Najette Ayadi O'Donnell spoke to prominent figures from both sides of the fence about the situation facing Israel and Palestine during her recent visit**



A barbed wire fence surrounding the West Bank

**F**ear and vulnerability are words that Israelis know only too well. "You hear one ambulance through the streets of West Jerusalem and you think someone's been hit by a car. You here a second, third, fourth and you know that something horrible has happened. You find a TV or radio and pray that another bomb hasn't gone off." Jeremy, a born and bred Londoner, now calls himself Israeli. "Amongst our friends we have decided who will look after our children if one of us dies. My wife and I try not to travel together in case something happens." Every Israeli has had the same thoughts. I was left asking myself what this constant state of anxiety must do to a society. How can the next generation possibly move forward whilst carrying such a burden of fear on their shoulders?

What has happened is the increased support of right wing political parties, who take an increasingly hawkish approach to the security worries of the nation. It's not difficult to see why it's earned so much support of late. In times of crisis people look to the party that will take a hard-line approach on terrorism. Israelis are dying and Israel's citizens want those responsible held to account.

## **A young officer broke the news that a 22-year-old mother had blown herself up at the border crossing in Gaza**

Sharon's Likud party won the last election on this promise but according to his critics has been letting the side down of late. This was evident whilst I was in Israel. As Sharon announced unilateral disengagement of the Occupied Territories in one breath, Pro-settlement movements took to the streets in protest with another. It was that quick a move.

That's the one tangible thing you find when you visit Israel: politics is "political". For the average Israeli, politics is synonymous with security, and security means the difference between life and death. Israelis join interest groups like you and I would

join a fitness club. Politics is something you actively engage in and the very nature of the state dictates that this has to be the status quo. For Israel the future is about survival and politics affects each and every one of its citizens.

Unilateral disengagement is a buzz topic at the moment and was met with a pragmatic response when I met Jonathan Peled, a Foreign Affairs spokesman. "If the roadmap is not implemented Israel will slowly disengage in summer 2004" he said. "There is no point in just waiting endlessly." Israel sees that it needs to act quickly and if it doesn't its whole future may lie in jeopardy.

That jeopardy is one that Israel deals with on a day to day basis, with the intelligence service receiving between 30-40 terrorists alerts daily. Priding itself on being the only democracy in the Middle East, Israel also spends more as a percentage of GDP on defence than any other. It's an insecure nation with no diplomatic links to some of its neighbours. Each Israeli completes army service from eighteen (apart from the Ultra-Orthodox Jewry). Defence is quite simply an integral part of ones citizenry. Yet as I stood at a border crossing town on the West Bank, there was something unsettling about watching nineteen year old soldiers, barely out of their maternal home, asking fifty year old women for their ID. It's a strange, uneasy relationship Israel has with its Palestinian neighbours.

This was confirmed as I sat in the Headquarters of the Israeli Defence Force interviewing young soldiers. A young Officer broke the news that a 22-year-old mother had blown herself up at a border crossing in Gaza. She claimed to have a metal plate embedded in her leg, knowing the explosives attached to her body would be picked up by the metal detector as she walked routinely through the border crossing. She was taken to be searched in a private room by a female officer and ignited the bomb en route, killing four Israelis and leaving her two children motherless. What would drive a mother to such extremism?

Poverty, helplessness, insanity, desperation, the feeling of vulnerability. The list is endless. Palestinians have suffered enormously in the last fifty years. The discrepancy in education and employment opportunities for those on opposite sides of the fence is evident. History has left both sides feeling vulnerable but Israel needs to address the desperate levels of poverty facing the Palestinian people if it's to get any

where.

Hard-line right wing politics isn't going to address this need for re-balance. The erection of a new 'Separation Fence', supposedly dividing Palestinians from Israel, will scupper any future dialogue, further emphasising the alienation, humiliation and indignity felt by many Palestinians as they cross the border. Building the fence in the West Bank may seem an expensive cost but is seen as a small price to pay for the safety of Israel.

## **Israelis and Palestinians have united against the wall and are taking the Israeli government to the International Court of Justice**

But at what price for the Palestinians? I stood by the wall. It's ugly, cold and symbolises a struggle of David and Goliath proportions; the weak versus the strong, the haves versus the have not. It made me sick to my stomach. The majority of Palestinians are not terrorists; they might appear to the world as angry caged animals, but in some ways that's how they are treated.

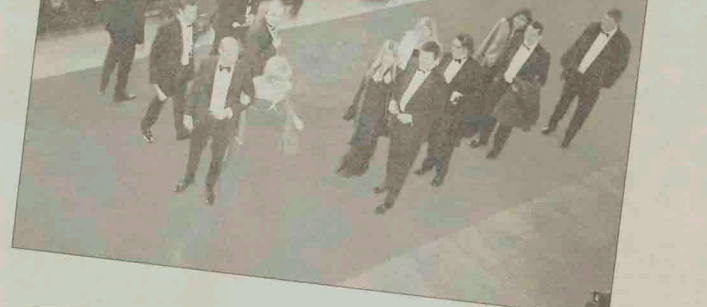
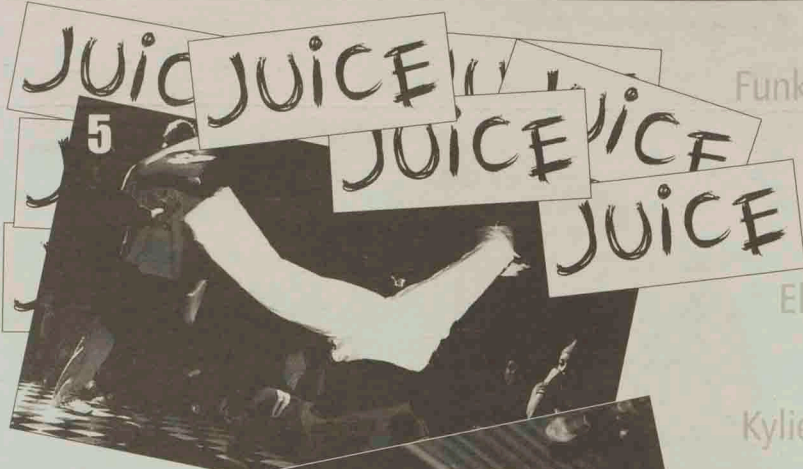
**H**istory has told us walls don't work. Look at Berlin and Northern Ireland. What it will do is provide fuel to the fire and a breeding ground for fundamentalism. What do Palestinians have to lose? The wall has been built through communities and I stood where a small Palestinian market used to be. Palestinians are angry and their grievances will only come out in the form of more extreme violence. The wall does little to address the real issue of terrorist fundamentalism and more to divide two sets of people whose cultures have so much in common.

Israelis and Palestinians have united against the wall. Israeli human rights groups, along with their Palestinian neighbours are taking the Israeli government to the International Court of Justice over the legitimacy of the wall. A kibbutz I visited

20th February, 2004

*Juice*





## 4-5 Clubs

Funkywormhole, B-Boyz, House that Zack Built

## 6-7 Arts

Eddie Murphy, Comedy Store, Elephant, Oh! What a Lovely War

## 8-9 Books

Kylie, Elland Road e:Males, Stephen Fry in *Bookmark*

## 10 Music

The Raveonettes, Snow Patrol, The Stills

## 12 Feature

Becky Barnicoat blags the BAFTAS

## PLUS

## 15 TV

TV Cop, Goggle box, 7-day listings

## 23 Cinema

All the listings from around Leeds

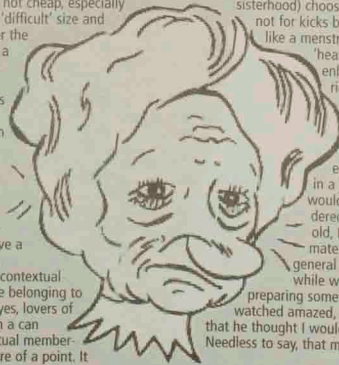
## Call me a cynic...

**E**xplaining to someone that you're a feminist is like saying that you're a lesbian at the weekend, or a vegetarian, or that you don't own a mobile phone, or a television: it induces a swift lull in any conversation. However, if you're like me then it's always a relief to find that the other person has finally decided to zip it. I'm tempted to tell everyone I'm a feminist just to get a bit of 'me time', or I could simply go and see *Lord of the Rings*, again.

Men and women alike love to loathe the anti-phallus of the 21<sup>st</sup> century despite the obvious

restriction upon the burning of bras these days. Bras are not cheap, especially if you happen to be 'difficult' size and are forced mail order the lacy harnesses from a specialist store that employs specially trained steel workers to mould a light-weight girdle into an appropriately monstrous form, complete with fiddly clasp. The package nearly always arrives marked 'delicate'; oh they do have a laugh at the factory.

Most people are contextual feminists. It's not like belonging to the SPAM fan club (yes, lovers of dirty flabs of meat in a can may apply for an actual membership card), it has more of a point. It



essentially means that in certain situations we (the sisterhood) choose to play the feminist card, not for kicks but because it stirs within us like a menstrual flood that not even a 'heavy flow' wad of chemically enhanced cotton wool can barricade against...ha. Deal with it boys. Such scenarios arise more often than your average doormat might presume: only very recently I entered our communal home in a justifiable fluster that I would consider decidedly ungendered. Having crossed the threshold, I expressed to my male flatmate a feeling of exhaustion and general hyper-occupation with study while wiping the kitchen surface and preparing something to eat. My flatmate watched amazed, only to express admirably that he thought I would make a 'good single mum'. Needless to say, that man is now dead.

**I**t is hard to pin down exactly what feminism means and why it seems to make even intelligent people uncomfortable. That is why most women cultivate feminism privately, like a basil plant on the window ledge. It is reassuring to know that at least Sky (Harold's alternatif granddaughter) is unashamed to carry the torch for the feminist cause. It is only a shame that she has blue hair, fancies Boyd and is an Australian. Not ideal. Ah, and she's fictional.

The most important thing about being a feminist is that one doesn't let it get in the way, much like over-sized breasts, opinion should be strapped down. There's nothing more annoying than someone with well thought out principles who isn't afraid to express them. Imagine if all women went around asserting their equality - there would be chaos. And a BAFTA for Sofia Coppola instead of that arse who thinks 'epic' is an excuse.

...Morag xxx

# \*\*LOWDOWN with Will Massa



Random proverb of the week.

"Do not blame God for having created the tiger, but thank Him for not having given it wings." Make what you will of this Etheopian proverb.

The flowers are poking their little heads out and it will soon be my birthday. As I truffle shuffle my way to the twenty fifth of this month, eagerly anticipating my 24th year on earth, I take pleasure in the giving and not the receiving by supplying faithful readers with a smorgasbord of up-coming events. Smooth as honey dripping onto melted chocolate, 112 will be doing it for the ladies on the 24th. Also, how to pick up a model and some community project art. You can leave prezies for me in the newspaper office.

## R'n'B emergency? Dial 112

**What:** 112  
**Where:** Creation, 55 Cookridge Street, Leeds City Centre  
**When:** Tuesday 24th Feb 9pm-2pm  
**How much:** £10 NUS adv (£12.50 after)  
**Info:** Jumbo Records 0113 242 7272

Make way for the four horsemen of the R'n'B apocalypse. Equally rooted in gospel, soul and hip-hop, 112 was the first and most successful urban vocal group to emerge from Sean "Puffy" Combs' Bad Boy Records roster. Not only was the group's eponymous 1996 debut popular, but the group could be heard on records by Bad Boy artists such as Puff Daddy. Unlike most artists on Bad Boy, 112's image was clean, pure and wholesome, which helped the group cross over to a more mainstream audience.

The four members of 112 - Slim, Daron, Q and Mike - met each other while attending high school in Atlanta, Georgia. The quartet began to play talent shows at school and local churches,

eventually gaining the attention of Courtney Sills and Kevin Wales, who soon became the group's managers. Sills and Wales brought 112 to the attention of Sean "Puffy" Combs at Bad Boy Records. Combs signed on as the executive producer of 112's eponymous debut album, which featured songs the group co-wrote with such professional songwriters as Stevie J, Wanya Morris of Boyz II Men, and Combs himself. "Only You," the group's debut single, was released in the summer of 1996 and climbed to number three on the R&B charts, peaking at number 13 on the pop charts. 112 was released in late 1996, and it steadily worked its way to gold status as the group's second single, "Come Seem Me," reached number 15 on the R&B charts. Room 112 followed in 1998 and Part II was issued three years later.

Now these four romancers are gracing us with their presence at Creation on the 24th. A must for those wishing to pay homage to one of the original R'n'B vocal groups.



## Paperback

**What:** Play audition  
**Where:** Meeting room 3 (Wed) and 4 (Thurs)  
**When:** Wed 25th Feb Thurs 26th Feb

If you fancy taking part in a play that will be going to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival this summer then here's your chance. Budding dramatists can try their luck and audition for *Paperback*, a new play written by Emma Crowe. Emma has extensive experience in drama and has recently been accepted onto an MA course at UEA for creative writing. Not only a play writing talent, she's a honey to boot (ed.).

*Playback* takes a satirical look at life after graduation to tragi-comic effect. Unaided by his comrades, Colin grapples to come to terms with a novel, the back wall, and his strange relationship with the attic pouf. With elements of the surreal, music and movement, it promises to be an original and engaging production. Find out more at the auditions next week in the union meeting rooms (see above). Alternatively you can email Emma at jhm@evc@leeds.ac.uk to arrange an audition or if you are interested in being part of the crew.

Now what sort of friend of Latin America would I be if I didn't promote Leeds' Cuba Solidarity Campaign's forthcoming Salsa night on the 20th Feb? For a mere £3 (Nus, £5 without) you can get an authentic taste of this famous latin dance form down at the West Indian Centre (10 Laycock Place, Chapeltown). Doors are open from 8pm and Salsa teacher Tanya Cusan, will be giving lessons. Enjoy!

## A nice bit-a pita

Knowing the difference between a good snack and a great snack, the folk at this Headingley store prepare their filled Pita Bread Wraps every day. These are not the cardboard pitta breads you find in the supermarket my friends, but large, soft, authentic greek style pitta breads. You can have your pitta "rolled" in front of you by one of their "Pita Artists" or choose one of the ready to go pittas from the chiller. Pita is fresh, filling and healthy - with only 63g of carbohydrate per pitta bread. Choose your fillings from a range of hot or cold meat options such as chicken breast (£2.60) the excellent steak and blue cheese (£3.25), or a refreshingly different vegetarian menu including humous and salad (£2.25) and falafel (£3.25) to name a few. Specially designed by top Leeds designers Arc Design, Pita's interior provides



a clean, calm place for you to enjoy your pita. Popular with students and food seeking workers alike, Pita sees large queues at lunch time so large lunch time orders for collection are advised to order in advance on leeds 2746616 (see [www.pitkapita.com](http://www.pitkapita.com)). With opening times from 10:00 - 12:30am (Sun - Thurs) and 10:00am - 2:00am (Fri/Sat) there are only a few hours in the week when can't get your Pita fix!

# NOT JUST ART FOR ART'S SAKE

**What:** Make your mark exhibition.  
**Where:** Marshall Court; Marshall Mill, Marshall St Leeds, LS11 9YJ.  
**When:** 24th-29th, 10am-4pm daily.  
**How much:** Just a bit of your free time.

Simon Mosse and Helen Robey, two Leeds University art students cum professionals, have joined forces, developing a project entitled *Make Your Mark*: their first self-curated external exhibition. A community project, the exhibition will encourage those involved to become artists for a day. "We hope to give people the opportunity to take part in a high-quality art activity, bringing together and encouraging the participation of a diverse culture of people in the same activity at the same time. The project is an investment in creative talents of individuals, giving each person free range to express themselves." Here's an insight into the creative process behind the exhibition

**Thursday January 29** - a nine by six foot canvas was taken to the Royal Park Primary School, Hyde Park where 150 children came together and took part in the first of the four painting exercises. Under the loose parameter, "paint yourselves", the children were invited to make their mark.

**Wednesday February 4** - an event took place at The Older Active People Centre, on Cardigan Road. An excited and enthusiastic group of people from the 'Winter Wednesdays' activity group made their

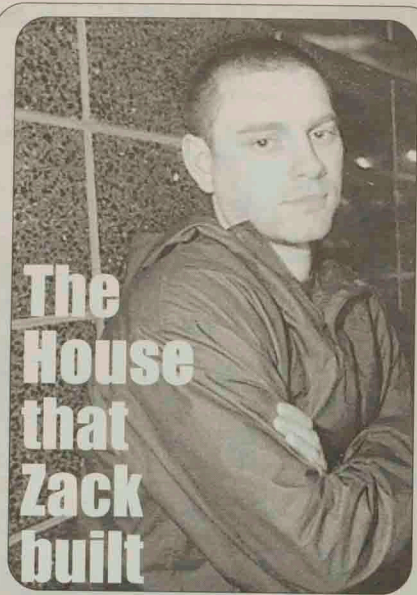
mark. Seated around a large table each responded to the task of painting an aspect of their surroundings to which they related.

**Saturday February 7** - the project was then taken to the general public of Leeds when the two artists will erected another nine by six foot canvas structure in the centre of the Corn Exchange. Members of the community were invited, free of charge to become an artist for the day and make their mark.

With each large canvas complete, the exhibition will bring everyone involved together. Each work of art will be exhibited in the new Leeds city centre Marshall Mill Gallery for a whole week where everyone is welcome to visit free of charge. To complete this process of becoming an artist, each individual's name will be written under the title 'Artist' in the exhibition catalogue.

On the final day of the exhibition the art works will be donated back to each site so that they can admire their work and be reminded of their success. "We believe that, because the works were done by the community, they belong in the community." Interested in the curatorial side of the art world, the two artists have taken great pleasure in putting together this exhibition and interacting with the community.





# The House that Zack built

\* **Mark Wilkinson** has been working hard with new tracks due to be released in the near future on *SuSu* and *Renaissance*. The next release on his own *Kidology* label is supplied by **Ray Roc**.

\* To come on *Essence Records* are the **Groove Junkies'** remixes of "Para Goza" by **Nuzzoli**, **Mike Gray's** Latin outing from last year. Also due on the same label is a wicked new cut by **DJ Dove** featuring **Inaya Day** on vocals.

\* Due for release this week is the wicked **Driza Bone** cut up, "The Pressure" by Manchester producer **Secret Soul**. Watch out for the devastating follow up, "Feel Good", in the next few months.

\* **Basement Boy's** offshoot **God's House** is back with a couple of gems taken from the *Jasper Street* album. "He's Alright" is the stronger of the two tracks, but **DJ Spen** supplies the remix on "Got Me Going".

\* Chicago's **Ron Carroll** pops up on one of his hometown labels, *Bumpin City*. "Come Together" is slated for a release in May.

\* **Graham Lord**, one half of the **Audiwhores** has remixed the debut cut "Language of the Soul" on new label *Opulent Grooves*.

\* **John Julius Knight** has pulled out all the stops on his remix of "Slip Away" by **Seven City**. The track will be the first release in 2004 for the *MNZS* label.

\* The Moulton Studio mafia return as **Jay J** hooks up with **Chuck Diesel** for a three track disco-infused EP forthcoming on *Multitracked*.

\* Finally, to celebrate the launch of *Venus Leeds* at the Warehouse on Friday March 27, we have 5 pairs of guestlist places to give away. All you need to do to stand a chance of winning is send your name and telephone number to [venus@curtiszack.com](mailto:venus@curtiszack.com) and the first 5 out of the hat win!

Until next week... Keep your house safe!

## Something for the weekend?

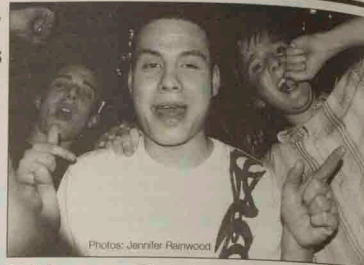
(The essential packet of 3 for the weekend ahead)

1. **Shapeshifters** : "Lolas Theme" (*Nocturnal*)
2. **Ma Yorkins** : "da word" (*Shaboom*)
3. **Psycho Radio** : "Sound Is Shocking" (*Oxyd*)

Curtis is an Ex-Met student who currently writes for *Blues & Soul* magazine in the UK and *DJ Times* in the US. Log onto [www.curtiszack.com](http://www.curtiszack.com) for DJ mixes, reviews and much more!

This week the clubs page is bigger n hadder than ever. Just the most cursory glance at our "recommended" section shows the January drought is officially over as the creamy top layer of dance music of every kind descends on Leeds this weekend. There's only one thing for it; strap on moonboots and go out raving

# Funk-fest



Photos: Jennifer Rainwood

**Funky Wormhole, every Thursday at Mint £5/£4 NUS**



Since their inception 5 years ago, *Funkywormhole* have consistently braved the choppy waters of Leeds'

flippant midweek market by sticking to their guns with a firm, against the grain policy of across the board funk and party music, thankfully leaving the chart cheese and copycat r'n'b numbers to those who think they know better.

This individuality has seen *Funkywormhole* nudge themselves ahead of the chasing pack, firmly established as the most reliable Thursday night in town. Last

week I headed down to the *Mint Club*, where it has resided for the past three years, to find the night pretty much how I had remembered it; the perfect start to the weekend for those after some good quality music and a fun, friendly atmosphere

Strolling into the *Mint Club* at just gone 11, the plush former *Basics* home was already beginning to bristle with a lively, friendly flock of Thursday night partygoers, and a gently growing dancefloor moved and grooved to the choice cuts of sevened funk being served by co-promoting residents **Kato** and **Kid Charlemagne**. The crowd are all buzzing excitedly across the venue and at a reasonable four pounds through the door the entry price won't place any undue pressures on the ol' wallet, thus freeing up those pounds, the better to take advantage of the drinks offers before getting down on the floor.

Within the first hour in the venue we were treated to a pleasingly eclectic array of music, all joined by the musical adhesive of a strong funk filled groove. One minute I'm head nodding to the razor tongued raps of electroid garage protégé **Dizzee Rascal**, the next flinging limbs to **Prodigy's** pulsating post-rave anthem "No Good (Start The Dance)", only to find myself groovin away to the lazy electro funk of **Daft Punk's** appropriately named "Da Funk". Even **Franz Ferdinand's** current rock hit "Take Me Out" finds a welcome airing, much to the delight of the vibrant crowd, and the familiar notes of **Underworld's** "Born Slippy", albeit a breakbeat mix of, spurs a similarly vociferous reaction later on in the night. As promoter **Kato** explains, "we wanted to run a night that played funky tracks across the board, not restricted by genres or eras."

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DJ KATO DISTRIBUTES THE BEATS



Allan McGrath

# Anyone for Acidified?

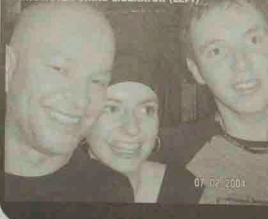
## Euphonic 3rd Birthday @ ThinkTank?

Lurking in the murky depths of the ThinkTank last Friday was Leeds' best opportunity to injure your feet by stomping like a mad fool to ace loud music.

**Euphonic's** been going three years now, giving us our monthly fix of filthy acid techno, and free party legend **Chris Liberator** was back to stir up even more mayhem than usual.

Some people are proper scared of this

PROMOTER CHRIS LIBERATOR (LEFT)



kind of corrosive acid techno though. You could say that it's a bit of an aquired taste - not everyone's cup of tea.

Our mate Mike sat at the side of the dancefloor scowling and longing for the bland bounce of funky house, but the rest of us were too busy pounding the floor of the club to even notice him.

Admittedly, it is evil (I wouldn't let my children near it; there should be some kind of safety warning like on cigarette packets, maybe with a reference to melted brains). But people need to be shown the way! Once you see the light you'll never want to go back.

Jumping around is fun. Acid techno is a London sound that's vastly underestimated oop North. Aside from the music, the best thing about **Euphonic** is the atmosphere.

There's a friendly crowd of miscreants who fill the dancefloor right until the end of the night, and no attitude at all, which is a relief after the mission of walking through Leeds on a Friday night to get there...

There's also live percussion, cheap drinks and lots of UV drapes slung everywhere -

what more can you ask for?

**Chris Liberator's** set was absolutely storming and everyone was a bit glad they'd chosen **Euphonic** that night (even the guy booked to play **Cypher** got bored there and came down to **Euphonic**).

Next month look out for **Mr Burns** from *Skankadelic* records...

Lucy Insam





# Where's your head at ?

**When the Leeds 'A' and 'B' Breaking teams went to the U.K University Breakdance Championships 2004 @ Newcastle University Union, on Saturday February 14, Sophie Roberts was there to capture the proceedings, as around 15 teams from all over the country, were slowly narrowed down to one in all their head-spinning, freeze-throwing glory**

Saturday morning heralds remarkably fresh-faced b-boyz and girlz to the foot of the Parkinson steps, ready and waiting for what may or may not be one of the best days of their lives. By 10am a coach filled with anticipation wends its way Northwards - Union to Union - Newcastle's weather-beaten, bronze flaked angel draws us in with her siren's song. 12:15 - lunchtime - better late than never, Newcastle University's tall oak doors held open, ready to ingest visitors to its low-ceilinged belly. The coach doors crack open, like a ring-pull of an old-skool coke can, releasing the effervescent pressure of 57 over-excited, apprehensive dancers, into the raining grey. I can tell you now that, whatever happens, Newcastle will have bitten off more than it can chew - swallowing will leave a bitter taste in its union's mouth and an awful bout of indigestion in its lino-infested belly.

Sign in, warm up, 'Tribal' competitors clad in labelled attire, flex and stretch supple muscles. Up-rock, top-rock, battle-rock surrounded - prepare for an aggression-fuelled, dexterity-driven extravaganza. Two 'cru's' set foot onto the black and white checked dance floor - spectators crowding round, forced back from the edge by camera

crews, photographers and a three strong judge's panel featuring **D Rock, P & Si** A battle for the title - who will be reigning b-boy champs for 2004?

Leeds marches to war with two strong armies. Many of those on the second cru making their debut public throw down. Leeds 'B' is the first to battle opening with an impeccably timed routine - B-girlz: **KIA, Blessd, Pikachu** and **Rouge** showing what they are made of. A battle fought and won - no doubt in anyone's mind, Leeds 'B' styled them out.

Round 2, **F-Unit** (Leeds 'A') square up to Sheffield challenging each other across no man's land. A 10 minute throw-down hogged by a bunch of gymnasts - is this or is this not a break-dancing comp? - get off the lino. The opposition are whack, there's nothing to battle here, and despite the fact that Leeds were offered the two minute tail end of this "battle" victory was imminent.

Leeds 'B' battled with bold contention in the second round, but drew the short straw when they came head to head with Manchester, a cru of renowned capabilities, causing strife for **F-Unit** in the semis. A duel to the death, and Manchester killed it, but Leeds 'B' went down like the last of the samurai, grasping their honour in an iron fist.

Leeds 'B' team defeat heralds the onset of a heated battle. **F-Unit** unleashes their wrath against Mancunian foes; nausea-bound intensity wracks the air. Spectators grappling for a chair-spaced aerial view. Victory is logical as **F-Unit** deals a **frenzy** of g-leeful blows. In triumph Leeds will march to the evening finals.

In a **flash** we are carried back to the finals, Uni Champs 2001 - Leeds vs. Newcastle, will the odds **bend** in our favour once more? Legs like **jelly**, could Leeds be **robbed** of the resin set sneaker trophy? This is probably the most intense battle I have ever witnessed in my whole life, bar **FDC vs NCK** (Uni Champs Showcase 2003). Strategy is of the uttermost importance now. **F-Unit** is far from spent, the life of the party... sure to pull something out of the bag. Throwing down to new skool beats and breaks our boyz whip the crowd into crazed excitement. Like an **otacle** illusion **Jonny-5** graces the lino with flare. The cru battles in synchronised unity, beating power down with passion. University Breakdancing Champs 2004 is bought home to Leeds by **49 pence** and the **F-Unit** cru.

Valentines weekend has seen a true labour of love - victorious once more - lets keep that trophy in Leeds from now until never.

Sophie Roberts



PHOTOS: NICK MATTIA AND SOPHIE ROBERTS



Frenzy pounds the lino

Jonny 5 : He spins on his head - crazy!



## Highly Recommended

**Dolly Giirl** Fri 20th @ Warehouse monthly electro mash-up par excellence returns with wrestling special guests **10 minutes with my Dad** plus tunes from **Kraftwerk** to **Peaches** and more. £5/£4 conc.

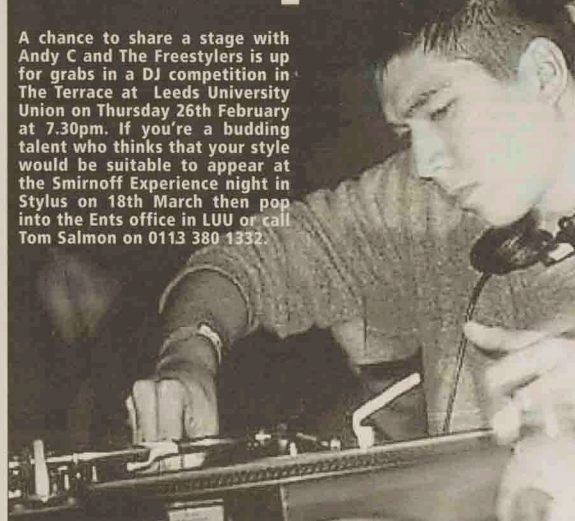
**Technique** Sat 21st @ Mint Superstar **Plump DJs** rock the joint to the sound of their breakbeat delights as another stage of their UK Eargasm Tour. £8.

**Back to Basics** Sat 21st @ REHAB if you would like to shimmy to the sounds of **Layo & Bushwacka** and thier world renowned tech-breaks. £10

**Crunked Up** Mon 23rd @ Warehouse London's **Heartless Crew** Bring thier top drawer garage festivities to Leeds. £8 adv, and no sloppy knited jumpers. (Unless Prada of course)

## DJ Competition

A chance to share a stage with **Andy C** and **The Freestylers** is up for grabs in a DJ competition in **The Terrace** at **Leeds University Union** on Thursday 26th February at 7.30pm. If you're a budding talent who thinks that your style would be suitable to appear at the **Smirnoff Experience** night in **Stylus** on 18th March then pop into the **Ents** office in **LUU** or call **Tom Salmon** on 0113 380 1332.



Cast Notes

Everything you'll ever need to know about the movie star of our choice in a staggeringly handy 'cut out and keep' format

90210: Eddie Murphy

Oh, this one's a bit different. He does all the voices and dons all the faces, right? That's right. He's a doctor who can talk to animals, a rich Prince from Africa, a Professor, a Cop, a talking donkey and a whole family of overweight dysfunctional Americans

So the guy's a chameleon. But whichever character he assumes, it's always Eddie Murphy through and through - the same inane grin and deafening guffaws. Despite all his comedy endeavours - and his portfolio is huge - he's something of a hit and miss in the Hollywood league

Let's give him a break, for Eddie is easily the best in his field. Faster talking than Chris Rock, less composed than Will Smith and more attractive than Martin 'Yoda' Lawrence, Eddie Murphy is the epitome of stand-up comedy, able to demonstrate effortlessly the essence of what pure entertainment...

What about Laurence Fishburne? I like him

Are you serious? Eddie Murphy meanwhile is a natural comic, voted Most Popular at high school year after year due to his knack for reducing classmates to tears of laughter in lunchtime comedy routines

Ha! Doesn't Ed ever do serious?

Nope. Eddie's done no less than 16,000 comedies and all his other works are in some way slapstick. Wacky ker-aaziness is Murphy's favourite tittle and he sure likes to drink! There's even a sequel to *Daddy Day Care* in the pipeline, overwhelmingly titled *Daddy Day Camp*. Isn't that clever?

So Eddie clearly likes to milk a success story. In fact, he luxuriates in the title of Most Sequeled Actor, what with *Dolittle 2*, *Prof 2*, *Beverly 2 and 3*, *Big Brother 5*, *Shrek 2*... Rumour has it they've signed him up for infinite spin-offs like *Daddy Is Camp*, *Daddy Dared to Care* and, its long-awaited sequel, *Daddy Died in Care*

I won't hold my breath. But how's this for a story. Eddie rose from the depths of poverty to break into film on the back of his comic talents and, despite managing to get three Worst Actor nominations, he survives year on year by working the same tired formula with every movie.

But, in *Shrek*, he is a talking donkey and it just works. As for real movies, he's probably destined forever to hog the middle ground of film, as just like Mike Myers, he's never quite bad enough to fold, never good enough to impress anyone over the age of thirty.

Gary Roberts



Murphy: Sexy beast

Tokyo Story

film

Director: Yasujiro Ozu  
Starring: Chishu Ryu, Chiyeo Higashiyama, Haruko Sugimura

One of the best films of all time - official

*Tokyo Story* is quite simply a masterpiece. And that's not just my opinion, for this gem of cinematic history regularly features in the top ten of the world's most respected film critics.

Made by the Japanese silent film genius Yasujiro Ozu in 1953, *Tokyo Story* has influenced generations of Hollywood and European filmmakers due to Ozu's reinterpretation of film grammar. The story is quite simple - an elderly couple from the provinces visit

their grown-up children in Tokyo who are more concerned with their own careers and families to look after them. Only their widowed daughter-in-law offers them hospitality, love and respect in the time-honoured Japanese tradition.

Made only eight years after Japan's crushing defeat and occupation by the US, the film captures the tensions inherent in a traditional society besieged by the forces of capitalism. *Tokyo Story* broke the rules of Hollywood filmmaking by concentrating on the major characters' reactions to life events rather than showing us the events themselves.

Ozu uses the strict dimensions of Japanese houses and domestic routines to highlight family relationships in all their complexity. He hardly moves the camera - there are only a few tracking shots in the whole film - and he uses very low angles to focus in on his major characters. Each shot is lovingly composed and Ozu plays with our traditional cinematic notions of space and time to create a



Peace and quiet

work of art which transcends his own culture and generation. The film's final conclusion is emotionally devastating, but Ozu has such a love of life, its disappointments and moments of joy, that we feel uplifted by watching his tale unfold.

I urge all true film fans (and those looking for an alternative way of seeing the world) to watch this brand new print of the stunning *Tokyo Story*. (9)  
Janet Abbott

The Dreamers

film

Director: Bernardo Bertolucci  
Starring: Michael Pitt, Eva Green, Louis Garrel

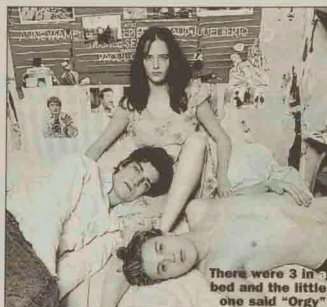
The Italian cinematic maestro returns with an elegant, engrossing menage a trois drama

Three young cinephiles become intensely entangled in this hedonistic insight into Parisian life. It is the spring of 1968 when American student Matthew (Pitt) meets French twins Isabel (Green) and Theo (Garrel) at the controversial closing of their local love, the Cinematheque.

Amidst the anarchy and increasing intensity of the student riots on the streets, their friendship progresses behind firmly closed doors as Matthew moves into their apartment. Here lies a fascinating juxtaposition between the in-

side world of twisted love and the outside world of violence, and when the two worlds collide at the film's finale, the characters are stripped bare and reality prevails.

It is hard to tell whether *The Dreamers* is simply elegant, exciting and extreme, or if it leans towards deviance and pretension but, either way, it certainly stimulates controversy. With its myriad scenes of nudity, it was probably stimulating to make too. The three young leads are flawlessly demure and tirelessly outlandish,



There were 3 in a bed and the little one said "Orgy"

though it's hard to take Pitt seriously at times knowing he was in *Dawson's Creek*.

The film's symbolic mixture of nostalgia with sex and violence is highlighted by Bertolucci's timeless elegant directorial style, which easily merges with the classic cinematic references that the movie buffs adore and imitate. The characters could be a cipher used by Bertolucci to

demonstrate the contrast and change in world values at this time or they could be symbolic of the stark contrast between Europe and America.

Hopefully this is a satirical reminiscence by Bertolucci of the pretension of this era. However, although it could just be plain pretentious and nothing more, at least it's thought provoking. (8)

Katie Abbott

The Truth

art

Palestine photo exhibition and cultural displays in the Great Hall

An exhibition devoted to highlighting the oppression of the Palestinian people

The 'truth' to which the title of the exhibition refers is the reality of the violence caused by the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. As our media reports stories of suicide bombers killing innocent civilians, it is easy to forget the day by day struggle of the Palestinian people as their towns and villages are besieged by the fourth most powerful military power in the world.

Although a token gesture was made at displaying some dresses and rag-dolls and having a stall serving traditional Palestinian food at the en-

trance, the emphasis was on raising awareness and support for the Palestinians rather than showcasing their native culture.

Did it succeed? The major problem with using an exhibition as a tool of persuasion is that people are always on guard incase they get persuaded. Virtually no reference was made to Palestinian groups attacking Israel, giving a slightly one-sided feel to the display. I overheard a woman having a good-natured argument with some of the organisers about one of the pictures: "It says children running from an Israeli tank... they look at least eighteen to me."

Although this particular picture didn't really bother me (who cares how old they were - there was a bloody great tank chasing them), there were a few things that did. For instance a Wild West style poster saying "WANTED: ISLAMIC TERRORIST" and then showing the face of an angelic Palestinian toddler, or another photo of an Israeli tank behind a child with the caption "Israel contin-

ues its war on terror". As much as I agree with the sentiments behind these parts of the display, if I want boneheaded sloganeering, I'll subscribe to the *Socialist Worker*.

The exhibition also featured screenings of hour long documentaries by film-makers including John Pilger and Edward Said, and a lecture by Dr. Azzam Tamimi.

Most of the pictures were straightforward photo-journalism; each showing a captured moment with a note explaining what was happening. This was particularly effective when showing the corpses of "baby martyrs", killed in attacks by the Israeli military. It seems that this civilian suffering is the real truth of the situation. (7)  
James Clegg



Comedy in store

Ha Ha!

Comic genius Stephen Abbott takes a look at the best places in Leeds to have a laugh

Two weeks ago, the Fav joined the long list of Leeds pubs which, one day a week, turn into a place where people go to have a laugh at someone other than their closest, dumbest friends. It seems more and more now that you have to search high and low in our fair city to find a good pub where you can sit and get truly comatosed without some cheerful soul trying to make you chuckle.

Certainly in the eyes of Leeds' pub landlords, there has never been a better combo than the old pub/comedy club double act ensuring as it does that your patrons may piss themselves but only in the nice way rather than the rather more trampy way.

This was certainly the case at the Fav last Thursday when I popped along to check out the action at their **Laughter Lounge**. Tales of cradle-robbing and elderly stalkers from the hilariously nice Natalie Haynes and the body-popping blowjob-discussing shenanigans of local wide boy Steve Harris certainly got my funny bone tickled and all for the bargain price of £5.

So, in the spirit of all things fun, *Leeds Student Arts* thought we'd give you a little list of all the cheapo comedy nights that have sprung up in the hope of spreading a little laugh in the world:

- 1) **Laughter Lounge @ The Fav**  
Thursdays from 8pm, £5
- 2) **Hyena Lounge Comedy @ The Oak**  
Thursdays from 8pm, £5
- 3) **Y.E.P! @ Comedy Store (Merrion Centre)**  
Thursdays from 8pm, £6
- 4) **The Saturday Session @ HiFi Club**  
Saturdays from 7pm, £10 (with £4 refund if you don't stay in for club night)
- 5) **COMING SOON - The Happy Hour @ The Arc, Headingley**  
Alternate Mondays from March



Film of the Week

Elephant

Director: Gus Van Sant  
Starring: Alex Frost, Eric Deulen, Elias McConnell, Kristen Hicks

An ordinary high school day. Except that it's not

With its cast of teenage newcomers, *Elephant* is one of the few films of the high school genre to sensitively depict the daily rhythms of school life – the endless and aimless strolling down corridors, checking people out, saying quick hellos and being castigated by teachers who just don't understand. It is also about that recent American phenomenon, the high school shooting.

At the final hour, Gus Van Sant scrapped J. T. Leroy's script in favour of improvisation and observation, which is more suited to this delicate subject. Mundane high school life is presented through long tracking shots and sparse dialogue, to a soundtrack of shaky teenage piano playing. Each member of the high school hierarchy is treated with equal amounts of empathy and humour. At the top rung, there are the witty, bitchy, bulimic trio of girls that seem to

Make someone happy today. Lick them



exist in every school on earth and, at the bottom, there is the awkward library assistant Michelle (Hicks), who barely communicates with other students.

The people we get to know in one scene are rendered as blurry strangers in the next. These little portraits are all the more poignant when it becomes apparent that several of these likeable teenagers, who casually talk of college, concerts and the future will be indiscriminately killed by two outsiders, Eric and Alex (Deulen and Frost).

We witness Eric and Alex hanging around, ordering their guns on the internet and making their plans, but the absurdity of their actions is only realised

when they saunter nervously through the school corridors, armed to the teeth and dressed in camouflage – a tentatively comic moment. In the killing spree, which only takes up the final twenty minutes, Van Sant rejects sensationalism in favour of sustaining the peaceful, observational tone; by refusing to pass comment, his genuinely terrifying final scene is all the more moving.

Gus Van Sant made his name with the art-house classics *My Own Private Idaho* and *Drugstore Cowboy*, but is more recently responsible for the crap, bizarre frame-by-frame remake of *Psycho*. Thankfully, *Elephant* is an impressive return to form. (9) Luiza Sauma

Cheaper by the Dozen

Director: Shawn Levy  
Starring: Steve Martin, Bonnie Hunt, Tom Welling, Hilary Duff

The King of facial expression is back but with more than a few additions.

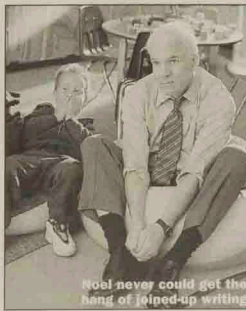
When offered a new job as head coach of a college football team, Steve Martin's Tom Baker moves his family from their quiet rural town to the hectic life of Chicago. After his wife gets a publishing deal, he is forced to juggle his life between the job and the family. Tom tries to employ the help of his eldest daughter and her actor boyfriend (played by Ashton Kutcher) but unfortunately even they cannot control the rebellious rabble. Cue numerous chaotic scenes of mayhem!

This week has seen the release of films starring two of America's most celebrated comedians with Steve Martin's *Cheaper by the Dozen* and Eddie Murphy in *The Haunted Mansion* (see above for review). The fact that both these films lack ambition and remain incredibly predictable whilst offering no opportunity for either of the main characters undeniable comedic ability to shine is testament to the declining quality of comedy films of recent years.

*Cheaper by the Dozen* continues the trend of films which appeal to the lowest common denominator with a story that,

though at first seeming to be engaging and light hearted, quickly stagnates around a series of elaborate sketches involving the wild antics of the children. It ultimately falls down on its attempt to interlink the anarchy of the children with the stresses of being a good parent as well as maintaining a career. As a kid's movie, the actions of the twelve children should be the main focus, but unfortunately, these are often replaced with heavy-handed sentimentality.

*Cheaper...* isn't funny enough to rank alongside Martin's earlier catalogue such as *The Jerk*, *Dead Men Don't Wear Plaid* and *Three Amigos*, whilst the serious family elements fail to achieve the poignancy of *Parenthood* or *Roxanne*. As well as this, the film tries to involve too many characters, not least with each child having their own sub-plot. This means issues can only be touched upon and aren't sufficiently developed, leaving the storylines stereotyped and clichéd. Not even a cameo from Ashton Kutcher could salvage this film from becoming a further example of wasted comedy talent in Hollywood. (3) Peter Simms



Noel never could get the hang of joined-up writing

The Haunted Mansion

Film

Director: Rob Minkoff  
Starring: Eddie Murphy, Terence Stamp, Marsha Thomason

Predictable, pitiful comedy/horror delivers neither laughs nor screams

Mickey Mouse and co. deliver the second theme park ride to film adaptation in the wake of the success of *Pirates of the Caribbean*. This will clearly become a trend until the theme park inspiration runs dry. However, I'll be impressed if they manage to cobble together a story out of Mad Hatter's spinning teacups ride, and God help us if 'It's a Small, Small World' is proposed as a film idea.

*The Haunted Mansion* follows the standard formulaic ghost story intended for family viewing. Family go to house. Spooky reception awaits them. Creaky door closes behind them. Freak occurrence (usually awful weather or a large

locked iron gate) forces family to spend night in house. Ghosts appear (usually played by Brits). Then come the minor details of characters.

Eddie Murphy plays Jim Evers, an irritating estate agent who is more concerned with the flushing mechanisms of the house's toilets than of his frightened children. His long suffering wife (Thomason) bears a mysterious resemblance to the lost love of the ghostly owner and is abducted by him. Jim and the two children then battle to save her from the evil clutches of the camp butler (Stamp)

This film will not linger in my memory. Flimsy plot, weak acting and lack of originality are just some of the charges that can be levelled against it, but then again my expectations weren't high. Rather embarrassingly, the only comic relief I found was in the toilet of the UGC Cinema where part of the script of *Four Weddings and A Funeral* is suspended above the urinal.

I think it's important to watch pretty piss-poor films every few months because it makes you value great films even more. Watching *Batman and Robin* or *The Avengers* before going to the cinema is therefore a fantastic idea. So, embrace *The Haunted Mansion* and marvel at how a respectable company can produce such an incredible cow pat of a movie with millions of pounds worth of budget. (3) Nathan Joyce



Earlier versions of Mount Rushmore were somewhat lacking in grandeur

Oh! What a Lovely War

stage

A Theatre Group show  
Starring: Joe Cohen, Jonathan Critchly, Francesca Martin

Silly/touching WW1 musical with stories straight out of the Tricolore textbooks

It was not exactly your traditional Valentine's fare. The Theatre Group spent Saturday night attempting to break through our rose-tinted mushiness / bitterwisted cynicism [delete as appropriate] with a musical interpretation of WW1. Some would call this brave, others foolhardy. But, despite a pretty grating (if excellently performed) over-reliance on the vaudeville-esque tunes from the period (tortuously jaunty little patriotic numbers), TG emerged victorious at the final curtain having provided an eclectic mix of the surreal, the poignant and the downright funny.

The fact that they achieved all this whilst dressed in black & white clown outfits is all the more to their credit.

Points to the costume team, who created a fifteen strong troupe of pierrots - all-singing, all-dancing, skit-performing harlequin-types - whose presentation of the First World War followed many groups of characters and took the form of a series of sketches which provided a multitude of perspectives.

From the tales of "our boys" in the trenches, to the German fraulein on their home front, much of the original 1963 script was based on primary sources which should make for fascinating viewing. The play falters, however, due to lack of narrative drive and it is only the energy and exuberance of certain cast members (most notably Joe Cohen, undoubtedly the show's star) which drags it through.

The pierrots were considered "unsubversive" entertainment during

WW1, & seeing the format itself subverted to create such a full-scale critique of the war is a diverting and, at its best, harrowing experience.

Sadly, many of the gags were killed in the cross-fire between silly accents and a widespread lack of comic timing, but those that did survive survived triumphantly. David Powell (you may recognise him from such plays as last week's *Waiting for God Good*) puts in a scene-stealing comic turn with his "wight weveward" vicar, and his thrusty-crotch man (funnier than his sounds) was truly inspired. Jonathan Critchly and Francesca Martin were also fab, the choir of nurses sounded beautiful and, even if it was a production where you could see the joins, nobody cared. (7) Amber Dowell

The clown firing squad was hardly intimidating



Don't Miss Out



1) *Tokyo Story* @ Hyde Park Picture House, Fri - Thurs

- So good, we've written about it twice

2) *Romeo + Juliet* @ WY Playhouse, Feb 23 - 28

- The hit Broadway production comes to Leeds

3) *International Documentary Festival* @ Hyde Park Picture House, begins Feb 25

- Seven brilliant, diverse documentaries over the next two weeks

4) *Spellbound* @ Ster Century, Weds 20.15

- Last chance to see children compete to the death in a battle of wits

## bookmark



Stephen Fry

Stephen Fry was born in London in 1957 and educated at Queen's College, Cambridge. He is an author (having penned several bestselling novels including *The Liar*, *The Star's Tennis Balls* and *The Hippopotamus*), an actor, a playwright, a director and comedian as well as the voice of Harry Potter.

**What are you reading at the moment?** *The No 1 Ladies' Detective Agency*, by Alexander McCall Smith.

**What is your favourite book?** A kind of dead heat between *Bleak House* and *Ulysses* I think.

**What book do you wish you had written?** *Psmith In The City* by P. G. Wodehouse.

**What book have you read most often?** *Psmith In The City*, *Right Ho Jeeves* and *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*.

**What books are on your bedside table?** *Schott's Food and Wine Miscellany*, *The Curious Incident of the Dog In The Night Time* and *No 1 Ladies Detective Agency*.

**If your life were a book what would it be called?** Oh dear, oh dear, oh dear.

**What would write it?** Oliver Sachs

**Who is your favourite poem?** 'Don Juan' by Byron or 'September 1939' by Auden.

**What is your favourite literary quotation?** 'yes' the last word of *Ulysses*.

**Favourite fictional character?** Leopold Bloom from *Ulysses* (dead heat with *Psmith*).

**Which fictional character do you most identify with?** Stephen Dedalus in *Ulysses*.

**Which new book are you most excited about?** Blimey ... can't answer that I'm afraid.

**Which books are you most embarrassed to have read?**

My novels a few years on. Novels by friends. Anything by Paulo Coelho.

**Have you ever had to quit a book half way through?** *The Corrections* by Jonathan Franzen ('I'll pick it up again though, it's brilliant, I just couldn't finish it in one go). *American Psycho*. Though I reread that a few years later and found it brilliant.

**Which do you prefer - hardback or paperback?** Hardback.

**What is the most over-rated book?** Phew ... Tolkien in my opinion, guaranteed as that is to earn me enemies.

**Where is the best place to read?** In bed.

**And the worst place?**

London Underground or at table (impossible to keep the pages open without wedging them under sideplates and so on).

## The kids aren't alright

fiction  
Kid's Stuff

Henry Sutton

Serpent's Tail £10

A gritty and powerful tale of the darker side of reality

*Kid's Stuff* is a gritty portrayal of the reality of relationships within a dysfunctional family and an uncompromising investigation into domestic abuse. It is narrated by Mark, who appears to be a stable family man - nice house, good-looking wife and cute kid, etc. Then out of the blue Mark has a call from his ex-wife Kim who wants to reintroduce their wayward teenage daughter Lily into his life. Being reunited with Lily sends Mark into turmoil as he strives to deal with his past and present life. The real Mark, like all the characters in *Kid's Stuff*, is far from likeable but he is (disturbingly) understandable.

Initially the characters appear to be a collection of nasty social stereotypes and as the novel progresses, while they do transcend these roles to become believable, there is no revelation of virtuous hearts under their thorny exteriors. Sutton probes into the psychology behind their behaviour looking at the effects of environment, upbringing and social conditions on their lives. Mark and Kim's violent and emotionally destructive relationship is retold without apportioning blame. Truth and fact in the novel are ambiguous, and by narrating through the psychologically unstable Mark, Sutton exhibits the difference between perspective and truth. Their daughter Lily is illiterate, offensive, anorexic and actively perusing most routes to self-destruction, yet no one helps her. Through Lily, Sutton produces an unforgettable image of the consequences of violence and neglect on children, and the failures of social services to protect them. The 'respectable' characters in *Kid's Stuff*, like Mark's wife Nicole who pities Lily but chooses not to help her, demonstrate how common it is for those in comfortable positions to ignore other people's



Playground: those were the days?

unpleasant realities.

Sutton's investigation into the darker side of reality demonstrates the consequences of choosing illusion and a cosy life over dealing with alarming truths. Sutton boldly attempts to understand the causes and perpetuation of domestic violence in modern society and questions why we are still failing to protect children today. His juxtaposition of a realistic portrayal of daily life with shocking and brutal images, illustrates how the close relationship between the two domestic reali-

ties can be. Sutton invites us to care about his unappealing and at times loathsome characters. The reader is faced with characters they would like to hate but sympathise with, raising the uncomfortable questions of who do we blame for the brutal conclusion? It is not an enjoyable book, but it is unforgettable. Sutton successfully delivers the message that modern society does too much forgetting and *Kid's Stuff* serves as a shocking reminder of the injustices prevailing in contemporary Britain. (9)

Nicole Le Marie

fiction  
Jonathan Wild

Henry Fielding

Oxford World Classics £7.99

The new edition of Fielding's 1743 classic

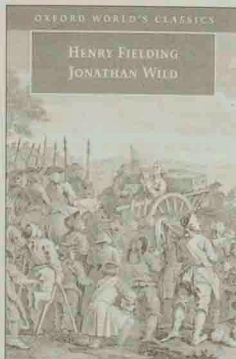
Tracing the exploits - mainly criminal - of the Jonathan Wild of the title, Fielding's novel is not as well known as *Joseph Andrews* and *Tom Jones*, but is entertaining for all that. Wild is an immensely engaging character despite, or perhaps, because of his being thoroughly devious and irredeemably selfish. Born into a long lineage of disreputable characters, Wild quickly becomes acquainted with the arts of petty theft and gambling, and various other criminal deceptions. Then he moves into the big league, starting off by plunging the naively 'Good' Mr Thomas Heartfree into a debtor jail, despite the fact that Heartfree is owed a fortune himself ('Your's received; but as to Sum mentioned therein, doth not suit at present').

The novel's consideration of the key concepts of 'Greatness' and 'Goodness' are played out in the relationship between Wild and the Heartfrees, but problematically, the sentimental overtones of the Heartfree characters are made to seem rather weak in juxtaposition with the power of the criminal underworld and the power of the prime minister, with interesting implications for our understanding of such notions as 'goodness', 'honesty' and 'justice'. It is most amusing when the fabulously articulate Wild is drawn towards self-appraisal: 'Better had it been for me to have observed the simple Laws of Friendship and Morality, than thus to ruin my Friend for the Benefit of others.'

First published in 1743, this new edition of Fielding's classic satire is certainly thorough. The explanatory notes,

for the most part, offer a good introduction to the philosophical and social issues that prevailed at the time of writing, and the textual notes are also extensive. It might be said that the explanations of phraseology sometimes run the risk of stagnating the language, however. Who needs to have the meaning of 'Marry come up' explained to them? Nevertheless, the appendices - especially the section on the real-life Jonathan, without question a legendary and original character in his own right are great, and the introduction by Claude Rawson is wide-ranging and interesting in terms of its perspective. Rawson discusses the novel in relation to the Augustan tradition, a 'classifying and patrician subculture' of the period 1660-1790 which includes Dryden and Gibbon, as well as Fielding himself, but does not contain other notable contemporaries like Pope and Defoe. In addition to this, Rawson looks at the complex relationship between concepts of the hero and the heroic in the eighteenth century and within the classical tradition of Homer and Virgil, whilst also making links to Joyce and Eliot, and even more recent works like Philip Roth's *Our Gang*. Recommended 'to your candour'. (8)

Richard Stern

non-fiction  
Elland Road e:males

Dave Shack@Ononon.co.uk

Parrs Wood Press £15

Yet another disappointing blow for Leeds United Fans

This is probably one of the strangest books ever published. A whole book, selling at a pricey £15, that consists solely of the e-mails sent between 11 Leeds fans with a lot of time on their hands. Written, and I use that term extremely loosely, by the vice-president of BMG music company and die-hard Leeds supporter Dave Shack, *Elland Road - e:males* is a collection of correspondence between the 'first XI' e-mail writers, who include Radio 1 DJ Chris Moyles, and it is this merry band of Leeds lovers who take us through a year in the life of a staunch supporter.

Dealing with the year that was the new season under Terry Venables, Dave Shack so modestly tells us that his book is not only 'brave, audacious, witty, acerbic and concise' but a 'unique, modern twist' on the soccer annual that remains 'fiercely partisan' yet oh so universally appealing to Leeds fans and normal people alike. I can see what Shack is trying to achieve here, a sort of post-post-modern, post-popculture, so very 21st century cyber bible of the 11 apostles of the Church of Football, but I don't think it works. There are a lot of in-jokes, swearing and team formation predictions all of which are not conducive to easy reading.

In credit to Shack, the introduction is well-written and lucid. It seems that he has a fluent writing style and maybe the book would have worked better if it was, instead, his personal account of the season at Elland Road, with some of the funnier e-mails included in anecdotal form. However, it probably is easier to get your 10 mates to do the work for



you by just printing out e-mail account inboxes, binding it and putting your name on the cover of the book...

*Elland Road - e:males* collects the e-mails under 23 prefaced chapters so at least you can find any event in the season easily. For example you can go straight to Chapter 6 if you want to relive the glory of 'Saturday, that Saturday' when Leeds beat Manchester Utd 1-0 in September 2002, or share the anguish of losing Woody to Newcastle in Chapter 17. This might not be exciting news for those not so easily romanced by the highs and lows of the footballing year but in a strange way, it is quite interesting to see how devoted a group of people can be to their team, even when travelling abroad, celebrating birthdays or broadcasting to the nation!

Whether this book is an essential for all Leeds United supporters, I do not know. Maybe it is an essential item on the coffee table for any discerning Leeds fan but I doubt it and I really cannot see why anyone else would want it to be honest. But maybe I just don't have my finger on the pulse of 'exciting, engaging, e-mailing' football literature. I doubt that too. (3)

Kathryn Addo

memoir

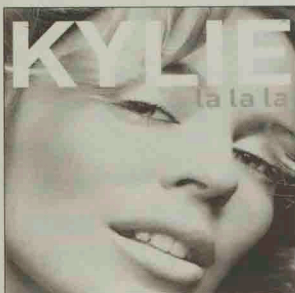
**KYLIE: la la la**

William Baker & Kylie Minogue

Hodder & Stoughton £12.99

*A behind the scenes glimpse of the life and career of pop icon Kylie Minogue*

hot pants off her, so it's not hard to see why Kylie Minogue has had such a successful career. *Kylie: la la la* was originally intended to be a book of photographs, but it was decided that



each photo had a story to tell and that it would therefore benefit from some text. Filled with over 200 photographs, all taken at different moments in her career, the book follows and celebrates the many images and sides that make up Kylie Minogue. Her story is told by her close friend and creative director, William Baker, and there is also a commentary throughout the book by the pop icon herself.

Initially I was disappointed Kylie was not going to narrate her own story. It also seemed that at some points the writer began to focus too much on his own experiences and feelings. However, this book did keep me interested and Baker, who is obviously very close to Kylie, does tell her story in an insightful and witty way. After reading the book you don't really feel any closer to 'knowing' the real Miss Minogue, but you do see a lot of what goes on in her demanding, yet interesting career.

The book follows Kylie's move to Ramsey Street, where she captured the nation's heart as

Charlene from *Neighbours*. Who can forget Charlene and Scott? More importantly, we will all be able to remember the time that both soap and pop fans worshipped them as Kylie and Jason.

While this book focuses on her life spent in the public eye, it also reveals moments of her private life. We see the highs and lows of her career and sympathise with her loss and devastation after the death of INXS singer and ex-lover Michael Hutchence. The book also comments on her links to the gorgeous Robbie Williams and Justin Timberlake. It finishes with a detailed look at the talent and effort that made the *KylieFever2002* tour such a success and kept Kylie, once again, top of the charts. There are plenty of interesting photos and facts about Kylie and the book is refreshing and original. This makes it a must for those of you who are interested in fashion, fame and the pop industry - and of course, her fans. (7) *Tina Miles*

non-fiction

**Making Sense**

Julian Baggini

OUP £9.99

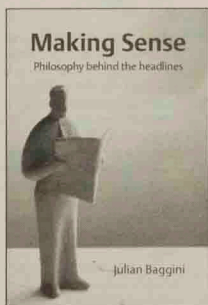
*Informative philosophical examination of issues that lie behind our newspaper headlines*

that often strikes fear into the heart of us mere mortals, and make it something that we can try to use.

*It is very rare for anyone who hasn't studied philosophy long and hard who has an exceptional talent to make a real contribution to the growth of academic philosophy. But, nonetheless, we can help ourselves to the philosophical approach to help address the kinds of questions that are thrown up just by the process of living.*

A must-mention chapter of the book is the Afterword which addresses the 2003 Iraq War. Baggini takes an issue that has caused the most recent intense public debate abroad as well as in this country, and attempts to untangle the philosophical issues that are involved in its existence. He comes to three interesting conclusions that he had already addressed in the book: that philosophy seems to be absent in public debate; that we should take account of 'real-life' facts as well as abstract philosophical principles; and the importance that these philosophical principles be constantly re-examined according to what goes on in our world.

Baggini's work offers an examination, and an indictment of today's 'unphilosophical' society. He does not suggest that philosophy should rule to the exclusion of anything else, but instead offers a philosophical approach as a way of life; something that we can all attempt to follow, and that will result in a clearer, more logical approach to the world we have found ourselves in. (8) *Elen Branagh*



memoir

**Toast: the story of a boy's hunger**

Nigel Slater

Fourth Estate £16.99 Hardback

*Nigel Slater's autobiography employs decadent food imagery in order to relay the story of his childhood*

*It is impossible not to love someone who makes toast for you...Once the warm, salty butter has hit your tongue, you are smitten. Putty in their hands.*

*Every home should smell of baking Christmas cake. That, and warm freshly ironed tea towels hanging on the rail in front of the Aga. It was a pity we had Auntie Fanny living with us. Her incontinence could take the edge off the smell of a chicken curry, let alone a baking cake. No matter how many mince pies were being made, or pine logs burning in the grate, or how many orange-and-clove pomanders my mother had made, there was always the faintest whiff of Auntie Fanny.*

These were the two quotes that made me buy the book: the first demonstrated that the author could be achingly sentimental and emotive; the second, that he could do this whilst simultaneously falling short of soppy - that his writing had a comic edge. The rest of the book does not disappoint. At all points, Slater's writing is real. This could, indeed be due to the fact that the book is an autobiography. However, his stories appear to come directly to life, rather than echoing the outdatedness of the telling. Too often, autobiographical authors distance themselves from their own experiences. Slater thrusts his in your face. Episodes which were strange to him are also disconcerting to the reader: when he first saw another openly and unashamed naked man (his family were prudish); when he first had sex; when his father brought a new woman home after his mum



had died.

In Slater's view, food only equals romanticism where romanticism fits. At other times, it is scientific, sometimes a test of honour or manhood. He tells how his father's 'trifle' 'had rules' and how he flew into rages when it didn't make the right noise when the spoon sank in. Later, he was to make his father proud by eating the eggs he detested and, the best achievement of all, bringing home perfect concoctions from Home Economics. However, food also provides bitter feeling between him and his stepmother. She begins to bake on his Home Economics day, her cakes always out of the oven and served to his father before he (Nigel) got home.

In deliciously tantalising bites, Nigel Slater slowly and skillfully reveals the events of his childhood. This is a book that you could (but probably wouldn't be able to) pick up and put down and still gain enjoyment from. Just lock the fridge and ban yourself from Morrison's first! (7) *Hayley Broad*

footnotes

**Curiouser and Curiouser**

*The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time* by Mark Haddon has won the coveted **Whitbread Book of the Year Award**. Having previously picked up prizes for children's and for teenage fiction, Haddon's story of a teenage boy with Asperger's syndrome had won the (adult) Whitbread Best Novel category, and was strong favourite to take the overall prize ahead of Best First Novel and Booker winner **Vernon God Little**. The author's ecstatic response to his award included the lines: "This really is a dream come true. Or, as my wife pointed out, it's a delusional psychotic fantasy come true."

**Wonderful Wilson**

Catherine Cookson has lost her title as the UK's most borrowed author to children's writer **Jacqueline Wilson**. After 17 years at the top of the library lending charts, Catherine Cookson has been supplanted by the award-winning author if *The Illustrated Mum* and *The Story of Tracy Beaker*. Cookson, who died in 1998 aged 91 after publishing more than 100 books, has slipped to fourth place. Harry Potter creator JK Rowling is only the 42nd most borrowed author in the list. However, it is not all bad news for Rowling - *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets* was the most borrowed children's book of 2003, and

**Harry Potter and the Prison of Azkaban was second.**

These figures are released annually by Public Lending Right, the body which gives authors the legal right to remuneration from the Government for the loan of their books. "This is the first time since our records began that we have had a new author replacing Catherine Cookson at number one," said Dr Jim Parker, Public Lending Right's registrar. "Having an eminent children's author such as Jacqueline Wilson at number one surely reflects the passion of young readers and the vibrancy of the public library service for an emerging generation."

Wilson, who has sold more than 12 million copies of her books in the UK alone, said she was "surprised and totally delighted" at the news.

"Every author is thrilled to know their books are selling but I know I share with many authors an almost greater thrill when your books are borrowed from libraries." **CK & JM**



The Raveonettes / The Veils

**The Cockpit, Leeds  
February 9, 2004**

Making up for their support, the Danish duo gives us something to get excited about.

The Veils' frontman is in agony. Standing before a packed Cockpit with a measly acoustic guitar for a shield, this bloke who bears an uncanny resemblance to a 'Shakespeare in Love'-d-up Joseph Fiennes looks scared for his life, and that's before he's even played a note. I wish it had stayed that way, to tell you truth, because once they kick off The Veils are hacking at our eardrums like a sadistic Starsailor. The most probable scenario; all he wants to do is to live his solo singer-songwriter dream, but as The Libertines are selling bucket-loads more than Ryan Adams, his record company have wedged him in amongst these three suitably-doleful session musicians and hoped for the best. And He. Will. Punish. Us.

So will The Raveonettes, but, oooh, how we're begging for it... under sex-shop-red lights the Danish duo, along with their live (-)wire; this

man is practically bouncing off the walls) second guitarist and drummer, are licking their audience's ears from the first sultry tone the speakers splutter. They've been stalking Leeds of late, playing support slots with The Cooper Temple Clause and Spiritualized, but tonight is their's to strip, whip and writhe against as they will, delivering a set brimming with James Dean-esque, '50's-obsessed tales of leather-clad delinquent lovers and joyfully filthy New York bar rendezvous.

The Raveonettes give you a complete package: not only do they do the mashed potato and the twist like the some gifted band of detention-centre kids who've hijacked the stage at the Grease high school dance, but they've ransacked Danny and Sandy's wardrobes for the occasion. The entire band stand black-clad and neck-scarved apart from bassist Sharin Foo, who's a comparably - but deceptively - angelic vision of platinum blonde and pink cowgirl frills, as she purrs into the microphone in dulcet backing to frontman Sune Rose Wagner's darkly sultry leading vocals. Their short, sharp shock of an album, *Chain Gang of Love*, being a mere 30-odd minutes long means that The Raveonettes omit nothing, also playing the majority of their *Attack of the Ghost Riders*' E.P. and whetting the crowd's appetites with a couple of new songs, as well as

**THE VEILS: He's in pain, we're in pain.  
Pretty ruddy painful**



PHOTOS: Hannah Leigh-Mackie

a close to post-recognisable, rocked-up version of 'C'mon Everybody', whose pretty, smothered face is crushed by the The Raveonettes' weighty stamp of squealing, scraping distortion, before being re-built in the aural image of a Kohl-eyed, scheming Hitchcock murderer.

The band's sole snag is that, with the entirety of *Chain Gang of Love* being recorded in B flat major, their songs can slip into being almost indistinguishable if the audience isn't familiar enough with the album to be able to prise them apart.

But the fact that The Raveonettes' peep show is so addictively and absorbingly sleazy is more than enough to counter-balance any possibility of losing interest during their set. Let's hope they come back soon, without The Veils in tow...oh go on, do it to us again. (7)

Amy Hughes

Fonda 500

**The Cockpit, Leeds  
February 10, 2004**

Unfathomably long words and musically-minded robots? This band must be from Hull!

live

Spectrumatronicological... it's not a word you see every day. To be able to say it out loud you find yourself having to speak s-l-o-w-l-y, sounding almost as robotic as one of the voices coming from the samplers, Casios and beat boxes that make up Fonda 500's play kit.

Fonda may be trying to subtly convert the population into disco-dancing robots. Emerging from their gig at The Cockpit last Tuesday I felt persuaded, ready to sell my possessions and join them for life on their rain-bow ride through pop. What convinced me? Well, probably the same thing causing heads to nod, toes to tap, and a smile to spread across the crowd. The audience were entranced, but it was more than the rhythmic guitar in 'One Elephant', the human beat boxing, the body swaying melody in 'Robotic Samba Program', for there were beeps and drones, drums and robotic voices, a furry-hat clad lead singer and a dancing bass player. If a comparison is what you need, then think of Super Furry Animals' energy being shaken up, and exploding with frequent Beach Boy poignant-pop tones, but it's not easy to give this band a label.

Energy and joy was whirling around The Cockpit's middle room, the atmosphere feeling more and more like a secret party for the lucky few who had heard of what was going on. The presence of Fonda-followers could be detected as requests were shouted out - one for 'Super Chimpanzee', a past single which was churned out with as much catastrophic energy as recent songs.

Fonda 500 have a mission, and fantastic psycho-keyboard pop-rock music is their voice... 'I'm like you and you're like me, computer freaks of the galaxy', the words of a band who know their power, and they're out to get you! (8)

Hannah Cooper

**THE RAVEONETTES: Foo for thought**



The Stills

**Logic Will Break Your Heart (679)**

Yet another North American musical tradition under sanitation treatment

*Logic Will Break Your Heart* essentially fills in one of the few remaining gaps in a New York scene increasingly self-referential to its own history. The Stills, although hailing originally from Montreal, slogged out their musical apprenticeship in NYC, and it shows. Indeed, despite their obvious country-rock musical stylings, this is unmistakably New York, both urban and claustrophobic in sound, and decidedly polished. Between a nonsensical 'the' name and some at times quite inhibit-

ing super-slick production, this basically fills one of the few remaining niches of what's left to be plagiarised from chic contemporary rock's (quite recent) past; - genuine songwriting akin to Ryan Adams, rocked up a bit like Interpol.

Make no mistakes though, the songwriting here is undoubtedly good, and at times excellent. Steady, solid, beefy, this is what Virgin Radio listeners call 'real music', yet also with tremendous crossover appeal and the ability to still sound at home in a smoky indie nightclub. Any number of tracks from *Logic Will Break Your Heart* are ready-made, expertly contained, four-minute pop singles. Exhibit A is 'Changes Are No Good', guitars meandering like a Peter Hook bassline leading into a forceful, quasi-anthem singalong chorus. 'Allison Krauss', with slick faded

intro, and 'Love and Death' are similar examples, placing The Stills very much in the Jesse Malins mould of Springsteen-inspired, undeniably masculine songwriting. Such tendencies do tend to drag over a whole album, however, and standout track 'Still in Love Song' is precisely that because of the eerie opening melody that finally sees a break from what has become by track ten some fairly tiresome country-rock plod.

Indeed, *Logic Will Break Your Heart* fails to sustain enough variation in songwriting to accredit it with anything like the definition of 'great', but there is a sense that the polished over-production ebbs away at the soul and emotion evident musically in places but consistent in the lyrics. Where the Stills try lo-fi, on 'Animals + Insects', the frightfully drawled cries of, "Blood's streaming from my palms and my feet! I'll bring the heavens down screaming with me" are positively disturbing.

It's not hard to find a genuine quality behind the slick NYC packaging and the fact that The Stills do appear to be a somewhat stylised and sanitised co-optation of the Springsteen tradition.

City music influenced by a country songwriting heritage, or contemporary country-rock gone quite definitely to its most urban, *Logic Will Break Your Heart* isn't going to win any awards for innovation. But, well, the tunes are there, and deep down you do get the impression in such disinfected musical times they might actually really mean it. (7)

John Holmes

**THE STILLS: Haven't found what they're looking for**



Album

Black September

**You Can Do Anything If You Set Your Mind To It (Pomona)**

Eerie drama from a beautiful British band

It takes a certain kind of band to take the name Black September following the problems in Israel and the events in Munich in 1972, but the chilling presence that the band create seems to follow their name. As can be gathered from the title, the album is poignantly positive, while still sounding as if there is a tinge of regret in the songs.

Black September seem to be our equivalent to John Mayer, and although they received little recognition for their last, self-titled, album, this most recent offering should be able to place the band somewhere on the map.

The lyrics have a haunting resonance, which is probably the result of the songs being predominately first takes and not heavily played with. The other members of the band provide only a soft accompaniment.

The addition of John Matthews, formerly lead man in The High, to Black September has resulted in an album of mellow tunes, which at the same time progress to loud rock outbursts. Sounding somewhere between Dashboard Confessional and The Verve, Black September create a break from the plethora of British garage rock blaring out of radios at the moment. The band doesn't seem to have completely ignored the music trends though, as they provide a valuable addition to the melodic scene represented by the likes of Damien Rice and Gary Jules.

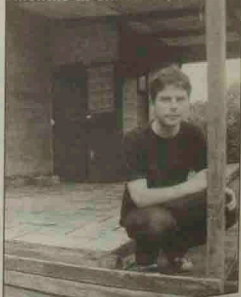
However, despite the brilliance of the

lyrics and it being a good album in its genre, there is nothing that makes the album stand out amidst the other highly poetic bands of the time. The backing provided by the rest of the band is good and a well balanced accessory, but is nothing novel stylistically.

The band openly admit to 'borrowing' ideas from other bands but they add their own emotion to these ideas creating songs which cannot be directly associated with the original. Apart from the covers of Bowie's 'Be My Wife' and Black Sabbath's 'Changes' (recorded before Ozzy and Kelly Osbourne) that is, which both reinterpret the original songs admirably. Overall, it is clear that the album will appeal to most, judging by the popularity of Black September's contemporaries. (7)

Jemma Armytage

**BLACK SEPTEMBER: Only three months til Christmas, mind**



Profile

**Snow Patrol**

**Who are Snow Patrol?**

Collectively, they are Gary Lightbody (guitar and vocals), Mark McClelland (bass), Johnny Quinn (drums), Nathan Connolly (guitar and vocals). They met at university, as all bands that are Coldplay, or sound like Coldplay do.

**How did they get to where they are today?**

By releasing two criminally ignored albums on the Jeepster label and having the likes of Travis and Belle and Sebastian shuffling about at their Glasgow gigs. Then they got Jackknife Lee (TLC/Basement Jaxx producer) to sprinkle his magic dust over their work.

**What are they up to these days?**

Their third album, *Final Straw* is out on Polydor offshoot, Fiction and has been really rather successful, resulting in appearances on *Top Of The Pops* and what-not.

**What's this?**

An interview by Amy Hughes with Mark McClelland

You met fellow Snow Patrol founding member Gary Lightbody on your first day at Dundee University. What was your first impression of him?

"That he was just as mental as me! It was at a Transglobal Underground gig and there was this mad-looking bloke pogoing up and down at the back on his own. But we're both from Belfast and had been in covers bands at school, so been to the same gigs and had mutual friends and stuff."

On your new album *Final Straw* you worked with famed Basement Jaxx and TLC producer and remixer Garrett 'Jack Knife' Lee - wasn't that a bit of a departure for both camps, and what difference has it made to the sound of this album compared to your first two?

"Garrett used to be in a rock band called Compulsion before he went into producing and now he does these mad, cut-up remixes with really beautiful guitars and a hypnotic, Stereolab vibe. Gary met up with him and they just played records and got drunk - he was like another member of the band. And we were used to doing all the production ourselves so it was a huge weight off our minds to only have to set our parts down."

Snow Patrol have been plugging away for years but with only a relative amount of plateauing success until recently. What do you attribute the sudden massive success of 'Run' to - was it just the right choice of

single?

"No, this time we've had the industry working for us rather than against us; until recently they'd only plug people like Emma Bunton, but it's thanks to bands like Coldplay, who've opened people's minds up to guitars a bit

more. We've had great press: for the first two albums [*Songs for Polar Bears* and *When It's All Over We Still Have to Clear Up*] there weren't a lot of people working on it, and it was really hard to get a record deal after we left Jeepster. We were seen as damaged goods, when everyone wanted the next Strokes!"

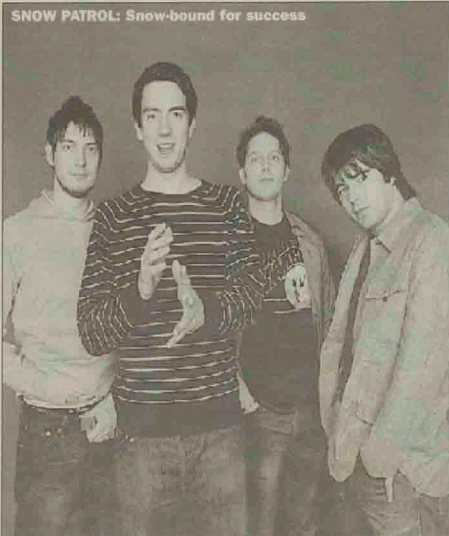
But you had your first appearance on *Top of the Pops* a few weeks back. How was that?

"Great! We didn't really believe it until we saw it back on TV, though. When you're in the studio it doesn't seem real, you're like a rabbit in the headlights."

Do you see yourselves as bringing bands and artists from the recently much-hyped Glaswegian scene into the public eye, then, or is it something claustrophobic that you see Snow Patrol breaking out of?

"There are no pop acts in Glasgow, they're all 'proper' bands who've struggled on together, like Belle & Sebastian and Mogwai, so we're happy to be a part of that. But it's also great to get to play to bigger crowds at bigger gigs. Stuff like *Top of the Pops* is just a tool for us to be able to do that."

Snow Patrol play *The Cockpit* on March 9th



Singles

reviewed by Richard Mellor and Nicky Marsh



**The Fiery Furnaces**  
*Tropical Ice Land*  
(Rough Trade)

With the paradoxical title setting the pattern, the scarily named band throws in as many contradictory styles and sounds as possible in 3 minutes of hyper-hell ending in gargled piano solo. Unfortunately it sounds far too experimental, and bloody irritating. As if Ice-Land can be tropical, anyway.



**Archie Bronson Outfit**  
*Kangaroo Heart*  
(Domino)

Oh, now this is the stuff of epic - searing, melancholic guitars combine with a towering, sombre vocal to create an anthem of mythic proportion, reminiscent of classic 70s guitar work. And yet, ignoring the thrash tradition all around, Archie proffers subtle, gothic elegance instead. Still unsure how the kangaroo is involved in things, though.



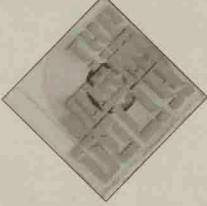
**The Holiday Plan**  
*The Green Lights EP*  
(Fallout Recordings)

Anyone remember those old 70s *Top of the Pops* albums, where a talentless covers band turned the hits of the Top 40 into elevator muzak? Presenting The Holiday Plan, butchering today's most popular post-hardcore hits for your listening indifference! Includes Jimmy Eat World, Thursday, Taking Back Sunday and many more!



**Lemar**  
*Another Day*  
(Sony)

If we've learned one thing from this tragic age of have-a-go pop heroes, it's that just because you can sing, does not mean that you should be allowed to release records. Especially not smoochy, yawnfest radio ballads with second hand Spanish guitars and pound shop strings.



**The Mars Volta**  
*Televators*  
(Universal-Island)

There's something about The Mars Volta that always leaves you with a sense of breathless awe, like seeing the Grand Canyon for the first time. Multi-layered, atmospheric soundscapes of epic scope, enigmatic stream-of-consciousness lyrics. An almost Pink Floydian aura: progressive in the truest and most positive sense of the word.

local band

**Yellow Stripe Nine / The Guests / Mabus**

**The Cockpit, Leeds**  
**February 13, 2004**

*They're the kings of the world! In their heads, anyway.*

Self-belief. That great cornerstone of rock history and legend. From Elvis, wiggling his hips and making ladies swoon, to Jimi Hendrix, beeping up the national anthem, to the swagger of The Sex Pistols, Oasis and beyond, there has never been a great rock star that didn't believe they were the nuts, the best thing to happen to rock/music/the world ever. It's something that these three bands have in spades, and its glory and folly are on show for all to see tonight.

By the way that the charismatic frontman of Mabus postures in front of the mic, eyes closed and arms a-waving, you can tell that in his head he's singing to a packed-out and cheering Yankee Stadium, not opening to an empty (save the statutory three men and a dog) bar in gritty downtown Leeds.

However, his confidence pays off, and after a few minutes of psychedelic funk-rock genius (think The Music humping The Stone Roses' guitars while Led Zep watch and pleasure themselves), a Pied Piper-style miracle occurs and the place fills up with grinning, dancing punters. Next stop: Yankee Stadium! (8)

For The Guests, however, next stop looks to be geography homework, then straight to bed young man, it's a school night! The Guests

are sweetly, disarmingly young; tonight is their first ever gig. All the components are there: attitude, cheeky stage banter, the technically adept and well-rehearsed music.

What's missing is their own sound. They veer from mainstream Foo Fighters/Chillies rock, to meatead Datsuns rock, to nondescript indie, while the singer struggles and strains with a gravelly style that does not suit his voice. They do show promise, however, in the quiet/loud dynamics of their ambitious slow-burner 'Green Hill', which brings to mind early Radiohead. (5)

Yellow Stripe Nine look like the most hopelessly, willfully uncool band ever, like the Raggy Dolls raised on a diet of 80's alterna-pop. Funny enough, this is what they sound like as well: a jumble sale of different styles and genres much like The Coral, though not as delightfully eccentric.

So, on 'Wind-Up Clockwork Man' we have a delightful blend of ska, rock and reggae, while crowd favourite 'Take It From Me' lopes along in a funky, bass-heavy, laid-back groove not dissimilar to The Beta Band. Their ambition doesn't always bear fruit though, and often leaves you with the bland taste of cheesy, mid-paced indie-pop in your mouth. They have the self-belief, but unfortunately not quite enough tunes to back it up. (6)

Tonight may not have been the stuff that rock history and legend is made of. But in the minds of the lads that played tonight, it was, and maybe that's enough for now.

Nicky Marsh

JOSEPHS WELL

WIN!

Got nothing of interest to do on February 24th? Let us be of assistance. The Constantines, the latest band to bolt from the Sub Pop stable door are making their first trip overseas to promote their new album, *Shine A Light* (reviewed on these very pages last week). For a chance to see them live at Josephs Well (ably supported by Leeds favourites, Charly 6), the email your contact details to [josephswellcomp@hotmail.com](mailto:josephswellcomp@hotmail.com) by Monday 23rd at the latest. Good luck!

# Bafta Reality

The awards season is upon us again, with hordes of celebrities competing for recognition. In the name of quality journalism, and not in the name of free champagne, Becky Barnicoat blagged her way in to London's snazziest ceremony

Just five years ago the 'British Academy Film and Television Awards' were little more than a muddy and humble afterthought to the Oscars, bringing two months of award ceremonies to a flaccid conclusion. Yet since 2001, it's been a very different story, with the Baftas now being regarded as the most accurate barometer for triumph at the Oscars.

Hollywood's most glittering bands of celebrities are now buckled into obscenely overpriced eveningwear and flown thousands of miles in order to flash their pearly incisors at the British crowds, and compete for the coveted trophies.

At the helm of the Bafta success story is the demure figure of their Chief Executive, Amanda Berry. When I spoke to her, in one of the airless vaults beneath the Odeon Leicester Square, she explained a little bit about her part in the company's transformation. "When I started at Bafta in late '98, they had been through incredibly tough times.

Financially they had been in dire straits and I think they realised that they needed somebody to come in and develop the academy.

"One of the most important things was looking at our membership and realising it was quite old. We needed to bring in much younger people, and fortunately we now have twice as many members as we did then."

Another important decision was in separating the 'film' part of the Baftas

from the 'television' part. "Apparently,"

Amanda con-

fides, "they

used to

have these

great

events with

the cast of

Coronation

Street sit-

ting next to

John

Travolta;

which I'm sure

John Travolta

found quite

amusing."

However, the

event's amor-

phous hybrid-

ity was far from

amusing for trou-

bled Bafta execu-

tives, who were

struggling to keep

the company afloat.

So under Amanda's

direction, the awards

were limited to film only

and, once they were

moved to a pre-Oscars slot

in February, the ceremony was

transformed. Today, Amanda

informs me with great enthusiasm,

"The show's just great. Time on time on time.

It's just fantastic."

Of course, organising an awards ceremony is a task of gargantuan proportions, and one that is, unsurprisingly, not without its complications.

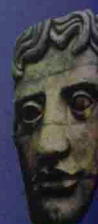
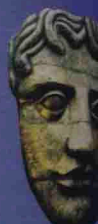
This year, Amanda's greatest fear surrounds an eight-metre high Bafta mask, which stands at the start of the red carpet. "I cannot tell you how many tons of weight are holding that down," she tells me, her hands tensing, "and because it's quite a wind-passage on that corner, we're absolutely terrified that either the weights holding it down would end up in the vaults under Burger King, or secondly that it would be blown over" - presumably crushing clusters of squealing Jude Law fans as a result.

Luckily for Amanda, as the evening unfolded last Sunday, the Bafta mask remained upright, and the unhealthily excited rabble amassed alongside the red carpet were left unscathed. In fact, the only major upset of the evening occurred when the large screen displaying video clips of the nominees' films, turned a curious shade of

**Organising an awards ceremony is a task of gargantuan proportions and one that is, unsurprisingly, not without its complications**

luminous pink, and had to be embarrassingly rebooted - much to the delight of the audience who made a swift bee-line for the alley outside to light up.

Apart from the technical breakdown, the show appeared to run smoothly, although a successful evening does not mark the end of Amanda's working year. In fact, as she explains, "On Thursday we have our interactive awards, and a week on Wednesday we have our Games awards. I then escape to the Oscars, and after a four-day rest, we have to organise our TV awards for April and we then have our Craft awards in May. From September to May, it really never stops." Apparently it really doesn't. And you can't help thinking that for Amanda Berry, life must seem rather like a strange, nightmarish party that, once ended, merely begins all over again.







# I straddled Johnny Depp. Well sort of.

**S**ouls were sold, and strings were pulled but, I tell you, it was all in the name of top-quality investigative journalism. Yes, I did the unforfeitable and exploited an unsuspecting parent in order to wheedle my way into the Baftas. I'm little more than a cheap, freebie-grabbing, celebrity-stalking, autograph-mongering whore.

In my defence, I was serving a multitude of crucial purposes, including high-flying student journalist, coffee-fetcher and most charitably, seat-filler. I say charitably, since the other seat-fillers were being paid £25 to do the job and I did it for free. So I'm not all bad.

Having been sent reams of highly confidential information and told to report to the back entrance of the Odeon Leicester Square at lunchtime on February 14, I envisaged myself spending two days in a chilly auditorium awkwardly asking cameramen for interviews, and taking copious pictures of a rolled up red carpet. After that I would probably emerge from my cocoon in a fabulous ball gown, collect my Bafta for best seat-filler and elope with Orlando Bloom.

Unsurprisingly, things didn't turn out quite as I'd expected. The Saturday was predominantly spent following very kindly producer Lisa Chapman around like a lost puppy, intermittently asking her bothersome questions about the breadth of the seats and the pile of the red carpet. I 'hmm'd' and 'aah'd', she, with an angelic degree of patience, smilingly talked me through the final few hours which lead up to the awards.

And boy are they a fraught few hours. The production team magically transform an ordinary cin-

ema into a mind-blowingly glitzy venue by constructing a shimmering silver stage and filling it with gigantic mirrored pillars, state-of-the-art projection devices and hundreds of swivelling lights and cameras. They then roll a considerably long red carpet across Leicester Square and wait anxiously for a lot of spoilt Californian brats to tread their dagger-like stilettos into it and get all the cheers.

Then there is the small matter of transmitting the ceremony across the nation, just fifteen minutes after it has finished. They don't allow themselves much room for mistakes in this business, and are therefore tirelessly professional. When I arrived Lisa informed me gravely that they were behind schedule. "We're normally rehearsing by now," she said, glancing worriedly at the heap of scaffolding and drills which littered the stage.

So instead we headed for the production truck where Lisa and her team spent a lot of time talking to each other in complicated codes. An imaginary excerpt from a witty bit of production banter might go something like this:

"Have we got A-5673 on the Gumbo? No? Well tell 6 to go left and hang his Squilton on B-793. No. It's still fuzzy. Someone fiddle with his Cumquat and that should do it." It's Double-Dutch to a technical imbecile like me, but it seems to make pretty pictures come out of tellies, so let's not question it.

I always find that one of the greatest joys of hanging around at other people's workplaces is sampling the canteen cuisine. Excitingly, the Bafta crew were treated to plastic boxes filled with delectable culinary treats. I have two things to say about these lunch boxes. Firstly, the woman in charge of making them was incredibly friendly and did an excellent job. Secondly, when I bit into my plum, a strange form emerged from within it. Sadly, it really was a big, dead maggot. I was so repulsed that rather than cry out or throw up, I just went numb and sat staring at its globulous form, lamenting the slimy chunk of fruit which no doubt housed its friend and had just slid down my throat.

Disturbing fruit aside, Saturday was also marked by the arrival of Stephen Fry who was pre-

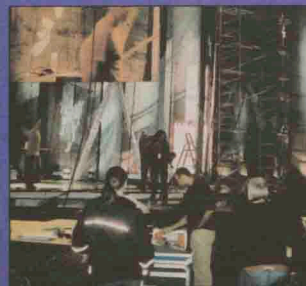
senting the awards. Being an opportunistic soul I felt that it was my duty as an arts editor to nab an interview. So in a horribly obsequious and subservient manner I crept into his dressing room, all bows, apologies and stutters before the following emerged from my lips: "Uh-uh um, excuse me. Mr Fry (Mr Fry? Mr Fry? What was that?) I work for the Leeds Student (I'm sure he's read it) and was just, um-er-um wondering, um-er if you might possibly sort of do an interview, please thank you I'm so, so, so sorry for disturbing you."

With wit and verbal charm like that he couldn't really refuse, and shockingly he didn't. What he also did, was get changed in front of me - removing his shirt to reveal wobbly, naked celebrity. I saw a famous person with, like, his tummy everywhere. The whole experience was perturbing to say the least.

Next it was time for the seat-filler's meeting. For those of you unfamiliar with the concept of seat-filling, it mainly involves a collection of ordinary folk, frenziedly competing to fill any empty seats during the show. The intention is that the ceremony avoids appearing absurdly empty on camera when twenty people head for the stage to collect an award.

After I was thoroughly versed in the art of sitting, I sneaked onto the balcony above the red carpet to watch the arrival of the stars. Typically, the majority of people flouncing out of limos were completely unknown and stuffed into lurid-coloured, ill-fitting clothes. The celebrities that did arrive, however, should be mercilessly dissected as gossipy tradition dictates: 1) Holly Hunter is the most obscenely minute woman on the planet. Pocket Venus doesn't apply. She is a pocket borrower. 2) Joely Richardson, while admittedly beautiful, was also disturbingly skeletal, and tangerine dresses are never a good idea. 3) Thandie Newton's thong was poking unattractively out of her backless dress. 4) Scarlett Johansson spent a long time agonising over a stray hair before storming out of the production office with a petulant "God Damn!"

As the Baftas began, the seat fillers waited in an orderly line, their arses primed for sitting. There was, of course, a healthy element of competition involved. This was most effectively demonstrated by a hag-like woman with garish coppery hair, who violently elbowed her way to the front of the

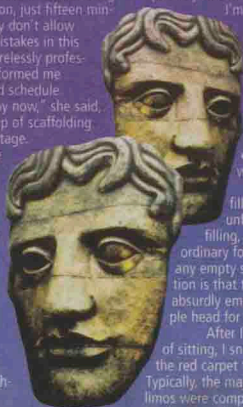


## Stephen Fry unexpectedly removed his shirt to reveal wobbly, naked celebrity

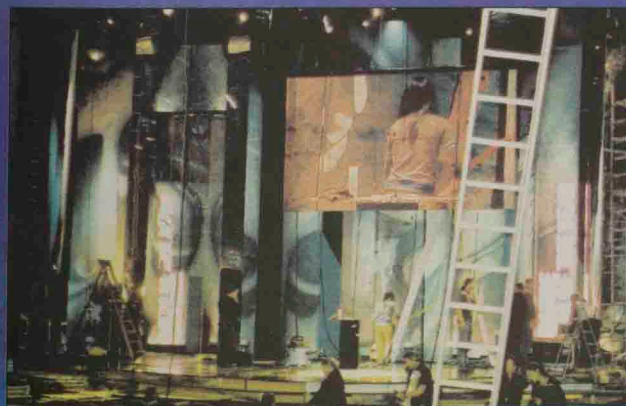
queue before hurling herself into an empty seat next to Paul Bettany. Then came the moment of the night, when I found myself climbing over the stupidly handsome Johnny Depp, in order to fill a seat two away from him. I clambered over him, and he SMILED AT ME. This means that HE LOVES ME. And there I stayed for the rest of the evening, blushing and giggling and staring in awe at Johnny Depp's tattooed finger, which was admittedly all I could see of him.

**T**he evening came to a suitably ludicrous finale with a trip to Grosvenor House for the after show party. I won't bore you with more gratuitous boasting about hobnobbing with the stars. Instead, I will leave you with a description of the marshmallow and chocolate fountain erected at the party. A metre high sculpture, hand crafted by Madagascan elves, with a melted river of the rarest Ecuadorian chocolate cascading down it is just the sort of revolting indulgence that the grotesquely rich go in for. And although it was funny for a minute, I think that morally it's all a tad dubious.

I suppose it's a cliché, but the problem with the stars is that close up, they're just that bit too real. Their foundation was crumbling off their spots, their boots didn't fit in their dresses and their hair was greasy rather than wild and unkempt. I can't deny that going to the Baftas was ridiculously entertaining and enjoyable, yet I couldn't help feeling slightly jaded by the cult of celebrity. It's good for a laugh, but at the end of the night Hollywood can take its priceless Malaysia vanilla pod marshmallows and stuff them in their bronzed bottoms.



**I'm little more than a cheap, freebie-grabbing, celebrity-stalking, auto-**



# UNIPOL



## House Hunting 2004/05

### Unipol Code of Standards Members 2004/2005

All these owners have signed-up to the Code of Standards.

Names in bold indicate that someone is a Golden Owner. This means they have either not had a sustained Code of Standards complaint made against them within the last three years, or they have not been members of the Code for the three consecutive years required to qualify for this status. Details of all sustained complaints are shown on the Unipol website.

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**Abbey Homes - Ashok Parmar**  
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**AD Properties - Andrew Dodds**  
**ADV Garea-Balado - V Garea**  
**N Ahmed**  
**Mr Naeem Akhtar**  
**Mrs Najma Akhtar**  
**Alexandrite Properties - Mr S Chung**  
**Andoria Properties - Mrs Paschall**  
**Mr Anwar**  
**D&P Armitage**  
**Ashton Partners - P Yashoon**  
**Ashton Palmont Partners - P Yashoon**  
**RJ Backowski**  
**Rb K Backowski**  
**Mr M Backowski**  
**Janet Bailey**  
**David Balfour**  
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**JM Barrett**  
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**D Bethlehem**  
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**Robina Bowers**  
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**Christopher Brewster**  
**Dr & Mrs Broadbent**  
**Bryant and Brown - Kevin Brown**  
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**Stuart Carrin**  
**Jan Campbell**  
**C&C-Hall Properties - Mr RJ Carr**  
**Mr & Mrs Cavill**  
**CC Properties - Mohammed Rashid**  
**Central Rentals - Sally Anne Horon**  
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**CHT Properties - Karen Tully**  
**T Cliff**  
**Cliff House Properties - Lynda Raddings**  
**Margaret Clough**  
**Mary Cockburn**  
**Alwyn Coffey**  
**Yvonne Coffey**  
**Danny Cohen**  
**Garry Cooper**  
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**CPL Systems - Greg Bradshaw**  
**Cravens Housing Enterprises - Mr D Craven**  
**Craft Properties - Mr G Whitehead**  
**Keith Cowther**  
**Gareth Davies**  
**Devi Estates - P Kaur**  
**Kulvinder Dav**  
**DHM Properties - DH Middledy**  
**Peter Dralsey**  
**Mrs Duper**  
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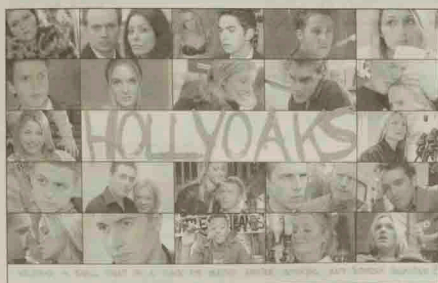
**Enby Estates - WV Mason**  
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**Emery Properties - Mr MJ Emery**  
**Express Lets - Mr Palfani**  
**Mr G Felthurst**  
**Fair Lets to Students - Mrs C Packer**  
**Falham Properties - John Falkingham**  
**Shahid Farouk**  
**Mary Farrar**  
**Farrer Properties - Colin Farrer**  
**Catherine Fawcett**  
**First City Rentals - Hedley Manton**  
**Mr&Mrs Fisher**  
**The Fishman, Corporation - Ellis Rickwood**  
**FLDR - Gurjit Dhalliwal**  
**Nigel Fletcher**  
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**Michael Franks**  
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**Ros Geldart**  
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**F Harris**  
**P J Hannah**  
**Michael Hanson**  
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**Tony&Ann Hardisty**  
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**AP Harris**  
**Daisy Harris**  
**Harrison Properties - Jeremy Harrison**  
**Erol Hasson**  
**Hawthorn Properties - Penelope Whit-brighton**  
**Philip Hayton**  
**Tim Healey**  
**Headingley Properties - Stanley Jackson**  
**Headingley Property Services - Graham Jarrett**  
**Dr Jeffrey Hillman**  
**Andy Hobbs**  
**Holt Estates - George Kosinski**  
**Holly Homes - Val Nicholson**  
**Holly Property Developments - J Bernose**  
**Homefinders - Colin Halliday**  
**Homefinders - Martin Halliday**  
**Homeleeds - DBR Freeman**  
**Richard Hopkinson**  
**Rachel Hunter**  
**Illicitious Homes - Kunie Barker**  
**Cara Jackson**  
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**David Jiang**  
**SS Jaisi**  
**Leila Kara**  
**Gaynor Kaye**  
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**Dr Keenan**  
**Stephen Kettlewell**  
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**Peter Knowlton**  
**Mr M Kufadia**  
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**Jane Landells**  
**Landmark Homes - Dr Mhana**  
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**Leeds Flats - Roy Colton**  
**Leeds Flats - Roy Aikens**  
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**Lubin Properties - Philip McClellan**  
**Lingard Bell - Steven Rowley**  
**John Lister**  
**Christine Liversidge**  
**Garth London**  
**Trevor Lovell**  
**Carol Lee-Mak**  
**Shahida Malik**  
**Mrs A Mann**  
**Mannit Properties - Mr&Mrs Parekh**  
**Maquod Mansoor**  
**Susan Marshall**  
**Maple Estates - Jerry Chapman**  
**Linda Massarella**  
**Matthews Accommodation**  
**Newson & Walton - Simon Lester**  
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**Stephen McGrail**  
**Steven McGalroy**  
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**Mellor Properties**  
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**Zabir Mohammed**  
**Daniel Morris**  
**Laurence Mosby**  
**R Mostyn-Jones**  
**Dr M Mughal**  
**Elizabeth Munton**  
**Sue Neelin**  
**Dalwyn Nisale**  
**Emma Nash**  
**Mrs P Newton**  
**Noble-Hiles Associates - Dr E Noble**  
**Nobby Noble**  
**K O'Gara**  
**Pageant Properties - Brian White**  
**Max Palmer**  
**Parallax View - Ellis Rickwood**  
**Parkes & Co - A&L Parkinson**  
**H Parmar**  
**R Parmar**  
**Dr & Mrs Patel**  
**Jagdish Patel**  
**Ken Patel**  
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**Annabelle Paterson**  
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**Kenneth Pearson**  
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**Bill Pickard**  
**Gary Pickard**  
**Pickard Properties**  
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**Walter Pong**  
**Poley and Maureen Powell**  
**Premier Student Lets - Steven Sharp**  
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**Rodman Properties**  
**Roldene Investments Ltd - Rosemary Chaplin**  
**David Rhodes**  
**RMP Properties Mr McKean-Peters**  
**RPA Lettings - Richard Schadaas**  
**Catharine Roberts**  
**Walders Robinson**  
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**Oliver Rooke**  
**Wynne Rooke**  
**Rosehall & Braclay**  
**Judith Rothenberg**  
**Mohammed Saddique**  
**SC&B Housing - Sheila Short**  
**Schol Homes - Terry Porter**  
**Heather Scum**  
**David Shackleton**  
**Peter Sheard**  
**Helen Sergeant**  
**Mark Sheppard**  
**Gerald Sheridan**  
**Mr&Mrs Sienko**  
**Siva Sibiamparan**  
**RJ Singer**  
**Mr&Mrs Smith**  
**Richard Smith**

**Mrs R Smithers**  
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**Spencer Properties**  
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**SS Properties - Mr Tah**  
**Catherine Staring**  
**MG Suckall**  
**Dr E Swallow**  
**BJW & JA Talbot**  
**Janos Tallor**  
**Brenda Taylor**  
**TaylorMade Properties - Janice Taylor**  
**COJ Taylor**  
**Phillipa Thew**  
**Thomas Properties**  
**James Toms**  
**Thorn Properties - Mike Thorpe**  
**Mr Tohid**  
**Edward Turner**  
**Unipolreview Ltd**  
**Unipol - Jeremy Hibble**  
**Unipol**  
**Mrs G Vernon**  
**Walters Properties**  
**Waseem Wani**  
**Richard Watson**  
**Westfield Properties - C Hobson**  
**Peter Wild**  
**Keith Willis**  
**Wilson Properties - Ken & Sue Wilson**  
**Anne Wilson**  
**Michelle Winston**  
**Workter Properties - Michael Worker**  
**Workout Properties - Adam Maxwell**  
**D J Wort**  
**Wrenbury Associates - AJ Chuter**  
**Elizabeth Wright**  
**Wendy Young**  
**Anthony Zammit**





# Hollyoaks, C4

C4, Weekdays, 6.30pm

*They're blonde. They're stupid. And they certainly can't act. So who on earth decided to take the C4 soap 'significant issue' route?*

If like Max you are struggling to cope with the effects of bereavement, call the Channel 4 recorded information line on 0800... "A familiar end to another episode of Britain's most emotionally tactful soap. We've had self-harm, bullying, abortion but this finally takes the biscuit." For all the hottest information on forthcoming storylines and all the goss on your favourite stars, Press 1. For advice

**Premised entirely on the fact that several members of the cast are indeed female and blonde**

on how to get over the death of your father, press 2". To be quite truthful *Hollyoaks* has failed to move me on an emotional level once in eighteen

months of flatmate enforced viewing. Its 'post-modern' wit and immaculate use of old King Adora records may have been fun for a while, but after that comes the realisation this is a programme premised entirely on bad acting, its own self-referentiality and the astonishing fact that several members of the cast are indeed female and blonde.

In fact, that formula is becoming increasingly tiresome, and so *Hollyoaks* turns gritty with 'late night specials' and the Toby and Ellie serial killer storyline, a story treated so badly as to descend into farce. "Yes, let's get our two worst actors and have them play our most important storyline and make it last for a year" went the executive logic. And we went, all together now, hands clasped, kneeling on the floor "Toby! Noooooo!!!!"

John Holmes

TV Film of the Week Thu, BBC1, 12.30am

# Gods and Monsters

**A**-level Media studies layabouts are as likely as anyone to be familiar with the work of English-born director James Whale, horror pioneer responsible most notably for cinema classics *Frankenstein*, *The Invisible Man*, and *Bride of Frankenstein*.

Directed by Bill Condon and starring Sir Ian McKellen, *Gods and Monsters* is Whale's at times unsettling biography, told in flashback in a fictionalised account of the last month of the ageing director's life. McKellen's performance is one far less of Gandalf heroics but both vigorous and insecure, reflecting his character's at times painful past, and the difficulties of being openly homosexual in a most

conservative Hollywood.

Both elegant yet witty, a myriad of subjects, from friendship and sexuality to the art of filmmaking are addressed, along with another fine central performance from Whale's younger lawnkeeper Brendan Fraser.

Strange indeed that such biopics of directors from Hollywood's 'Golden Age' how been relatively successful: - although 1994's *Ed Wood* was an altogether more comic affair, given the nature of said director's error strewn cult hit *Plan 9 From Outer Space*. Boris Karloff? Bela Lugosi? *Dracula*? *The Mummy*? Time for a classic horror season again anyone?

John Holmes



# TV COP

10 reasons why *Neighbours* is better than real life



- 1. It happens twice a day.** Did Connor and the other House of Trouser residents brighten up your lunchtime with their madcap antics? Well, thanks to the magic of BBC programming it can brighten up your teatime too! No, really. They spoil us.
- 2. It's sunny.** All the time. Literally every day. When was the last time it rained in Erinsborough? 1947. When was the last time it rained in Leeds? Er, yesterday. They even get a sunny Christmas. In February. Bastards.
- 3. Nothing's quite as bad.** Witness alcoholism. Resident *Neighbours* 'alcoholic' Dr Karl Kennedy is slightly sneaky and had shaky hands one time. And that's it. No vomiting, no mood swings, no huge holes in his bank account. Dammit, he's never actually drunk. And you just *know* he'll learn his lesson before anything nasty happens.

**4. Getting dressed in the dark is acceptable.** Orange with lime green? Groovy! Yellow and pink? The height of fashion. While our own sartorial tastes are dominated by grey, blue and khaki, an episode of *Neighbours* can be so technicolour it hurts.

**5. God exists.** If you lie, you'll get caught. If you disobey your parents, bad things will happen and you'll get caught. The same applies if you drink. Or smoke. Or gamble. And that bint Izzy has it coming.

**6. Death is not the final curtain.** The bottom line is this: if there's no corpse then they're not gone for long. Brace yourself for Dee's return: you can't deny it's going to happen. But don't hold your breath for Drew.

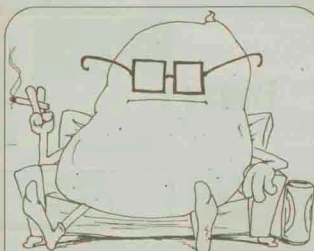
**7. Good Neighbours become good friends.** Unlike in Hyde Park, where their children will pelt you with explosives and they'll nick your TV the first time you leave your house unattended.

**8. Harold Bishop.** Role model to vegetarians and amateur musicians alike. Paragon of self-righteousness and stiffness but for some reason irresistible to middle-aged ladies. Chicks dig chins, and Harold has more than most.

**9. Everyone's so darned lovable.** If you're married then you'll stay married through thick and thin. If you're single, on the other hand, you can guarantee you'll meet 'someone special' once a month at the very least. If you're a fanny-magnet like Connor this goes up to thrice weekly.

**10. There's no time to get bored.** No wonder it's such an emotional roller-coaster when post-natal depression lasts about three weeks and even the most personality-altering bout of amnesia will be over in four months. How else do they manage to cram so much love and heartbreak into 20 minutes? Magic.

Alice Ross



# Goggle box

with Patrick Cragg

I've always had my doubts about Stephen Fry. Don't get me wrong, I love the man's work, but his celebrity seems to rest on the way he epitomises a certain type of semi-mythological Englishness which, since it involves public schools and Cambridge, I feel a little uneasy buying into. Not all Cambridge english grads have Fry's droll humour, any more than the comedy northerners in your local pub are all Peter Kay. But Fry's performance as host of the *BAFTAs* was sheer genius. His lines were scripted (by David Baddiel's brother, my sources tell me), but Fry delivered that script with a wry detachment, playing up to his own image but not lapsing into ego-massaged self-parody. It made watching the whole show worthwhile, especially since some of the Academy's decisions - like awarding Best Director to Peter Weir when it should have gone to Peter Jackson (or, in any other year, Sofia Coppola) left me non-plussed.

So *Friends* is back. And the first two episodes, despite having to navigate the shallow, rocky waters of "ongoing story" and "plot", were pretty darn good. Even Ross did OK. Connoisseurs of *Friends* will have approached last week's episode thus: "Ross hosts a cocktail party for Rachel and Joey but ends up getting drunk? Bugger. I bet he spends the whole half-hour talking in the squeaky voice that David Schwimmer uses to convey Social Awkwardness". And they were right. But hey, I laughed.

I want to say a word or two about the cancellation and banning of *Little Friends*. You never saw it? Well, I'll try to recap. Basic premise: Child actors pose awkward questions to celebs and enact their pranks on innocent passers-by. Typical sketch: Posh-looking kid interviews Busted outside a movie premiere. Gets a few questions in, then stops: "Sorry. Who are you? Busted? (turns to cameraman) You could at least have got me someone fucking famous!" Or try this one. Boy sitting in the park looking glum, holding a letter. Passer-by asks if he's alright. I've got this letter from my mummy but I can't read and would you mind reading it to me? Of course. "Dear Johnny. I'm leaving you and Daddy to go and live with Chris from work. I don't love you any more". Genius.

Anyway, the Powers that Be (industry watchdog Ofcom) have decided that you can't watch it anymore because it's not suitable. Or something. Lots of posturing broadsheet types say it wasn't funny anyway. Well, it was. I enjoyed *Little Friends* more than *Trigger-Happy TV* and *Ali G* put together. It certainly made a refreshing antidote to the nauseating tradition of *Small Talk* and *Kids Say The Funniest Things*.

**Obsessed with FRIENDS?**  
Or can't stand the sight of those perky fictional New Yorkers?

Email Leeds Student with your opinion on **FRIENDS** (and its imminent end) at: editor@leedsstudent.org.uk

The best will feature in an upcoming LS **Friends Special!**

Dubious *Neighbours* storyline of the week: Sky and the 'Cement Mixer' toilet incident













## Wednesday February 25



Patrick Cragg

Do we need another TV impressionist? Are we not equipped already with Rory Bremner and the rather more populist Alistair McGowan? Apparently not. So welcome John Culshaw onto the TV stage. The man's got his credentials,

mind, having been a part of Radio 4 (and then BBC's) classic *Dead Ringers* and cult favourite *2DTV*. I feel a little sorry for TV impressionists though. It's not a bad life, pretending to be other people for a living, but I sense a hollow sadness at the heart of your typical mimic. All those parties

you'll be invited to, all those chatshows you get to appear on, and what does the host want? Anecdotes from your childhood? Comic influences? No. They want your David Beckham impression. How soul-destroying would that be?

**Pick of the Day**

**The Impressionable John Culshaw**

ITV, 10.00pm

- CLUBS**
- Atrium AH-AH!** block party with house band, dancers, open decks & mics, live visuals, graffiti portraits & chillout room
  - Bar Phono Scream** punk, ska, emo, screamo, hardcore
  - HiFi Club MOVEONUP** the best in northern soul, tamla, motown, funk & 60's beat with resident DJ's Ed Mason, John Morelli & Matt Bolton
  - Metropolitan Uni OTT** room 1: cheese, party & dance room 2: r'n'b with B Naughty

**GIGS**

Grand Theatre  
**PUPPETRY OF THE PENIS**

**DIARY**

Leeds University  
**LESS THAN JAKE'**  
24 May

The Bowl, Winchester  
**HOMELANDS FESTIVAL'**  
29 May

\* Buy tickets from 08709 913 913 or go to [alive.co.uk/tickets](http://alive.co.uk/tickets)



**BBC ONE**

- 6.00 Breakfast:** The National Lottery Daily Play; **9.30 To Buy Or Not To Buy;** **10.00 Homes Under The Hammer;** **11.00 Garden Invaders;** **11.30 House Invaders;** **12.00 Bargain Hunt;** **12.30 Cash In The Attic;** **1.00 BBC News:** Weather; **1.30 Regional News:** Weather; **Telling Lives;** **1.40 Neighbours:** Harold suffers a stroke; **2.05 Doctors;** **2.35 Father Dowling Mysteries;** **3.20 BBC News:** Weather; **3.25 Balamory;** **3.45 Arthur;** **4.10 The Wild Thornberys;** **4.35 Powers;** **5.00 Blue Peter;** **5.25 Newround;** **5.35 Neighbours**
- 6.00 BBC News**
- 7.30 Look North: Weather Perfect Holiday.** A Scottish family go to Canada.
- 7.30 Inside Out Extra**
- 7.55 The National Lottery: Midweek Draws.**
- 8.00 The Food Police.** The inspectors embark on a nationwide search for a lethal range of sweets that have been killing children all over the world.
- 8.30 Animal Camera.** Miniature cameras are carried by birds, revealing how they glide through the air and navigate woodlands, while slow-motion film of bumble bees helps explain how these creatures' tiny wings keep them aloft.
- 9.00 Family Business.** Jessica is concerned about Lauren's increasingly masculine behaviour, while Marly gets a job working on two properties, but has a crisis of conscience when he learns his client wants the second home for his secret mistress.
- 10.00 BBC News**
- 10.30 Regional News: Weather:** National Lottery Update
- 10.35 Tableid Tales.** New series. Shane Richie's relationship with the press.
- 11.15 FILM: The Sting (1973).** Comedy. Robert Redford and Paul Newman star
- Sign Zone:** This World
- 2.25 Antiques Roadshow**
- 3.10 Sign Zone: Trading Up**
- 3.55 BBC News 24**

**BBC TWO**

- 6.00 Fimbles;** **6.20 Teletubbies;** **6.45 Clifford; Tweenies Songtime;** **7.00 Arthur;** **7.30 Xchange;** **8.00 The Scooby, Scrappy And Yabba-Doo Show;** **8.25 Newround;** **8.30 Tom And Jerry Kids;** **9.00 Ocean Star;** **The Quest;** **9.25 Loose Tunes;** **9.35 Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles;** **10.00 Tweenies;** **10.20 Boo! CBeebies Birthdays;** **10.40 Balamory;** **11.00 The Daily Politics;** **1.00 Wildlife On Two;** **1.30 Working Lunch;** **2.00 FILM: Up In The World (1956) Comedy,** starring Norman Wisdom; **3.30 Animal Park;** **4.30 Ready Steady Cook;** **5.15 The Weakest Link**
- 6.00 The Simpsons.** Homer and Bart deliver a dead trucker's cargo.
- 6.20 Three's A Crowd.**
- 6.50 Celebrity Repics.**
- 7.00 So What Do You Do All Day?** New series. Adrian Chiles meets PR guru Lynne Franks.
- 7.30 Burnt-Out Britain.** Investigation into job-related stress. Three people from different professions are followed through a typical working day, while their stress levels are monitored.
- 8.00 Safe As Houses.** Emma Basden and Jason Maloney come to the aid of a woman from Fulham who plans to build a flat-pack New England-style wooden house in the countryside.
- 9.00 My Week In The Real World.** New series. Clare Short becomes a teacher.
- 10.00 The National Trust.** Behind the scenes at Waddesdon Manor, home to one of the world's richest families, following the aftermath of a ram raid involving the theft of 100 priceless gold boxes.
- 10.30 Newround**
- 11.20 BBC Four on BBC Two:** **Artie Shaw: Quest For Perfection**
- 12.20 BBC Four on BBC Two:** **This Happy Life**
- 1.25 BBC News 24**
- 2.00 BBC Learning Zone**

**V**

- 6.00 GMTV;** **9.25 Trisha;** **10.30 This Morning;** **12.30 ITV News;** **1.00 Today With Des And Mel;** **2.00 Everything Must Go;** **The Hammer;** **2.30 24 Hour Quiz;** **3.00 Calendar News And Weather: It's Your Call;** **3.15 Miffy And Friends;** **3.20 Rosie And Jim;** **3.30 Angelina Ballerina;** **3.45 Sonic X;** **4.10 Brilliant Creatures;** **4.30 Sabrina The Teenage Witch;** **5.00 24 Hour Quiz. Round-the-clock quiz.**
- 6.00 Calendar: Weather**
- 6.30 ITV News: Weather**
- 7.00 Emmerdale.** Steph throws her weight around at the factory, while Zak consoles Terry with a few well-chosen words of wisdom – and a bottle of whisky for good measure.
- 7.30 Coronation Street.** Maya bombards Dev with phone calls at the shop, refusing to believe their relationship is over, and Charlie tells a crestfallen Bev that he has his eye on someone else, whom she assumes is Deirdre.
- 8.00 The Bill.** June finally confronts Gabriel, and is horrified when he confirms that what she's heard is true, while Des begins to realise that killing Cameron is not the answer. Trudie Goodwin and Todd Carty star.
- 9.00 Footballers' Lives.** Kyle faces an uncertain future as he nurses his injuries, although his gorgeous new physiotherapist soon takes his mind off things.
- 10.00 The Impressionable John Culshaw.** New series. Humorous impersonations.
- 10.30 ITV News: Weather**
- 11.00 Director's Commentary.** Peter De Lane recalls working on Flambards
- 11.30 Hardcore.** Mike applies for another job.
- 12.00 24 Hour Quiz;** **12.55 CD UK Hotshots;** **1.20 Police In Action V;** **2.00 Trisha;** **2.55 ITV At The Festivals 2002;** **3.50 Get Stuffed;** **4.00 ITV Nightscreen;** **5.00 Jobfinder;** **5.30 ITV News**

**4**

- 6.00 Grabit!** The Rabbit; **6.10 The Hoobs;** **6.35 The Hoobs;** **7.00 The Saloni;** **7.30 Friends;** **8.00 Everybody Loves Raymond;** **8.30 Bewitched;** **9.00 Best The Nation;** **9.30 4Learning; 12.00 News At Noon;** **12.30 Film Fever;** **12.35 Cheers;** **1.05 FILM: The Indian Fighter (1955) Western,** starring Kirk Douglas; **2.45 Beat The Nation;** **3.15 Countdown;** **4.00 Perfect Getaway;** **4.30 Room For Improvement;** **5.00 Richard & Judy**
- 6.00 The Salon.** The latest from the hair and beauty studio.
- 6.30 Holyoaks.** Steph bets everyone they can't give up something for Lent. Ben feels miserable without Izzy and Jack is proud of Darren for getting a job.
- 7.00 Channel 4 News**
- 7.55 When I Came To Britain.** Stories of Caribbean immigrants.
- 8.00 Relocation Relocation.** House-hunting.
- 9.00 Grand Designs.** The Pet Shop Boys' former manager and his partner have planned for years to build a modernist, Bauhaus-inspired white cube to live in. But is the traditional English coastal town they live in ready to accept such a bizarre structure?
- 10.00 ER.** Professional and personal problems contribute to Lewis's bad day, and things aren't much better for Pratt when he receives a poor report from Romano and has to treat an unusual rape victim.
- 11.05 Frasier.** Martin accuses Frasier of eavesdropping.
- 11.35 Sex And The City.** Charlotte strives to escape the pain of not having a child; Samantha tries a new look and Aleksandr's tastes surprise Carrie.
- 12.10 The Simple Life;** **12.40 4Music: Ear Candy;** **1.10 4Music: Rather Good Videos;** **1.35 4Music: Offspring Live;** **2.05 4Music: 4Play;** **2.20 Skiing On 4;** **4.10 Football Stories;** **5.10 Miscarriage;** **5.15 Countdown**

**five**

- 6.00 Sunrise;** **6.30 Jay Jay The Jet Plane;** **6.55 Hi-5;** **7.30 Franny's Feet;** **7.45 Make Way For Noddy;** **8.00 Bear In The Big Blue House;** **8.30 Rolie Polie Olie;** **8.55 MechaNick;** **9.05 Elmo's World;** **9.20 Why?;** **9.25 House Doctor;** **10.00 The Wright Stuff;** **11.00 The Terry And Gaby Show;** **12.00 Five News At Noon;** **12.30 Home And Away;** **1.00 Family Affairs;** **1.30 Brain Teaser;** **2.35 The Streets Of San Francisco;** **3.40 FILM: Dead Man's Island (TVM 1996) Thriller,** starring Barbara Eden; **5.30 Five News: Weather**
- 6.00 Home And Away.** Kit stretches Dani's patience to breaking point.
- 6.30 Family Affairs.** Cheryl learns the identity of her new boss, Gary realises he has made a mistake and Cat spends some of Doug's hard-earned cash.
- 7.00 Five News: Weather**
- 7.30 Danger! Incoming Attack.** Tongue-in-cheek survival show, presented by Nick Frost. In the first instalment, expert Nick Bougas advises on building the perfect man-trap and there's a selection of indispensable draft-dodging techniques.
- 8.00 Back To Reality.** Celebrity challenge, which sees former reality TV stars living together in a west London mansion – who will be the next to leave the Back to Reality mansion?
- 9.00 Britain's Worst Cook.** Quentin Wilson sets five self-confessed incompetent cooks loose in the kitchen at Westminster and Kingsway Catering College to determine which of them is the worst of the worst.
- 10.00 Kieftomania.** Documentary exploring compulsive stealing.
- 11.00 Back To Reality.** The day's events.
- 12.00 Real Sex;** **1.00 NHL Ice Hockey;** **Toronto Maple Leafs at Florida Panthers;** **4.00 Boxing: Fight Of The Week;** **5.10 Winter X Games.** Action from Aspen.

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## Thursday February 26



John Holmes

Channel 4's reputation for taking chances on innovative comedy ideas can only be enhanced by *Darkplace*. Essentially a spoof of every 60's sci-fi show from *Star Trek* to *The Man From U.N.K.L.E.* This is a mix of sharp wit, complete farce and suspending characters

from the ceiling with string. Marengi plays Dr. Rick Dagless, pioneering medical psychologist and general all round hero, and *Darkplace* is his sinister and paranormal-activity-prone hospital. In a typically absurd plotline, tonight Dagless must save his staff from a killer mist with the alarming effect of

tanning the hides of unwary travellers. Obviously, this is slightly off the wall and not exactly gag-heavy *Friends*-esque laugh a minute, but is enough of a mix of light-hearted chaos and knowing sub-jokes to cater for most tastes.

**Pick of the Day**  
**Garth Merengi's Darkplace**  
C4, 10.35pm

### CLUBS

Bar Phono  
**SEX DWARF**  
synth pop, electronic, new romantic & new wave

Cockpit  
**POPTASTIC**  
gay night playing trashy 80's, school disco tunes & grungy indie  
open 'til 2:30am


Think Tank  
**FUZZY LOGIC**  
Guy's, girls, guitars & great hair with DJ Debster [Brighton Beach]  
free in before 11

### GIGS

City Varieties  
**AL MURRAY THE PUB LANDLORD**

Faversham  
**Comedy Night**

Joseph's Well  
**THE BOXER REBELLION**



alive.co.uk  
established 1993

### BBC ONE

6.00 Breakfast; The National Lottery Daily Play; 9.30 To Buy Or Not To Buy; 10.00 Homes Under The Hammer; 11.00 Garden Invaders; 11.30 House Invaders; 12.00 Bargain Hunt; 12.30 Cash In The Attic; 1.00 BBC News; Weather; 1.30 Regional News; Weather; Telling Lives; 1.40 Neighbours; Harold's life hangs in the balance; 2.05 Doctors; 2.35 Father Dowling Mysteries; 3.20 BBC News; Weather; 3.25 Fimbles; 3.45 Arthur; 4.10 Mona The Vampire; 4.20 The Story Of Tracy Beaker; 4.35 The Fairly Odd Parents; 5.00 Grange Hill; 5.25 Newsround; 5.35 Neighbours  
6.00 BBC News  
6.30 Look North: Weather  
7.00 Didn't They Do Well!  
Hosted by Bruce Forsyth.

7.30 EastEnders. Laura's ideas go down like a lead balloon with Kat.

8.00 EastEnders: The Rise And Fall Of Janine. Profile of Walford's bad girl Janine Butcher, who since her arrival in the Square has caused nothing but trouble for almost everyone she meets.

8.30 DIY Experts. Sports help amateurs in a fix.

9.00 Crimewatch UK. Nick Ross and Fiona Bruce present more appeals for information on cases including the theft of a stolen fortune which became a murder hunt.

10.00 BBC News  
10.30 Regional News: Weather  
10.35 Crimewatch UK Update. Viewers' responses.

10.45 Question Time. Guests including Julie Kirkbride and Caroline Lucas are among the panellists debating questions from a Norwich audience.

11.45 This Week  
12.30 FILM: Gods And Monsters (1998). Drama, starring Ian McKellen.

2.15 Sign Zone: Panorama  
3.10 Animal Camera  
3.40 Changing Rooms  
4.10 Sign Zone: Watchdog  
4.40 BBC News 24

### BBC TWO

6.00 Fimbles; 6.20 Teletubbies; 6.45 Clifford: Tweenies Songtime; 7.00 Arthur; 7.30 Xchange; 8.00 The Scooby, Scrappy And Yabba-Doo Show; 8.25 Newsround; 8.30 Blue Peter; 9.00 Shirley Holmes; 9.25 Looney Tunes; 9.35 Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles; 10.00 Tweenies; 10.20 Ethelbert The Tiger; 10.40 Balamory; 11.00 FILM: One Good Turn (1931) Laurel and Hardy comedy; 11.20 The Witness; 11.30 The Daily Politics; 12.30 Working Lunch; 1.00 FILM: The Colossus Of Rhodes (1961) Historical drama, starring Rory Calhoun; 3.00 Big Strong Boys; 3.30 Animal Park; 4.30 Ready Steady Cook; 5.15 The Weakest Link  
6.00 The Simpsons. The family have biblical dreams.  
6.20 Three's A Crowd.  
6.50 Celebrity Relics.  
7.00 Two Men In A Trench. New series. Archaeologists Tony Pollard and Neil Oliver carry out detailed studies of British battlegrounds, beginning with a visit to Essex to uncover the lost site of RAF Hornchurch.  
8.00 Mastermind Celebrity Special. With Bill Oddie, Charlie Higson and Germaine Greer.  
8.30 Rick Stein's Food Heroes. The celebrated seafood chef tastes delicious Scottish prawns and learns of the dumping of prime monkfish off the Cornish coast.  
9.00 What The World Thinks Of God. Debate which brings together a host of international broadcasters and the results of a poll conducted across 10 countries to assess the relevance of religion in today's world.  
10.30 Newsnight  
11.20 The Passage  
12.20 FILM: The Price Of Kissing (1997). Premiere. Romantic drama, starring Pauley Perrette.  
1.50 Close  
2.00 BBC Learning Zone

### V

6.00 GMTV; 9.25 Trisha; 10.30 This Morning; 12.30 ITV Lunchtime News; 1.00 Today With Des And Mel; 2.00 Everything Must Go; Under The Hammer; 2.30 24 Hour Quiz; 3.00 Calendar News And Weather; It's Your Call; 3.15 Miffy And Friends; 3.25 Rosie And Jim; 3.35 The Adventures Of Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius; 4.00 The Adventures Of Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius; 4.30 Eliminator; 5.00 24 Hour Quiz  
6.00 Calendar: Weather  
6.30 ITV News: Weather  
7.00 Emmerdale. Dawn reacts angrily to the discovery that Terry has lost his job, and walks out on him.  
7.30 The Way We Were. Series using archive film and personal reminiscences to reveal how people's daily lives have changed over the past 100 years.  
8.00 The Bill. Smyth interferes in the budding romance between Kerry and Cameron, and a familiar face returns to Sun Hill.  
9.00 Wire In The Blood. A newly promoted Carol Jordan suspects a jailed gangster is passing orders to his underlings on the outside, directing them to commit murder - but her attempts to investigate lead to tragedy. Robson Green and Hermione Norris star.  
10.30 ITV News: Weather  
11.00 Club Reqs. Fed up with his team's performance, Ash decides to head-hunt rep Jonny Hormone.  
11.30 After They Were Famous. A chance to see what Tiswas presenter Sally James and Romanian gymnast Nadia Comaneci have got up to since withdrawing from the public eye.  
12.00 24 Hour Quiz; 12.55 Grounded For Life; 1.20 The District; 2.05 Forever; 3.00 Cybernet; 3.25 Today With Des And Mel; 4.15 ITV Nightscreen; 5.00 Jobfinder; 5.30 ITV News

### 4

6.00 Grabbit The Rabbit; 6.10 The Hoobs; 6.35 The Hoobs; 7.00 The Galton; 7.30 Friends; 8.00 Everybody Loves Raymond; 8.30 Bewitched; 9.00 Beaf The Nation; 9.30 4Learning; 12.00 News At Noon; 12.30 Grudge Match; 12.45 Cheers; 1.15 FILM: The Scarlet Blade (1963) Swashbuckler, starring Lionel Jeffries; 2.45 Beat The Nation; 3.15 Countdown; 4.00 Perfect Getaway; 4.30 Room For Improvement; 5.00 Richard & Judy. Entertainment show.  
6.00 The Salon. The latest from the hair and beauty studio.  
6.30 Hollyoaks. Lee discovers Lisa cheated on her essay and Ben is relieved to have Izzy back, although it soon becomes clear that everything is far from okay.  
7.00 Channel 4 News  
7.55 When I Came To Britain. Stories of Caribbean immigrants.  
8.00 A Place In The Sun. Amanda Lamb helps a Somerset couple find the perfect holiday home in romantic Venice, viewing a canal-side apartment, a Burano island home and a four-bedroom farmhouse.  
8.30 A Place In France: An Indian Summer. Nippi comes up with an advertising strategy.  
9.00 The Carrot Or The Stick. New series. Two teams of six men compete in a series of physical challenges. One group is rewarded for their efforts, while the other is punished - no matter what the outcome - but which technique will achieve better results?  
10.00 Father Ted. A raunchy novelist visits the island.  
10.35 Garth Merengi's Darkplace. A killer mist descends on Darkplace.  
11.10 Six Feet Under. Ruth gets a new live-in apprentice.  
12.20 NYPD Blue; 1.10 Skiing On 4; 3.10 KOTV; 3.35 Trans World Sport; 4.30 First Person; 5.00 The Wolfman; 5.05 Countdown; 5.55 Insektors

### five

6.00 Sunrise; 6.30 Jay Jay The Jet Plane; 6.55 Hi-5; 7.30 Franny's Feet; 7.45 Make Way For Noddy; 8.00 Bear In The Big Blue House; 8.30 Foote Polle Olie; 8.55 MechaNick; 9.05 Elmo's World; 9.20 Why?; 9.25 House Doctor; 10.00 The Wright Stuff; 11.00 The Terry And Gaby Show; 12.00 Five News At Noon; 12.30 Home And Away; 1.00 Family Affairs; 1.30 BrainTeaser; 2.35 The Streets Of San Francisco; 3.40 Live UEFA Cup Football. Valerenga v Newcastle United (Kick-off 4.00pm).  
6.00 Home And Away. Nick and Jade get a shot at the big time and Kit is rushed into hospital.  
6.30 Family Affairs. Melanie struggles to cope with Chrissy's lies and Marc's warnings to Cameron about Geri fall on deaf ears.  
7.00 Five News: Weather  
7.15 Hanging El Greco. First in a two-part documentary following preparations for the first-ever major British exhibition of the works of El Greco at London's National Gallery. Concludes tomorrow.  
7.45 Live UEFA Cup Football. Liverpool v Levski Sofia (Kick-off 8.00pm). John Barnes returns once again to present this evening's third-round first-leg match, where the hosts will want to keep a clean sheet to boost their chances of reaching the last 16.  
10.00 Back To Reality. Richard Bacon and Tess Day present the celebrity challenge, as the remaining contestants are whittled down.  
11.35 Murder Detectives. Documentary series revealing how forensic science has helped solve serious crimes.  
12.05 Jonathan Pearce's Football Night; 12.45 UEFA Cup Football; 2.20 UEFA Cup Football; 3.55 Dutch Football; 4.50 Argentinean Football Highlights; 5.35 European Drag Racing

## Need a band with **Soul?**

### 'The Papa Nappy Soul Revue'

9-piece soul band for hire, playing everything from the songs of the Blues Bros. and the Commitments to Aretha Franklin and Stevie Wonder.

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# What's on at the cinemas in Leeds

## STER CENTURY

The Light. Tel: 08702403696. £4.20 (with a valid NUS card). All day Tuesday = £3.50 for students

### Big Fish (PG)

Fri - Thurs: 12.10(Fri - Sun only), 15.10, 18.10 + 21.10

### Cheaper By The Dozen (PG)

Fri - Thurs: 11.45 (Fri - Sun only), 14.00, 16.15, 18.30, 20.45 + 23.00 (Fri + Sat only)

### Cold Mountain (15)

Fri - Thurs: 20.40

### Dickie Roberts: Former Child Star (12A)

Fri - Thurs: 11.30 (Fri - Sun only), 13.45, 16.00, 18.15, 20.30 + 22.45 (Fri + Sat only)

### Elephant (15)

Fri - Thurs: 15.50, 20.20 + 22.20 (Fri + Sat only)

### Girl With A Pearl Earring (12A)

Fri - Thurs: 11.20 (Fri - Sun only), 13.40 + 18.00 (not Mon or Tues)

### The Haunted Mansion (PG)

Fri - Thurs: 10.45 (Fri - Sun only), 11.15 (Fri - Sun only), 13.30, 15.45, 17.15, 18.00, 20.10 + 22.30 (Fri + Sat only)

### Looney Tunes: Back In Action (PG)

Fri - Thurs: 12.40, 14.40, 16.50 + 19.00

### Lord of The Rings: Return of The King (12A)

Fri - Thurs: 11.20 (Fri - Sun only), 15.40, 19.40

### Lost In Translation (15)

Fri - Thurs: 12.45, 15.15, 17.45 (not Tues or Weds), 20.15 (not Weds) + 22.50 (Fri + Sat only)

### Love Actually (15)

Fri - Thurs: 16.05 (not Thurs) + 20.55

### My Life Without Me (15)

Weds: 20.15

### Mystic River (15)

Tues + Thurs: 11.30

### Scary Movie 3 (15)

Fri - Thurs: 14.05 (not Thurs) + 18.55

## School Of Rock (PG)

Fri - Thurs: 12.30, 15.00, 17.30, 20.00, 21.00 + 22.40 (Fri + Sat only)

## Sex Lives of The Potato Men (18)

Fri - Thurs: 13.15, 15.15, 19.15, 21.15 + 23.15 (Fri + Sat only)

## Something's Gotta Give (12A)

Fri - Thurs: 11.50 (Fri - Sun only), 14.50, 17.50, 20.50

## Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles (PG)

Fri - Sun: 11.15

## Tooth (U)

Fri - Thurs: 11.40 (Fri - Sun only), 13.50, 16.10, 18.20

## WARNER VILLAGE

Kirkstall Road. Tel: 08702406020.

Adults = £5.50 (after 5) / £4.70 (before 5), Students = £4.10 (with a valid NUS)

### Big Fish (PG)

Fri - Thurs: 11.30 (Fri - Sun only), 14.30, 17.30 + 20.30

### Cheaper By The Dozen (PG)

Fri - Thurs: 10.10 (Fri - Sun only), 12.40, 15.10, 17.40 + 20.10

### Cold Mountain (15)

Fri - Thurs: 21.10

### Looney Tunes: Back In Action (PG)

Fri - Thurs: 10.50 (Fri - Sun only), 13.20, 15.50 + 18.20 (not Mon)

### Lord of the Rings - Return of The King (12A)

Fri - Thurs: 11.20 (Fri - Sun only), 15.30 + 19.50

### Lost In Translation (15)

Fri - Thurs: 20.50 + 23.15 (Fri + Sat only)

### Love Actually (15)

Fri + Sat: 22.40

## Paycheck (12A)

Fri + Sat: 23.55

## Peter Pan (PG)

Fri - Sun: 11.50

## Scary Movie 3 (15)

Fri - Thurs: 16.20, 19.10 (not Weds), 21.20 + 23.30 (Fri + Sat only)

## School Of Rock (PG)

Fri - Sun: 09.45 + 12.15

Fri - Thurs: 14.45, 17.20, 20.00 + 22.50 (Fri + Sat only)

## Sex Lives of The Potato Men (18)

Fri - Thurs: 10.20 (Fri + Sat only), 12.30 (Fri - Sun only), 14.40, 16.50, 19.15, 21.30 + 23.50 (Fri + Sat only)

## Some Things Gotta Give (12A)

Fri - Thurs: 15.00, 17.50, 20.40 + 23.45 (Fri + Sat only)

## The Haunted Mansion (PG)

Fri - Sun: 10.00 + 12.10

Fri - Thurs: 14.20, 16.40 + 19.00

## The Last Samurai (15)

Fri + Sat: 23.20

## Tooth (U)

Fri - Sun: 09.45 + 11.55

Fri - Thurs: 14.05

## HYDE PARK PICTURE HOUSE

Brudenell Road. Tel: 01132752045.

Adults = £4, Students = £3.50 (with a valid NUS card)

## Dancer in the Dark (15)

Thurs: 18.30

## Dr Who And The Daleks/Daleks Invasion

Earth 2150AD (PG)

Fri + Sat: 11.30 and Sun: 15.00

## Elf (PG)

Sat: 12.00

## Lord of the Rings: Return of the King (12A)

Fri: 14.00

## S21: The Khmer Rouge Killing Machine (15)

Weds: 18.30

## The Dreamers (18)

Fri - Thurs: 21.00 (not Mon)

Mon: 22.00

## The Public Enemy (PG)

Mon: 18.30

## Tokyo Story (U)

Fri, Sat, Sun + Tues: 18.30

Mon: 20.00

Weds + Thurs: 16.30

## THE LOUNGE

North Lane. Tel: 01132752001.

£4.50 / £3.50 (with a valid NUS card)

## Something's Gotta Give (12A)

Fri - Thurs: 20.00

## COTTAGE ROAD

Cottage Road. Tel: 08456441693.

£4.50 / £3.50 (with a valid NUS card)

## Lost in Translation (15)

Fri - Thurs: 20.00

## The Haunted Mansion (PG)

Fri - Thurs: 17.40

How well can you get to know someone in just 3 minutes?



## SPEED DATING II

Back by popular demand speed dating is returning on:

Thurs 26th February & Tues 2nd March

8pm. Bar Coda. £5.

Advanced tickets only on sale in RAG office from Feb 9th

## CHARITY HITCH TO DUBLIN

26TH - 29TH FEBRUARY IN AID OF MIND AND PENNINGTON PLACE

Hitch Hike to Dublin for free\*

You can sign up in the R.A.G. Office (upstairs in the union) at any time all week

\*Trip is free including return transport and accommodation on raising sufficient funds for charity



## CHARITY FIREWALK

Wednesday 3rd March 2004 Have You Got What It Takes?

RECRUITING NOW!

email: rag@luu.leeds.ac.uk or come to the RAG office in the union for details



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To join us, you'll demonstrate a hard-working and ambitious approach to work, be able to communicate confidently at all levels and have the flexibility to adapt to a whole new environment. Plus, you'll be working towards a logistics, management or retail degree.

We'll be expecting real commitment throughout the year, but in return you'll receive a competitive salary and excellent benefits. You could also find yourself joining us permanently once you've graduated and working towards your first management position.

So don't be a wash out. If you're looking for the ideal start to your career, here's the chance to immerse yourself in a placement that could see you really cleaning up. To apply, send your CV and covering letter to Sarah Dewsnip, ASDA House, Great Wilson Street, Leeds LS11 5AD. For further information please contact Steven Jones on 0113 243 5435.

Alternatively contact your Industrial Placement Officer or visit [www.asdaip.co.uk](http://www.asdaip.co.uk)  
[www.asda.com](http://www.asda.com)



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# ighbour



The wall: Stands where a Palestinian market used to be

helped a neighbouring Arab village lobby the government when the wall's path was originally planned to cut deep into their farming land. It worked and the wall was re-routed by one kilometre.

That's other key undertone in Israel. For all the right-wing political rhetoric, there are Israelis and Palestinians alike who are working tirelessly to promote the notion of peace. After all, what will be left if the current wave of violence continues? Conflict resolution and dialogue have to be the only tangible solutions left.

I spoke to Professor Sari Nusseibeh in the American Colony hotel in East Jerusalem. He confirmed the immense difficulties facing conflict resolution in the near future. As co-author of the 'People's Voice', an unofficial peace plan initiative, the Harvard-educated Palestinian academic recognised the need for positive dialogue between the two sides: "We are trying to go round soliciting the support of the people and, more importantly, influence the decision makers at the top here and internationally."

In partnership with Ami Ayalon, a former Israeli Intelligence Director, the 'People's Voice' attempts to address peace from the ground up. It hopes to secure a million Israeli and Palestinian signatures. "A million signatures that cannot be ignored, if one day we reach the point where we have one million people on both sides, at that point if Ayalon goes to Mr Sharon and says that not only half a million Israelis want you to do this but half a million Palestinians, this will create a lot of pressure on Sharon to adopt this policy or to make him answerable to his constituency and to the Israeli people in a democratic fashion for not responding to this campaign."

Nusseibeh did acknowledge the differing factors aligning Ami Ayalon to the project: "He does not sympathise with us. He does not

think we have rights. He was a soldier and has no sense of hardship or a sense of respect for national rights. Rather, he predicated his whole thinking in the principle of the need to protect Israel from what might happen. He has come to the conclusion that the Palestinian issues are only solved through the preservation of the Jewish nature of the state and the demographic threat. I do not need Israelis to sympathise with me and recognise my rights."

**T**he plight of Palestinians scattered in refugee camps in neighbouring Arab states is a controversial subject that splits the Arab world. As Nusseibeh candidly points out, "they live in dirt and filth and there are 18 different jobs that they are prevented from being able to do by the law. The discrimination against the Palestinians by Israelis, however bad it can get, can never equal the discrimination by one Arab against another. And the discrimination that exists in Lebanon I think is horrible." The world, and not just the state of Israel, has let the Palestinians down.

**For all the right-wing political rhetoric, there are Israelis and Palestinians alike who are working to promote peace**

Palestinians don't have the same political, economic or social rights as Israelis. Israelis believe passionately in their right to protest and openly criticise their government, a luxury not afforded their Palestinian neighbours. Khaled Abu Toumeah, a Palestinian journalist confirms "There is no freedom in the Palestinian media and the press is pro-Arafat. The entire Arab world is like that. The PLO belongs to a generation that doesn't believe in transparency." Israelis need to acknowledge the upper hand they have and the luxuries that go with it before they can promote the concept of a peaceful future.

Israelis can't continue living with the fear of violence that is so evident when you visit. But Palestinians shouldn't live in the state of poverty that many of them do or experience the daily humiliation of border crossings. For now, the cycle of violence continues.

I awoke to find a suicide bomb has exploded near Sharon's residence in Jerusalem and wonder how many families are mourning today.

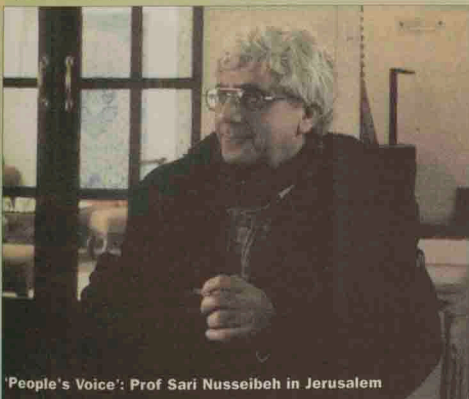
## A quick breakdown.....

**PLO**-Palestinian Liberation Organisation

**Likud**-An Israeli political party, usually right-wing in perspective & the party of the current PM

**Kibbutz**-A co-operative Jewish commune

**IDF**-Israeli Defence Force



'People's Voice': Prof Sari Nusseibeh in Jerusalem



Old Jerusalem: The holiest square kilometre in the world

All photos: Najette Ayadi O'Donnell

NUS Annual Conference Elections 2004 : Candidate Details  
 Manifestos available at [www.luvonline.com/nus](http://www.luvonline.com/nus)

1) Gemma Farshi



2) Abigail Finley



3) Alan Glenville



4) Lucy Glynn



5) Alastair Gunn



6) Emma Hoddinott



7) Naomi Ifield



8) Jonathan Joseph



9) Judith Kaplan



10) Sam Keyes



11) Natalie Kirby



12) Jardena Lande



13) Ashley Lerner



14) Victoria Loveseed



15) Chloe Malendewicz



16) Joanne Millet



17) Rachel Nagus



18) Sarah Nysenbaum



19) Michael O Carroll



20) Leyla Okhai



21) Claire Prince



22) R.O.N



23) Louise Reynolds



24) Harry Robbins

**No Picture Available**

25) Katie Russell



26) Amy Sampson



27) Jason Sender



28) Alan Sendorek



29) Daniella Shaw



30) Samantha Shaw



31) Gareth Smith



32) Jack Tinley



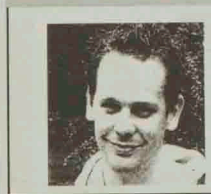
33) Jennifer Wilkinson



34) Tom Wong



35) Simon Young



36) Yonni Abramson



37) Norazhar Abu Baker



38) Rebecca Allen



39) Andrew Avery



40) Benjamin Black



41) James Blake



42) Vikki Burdess



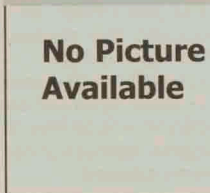
43) James Clegg



44) Ruqayyah Collector



45) Simon Daniels



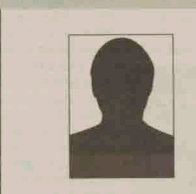
46) Martin Dubois



Who's R.O.N? Poor R.O.N or Re-Open Nominations, you'll see him in every election. Basically vote for R.O.N if you think that none of the candidates represent you.

NUS Women's Conference  
Elections Candidate Details  
Manifestos available at  
[www.luuonline.com/nus](http://www.luuonline.com/nus)

1) R.O.N



2) Katie Russell



Want to take part in one of your Unions most important events of the year? Its easy, take your University Student Card to one of the Ballot Stations. In return you will be given a Ballot paper listing all the candidates. Read through the candidates manifesto's and see which candidate best represents you. Put a 'one' next to your first choice and a 'two' next to your second choice and so on.

Ballot Station locations are: Union Foyer, Bretton Hall Campus, Edward Boyle Library and Parkinson Court. All Ballot Stations will open at 5pm Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February, and close at 5pm Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February.

If you have any more questions regarding these elections please contact:  
[nuselections@luu.leeds.ac.uk](mailto:nuselections@luu.leeds.ac.uk)



**But don't forget to use your vote!**

# Cabin Fever..!

The 'war on terror' has led many to question America as a travel destination. But **Joanna Dunbar** discovered another side altogether when she spent a summer visiting one of Michigan's best-kept secrets

**\* Our 'Free Tibet' article (Jan 30) caused offence to many Chinese students. The article reflected an extremely partisan view from an individual who fled Tibet in the 1950s. In retrospect, the choice of pull-out quote was unacceptably inflammatory. Both Leeds Student and the Editor would like to apologise sincerely for any distress caused.**

Last summer I spent 10 weeks in America, more specifically in Lawrence, Michigan as a summer camp counsellor at 'Michigan's best kept secret' - Camp Cedar Lodge. After 24 hours of travelling and the obligatory bout of jet lag, the overwhelming enthusiasm and downright saccharine attitudes that greeted me - not to mention the incredibly rural location of the

**I was then bound for the American Embassy in London to stand in a very long queue before assuring the authorities that I wasn't a terrorist**

camp - prompted me to feel slightly apprehensive, and forced me to ponder whether I would manage to survive the summer.

However, I didn't really get another chance to think of home because I was soon thrown into a whirlwind of staff orientation, first aid training, swimming tests (red tag - advanced), camp procedures and doing what I had been employed for: teaching drama five hours a day. In addition to teaching I was also a cabin counsellor living in 'Penguin Palace', a wooden cabin without electricity, with eight 11-year-old girls to take under my wing each week.

When I was deliberating over what to do with one of my last summers of absolute freedom and irresponsibility I realised that another holiday stuck behind the counter of my village post office or arguing with my brother over the use of the car wouldn't be spectacularly memorable. One of my friends put me in touch with Camp Leaders In America (an organisation much like Camp America or Bunac, though smaller) and soon enough I'd made it through the two interview stages, a police check (phew) and had chosen drama as my specialist area as a counsellor. The next step was being placed at a camp, another telephone interview followed and then I was bound for the American embassy in London to stand in a very long queue, assure the authorities that I wasn't a terrorist and obtain a visa.

Cedar Lodge recruits staff from all over the world, in addition to myself and Michelle, the only British employees, there were staff from Germany, Holland, New Zealand, Canada and the obligatory couple of Americans. I'd expected a lot of cliques within the staff but we managed a great team effort and without sounding too Dawson's Creek I made some friends that I hope to stay in touch with for a long time to come. Add that to the fact that with only 15 staff to 60 kids we were always knackered and



Camp Cedar Lodge, Michigan

it made sense to be everyone's friend (especially if they could drive or were over 21).

Despite having visited the USA previously the camp experience opened my eyes to whole new aspects of American culture and quashed a few urban myths I possessed about Americans. Working in the open air everyday was a healthy ten weeks, a useful way to get a tan and made me appreciate the rural location of camp...and I also valued re-visiting civilisation on my days off! I enjoyed being closer to nature than normal although I don't miss sharing a shower with frogs or spotting snakes in the grass on the daily basis.

Cedar Lodge own about 40 horses, its primary role as a stables and riding camp. Before June I had never even been on horseback but before the summer was out I had graduated to the dizzy heights of 'two-point' and I even managed a small jump. As the camp's drama counsellor, I put on two plays and it was incredibly rewarding to see your own hard work in action. I'd been forewarned by a friend that being British usually guarantees a bit of celebrity status among the campers - I lost count of the number of times I was questioned about the queen or Harry Potter or both - not just by the kids.

Of course, there was the natural assumption that being English meant I had never heard of the internet and still wrote with a quill. The nightmare brats American children are normally portrayed as weren't really a feature, though several little darlings have left their imprint on my mind, especially the girl in my cabin who brought a dead cat with her to camp. Most of the campers were amazingly enthusiastic and energetic, not to mention loud, and it was great to be teaching such eager and excitable kids.

As with most organisations, CLIA include in your contract and visa application the opportunity to travel in the US when camp ends. After befriending two of the few Americans I spent a couple of weeks staying with them, doing what I hadn't all summer, and blowing my meagre

**Several little darlings have left their imprint on my mind - especially the girl in my cabin who brought a dead cat with her to camp**

wage packet in the process. Unfortunately a few crossed wires between Camp Leaders In America and their recruits meant I spent half my salary for a new flight in order to get home: the only bleak aspect of my trip.

Though I wasn't in America too long after camp ended I visited several other states, experienced American 'college' life and had access to air conditioning, TV and real beds - which was a cause of great excitement.

Although I visited another country and worked like a trooper for nearly 3 months there was no sense of financial reward. I had a lot of fun, made some great friends and learnt some valuable lessons about myself in the process. Some memories stand out more than others: for example an evening spent dressed in camouflage gear sitting deep in the woods with another counsellor, hiding from all the children whilst being bitten by mosquitoes and simultaneously making noises like a parrot and an elephant is surely something I would never do of an evening in Hyde Park without disastrous results. Nor is dressing up in a bear suit and devising a song and dance routine to entertain the campers. While sober. Again, resisting the temptation to sound like a character from an American teen sitcom, money is not an incentive for this summer job. Instead, I left the USA with some great memories, a vast collection of photos to bore my housemates with and waist deep in debt...but what's new there?

For more info, check out these URLs:  
[www.clia.co.uk](http://www.clia.co.uk)  
[www.cedarlodge.com](http://www.cedarlodge.com)

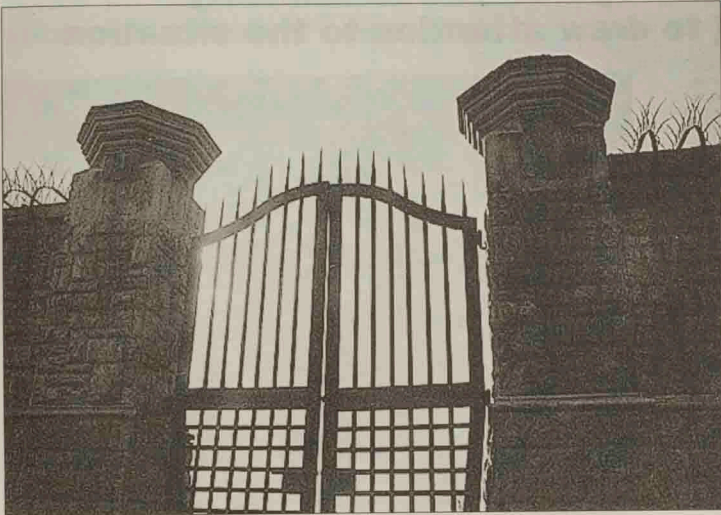


Jo and her 'Camp America' co-workers



# Carr Trouble

The Soham murders shocked and appalled the nation. However, as **Jo Shipley** explains, Maxine Carr has become the victim of an image-obsessed government



Carr may stay in prison due to public outrage

On the 12th of February it was announced that Maxine Carr has been denied the chance of early release under the Home Detention Curfew (HDC) scheme. The scheme, which came into power on 1 January 1999, "provides a power to allow selected short term prisoners to spend up to the last two months of their custodial sentence subject to an electronically-monitored curfew of at least nine hours per day". The scheme is open only to those serving sentences of between 3 months and 4 years and does not apply to those who have committed crimes of a serious sexual or violent nature, those under 18, those facing deportation or awaiting mental health checks, or who have broken the conditions of previous HDC sentences.

The scheme has worked with relative success and, in the five years of being law, 86,000 prisoners have been released under its conditions. Normally these involve the prisoner wearing an electronic tag which will trigger an alarm if they leave their home during the curfew hours, typically between 7am and 7pm. It serves the purpose of freeing up much needed prison cells, and eases the transition between custody and community, bringing benefits to both the prisoner and the community they are a part of.

Section 99-100 of the Crime and Disorder Act has undergone several amendments since its original form passed in 1999,

including, for instance, the time available to spend under HDC conditions increasing from two months to four. However, it is a recent amendment that is the cause of so much concern. In January 2004, with the threat of Carr applying for early release under the HDC, the government suddenly passed changes. Paul Goggins, the Parliamentary Under Secretary for the Home Department, was quoted as saying "public confidence in the scheme is essential". Consequently, the previous determinants of whether a prisoner qualifies for the HDC have been extended to recognise "exceptional cases". In these cases the prisoner can apply but the decision will be made by the Chief Executive of the National Offender Management Service, who will rule in keeping not necessarily with merit but with how it will affect public confidence in the scheme.

**We have to consider whether Carr's rights as a prisoner are infringed upon by a government not wishing to face criticism**

Politically this must surely be recognised as problematic. In the case of Carr, Martin Narey refused her application on two grounds, firstly because of concerns for her security regarding the address she wished to live at, and secondly because it would have negative implications for public confidence. It would be interesting to speculate whether she would be granted HDC status if she reviewed her desired location. We have to consider whether Carr's rights as a prisoner are being infringed upon by a government not wishing to face criticism regarding one of its laws. Is the independent judicial system, a distinct branch of power, coming under threat from an executive determined to protect laws at any expense? Under the previous conditions Carr would have been granted HDC status. In all probability this would have sparked mass public outrage and the law would have had to undergo revision as a result. The government have managed to side-step this outrage, but at the expense of Carr's previously asserted right.

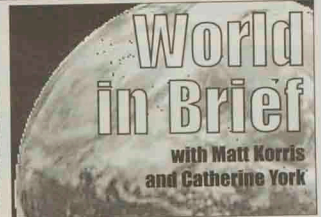
Are there not problems with a government that will avoid public scrutiny by sacrificing the rights of an individual? Additionally we must also recognise that by needing to change so drastically five years after its conception, the original law was ill thought out. It had no provisions to deal with high-profile prisoners and instead has fallen victim to quick-fix solutions. How can this inspire

the confidence so desperately sought after? Indeed, perhaps confidence is not what should be desired, rather an increased focus on creating a scheme which can practically handle the myriad of different circumstances that accompany different prisoners. It cannot be fair to set the goalposts at a certain place and then move them back when you dislike the person set to score. Carr did not commit a crime of a serious sexual or violent nature. She is not under 18. She is not facing deportation or the result of a mental health check. She has not broken the conditions of a previous HDC order and she is a short term prisoner. Carr and the qualifications match. This can only be attributed to a law that fails to factor in certain elements. We need to ask whether, as the electorate, we are happy with these quick changes that have been rushed through, or whether we would prefer legislation that has undergone the correct level of debate and scrutiny?

**It cannot be fair to set the goalposts at a certain place and then move them back when you dislike the person set to score**

I have not tried to argue whether Carr deserved to be released so soon after her crime, rather I have asserted that until recently she would have qualified to do so. Laws that are altered to suit a specific crime after it has happened surely lack the legitimacy of laws created to fit all crimes irrespective of person, time or space. Goggins was quoted as saying "a recent case has highlighted the fact that there will be exceptional cases". This case specific action surely marks a sad departure for British justice.

**"It is not something that can be transported or exported"**



## Embargo

The March edition of US monthly Men's Journal has this week published its annual list of the '25 Toughest Guys in America'. Not so controversial, apart from including Hillary 'obviously-not-a-guy' Clinton at number 25, only slightly behind Donald Rumsfeld and 50 Cent. Despite being the first woman on the list, Senior Editor Tom Foster insists her inclusion is a 'compliment'; however the US Senator's Office apparently isn't returning calls.

## Toilet Humour

A high school in America has sparked anger after it decided to ration toilet breaks for the students. Each schoolchild will be allocated 15 "bathroom credits" per month, making you wonder what will happen to kids who don't plan their liquid intake and those with less than advanced bladder control. In the face of criticism, the Head teacher simply believes it is because "kids don't want rules". Alternatively it might be because they were potty trained at the age of two...

## Brooding a new line of PG Tips chips perhaps?

Moscow zoo keepers are fitting televisions in the cages of the gorillas, supposedly to make them "think more" and "spend less time picking their noses". Considering the stultifying effect watching TV all day has on human beings it does not seem the most obvious plan. Perhaps this is some reflection on the quality of television production that it is only fit for the consumption of the zoo population.

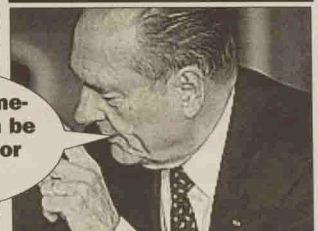
## How to bring the viewers flooding back to BBC Sport on a Sunday...

Eighty-four skiers from six countries swapped bulky ski gear for g-strings and bikinis in Austria's first 'Nude Ski Race', the authorities having demanded that no one actually raced naked. Braving temperatures of -2°C the competitors were asked to perform two jumps and a five-point pirouette at the end of the race. Considering it brought in a crowd of 2,000 on the day, could this be the way to revitalise Ski Sunday?

## Book of a Claim Against Jackson's Cleavage

An American bank clerk filed a million dollar law suit against Janet Jackson, Justin Timberlake, CBS, MTV and Viacom for their infamous breast bearing stunt at the beginning of the month only to withdraw it again a few days ago. Terri Carlin, 47, alleged that the "sexually explicit acts" were "solely designed to garner publicity and, ultimately, to increase profits" for all involved. The reason for her change of heart? A realisation that she could only receive a "nominal" award due to the number of potential claimants. The words pot, kettle and black spring to mind.

## Quote of the Week



The Franco-German relationship not open to outsiders

# Lost without trace?

**The 'people's war' in Nepal has led to human rights violations and 'disappearances'. Eleanor Brown reports on how Amnesty International are campaigning to draw attention to the situation**

First let me introduce the stereotypical Nepal, a country filled with hippy trails, monks, yetis and temples perched on snowy hilltops. Many people know little about Nepal, the landlocked country in Asia. It is a developing country, one of the poorest in the world and relies heavily on its agricultural economy. Nepal is commonly thought of as a popular destination for tourists, who visit attractions such as Mount Everest in the Himalayas. Travellers enjoy trekking across the spectacular mountainous landscape. In contrast with this beautiful scenery is the ugliness of civil war, loss of life, violence and torture, all of which are prevalent in Nepal.

## THE 'PEOPLE'S WAR'

In 1996, the 'people's war' against the monarchy was launched by the Communist Party of Nepal (CPN), otherwise known as Maoists. Since the beginning of this terrible civil war, 8,000 people have been killed. The issue at the heart of the dispute is the role of Nepal's constitutional monarchy. On one side is the government and on the other is the Maoist rebels, who want to form a communist state. Horrific human rights violations have been committed by both sides throughout the duration of the 'people's war.' Of particular concern is the massive number of 'disappearances.' Amnesty International considers that a 'disappearance' has occurred when "there are reasonable grounds to believe that a person has been taken into custody by state agents, yet the authorities deny the victim is held, thus concealing the victim's whereabouts and fate." The uncertainty surrounding disappearances causes a lot of grief for the victim's families, who are unable to go through the bereavement process.

A ceasefire was announced in January 2003, but it broke down seven months later. Since then, fighting has resumed throughout the country and there has been a dramatic increase in the amount of extrajudicial executions, disappearances, torture and arbitrary detention.

## 'DISAPPEARANCES'

Two specific cases illustrate how the possible disappearance or arbitrary detention of three men has occurred at the hands of the Nepalese security forces.

The first case is the 'disappearance' of the lawyer Basu Dev Sigdel (38). On January 22 he was arrested whilst at work in Kathmandu by three men claiming to be from the security forces. These men took his mobile phone and promised to return him very soon, but by

January 23 there was still no sign of him.

The second case is the arbitrary detention of the brothers Rakesh and Durga Prasai, both of whom run a furniture business. On January 24 army personnel in uniform came to the furniture showroom looking for Durga. As he was not there, they took his brother away and told staff that they would not set Rakesh free until Durga had been handed over to them. Later, after Durga had returned to the showroom and heard the news, he went straight to the army barracks with a relative. Here, he asked officials about his brother, but they detained him too, without giving any reason.

The families of Basu Dev Sigdel and Rakesh and Durga Prasai are very concerned for their safety, especially as there is the possibility that they are being tortured. The whereabouts of the three detained men remain unknown and the uncertainty surrounding these disappearances makes it very difficult for relatives to cope with.

**All around the world people are suffering shocking human right violations such as abuse and torture. The situation in Nepal is just one example**

## PROTECTING HUMAN RIGHTS

Switch on your TV or open your newspaper today and you will be bombarded with bad news. All around the world people are suffering shocking human right violations such as abuse and torture. The situation in Nepal is just one example.

Amnesty International (AI) campaigns to protect human rights. This organisation receives worldwide support and has about one million members. AI is a voluntary movement independent of any government, political ideology or religious creed. AI is based on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), which was set up after the Second World War to prevent crimes against humanity from ever happening again. AI does have a collection of permanent staff, but without the support from volunteer members and local groups, the organisation would not be able to achieve such great success. Local groups campaign in a variety of ways, mainly by raising awareness, letter writing, lobbying MPs and fundraising.

It is hard to document, but there are successes. In the Nepalese example, AI has issued Urgent Actions covering 90 individual cases. So far 17 people have been released.



Bodies of the victims of the massacre in Ramechhap, Nepal  
Copyright The National Human Rights Committee, Nepal, used with permission from Amnesty International

**The LUU Amnesty International group meets every other Wednesday at 5pm in Room 5 of the Arc. The next meeting is on 3<sup>rd</sup> March, so if you want to get involved, come along! Meetings are friendly and informal and involve lively discussion. To**

**become a member of the Leeds University Amnesty International group, email [amnesty1234@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:amnesty1234@yahoo.co.uk). To find more information about Amnesty International and its campaigns visit its website at <http://www.amnesty.org/>**

**In contrast with the beautiful scenery is the ugliness of civil war, loss of life, violence and torture, all of which are prevalent in Nepal**

# Stop, look, listen

**ChildLine is looking to recruit new counsellors from colleges in Leeds. If you have four hours a week to spare, and are interested, you could be awarded a space on the free training scheme. Sarah Bebbington writes about her experience as a volunteer counsellor**

If I'd have known four years ago that after this long at uni I still would't actually know that much about anything, I think I might have been disappointed. I can't remember a single module title from my first year, let alone anything about any of the writers I studied. English, without a doubt, is the subject for those who like books and stuff, but aren't necessarily bothered with gaining any employment skills.

By the time my third year rolled around and the old people that were knocking around my parents' house started to ask me what I wanted to do after uni, my incoherent answers signified to me that maybe I ought to start thinking about what I wanted to be when I grew up. I knew a bit about ChildLine and was curious about what it would take to be a telephone counsellor.

**The people who work at Childline come from many professions and age-brackets**

I went along to a couple of informal meetings, both for my own benefit and for the organisation's, and before I knew it I was sitting around in a circle with 12 other strangers, all of whom I have no doubt felt as out of their depth as me. It was one of those name-tag situations where you have to constantly laugh politely about nothing at all, all the while loathing your own inanity.

However, things quickly changed. The counsellors that were training us knew that if we were to be accepted by ChildLine, there was no room for guardedness, defence or affectation. From the very outset we weren't allowed

to present anything but the truth to the group, and if we tried to hide anything, we were quickly found out. It sounds scary, but it was strangely refreshing. The trainers were highly qualified individuals who could quickly read our body-language and non-verbal communication, though for a while I secretly believed they had esp.

I learnt an amazing amount in the short time it takes to train. We covered a whole spectrum of fascinating, critical and daunting issues. As well as learning fundamental counselling skills, we covered bullying, emotional, physical and sexual abuse, prejudice, suicide, depression, bereavement, sexuality and much, much more. This is far from an exhaustive list of some of the issues we come up against at ChildLine. But what I learnt in those few weeks is a mere fraction of what I have discovered since, and am still discovering every shift.

**Working at ChildLine is probably the hardest thing I've ever done. But it's also my proudest achievement**

The main thing however, that keeps me going to ChildLine week after week, (apart from the plentitude of free tea, coffee, cakes and sandwiches) is the people that work there. Surprisingly enough, they're actually not all airy-fairy lovey-dovey types who obsessively grope one another and call each other 'babe' and 'hun' all day. The people who work at ChildLine come from many professions, back-grounds and age-brackets. Most importantly however, everyone at ChildLine genuinely looks out for one another. The atmosphere is one that is surprisingly light-hearted and



joyful. Despite all my preconceptions, the counselling room is actually an enjoyable place to be. This is not something I can explain easily, and can really only be understood by visiting it for yourself.

Every call I take is a challenge, but that's part of being a counsellor. Each volunteer is different, and there's no one way to deal with any one situation. One of the hardest things to deal with is the realisation that often I won't know how my work has helped the caller and, more, importantly that there are many situations that I am powerless to solve. Training, however, teaches us how to deal with these feelings, and the supervisors ensure that we are never alone with any situa-

tion. ChildLine simply would not work without the powerful support network on which it runs. The job is an immensely challenging one; it is probably been one of the hardest things I have ever done. But it is also one of my proudest achievements.

It's very difficult for me to put into words exactly how much I have gained from ChildLine. And I've got something amazing to put on my c.v. Boss-types love that voluntary crap. Don't take my word for it, if you've read this much of the article, you must be interested. So go along to one of the volunteer information meetings and find out for yourself.

**Last year there were 391,790 calls to the Leeds base alone. 40% of them were answered.**

**On an average day 520 children call the Leeds base. 279 of those get through.**

**19% of counselling contacts with children and young people were male. 81% were female.**

**Last year Leeds students raised £1,500 for ChildLine through the R.A.G. hitch-hike and a fancy dress pub crawl**



## CHILDLINE EVENTS:

**Free Salsa Party!**  
25th March @ The Atrium

## VOLUNTEER MEETINGS:

**Leeds University:**  
Mon 23rd Feb, 1pm @ Meeting Room 1 (in the ARC in the Union)

**Leeds Metropolitan University:**  
Thurs 26th Feb, 1pm @ LMUSU Meeting Room

**ChildLine Leeds Base:**  
Wed 10th March, 6pm  
phone 0113 244 4004 for more information

## Ask Lyn...



Dear Lyn,

My boyfriend's never there for me. In fact he's never there at all. He's imaginary. I made him up. You see, I'm a closet cheerleader. I turn up to practices, but in an effort to hide my shameful hobby from my hallmates, I told them that the sparkly leotard and miniskirt combination they caught me wearing one evening was all for my boyfriend, who was even at that moment waiting in my room in a posture of reclined arousal. It worked, and soon I was rebuffing the advances of every dribbling Creation ineptly drawn to my toned physique and generous but pert frontage with the stern warning that Barnabus (for so I called my fictional lover) would be back from the bar any second. Barney was the best boyfriend I ever had - until one day the arguments started. His sexual inattentiveness means I always have to do the hard work myself. It leaves a hole in my sex life that not even the most dextrous baton-twirling can fill. And now I've got a lot of Uni sports teams to work my nubile way through but I don't want to break poor Barney's heart. Can you help?

Glittering Angel, Hyde Park

Dear Glittering Angel,

My, my, you poor horny little lamb. Para-sexual Pinnocchio syndrome is a truly frightful condition. But never fear, because Lynnie's here with a warm mug of milk, and a big roast chook that's just waiting to fill that gaping hole in your life. Here in Erinsborough, we have a little saying that if you don't want to do it yourself, and no one else will, use the nearest available object. In your case, I reckon you shouldn't underestimate the power of that long, shiny baton if your Barney can't oblige. Having said that, we have another saying which goes, never cuckold your man with a stick, and another which says, three chooks in the dunny, Nana's funny, so maybe you shouldn't adhere to them blindly. If Joe refused to strum on my banjo, let me tell you that I'd be straight round the Kennedys' for a little private appointment if you know what I mean. My advice to you is forget Barney and open your legs to some new experiences.

Sloppy kisses and comforting hugs,  
Lyn x

## \*\*\*LEEDS STUDENT - INTERNAL EDITOR ELECTIONS\*\*\*

Nominations for internal Editor elections should now be in. Anybody else wishing to stand must see the Editor as soon as possible. Election speeches and questions from the floor will take place next FRIDAY, FEB 27, at 4pm in MEETING ROOM 3 of the ARC. Anybody wishing to vote must have contributed directly to six or more issues since September 2003. Any further questions to the Editor.

## All Things Bright and Beautiful

by Hannah Thomas-Peter

## 1: The Rugger

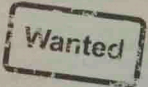
"Hawhawhaw" Henry guffawed, snorting into his pint in the Oak room after a jolly good thrashing on the pitch. Rugby has always been his first passion, he's a real man's man you see. According to Henry you can't get better banter than in the changing room with fellow players. 'The chat' he informs us, 'is awesome'.

His affair with the game started at boarding school, where the sports master recognised his, erm, enthusiasm. Since then, Henry, or 'Freak' as the ruggers call him due to two extra nipples, has gone from strength to strength. He even, as he is fond of telling everyone, played for the year above him as well as captaining the tour side on a £6000 pound tour to South Africa. They were beaten half to death by farm boys and hijacked in the bus on the way home but 'it was a good crack anyway' smiles a jubilant Henry.

Now, standing at the bar on a near broken ankle, Freak is eagerly downing pints though his sock in order to impress the old boys, thinking that he couldn't ask for

much more fun than this. Later stints on the dance floor at Creation are hindered by a brief vomiting through the nose session but it was still, according to our man, 'the best night ever'.

Although a mere junior in the club, Henry longs to be on the committee. Maybe, dare he say it, even as captain. Oh the glory of being leader of the first XV...the camaraderie...the respect...the ladies... 'Henry you little fucker' shouts a bully from school that unfortunately went to Leeds and happens to be the real captain, 'come over here and drink a pint of my piss.' The cheer goes up from the boys as Henry eagerly obeys, safe in the knowledge that this is all part of the fun.



## Do you fit the profile?



"Would you like to be part of the most important Union event of the year? That's right, Sabbatical election fever is about to hit YOUR Union and you can take part"

## And now for the science.

- 1) Any student can stand for any of the Sabbatical posts.
- 2) You will be responsible for overseeing an organisation with a gross annual turnover of £8 million.
- 3) You will receive 25 days holiday, plus Bank Holidays.
- 4) You will receive excellent continual training, so you are not dropped in at the deep end.
- 5) Only current students can apply.
- 6) It is not only fun and rewarding; it is also a career enhancing opportunity.
- 7) You will receive a competitive graduate salary.
- 8) It is a once in a lifetime opportunity!

## You can choose from any of the following posts:

Education Officer, Communication Officer, Women's Officer, Finance and Commercial Services Officer, Welfare Officer, Sports Officer, Societies Officer, Bretton Hall Officer, Student Community Action Co-ordinator, R.A.G Co-ordinator, LSRfm Co-ordinator, Leeds Student Co-ordinator and Nightline Co-ordinator.

All YOU have to do is pick up a nomination form from YOUR Union - see the LUU website or visit the LUU Reception desk. Nomination forms are available from the **2nd March 2004**, make sure you complete and submit your form by **5pm** on the **9th March 2004**. It's as easy as that. What are you still doing sitting there, go on get a nomination form!

Visit the LUU website for information about the election and current job descriptions of all Sabbatical posts. The posts as listed above are correct on date published.

[www.luuonline.com/elections](http://www.luuonline.com/elections)





# Knockout News

## WEEKEND FOOTBALL FIXTURES

All games kick-off at 3pm unless stated

Friday February 20

Nationwide League Division 2  
Hartlepool v Blackpool (7.45);  
QPR v Posh (7.45)

Saturday February 21

Barclaycard Premiership  
Bolton v Man. City; Chelsea v Arsenal (12.30);  
Charlton v Blackburn; Man U v Leeds (12.30);  
N'castle v M'boro; Soton v Everton; Wolves v Fulham

Nationwide League Division 1

Bradford v Crewe; Burnley v Ipswich; Cardiff v S'land; Derby v C. Palace; Gill'ham v R'ding; Norwich v W. Ham  
Preston v Millwall; Roth'ham v Forest  
Sheff. Utd v W. Brom; Stoke v Wigan;  
Walsall v Watford; W'don v Coventry

Nationwide League Division 2

Barnsley v Wycombe; Brighton v Bournemouth; Bristol C v Wrexham;  
Colchester v Wycombe; Luton v B'ford  
Notts County v Stockport; Oldham v T'mere; Plymouth v P. Vale;  
Rushden v Sheff. Wed; Swindon v Chesterfield;

Nationwide League Division 3

Boston v York; Camb'dge v Bristol R; D'ton v Yeovil; H'field v Lincoln;  
Hull v Torquay; K'minster v Swansea; Orient v S'end; Macc'field v Carlisle;  
Mansfield v Doncaster; Oxford v Bury; R'dale v Cheltenham;  
Scunthorpe v Northampton.

Sunday February 22

Barclaycard Premiership  
Aston Villa v Birmingham (12.00);  
Spurs v Leicester (4.05)  
FA Cup Fifth Round Replay  
Liverpool v Portsmouth (2.00)

## LUU

- Men's Football: 1sts v Edinburgh (away)
- Women's Football: 1sts v St.Mary's (away)
- Men's Badminton: 1sts v Oxford (away)
- Women's Badminton: 1sts v Aberdeen (home)
- Men's Basketball: 1sts v Heriot Watt (away)



Captain of the LUU Men's basketball team, **DOMINIC MURPHY**, was in confident mood as he reflected on his team's draw.

"Heriot Watt won their group, but the way we're playing at the moment, there's no reason why we shouldn't beat them!"

Furthermore, after their own ever-improving performances this season, Murphy added, "We will be disappointed if we don't reach the final weekend, as, if we play to our full potential, we feel we have a realistic chance of championship glory."

- Men's Fencing: 1sts v Strathclyde (home)
- Men's Hockey: 1sts v Brunel (home); 2nds v B'ham 2nds (away)
- Women's Hockey: 1sts v Oxford (away), 2nds v B'ham 2nds (away)
- Netball: 1sts v Brunel (home), 2nds v Nottingham 2nds (home)
- Men's Squash: 1sts v Nottingham (home)
- Women's Squash: 1sts v Stirling (away)
- Men's Tennis: 1sts v Durham (away)
- Women's Volleyball: 1sts v Glasgow (home)

## LMUSU

- Men's Basketball: 1sts v Lancaster (away)
- Men's Football: 2nds v Birmingham 2nds (home); 3rds v Edinburgh 2nds (home)



The road to BUSA glory starts here....



Captain of one of the Met's most successful sides this term, in the shape of Netball, **SAM HAIGH** was similarly upbeat.

"We have three strong sides, all high on confidence and all of whom can expect to progress to the later stages of this year's BUSA knockouts."

- Women's Football: 1sts v Oxford (home)
- Women's Hockey: 1sts v UWIC (away); 2nds v Loughborough 2nds (away)
- Netball: 1sts v Cambridge (away); 2nds v L'boro 2nds (away)
- Men's Squash: 1sts v Nottingham Trent (home)
- Men's Tennis: 1sts v Nottingham (home)
- Women's Tennis: 1sts v Edinburgh (away)

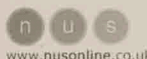
**Strike Action**  
On Wednesday February 25th the majority of your lecturers will be striking following an AUT ballot.



NUS, LUU and LMUSU recommend that you show your opposition to the increasing marketisation of Higher Education by joining the picket.

Meet at 12pm outside LUU to campaign against fees and for a fair wage.

Visit [www.luuonline.com](http://www.luuonline.com) or [www.leedsagainstfees.org](http://www.leedsagainstfees.org) or contact Gareth Smith your Education Officer on 0113 3801242 or [ed@luu.leeds.ac.uk](mailto:ed@luu.leeds.ac.uk)



# SPORT IN SHORT

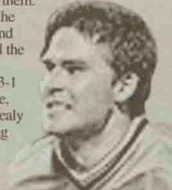
by Allen Cooper  
Student Sports Journalist of the Year

## Hero of the week

I had been two years and five days, thirteen-and-a-half games and 1,298 minutes without a goal for those poor, suffering Northern Ireland fans. Step up Preston striker, David Healy. The pint-sized striker headed majestically past Norway goalkeeper, Thomas Myhre.

The celebrations were astonishing, it was as if they'd won the World Cup, but it meant so much to them. On the pitch the players hugged, in the stands the fans danced and parried and the substitutes on the bench punched the air. It was a scene of true joy.

The fact was that they were still 3-1 down at home to a poor Norway side, and eventually lost 4-1. However, Healy will surely be remembered for ending one record that the Northern Irish surely won't be proud of.



## Team of the week

Just a couple of months ago, Crystal Palace were on a desperate run of form in the First Division and faced the prospect of a dour relegation battle. High-profile chairman, Simon Jordan decided enough was enough and sacked manager Steve Kember after only a short spell in charge.

Oldham manager, Iain Dowie, was appointed and his influence has been there for all to see. After Saturday's 6-3 drubbing of in-form Stoke City at Sellhurst Park, the Eagles soared up to eighth place, just a point off the play-off places. Palace were 2-1 up in nine minutes through two goals from red-hot striker, Andy Johnson, with John Eustace replying for the Potters.

Johnson completed his hat-trick from the spot before Clive Clarke cut the deficit to 3-2. Michael Hughes' tremendous goal and a Neil Shipperley strike made it 5-2, before Carl Asaba's penalty gave Stoke hope. Youngster Wayne Routledge sealed the points for Dowie's men late on to ensure their great run continues.

## Game of the week

Leeds Tykes have suffered a disappointing season so far after last year's heroics which saw them qualify for the Heineken Cup. Only the total capitulation of local rivals, Rotherham Titans, has ensured there won't be a relegation battle for Phil Davies' men.

Leeds had never beaten Jonny Wilkinson's Newcastle Falcons side in the Zurich Premiership, and they didn't look like ending the hoodoo as they slipped 20-3 behind at Kingston Park. Tries from Mark Mayerhoffer, Daryl Lilley and Tom May gave the Falcons the lead, but it was Lilley's missed conversions that came back to haunt Newcastle.

A miraculous Tykes recovery followed. Scrum-half, Alan Dickens began the comeback just before the interval, and second-half tries from Matt Salter and Dan Scarbrough brought Leeds within touching distance. A drop-goal from Scotland fly-half, Gordon Ross, gave the Tykes an amazing 28-25 victory.

## Quote of the week

During that long two year period without a goal, one might have expected fans of Northern Ireland to give up on the side. However, they were able to join everyone else in seeing the funny side of the amazing goal drought. Here's a selection of their songs for your amusement: "I would wait 500 minutes and I would wait 500 more, just to be the man who waits a thousand minutes to see our wee country score."

After Michael Hughes went close with a free-kick on Wednesday, he had a rendition of: "A goal - we nearly scored a goal, we nearly scored a goal," to the famous football tune.

When they finally scored through David Healy, the song heard on the Kop was: "We've scored and we know we have..." You've just got to feel happy for them haven't you??

## Villain of the week

I must admit that I've never been Gary Neville's biggest fan, but his actions last weekend were somewhat uncharacteristic. His dive to try and win a penalty was outrageous, and his violent reaction towards Manchester City's Steve McManaman was disgraceful. His angry reaction towards the referee at not being a spot-kick was down-right hilarious to be frank.

Okay, he's hardly the only player to behave like this in the last few years, but he was on live television, playing in front of a huge crowd and for a team who are looked up to by many a youngster. Oh, and he plays for England too. Grow up Gary, and stop cheating.

# A Good Sport?

With sports funding increasingly under scrutiny, and with BUSA knockouts almost upon us, university sport is currently big news. This year's two sports officers ask what's right, and what's wrong, at their respective institutions

Leeds Met  
Andy Holdway

Sport at Leeds Met is delivered by two organisations; the Students' Union and University Sport. The Students' Union provides support and funding for students who wish to organise student sports clubs, whilst University Sport provides facilities and funding for coaching.

In the past there has been a hazy relationship between the two organisations, which may have resulted in the SU finding it difficult to maintain and develop a service to all students who wish to participate in student clubs.

Only recently, LMUSU has seen two out of its six BUSA Premier League teams finishing bottom of the league and consequently being relegated.

The institutions that our Premier League teams compete against are playing at a consistently high level, not only within the BUSA Premier League, but also within their respective communities. Here at Leeds Met, we seem to be losing students to local clubs, as we do not offer the service to enhance

Leeds Uni  
Chris Perry

for 12,000 students at the University of Leeds, sport and recreation forms an integral part of their University experience.

Whether it be representing English Universities in the British University Games, a social bit of intra-mural sport or a session of pilates, everything and everyone is catered for, at least to some extent, at Leeds. But how well are we all catered for?

In my opinion, and it is only that, an opinion, we do alright. 6 out of 10. C+. Nothing more I'm afraid, and for a leading University which prides itself on providing the complete student experience, a University with an annual turnover of £300 million a year, I don't think 'alright' is anywhere near good enough.

Leeds does do many things well sporting wise. Participation levels are as high as anywhere in the country and the way our clubs are fantastically run by student volunteers are things to be very proud of and is something which can only be positive.

However, we are in a position

student sport at all levels of participation.

Sport at the Students' Union is under-funded. To compete at the level of the likes of Northumbria, Loughborough and Bath, whilst also improving the aspect of inclusion for all our students, the SU needs a considerable amount of professional backing.

If we take Northumbria for example, their sport is controlled by Sport Northumbria (which is totally separate from their SU) and has strong links within their community e.g. their 1st Team Football Club competes within a semi-pro local football league. Loughborough and Bath's sport

is still within the control of their SU's however, the links within their respective communities are just as strong (remember Team Bath in the FA Cup last year, and as for Loughborough... enough said!).

At the moment, the University has asked the Students' Union to provide a three-year development plan. Naturally, speaking from the sport perspective, extra funding from the University's block grant to the SU would be a great start for student controlled sports clubs.

However, as we all know, money doesn't make the world turn, therefore I am current-



MET-CULOUS: Changes are afoot as the Met chase sporting glory in the coming years.

where this fantastic resource (our students) is being let down.

Firstly take a look at the facilities available (or not, as the case maybe) to us. In short, they do not compare to our peer institutions, Manchester, Liverpool, Birmingham, Newcastle and Sheffield, to name but a few, all provide a couple of all-weather pitches, a fitness suite comparable to the size of their university and some quality grass pitches as standard. Leeds does not.

The above institutions have also produced a steady stream of national champions whilst also maintaining participation levels. Leeds has managed the participation side of things but without consistent success at a higher level.

All of this begs the question, why have these comparable institutions developed and prospered more at sport and recreation than ourselves? There are obviously a plethora of reasons. Some political, some financial, some historical and some managerial, but these reasons are mostly beyond my remit.

What is most definitely within my remit is to confront these problems and see what changes, if any, can and must be made before Leeds slips further behind its rivals.

With a new vice-chancellor set to arrive and a new Director of Sport to

ly looking into the structure of student sport here at LMUSU, and how a clear relationship can be formed with University Sport and community links.

Having been informed of certain research, a strong relationship needs to be formed with sport in the SU and University Sport before the community links successfully open. This relationship and structure needs considerable improvement.

Meanwhile, the aspiration, at a competitive level, is to be on the toes of those institutions that head the BUSA rankings, where many moons ago, Leeds Met and Carnegie once was.

LMUSU's AGM has been set for Thursday 6th May, where I will be presenting our members with alternative models for the structure of student sport here at Leeds Met.

I will be outlining the benefits of moving to a different structure to improve the nature and standard of sport, creating values of inclusion, excellence and a collective ethos. I await the student response as Leeds Met sport aims to keep pace with developments at different universities across the country.

follow, we are now at the perfect time to undertake a review into sport and highlight the issues surrounding sport at Leeds before ultimately acting on the findings.

This review will form the spine of my work for the remainder of my year as Sports Officer. Every student, no matter how involved in sport, will have a chance to have their say during this review. Please ensure you do so and seize this opportunity to bring Leeds back into touch with its peer institutions and provide a better sporting future for students at Leeds.

To see how you can get involved log onto [www.lmuonline.com/sports](http://www.lmuonline.com/sports).



MAKING A POINT: Chris Perry looks to provide 'a better sporting future' for students at LUU.

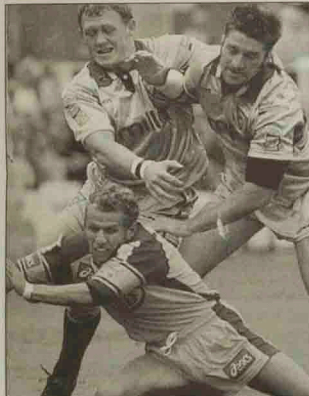
# Which team will reign supreme in a rugby Super-League?

**Bradford laid down the gauntlet to the rest of SuperLeague when they became world club champions last week after seeing off Penrith Panthers. Allen Cooper and Joanna Lester assess the Bulls, and the other eleven sides who will be vying for the coveted SuperLeague crown. Will 2004 finally be the year of the underachieving Rhino?**

**L**eeds Rhinos have been the nearly men for too long now, it's time for them to take that extra step this season. A new coach, a hugely talented squad and a fantastic set of fans must come together to deliver a long overdue trophy to the Headingley side.

One thing is for sure, the Headingley faithful will not accept a repeat of last season's amazing five defeats to the Bulls.

Their one winter signing, winger Marcus Bai, will provide competition in the one area that was lacking last season. He has already dislodged Rhinos' legend, Francis Cummins, from Sunday's line-up to take on the London Broncos - the first time Cummins will miss a game for five seasons.



**YOUNG RHINO: Rob Burrow in action**

The key factor for Leeds though, could be their settled squad. The players all know each other, and have a year's experience of playing together. Their star youngsters, in the shape of Danny McGuire, Rob Burrow, Chev Walker and Ryan Bailey are sure to mature with that experience, so expect Leeds to be very close. However, they'll still do well to overtake the rampant Bulls.

**Leeds Student prediction: 2nd**

## BRADFORD BULLS

Despite the loss of inspirational skipper and hooker, Jimmy Lowes, to retirement, and Great Britain stars Mike Forshaw and Lee Gilmour, Bradford will once again be the team to beat.

New Zealanders Toa Kohe-Love and Logan Swann have been added to Brian Noble's powerful squad, along with Wigan star, Paul Johnson.

It will be interesting to see how they cope with out star scrum-half and goal-kicker, Paul Deacon, during the first few weeks of the campaign. Deacon, whose kicking proved instrumental in last season's success, is currently sidelined with a torn retina.

Captain, Robbie Paul, is still missing too, but the Bulls have the squad depth to cope reasonably well. It's hard to see them losing enough games to not come first in the league.

**Leeds Student prediction: 1st**

## CASTLEFORD TIGERS

The Tigers will be aiming to make up for missing out on last year's playoffs and have made some big-name additions to the squad. Their fortunes will be based largely on the success of their new half-back pairing of Sean Rudder and Ryan Sheridan, both looking for a fresh start at The Jungle.

The forwards will be boosted by former Hull duo Craig Greenhill and Sean Ryan, and there are a number of promising youngsters hoping to break into the ranks.

But key players have left the club, and coach Graham Steadman will be hoping his off-season recruits can fill the boots of the departed stars.

**Leeds Student prediction: 7th**

## HUDDERSFIELD GIANTS

The loss of inspirational Australian coach, Tony Smith to Leeds is a major blow to the Giants' hopes this season. However, in Jon Sharp, they have one of the brightest young British coaches.

Their pre-season results sent out conflicting signs, as first they thrashed a strong Castleford side 36-0, but were then woeful in defeat at the hands of the Rhinos.

They have lost one of their few experienced players, Steve McNamara, since last year, and appear to be hugely reliant on ex-Bradford star, Brandon Costin. Should he get injured, the Giants could be sucked into a relegation battle.

**Leeds Student prediction: 11th**

## HULL FC

Things were looking great for the Airfie Birds a week or so ago. That was until captain and star player, Jason Smith, suffered a recurrence of a shoulder injury, and was ruled out for around four months.

Shaun McRae's men still look set for a good season though after a number of top draw signings. Kiwi hooker, Richard Swain, has joined, and is a player of undoubted quality. Wigan full-back Shaun Briscoe is another useful addition, and ex Leeds-Met star, Richie Barnett, has also been snapped up.

Barring an injury crisis of last year's proportions, and with the easier 'extra fixtures', Hull can expect to ease into the play-offs this time around.

**Leeds Student prediction: 4th**

## LONDON BRONCOS

The Broncos squeezed into the playoffs last season, and therefore face a harder fixture list this year. They'll be looking to offset the departures of key players Bill Peden, Chris Thorman and Russell Bowden with a cohort of relatively unknown arrivals.

In his recruitment, coach Tony Rea has mixed experienced, pacy backs such as Jon Wells and Mark O'Halloran with some promising halfback talent from the lower divisions in Rodney Bowker and Lee Sanderson.

The new team may take a while to gel, and their fortunes will depend on Rea's ability to bring the untested Brits up to SuperLeague level, but you can

never rule out a team with Jim Dymock and Dennis Moran pulling the strings.

**Leeds Student prediction: 8th**

## SALFORD CITY REDS

Newly-promoted Salford proved too good for National League One last season, but may struggle to handle the step up to Super League standard.

In Karl Harrison they have a knowledgeable coach who served his apprenticeship under Brian Noble at Bradford. The Reds have signed signed a number of experienced players, including centre Scott Naylor and South African prop Sean Rutgeron, to complement their relatively young and inexperienced squad.

Vital to their success will be the halfback pairing of Kiwi, Cliff Beverley, and experienced Australian Gavin Clinch, but Harrison has already admitted it could be a long, hard season for the Reds.

**Leeds Student prediction: 12th**

## ST HELENS

Having won SuperLeague in 2002, Saints had a disappointing season last time around, and were eventually beaten by Wigan in the play-offs.

Ian Millward has made a number of signings including Great Britain utility player, Lee Gilmour. However, having lost the experience of the likes of Paul Newlove, Darren Smith and Barry Ward, it's hard to see how the squad's really improved much.

**Leeds Student prediction: 5th**



**BULLS REIGN: Bradford celebrate becoming world club champions after defeating Penrith**

## WAKEFIELD WILDCATS

The Wildcats will be hoping to avoid their annual relegation battle and have been active in the off-season transfer market. NRL star David Solomon is highly rated, while fellow imports Justin Ryder and Semi Tadulala will give the Wildcats much needed fire power out wide, and the signing of former Warrington centre Sid Domic should prove a shrewd acquisition.

Impressive youngsters Jamie Rooney and Great Britain centre Gareth Ellis will also play an important role, but coach Shane McNally will have to rely heavily on young and inexperienced players and may not have the required strength in depth if injuries hit.

**Leeds Student prediction: 9th**

## WARRINGTON WOLVES

The mood at Warrington is optimistic as the club move to the new Halliwell Jones Stadium and hope to emulate last season's play-off finish.

Coach Paul Cullen has attracted some experienced NRL players to the squad in Danny Lima, John Wilshe and Chris Leikvoll, and will be hoping that some of his younger players will come of age this season, notably Dean Gaskell.

Bradford veteran Mike Forshaw will play a crucial leadership role, and captain Lee Briers has recovered from injury and will be looking to continue his successful halfback partnership with Nat Wood.

The Wolves have the harder fixtures to contend with, but Cullen's ability may lead them to the play-offs once again.

**Leeds Student prediction: 6th**

## WIDNES VIKINGS

After narrowly missing out on the play-offs last season, the Vikings will be hoping to make amends this year, and coach Neil Kelly has opted to build a nucleus of young players in his squad, complemented by a number of experienced Australians.

New signings, Aaron Moule and Troy Wozniak, have been brought in from the NRL, and former academy players Stephen Myler and John Robinson have been promoted to the squad.

The Vikings' youngsters will look to the experience of the likes of key playmaker Jules O'Neill, and former Leeds Rhino Andy Hay, who is the new captain of the side.

**Leeds Student prediction: 10th**

## WIGAN WARRIORS

Last season's losing Grand Finalists face a tough start to the season after injuries to several key players, including Great Britain skipper Andy Farrell, classy scrum-half, Adrian Lam, Mick Cassidy and Yorkshire winger, David Hodgson.

These unfortunate injuries have added to Mike Gregory's problems after the Warriors were forced to release star players, Paul Johnson and Shaun Briscoe during the close season.

Consequently, a lot of pressure will be placed upon sole major signing, Danny Orr, and youngsters like Luke Robinson and Gareth Hock to ease Wigan through the early weeks of the season.

Much could rest upon how quickly the likes of Lam and Farrell return from injury, and whether they can remain fit for the rest of the campaign.

It is surely asking too much to expect the Warriors to finish higher than last season given their problems, but given their squad depth, they should match last year's third place.

**Leeds Student prediction: 3rd**

**DRAWN TO WIN**  
All the latest news as  
BUSA reaches its  
knockout stage

**Draws - page 21**



**BACK IN TOWN**  
We focus on the new Super  
League season, which kicks  
off this week

**Preview - page 23**



# ROUTLEDGE SMASHES RELEGATION RIPPER



**SAFE:** The Leeds Uni girls on the attack in their win against the Met which secured their BUSA Premier League spot for next year.  
PHOTO: PADDY PLUNKETT

**Women's Football**  
**LMUSU 1-2 LUU**  
**Martin Frimet**

A LATE goal at Beckett Park gave LUU not just victory in this match, but the three points they needed to secure their BUSA Premier League place for next season.

The winning goal, notched by midfielder Angelina Routledge in the 88th minute, was then a prelude to a climax where the Met almost snatched an equaliser which would have seen their local rivals demoted after all. Three times, indeed, in the closing minutes were the Met denied on the line by acrobatic work from LUU goalkeeper, Jo Farquhar.

In the opening half, however, such an escape act looked far from likely for the Uni girls. The opening period was littered by errors in the LUU back-line and, although the midfield were pressing hard, the Met girls always looked more likely to break the deadlock.

Eventually, having been denied several times by Farquhar it was home forward Joy Curate who notched the opener just after the half hour. Following a surging run from

inside her opponents half, Curate smashed home from ten yards out to finish what was a fine individual effort.

Stung, and with relegation ticking ever closer, the LUU team seemed somewhat reinvigorated after the break. Where before the visiting midfield had seemed only concerned with pressing and holding their opponents, they now played with rather more freedom. Routledge, Kat Bird and captain Fran Norman were now combining into a truly dynamic force, and LUU beginning to run the game.

It came as little surprise, therefore, when the Uni bagged an equaliser less than ten minutes into the second period; the goal's scorer, however, may have been something of a shock.

Centre-back Laura Holden, having been pushed forward for a corner, found time and space in the hosts penalty area as they failed to clear their lines. Turning smartly on the edge of the area, she looped her shot over the home defence and saw it nestle in the back of the net.

With the victory they so vitally needed now in their grasp, LUU pushed forward, yet, the holes they left behind might well have seen the game decided in their opponent's favour.

Abby Mottram, on the Met right wing, pushed forward with no little aplomb

throughout the second half and, several times, carved out opportunities which her forwards might have done better with.

Indeed, by the time of the final goal, both teams had spurned several opportunities, leaving the way clear for Routledge. After several minutes of pressure, the game had looked destined for a draw and LUU, consequently, set for relegation.

Up stepped Routledge, however, who smashed home from a tight angle after the Met defence had failed to deal properly with a corner.

Having withstood the late Met pressure, the final whistle was the cue for a raucous version of 'We are staying up!', before captain Norman set about declaring her undying love for match-winner Routledge.

Premier League	P	W	L	D	Pts
Loughborough	10	10	0	0	30
Manchester	10	5	4	1	16
Leeds Met	10	5	5	0	15
Crewe & Alsager	10	4	4	2	14
Leeds	10	2	7	1	7
L'pool J Moores	10	1	7	2	5

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