

Road trip: LS2 tour >>>
Yorkshire's top film spots LS2
centre

<<< Jack's back: Former LUU
President slams Guantanamo
Bay LS1 14&15



That Friday from thing

Leeds Student

Friday, March 10 2006

Vol 36 Issue 18

Lecture boycotts



STRIKE: Lecturers and students protest for fairer pay. See pages 4&5
PHOTO: PATRICK NIXON

Boycott of Dr Ellis' lessons
planned for Thursday

LUU adds its support

By Jessica Salter

Local MP Greg Mulholland has called on the University of Leeds to examine Dr Ellis' position as a lecturer as students prepare to picket his lectures next week.

The MP for Leeds North West delivered a letter to Vice Chancellor Michael Arthur on Tuesday amid a media furore that has seen Ellis' remarks being commented on in several national newspapers.

Mulholland said: "I'm a firm believer in freedom of speech, but all employees have to accept they are bound by their contract of employment which prohibits certain sorts of behaviour likely to cause offence including things like making racist and sexist comments. So the university has a duty to check whether Dr Ellis has breached his terms of employment by the things he has said."

The Lib Dem MP recognised that the University were in a difficult position and said that he expected a reply soon.



**Dr Frank Ellis
Lecturer in Russian
and Slavonic studies**

Student groups have risen up against remarks Dr Ellis made in the Leeds Student such as his belief that black students are intellectually inferior to white students and that women were not as capable as men.

Leeds University Union also released a statement this week saying that they were 'horrified' by his interview in Leeds Student two weeks ago.

"We believe that he is bringing dis-

grace to the University by using his status to try to legitimise racism. It is unacceptable that someone promoting racist views should be given a position of influence in the University."

The student group Unite Against Fascism decided on Monday to boycott Dr Ellis' lectures on Thursday. The UAF group have also organised a petition calling for his dismissal.

The petition says: "All students have a right to study in an environment free from racism and discrimination and to be judged on their academic performance not the prejudices of their tutor."

The petition has so far gathered over 500 signatures.

Mike Tippett, a Microbiology and Immunology fresher and member of Unite Against Fascism, said: "Of course he has the right to free speech, but he's compromising the rights of others, like the right to fair marking and students' safety."

Several right wing groups have written in support of Dr Ellis, including the British National Party who have said: "It is only by challenging perceptions, dogma and current understanding of our world that scientific progress can be made."

However there has been a mixed reaction from students that Ellis teaches.

Richard Thompson, a fourth year Russian student, said: "Dr Ellis is forthright in the expression of his views, but he certainly doesn't try to impose this view on others, nor punish those who do not conform to his political outlook."

Thompson believes that Dr Ellis encourages students to challenge pre-conceptions.

Steven Lovatt, also a Russian student, disagreed with Thompson.

Lovatt said: "Dr Ellis does indeed have the right to express his views. What he does not have the right to do, however, is to deny all responsibility for their consequences."

Guantanamo
'Gulag' - Straw

By Matt Kennard

In a frank interview with Leeds Student, British Foreign Secretary, Jack Straw, called the US-run detention center at Guantanamo Bay a 'gulag' - an emotive reference to the Soviet Union's slave camps - and said he 'regrets' that Israel has nuclear weapons.

Straw, former LUU President, said: "American's have got no intention of keeping a permanent gulag in Guantanamo Bay," adding "I understand Amnesty's view" that it should be shut down.

He ruled out any British attack on Iran, saying: "Its not on anybody's agenda" even though the drumbeat continues to sound from Washington. He went on to say that the UK disagrees with our closest allies the United States on climate change and the International Criminal Court, which they refuse to sign up to. He added that it "was for historians to judge" whether the America's motives for invading Iraq were altruistic.

On the continuing furor over Straw's attempt to suppress the memoirs of the former British ambassador to Uzbekistan he said: "If you're a diplomat you're expected to abide by your responsibilities," adding that he has "got a lot of concerns about the Uzbek government".

He ruled out his own chances of becoming Prime Minister saying, "I'm not going to be Prime Minister and I'm delighted to have got this far." He said there was "a very good candidate in waiting" refusing to be drawn on his identity.

• SEE PAGES 14 & 15

• Tea Party (3) Digging up the past (12&13) Technique preview (LS2 8) & more



Sketch

By Mark Ramsden

LUU's elections are over for another year. To the victors, the spoils. To the losers, more Blu-Tack than they could ever want or use.

The elections have always been a rather dull affair. There seems to be little to differentiate between the candidates. Everyone - standing for Education Officer wants to scrap fees and all of the Democracy and Communication candidates want to make the Union more open and accountable.

The Sports Officer election suggests that Wednesday afternoons

have become a sacred period of time that cannot be interrupted by the distraction of getting a degree.

A candidate who decided to take a chance and challenge the orthodoxy could be rewarded. How about a Sports Officer who pledged to introduce pedalos on to the lake alongside Roger Stevens? It's a vote winner.

Slates of candidates have appeared this year. Two groups have stood candidates for most executive positions. This is normal practice in national NUS elections which are run by factions of student politics hacks but a

rarer occurrence in Leeds. This strategy of grouping candidates could backfire if students decide it would be fun to mix things up and elect a few of each on to the exec.

Whoever is elected will have to implement the recommendations of The Review. A new scored document which sets out the current executive's vision for the Union.

By holding a referendum on the document they have bound Future Execs into sticking to it. Unless of course they get bored with it in which case they should just start a new sur-

vey and have another referendum. Maybe even another new slogan.

The outgoing Executive still have a few months left in office. Two have stood for election again this year. LUU's elections are strange in this sense as few of those elected have to worry about performing well enough to get re-elected.

It's a constant surprise that many elected Exec members don't just spend their year of job dodging in the Old Bar.

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Activity shake up

By Paul Tait

A shake up of how all sports clubs and societies are run is to be voted on next week.

After The Review, which was voted in last November, Student Activities had to change to ensure it provided quality and value for money across the board as well as widening participation, especially in non-competitive sport. Huge changes, including axing Action and Nightline co-ordinators, were decided on by a working group, made up of the Incorporated Body heads and Sports and Societies officers. The vote next week will determine how the financial implications of the working group's decisions are handled.

Currently, activities at LUU either fall under the heading of Sports Club, Society or Incorporated Body, which the working group decided was an outdated way of referring to the activities, as there were significant overlaps. Sports clubs such as horse-riding that have competitive sport elements as well as elements of being a society cause confusion. A general misunderstanding among students about what 'incorporated body' (which include bodies such as LSRfm.com and RAG) means was also felt to prevail.

Student Activities would be represented on the Executive panel by a Sports and Recreation officer, with a new emphasis on recreational sport and a Societies and Community officer. Action and Nightline co-ordinators suggested that their role currently comprises mostly of administration work and so moved to replace their elected positions with a permanent admin support worker. The Chairs of both societies would take a more prominent role in co-ordinating the societies.

Katrina O'Mahony, LUU's Sports Officer, said: "The new system is much more democratic and fair. It will make

things even simpler, especially with the new structuring of the sports and societies as there'll be an individual to hand who is familiar with that type of group's needs."

The positions of Leeds Student Editor, LSR Station Manager and RAG Co-ordinator would still be former students, but instead of being elected positions, a panel would appoint the new co-ordinators.

Leeds Student Editor, Jessica Salter, said: "We thought there was a general confusion about our roles: we're elected and so are meant to represent students, but that is not in our job description of running a charity organisation, a newspaper or a radio station. This is especially important for the media because we're meant to maintain a critical distance from the politics of the Union so we can comment on it."

A central theme behind the change is the issue of funding. Annual spending on activities totals nearly £500,000 and

there is a "disparity" between how much different activity groups receive. The group recommend funding to be completely centralised into one system and issued on a grant basis which each organisation will have to apply for.

To implement the full list of new directives, the group decided that students should have the final say on how the fundamental financial support of students activities, which act as pillars to these changes, are implemented.

Alex Robshaw, Treasurer of Leeds Snowriders, said: "Due to the type of club that we are, these changes could have a negative impact upon us. We currently lose money on most trips that we run."

O'Mahony said the Snowriders could actually benefit from the new proposals because they have over 700 members and the new user fee would be distributed directly back to the society.

John Schless, LUU Societies Officer, said: "Some people may be unhappy

because they're getting more value out of the current system than what they're inputting, but equally there's someone on the other side of that equation who is getting insufficient value for what they're contributing."

Under the current system a student could potentially join all the sports clubs for the flat rate of £20 and effectively get hundreds of pounds of services. Both options of the new system would charge students for what they actually used.

Schless said: "Somewhere between one third and one half of all students are currently involved with a society, a sports club or with the incorporated bodies. People weren't happy. There was frustration everywhere. There is no support mechanism for societies, and then I'm subsequently pulled in so many directions it's impossible to satisfy everyone. To boost their balances, clubs and societies are being encouraged to seek external sources of funding."

Barry Pilling, Station Manager at LS:TV, said: "We're looking at station sponsorship, but we need to have decent facilities to be sponsored, and we struggle to get decent facilities without sponsorship. It's a Catch-22 situation really."

The options available are an A or B choice about how to fund the new system. Voting will take place from Tuesday to Thursday next week at ballot boxes across campus and in the ARC.

• For more details see luuonline.com/sar



CHANGES AHEAD: Societies will face overhaul PHOTO BY PATRICK NIXON

GLOBAL STUDENT NEWS

HAVANA, Cuba
President Castro celebrated the 15th anniversary of the Central Palace of Computation and the inauguration of 300 new centres in Cuba this week.

Informatics, or Information Science, is fast becoming a scientific, economic and political force for Cuba, Castro said.

One million students will have passed through the current Youth Computation Club when it comes to an end in June. A further 30,000 youths from Latin America will be studying medicine and other specialities, aiming to save the lives of millions around the world.

Several computation installations have helped to improve the education of young Cubans. These include the Information Science University, which produces educational software, and a number of technical schools where around 40,000 students are studying informatics.

Castro closed the event by saying: "Today, March 7, for all the reasons in the world, I am the most joyous revolutionary."

ALABAMA, US
Three white college students have been accused of a spate of arson attacks on churches in Birmingham, Alabama, US.

Despite initial fears of a racially-motivated attack, the churches targeted had both black and white congregations.

The three teenagers, who live in a wealthy suburb in the county, were discovered after the tyre tracks of an SUV owned by one of the trio were found at six of the nine churches.

Alabama's Attorney General said: "A man's evil deeds will find him out. Today I believe they have."

Option two

Option 2's central tenet is the removal of the sports user fee and the introduction of a graded fee based on activity. The fee would not exceed £40, but this would be per group. Fees from this would be ring-fenced to be awarded back to similar groups according to the restructuring of societies, sports and incorporated bodies. For example, sports fees would be granted back to sports clubs. Again, groups would be encouraged to seek external sources of funding where possible.

WEATHER

Friday March 10
Cloudy
Low 5°
High 7°

Saturday March 11
Sleet
Low 1°
High 3°

Sunday March 12
Fair
Low 7°
High 10°

Monday March 13
Light cloud
Low 6°
High 10°

Tuesday March 14
Fair
Low 7°
High 10°

Wednesday March 15
Rain
Low 4°
High 8°

Thursday March 16
Rain
Low 5°
High 7°

Biscuits and Belly Dancing



By Jessica Salter

225 pensioners and the Mayor came to the Refectory for sandwiches and tea last Friday and were treated to a belly dancing show.

As well as a set from the belly dancing society, there was an "exciting" raffle and Chloe Telford, Action Co-ordinator described the game of bingo as "a real highlight".

She added: "It's so popular, people who want to come really have to fight for places. We advertise through day centres and care homes and most of them have a rotation, so if you came to the Tea party last year, you can't go this year."

"It's a really nice social event for the older people, especially in Winter. It's probably one of the only times people manage to get out of the house."

The ice and snow dampened transport arrangements as the coaches that are used to bring the guests to the

Union cannot get any closer than the Parkinson steps.

The Action team used minibuses to shuttle guests from the Parky steps to the Refectory.

Telford said: "It snows every year on the day of the Tea Party, which always causes problems: I think we're cursed."

"But our drivers were amazing shuttling people back and forth. They were completely knackered by the end of the day."

The oldest guest to attend was 103, while another appreciative party goer was an 80 year old lady who had a special allegiance to Leeds University, owing to the degree in French she undertook when she was 74.

Telford said the pensioners enjoyed the day out and the volunteers had fun too.

She said: "Students really appreciate spending time with old people because at uni we're surrounded by people who are all roughly the same age."



PARTY LIKE YOU'RE 99: Pensioners enjoy themselves in the Refecio
PHOTOS: REGIS HEMON



Tealights People Fortnight of Fairtrade fun

A group of Leeds Uni comics are set to storm the UK comedy scene after creating a comedy revue.

The Tealights, akin to the infamous comedy society Cambridge Footlights who's members included Peter Cook, pictured, Stephen Fry and John Cleese, are taking their show to the Edinburgh fringe festival this summer.

After performing to a sell out show in Leeds' own HiFi, they were invited to the National Student Comedy Festival in Durham.

The group shared the stage with the Durham

Revue, the Oxford Revue and the Footlights.

The night was a tremendous success, raising £3,000 for charity. The Durham student newspaper gave the Tealights a rave review.

They said they were "a new group of fearsome wit and reckless abandon."

The Tealights are currently recruiting new members to take to the fringe.

If you're interested in strutting the comedy stage at the fringe then contact the Tealights' President by email at bus3jpc@leeds.ac.uk



By Peter Newlands

14 days of fairtrade frivolity are currently in full swing at Leeds University.

In celebrating receiving its fairtrade status, the uni is hosting a number of events to raise awareness of the plight of farmers in third world countries.

The national campaign kicked off on Monday 6 and Leeds followed the next day with a presentation by Shailesh Patel, cotton producer from western India, about his experiences as a cotton project manager.

Next Tuesday, March 14, will mark the day that the University of Leeds is formally accredited with

fairtrade status.

As well as the award ceremony, the Parkinson court will play host to an exhibition and a party, featuring fairtrade films shown in the Century gallery.

Dr William Young, of the School of Earth and Environment, will present a lecture on "Fairtradeification of Multinationals" in the Rupert beckett lecture theatre.

The Bob and Ziggy Marley-soundtracked *Life and debt in Jamaica* is being shown in the Activity and Resource centre, Room 3, upstairs in LLU on Wednesday March 15. The critically acclaimed film illustrates the negative effects of globalisation and free trade policies on developing nations.

Kaiser chief tickets

As part of Fairtrade Fortnight, you can win a pair of tickets to see the Kaiser Chiefs live in Millenium Square or a Fairtrade Hamper.

Just hand in the answers to the following questions in the Parkinson Court next Tuesday, March 14.

The draw will take place during the evening.

1. What is the slogan for Fairtrade Fortnight 2006?
2. List three Fairtrade Products.
3. Which new Fairtrade product has recently been launched?

United front for

Campus
News

By Paddy Cooke

Learning was off the agenda for many students on Tuesday as lecturers from Leeds University and Leeds Met went on strike demanding wage increases in line with other public sector professions.

The strike was organised by the Association of University Teachers (AUT) and the National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education (Natfhe) as part of a national dispute with the University and College Employers' Association (UCEA). The strike was followed by action short of strike that began on

Wednesday and will include a boycott of assessment until the dispute is resolved. If the dispute drags on, student graduation could be affected.

Although less than 40% of staff at Leeds Uni are AUT members, Tuesday's strike caused widespread disruption and attendances were down in the majority of lectures and seminars that were going ahead. The AUT claims to have had around 100 pickets at 13 entrances to the university in an effort to disrupt academic activity as much as possible.

Leeds Uni's AUT President Gavin Reid urged students to support their cause despite the disruption caused.

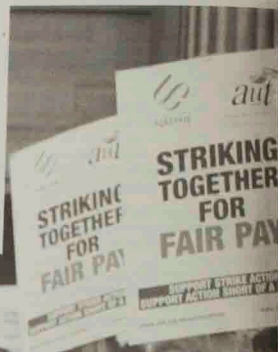
He said: "I would ask the students to stand

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www.auteff.org.uk

www.auf.org.uk/prospect.htm



Gigs Spring 2006

Tickets available from CATS (LUU), Jumbo, Crash and www.leadstickets.com



stylus

the Refec

MAR	FRUITY £3.50 adv 10.00	10th
	BRIGHTON BEACH £5.00 adv 9.50	11th
	SWAY £7.50 adv 10.00	16th
	ST PATRICKS DAY FRUITY £3.50 adv 10.00	17th
	THE WENDY HOUSE £4.50 adv 10.00	18th
	EASTER FRUITY BUNNY £3.50 adv 10.00	24th
APR	LOTDB Valve SoundSystem Bank Holiday Special £10.00 adv 10.00	30th

MAR	THE ORDINARY BOYS - SOLD OUT £13.50 7.30	Thur 23rd
MAY	THE CHARLATANS £21.50 adv 7.30	Tues 2nd
	SISTERS OF MERCY £20.00 adv 7.30	Wed 3rd
	THE STREETS £21.50 adv 7.30	Fri 12th
	THE ZUTONS £16.00 adv 7.00	Tue 16th
JUN	DAMIAN JR GONG MARLEY £15.00 adv 7.30	Mon 26th
	DEATH CAB FOR CUTIE £13.50 adv 7.30	Tue 27th

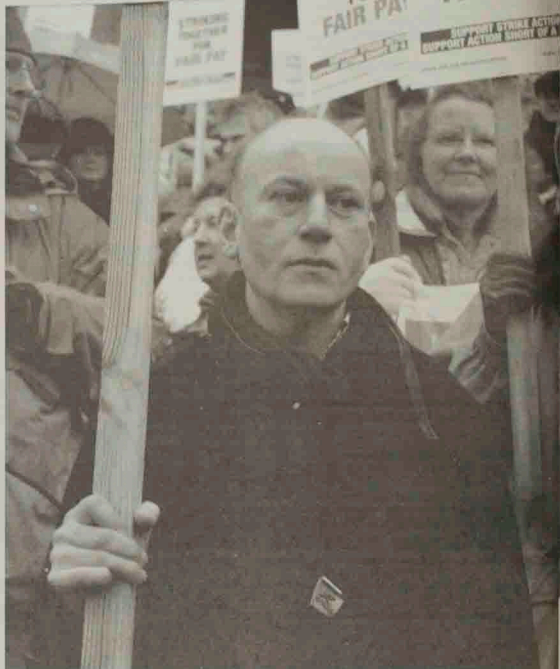
ALSO

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MC, Andy C & MC GQ, DJ Marly &
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3 Jun 06, 10.00pm - £13.50

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Leeds University Union,
Lifton Place, LS2 9JT

mine

MAR	THE TUNNEL CLUB PRESENTS TINY DANCERS £3.50 10.00	14th
	THE TUNNEL CLUB & THE BIG ASK PRESENT DEAD DISCO £3.50 10.00	6th
APR	ROCK OF AGES £4.00 9.00	1st
MAY	THE TUNNEL CLUB PRESENT KUBICHEKI £3.50 10.00	9th



fairer wages

thing of a carnival atmosphere. Lecturers chanted, "Overworked, Underpaid" and carried placards that displayed a similar message.

A small number of students stood alongside the lecturers to show their support for the cause. A Leeds University student and member of Respect, who identified himself only as Andy, joined the protest and dismissed the suggestion that lecturers were causing unnecessary disruption.

He said: "Disruption to my course isn't caused by strike action from the lecturers, it is caused by the fact that lecturers are overworked and underpaid and that is the fault of the government and authorities who have the power and the money to pay these people what they deserve."

The AUT claims that lecturers' pay has stagnated over the last 20 years and Tony Blair has admitted that lecturers' salaries have shown "practically no increase in real terms over two decades."

The unions want employers to put a third of the estimated £3.4 billion in extra funding they will receive from top-up fees into staff pay, as was promised by universities to the government.

When lobbying in favour of top-up fees, the then higher education minister, Alan Johnson, told MP's that vice-chancellors had told him that "at least a third of the new income would be spent on improving staff pay", but unions claim that this hasn't been the case.

AUT general secretary, Sally Hunt, has warned the UCEA that pleading poverty over the pay dispute is insulting. She said: "There has never been any question of whether or not the employers can afford to meet our demands.

"Our claim is fully costed and no more than our members deserve. To suggest they cannot afford to pay us is dis-

honest and downright insulting."

In response, the UCEA claim that over a third of the new income from top-ees is expected to be spent on improving staff pay and conditions, but the next pay review is not scheduled until August 2006.

They have offered to meet and negotiate with the unions on March 28th, but in the meantime they are concerned about the impact that industrial action will have on students' education.

Jocelyn Prudence, chief executive of UCEA said: "I'm extremely concerned about the potential impact on students."

"I think they will be unnecessary victims in all of this and they are being used as political pawns."

These concerns seem to be shared by a number of students who are angry at the disruption caused by the strike.

Geography student and Union Council representative, Imran Khan, wrote to the Vice Chancellor to express concern on behalf of the students he represents.

In the letter, Khan claimed that a number of students were unsure of what the consequences of industrial action would be for them and complained that many students had not been informed by their departments about cancellations of lectures and seminars.

He said: "If students do not inform staff as to why they have missed a lecture or seminar then they are the first to complain and demand reasons.

"Simple common decency would have been much appreciated in as far as letting students know what was happening, however our teachers seem to have lacked this over recent days."

The NUS supports industrial action by the unions and the NUT is urging students concerned by the disruption to write to the Vice Chancellor asking him

to put pressure on the UCEA to negotiate a fair settlement.

Sebastian Elsworth, Leeds University Union's Finance and Commercial Services Officer, is dubious of the benefits of the strike.

He said: "It's hard to say who will win in this latest dispute, but it's very clear as the assessment boycott gets underway that students stand to lose. LUU has been criticised for not standing shoulder to shoulder with a fellow union."

"But while we look forward to working with the academic unions in the coming years over fees, as a union representing students we must put the interests of our members first and we must ask some tough questions:

"Would students be better off having the additional money spent on extra staff, reducing the staff-student ratio (and reducing the workload on lecturers)?"

"Why have the unions chosen to boycott student assessment rather than research or administration?"

"Whose figures should we believe?" "The AUT claim that lectures pay has declined by 40% in the last twenty years, the universities say that pay has risen by 20.3% over the last four years and the average academic salary is over £40K."

Elsworth also offered the following advice to all students worried about the after-effects of this long-running dispute.

He said: "LUU will be here to support you through this dispute and we are of course lobbying both sides for a swift resolution.

"Ensure that your schools and departments are making you aware of the arrangements for your assessment, hand in work on time, and obviously come to us if you are concerned."

Uni expansion

A new campus was opened last week in Wakefield as part of the University of Leeds' regeneration programme in the area.

The University Of Leeds @ Wakefield building was opened last Friday by the Mayor of Wakefield and Michael Arthur, the Vice Chancellor of Leeds Uni.

Wakefield is one of the largest local authorities in the UK without a university. Currently, only one in five young people in the area go on to further education, despite it having the second highest GCSE results in West Yorkshire.

The Pro Vice-Chancellor for Learning and Teaching at Leeds Uni, Professor Alan Pearman, hopes that the new premises will highlight the concern over such statistics.

Pearman said: "The opening of our University Of Leeds @ Wakefield premises reflects our commitment to higher education and our wish to continue our close links with Wakefield college, schools and employers."

Over 300 students will now have the opportunity to study the new 'Life Long Learning Centre' (LLC) courses, such as Applied Social Studies, Social Work, and a graduate diploma in Counselling.

Modules can also be taken on a part time basis that can later count towards a degree without having to travel to the city to do so. The LLC director Dr Stella Cottrell thinks that this will tempt older students back into higher education.

Paul Marshall, Director of Learning and Teaching in the School of Healthcare, hopes that the move will also prove to be beneficial to the University's Healthcare department: "The transfer of Social Work and Counselling programmes into the School has greatly enhanced our health and social care provision."

"The University's investment in the new educational facilities at Wakefield has ensured that the strong link with Wakefield continues and provides students with a high quality learning environment."

Nuns speak out

Students sat in complete silence last week as two nuns described the beatings they suffered as prisoners in Chinese-occupied Tibet.

The Free Tibet Society, in association with Amnesty International, hosted a talk by two of the Draphchi 14, nuns imprisoned in Draphchi Prison for taking part in peaceful demonstrations, Namdrol Lhamo and Gyaltzen Drolkar.

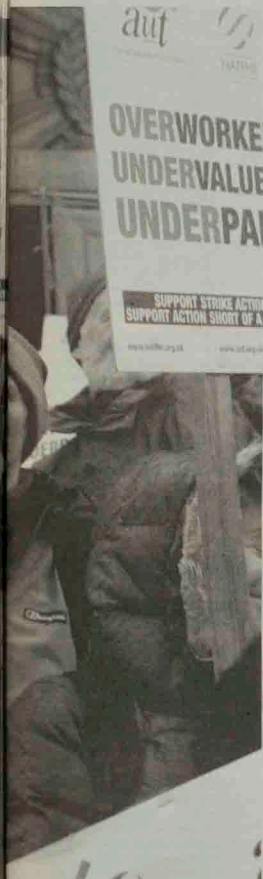
The women spoke of their arrests and subsequent imprisonment for demonstrating in support of an independent Tibet, detailing how their sentences were extended as a result of singing and recording freedom songs in prison that were later smuggled out. Lhamo and Drolkar spent 12 years each in prison. They explained how the authorities followed them after their imprisonment, preventing them from getting a job or joining a monastery.

A large crowd of around 200 people turned up to hear the nuns' experience. A spokesperson for the Free Tibet Society said: "We were delighted to get such a huge turnout and would like to thank everyone who attended. We hope to continue spreading knowledge of the lack of freedom in Tibet, and the shocking human rights abuses perpetrated by Chinese authorities.

"We were also pleased to see a number of Chinese students in the crowd, most of whom seemed very interested."

But one Chinese student objected to the talk. She confronted the women that "we do not need to make this issue international".

The response? "Yes, we do."



PROTESTING: Lecturers take to the streets. Photo: PIPER/INION

by us. There is no education system without the lecturers and there is no point having glossy, glass buildings if you don't have quality teaching taking place inside. We consistently opposed top-up fees for students and we hope that they'll stand by us in this case."

Lecturers from Leeds Uni and the University of York gathered on the Parkinson steps at 1pm on Tuesday to get their message across. They were joined at 1.15pm by lecturers from Leeds Met who marched up Woodhouse Lane with a police escort to loud cheers from their comrades.

Plans to march to Leeds Civic Hall were abandoned but spirits seemed high despite the wet conditions and the sounds of a swing band created some-



Spin City

★ Our favourite press releases this week!

3's Popularity contest

3 announced the 3 WePay Popularity Stakes – a search for the most popular person in Britain.

The search mirrors 3's new pay-as-you-go service, WePay, where 3 customers receive credit when someone calls or texts them.

Thousands of people across the country are expected to enter via www.wepaypopularitystakes.co.uk by March 24 in a bid to win a £10,000 prize.

A panel of judges will select six candidates to take through to the next round of the competition. The six finalists selected will then have to prove their popularity by getting as many people as possible to vote for them by phone and text in a one month period by whatever means.

To help 3's popularity finalists in their quest, they will have access to a £18,000 budget to spend on creating their individual publicity campaigns in pursuit of glory. They will also get free consultancy with 3's marketing expertise including the top brasses at award winning agencies WCRS (advertising) and Frank PR (public relations).

The person who receives the most votes by phone and text within a month will be crowned Britain's Most Popular Person and win the £10,000 prize.

Catch the opera vibe

Catch the Opera buzz is billed as a 'night out with a difference'. A student ticket to The Marriage of Figaro including transport to the Alhambra theatre in Bradford and two drinks at the venue on Wednesday only costs £12.

"The Marriage of Figaro", sung in English, is the perfect introduction to opera, featuring wonderfully human characters, colourful eighteenth-century sets and costumes, and a lively young cast.

Mozart's most famous piece pits servants against their masters in this comic tale of love, lust and masquerade.

Tickets are available from Leeds College of Music, Jumbo Records at St John's Shopping Centre (subject to booking fee) and Student Services at Bretton Hall Campus. For more information contact the info line on 0113 2233500 or e-mail info@operanorth.co.uk

MEETING TIMES

News: Fri 2:30pm, Mon 1pm

Sport: Mon 1pm

Music: Mon 6pm

Fashion: Mon 1pm

Marketing: Thurs 1pm

Arts: Friday 4pm

Clubs: Friday 4pm

Television: Friday 4pm

Features: Friday 4pm

(Leeds Student Office, first floor LUU)

Books: Friday 4pm
(Lounge op book shop)

Receive £10 for attending a 1 hour focus group

Leeds University Union is conducting research to establish student's feelings and opinions towards sexual health and to identify the types of sexual health services students want.

The groups will be informal discussions in small groups that will last no more than 1 hour. There are various times available wk comm, 13th March and everyone that attends will receive £10 cash.

If you are interested please contact 0113 3801396 or email lad@luu.leeds.ac.uk

not
by
open

LEEDS
UNIVERSITY
STUDENT
UNION

Bright young ones

By Abid Husain

Plans to cherry-pick the brightest 11 year olds for places at top universities are set to begin in weeks.

The system, dubbed as 'super-selection', in effect turns primary school tests at age 11 into university entrance exams. The children with the best results will establish contact with universities, in the hope of encouraging them to persist with their studies and end up at university.

The government encouraged the move after studies showed that the top five per cent of 11 year olds going to state schools are half as likely to get three A grades at A-Level as those who enter private schools.

The talent search identified 180,000 children aged 11-17 from their Key Stage 2 exams, taken by all pupils attending primary schools.

It is proposed that leading universities will contact the children's parents, urging them to join holiday courses or summer schools in the hope of maintaining their early potential.

Sir Cyril Taylor, chairman of the Trust, believes the system must be implemented so that no child will be overlooked as a result of poor secondary school education.

He said: "We're going to track these children at KS3, GCSE and A level. And if these children don't get 3 A's at A level we want to know the reason why. Because they should, but the facts are that only about a third of them are."

Critics of the scheme claim that children are already under a lot of pressure with having to take exams at such an early age and fear that making the tests a platform for their university entrance would further deny them their youth.

Parent Kathy Bissett said: "Over the last few



HALCYON DAYS: But will childhood values soon be compromised in the battle for a university spot?
PHOTO BY REGIS HEMON

years I have watched friends who have children at Key Stage Two fret about their chances and, in the weeks leading up to the tests, go home and spend hours with their children going through the various revision books that are on offer. Some of these children are denied chances to go to parties and outings with their friends as they have to revise. How much worse will this be if these tests become a platform for their university entrance?"

Another problem levelled at the idea was that in an underfunded education system, teachers would be forced to spend more time with students earmarked as bright, particularly as sec-

ondary heads would be held to account if these students did not achieve the government target.

Cathleen Thompson, a primary school teacher, said: "The system is a good method of allowing the brightest children from state schools easier access to universities. But what about the others? Are they not to be encouraged? Or will they be left on the sidelines whilst teachers must jump through more hoops in ensuring their star pupils go on to achieve success at university?"

But Sir Taylor believes that the scheme is the only realistic option for securing more state educated students go to university without compromising on standards.

LSTD Central



HORNY: But lustful couples in LS6 should take more care

By Ben Schofield

LS6 has the highest number of diagnosed STIs in Leeds, research by the National Health Service has claimed.

The information has been included in a survey to find out how aware students are about the risk of infection from unprotected sex.

Leeds North West Primary Care trust and both the city's students unions are running the survey to find out how aware students are about sexual health. They'll be using information from the survey to draw up new sexual health education programmes.

The 35 question survey asks in-depth personal questions about sexual practices and where respondents have picked up information on sex and STIs.

Question 15 asked, "LS6 has the highest num-

ber of student residents in Leeds aged between 18 and 24. Did you also know that LS6 has the highest number of STIs diagnosed across the city?"

Cassie Triggs, Leeds University Union's women officer, said: "This is a pioneering piece of research, which will have huge benefit to the student community across Leeds, helping the PCT gain a better understanding of students' attitudes towards their sexual health and determine how future services should be delivered."

The project is nearing completion and organisers are inviting a cross-section of the campus to take part in focus groups discussing what types of sexual health services students want, where they should be based and who should provide them. Participants will receive £10 for an hour long session.

Anyone who would like to take part should contact or call 0113 3801 396. The results of the project are due to be published in April.

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LS2 Editor: Zofia Niemtus

News: Sara Jones, Peter Newlands

Special Correspondent: Kevin Widdow

Features: Chris Gourlay

Mining Correspondent: Dan Johnson

Sport: Ky Capel, Michelle Cooksley, Guy Fowles

Comment: Matt Kennard

Travel: Kirsty Bennett

Fashion: Hermione Pakenham, Lauren Wallis

Lowdown: Poppy Kemp, Olivia Marks

Arts: Katie Abbott, Steve Smith, Rachel Wake

Books: Rachel Dampane, Freddie Huntley

Music: Sam Corbett, Richard Crisp

Clubs: Patrick McLintock, Christina Morris,

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East

Glassed at Mine

By Maria de Doza

Rock of Ages was disturbed by a violent attack on Saturday night at Mine.

The Leeds University Union venue for the rock and heavy metal night is described by students as usually a very relaxed, trouble-free night.

But this Saturday a violent incident led to an arrest.

Eyewitnesses reported two men arguing at the bar. As the unrest became increasingly heated, one allegedly smashed a beer bottle over a separate man's head.

The attacker reportedly proceeded to approach the person he was originally arguing with and slashed his stomach with the half-broken bottle.

Alarmed bar staff immediately called for security to break up the fracas.

An ambulance arrived within minutes and the attacker was arrested by the police.

It is unconfirmed whether the attackers knew each other or whether they were Leeds University students.

A spokesperson for West Yorkshire

Police said: "One male was been arrested at 1:51am on Sunday March 5. No-one has yet been charged and our enquiries are still ongoing."

LUU Welfare officer Omar Khan, said: "The police are investigating an incident which took place in Mine on Saturday night which we believe involved two members of the public."

"Owing to the ongoing police investigation we cannot make any further comment at this stage."

A member of Mine staff working on Saturday night, who wishes to remain anonymous, commented: "It was so unexpected. Usually the Rock of Ages gig has a really laid back atmosphere."

Students on campus have also voiced their concerns over the incident.

First year English student Sophie Webber said: "I would be concerned for my safety."

"Maybe security should be tightened, although you always do see bouncers around on gig nights."

"I am surprised that they let the incident reach such a violent stage before intervening."



CRIME SCENE: The union bar where the attack happened
PHOTO BY EMMA DALZELL

Self-help website launched

By Emma Grundy

The University of Leeds is pioneering the country's first interactive website to help students cut down on alcohol.

The project is being run by e-UNICAL and it will use tailored online feedback based on reported alcohol consumption to help students make informed decisions about their drinking.

Feedback from the UNIQOLL student experience survey showed that, in common with all young adults, some students had a high intake of alcohol. If it is successful, the website aims to reduce consumption by 10 per cent in two years and could be extended to be used across the UK and even internationally.

Bridgette Therapies research centre, is the principle investigator and project manager. She said: "There's growing interest in the health professions in using online resources to change the way people behave."

"The widespread availability of low-cost IT makes the internet a great potential source for instigating change."

Omar Khan, LUU Welfare officer, said that the project was "a really good way of moving forward".

He added: "The ward of Headingley has the highest number of binge drinkers in the entire country according to the latest figures released. This project is moving towards the more self-help option, moving away from the more over-used and unworkable methods of trying to raise awareness about sensible drinking."

•The e-UNICAL website is due to be launched early this month.

Vote drop-out says student

By Alex Doorey

An election bid will determine the degree of one Leeds Uni undergraduate.

Following in the footsteps of Leeds Uni alumni Jack Straw and Clare Short, Nathan Carter is running for a local government position.

The third year graphics student will run for councillor in Headingley but will resign if he is elected. The project is part of Carter's Rock the Box campaign, a major part of his degree course.

If the scheme, which is worth forty per cent of his mark, is a flop, Carter will fail his degree or at best leave with a poor

grade.

Rock the Box aims to put political power back in the hands of the people and to encourage students to get to the polls. Carter claims that he will use Headingley as a benchmark from which he can gather support from around the country.

He said: "Running for councillor acts as publicity for the movement. By resigning, it shows that the rules can be changed."

"It shows people that irrespective of who you are, you can become leader of their community. Politics isn't an exclusive box."

This metaphorical box sparked the idea for the year long campaign which

involves registering students to vote, canvassing, and finally polling day.

It is hoped that Rock the Box will change the way in which people view politics and create a system where politics becomes part of everyday life for all.

Carter continued: "It will become as regular as checking your emails. At the moment, politics is a box where only the minority are allowed and no new forms of innovative thinking exist."

Carter is adamant that if elected, he will stand down. "The overall aim of the movement is not to gain power but to get people back into caring about their country."

"Most people do not know their coun-

ty and feel that they don't represent them. Resigning is, in effect, the same as no one being there to represent that vast majority of people. I was clear about that from the start, I'm not coming anyone."

Failure at the polls is also not his main concern. He said: "If the people don't agree with the campaign they can vote against. Whatever the outcome, it will encourage people to vote."

Nathan will be launching phase two of his project, the advertising campaign, around Leeds Uni, during April.

He will be encouraging Headingley's student population to back him in the elections on May 4.

Carter also welcomes support from the non-student population of Headingley, and also anticipates some criticism from them.

He said: "The advertisements for my campaign will be all around Headingley. Those who aren't students will still be aware of me. If they decide to vote against me because I'm a student, it's fair enough; again, at least they voted."

But Leeds Uni students seemed less than impressed with Carter's campaign. Richard Crisp, third year English and Linguistics student, said: "By pulling a childish stunt like this, he's destroying the voters' confidence in the integrity of the democratic process."

To vote Nathan students must be registered to vote in the Headingley area by next Monday, March 13.

Those needing to pick up a registration form can do so from the Leeds Town Hall. Residents can vote in local Headingley elections even if they are registered to vote in their home constituency

AMBITIOUS: Graphic design student Carter hopes to rouse democratic spirit

PHOTO BY PATRICK NIXON



BINGE: Website hopes to monitor how many pints we drink
PHOTO BY EMMA DALZELL

Device to stop cheats

The government has issued new guidelines to teachers in England to help them detect coursework cheats.

Many 'essay bank' sites are available on the internet offering thousands of pieces of coursework at all academic levels for students to download for a fee.

It is these sites which teachers have been told to familiarise themselves with to help combat plagiarism. Many universities are now subscribed to electronic databases which run searches to compare submitted work with an archive of journals and other academic resources.

The University of Leeds has registered to use the JISC Plagiarism Detection Service (which uses the latest version of Turnitin) which is now called TurnitinUK.

The Taught Students' Handbook states that plagiarism is defined as presenting someone else's work as your own. 'Work' means any intellectual output, and typically includes text, data, images, sound or performance.

In 2003, George MacDonald Ross from the School of Philosophy, said: "The Service is good at detecting plagiarism from the net, and collusion between students. On balance, I consider it a useful resource which takes relatively little time to manage, and even if no plagiarism is actually detected, this will probably be because of its deterrent effect."

Leeds Uni is well versed in the dangers of plagiarism after an unnamed academic became the first British scholar to be disciplined for the offence. The lecturer in question lifted sections written by a Harvard academic but was not sacked after the uni decided that dismissal was not the appropriate action.



One thing we like to do is strip down to our boxers and dance

Name: Steve Darke
Title: The Boss, LSRfm.com

LS: "What would you say to people who think that the only people who work in radio are the ones who are too ugly for television?"

SD: "I'd largely agree with them, that's why I chose radio. Although, LSR.fm is actually a very attractive radio station. If anyone is interested in watching the webcam whilst we're on air they'll notice that we're a very beautiful gang of brutes. LS: "Do you get behind the wheels of steel and DJ?"

SD: "I do a show 6-8 every Monday morning called the Candyfloss OD where I play twee indie pop and orchestral indie so if anyone is awake at that hour they will find that it's a lovely way to start the week."

LS: "Do have any DJ idols?"

SD: "I was very lucky in that I got to work with John Peel and I think he was an amazing man and a fantastic broadcaster who did it for all the right reasons. I'm also a big fan of James Whale on talkSPORT, purely because he's very controversial and he really incites his listeners and gets a reaction so I suppose I like him and despise him at the same time."

LS: "How would you describe your management style, are you something of a dictator?"

SD: "I'd like to think I'm quite pleasant. I do try and get as much work as possible out of people but I appreciate that we are an entirely voluntary organisation and if I walked around telling people exactly what to do they'd just tell me to fuck off."

LS: "Do people often walk through the door with delusions of grandeur who think that they're God's gift to radio when actually they're just crap?"

SD: "It can happen. Occasionally you get presenters who come in with a lot of attitude, which can be a good thing, but if they end up talking absolute cack it can be quite hard to keep a straight face."

LS: "Have you ever swore live on air?"

SD: "We're not legally allowed to swear but I've accidentally sworn on a few occasions because I have a horrific mouth, but I try to avoid it for the children's sake."

LS: "Do you have any amusing anecdotes

about embarrassing things that have happened whilst you've been on air?"

SD: "One of the things that we like to do with our newscasters to train them to stay serious through topical issues is to strip down to our boxers and dance in the corner whilst they are on air. This is purely for training purposes to try and make the presenters more austere and serious."

LS: "Do you get many psychopaths calling in to your call-in shows?"

SD: "No, we've had no genuine psychopaths as such. However, we have got some call-in shows so if there are any psychopaths reading Leeds Student then we'd



be happy to put them on air to illuminate us."

LS: "What's the first record you ever bought?"

SD: "My first album was Take That and Party so I'm not so proud of that one."

LS: "What would you consider to be the most embarrassing record in your collection?"

SD: "Lots of people think my collection is embarrassing in general, but I beg to differ. I have a penchant for the Eurovision Song Contest, I'm a massive Bewitched fan and I'm also very into Tatu at the minute."

LS: "Aren't we all? If you could be King for a day, what would you do?"

SD: "I'd get Mick Hucknall deported. Behaving him would probably be seen as an abuse of power, unfortunately."

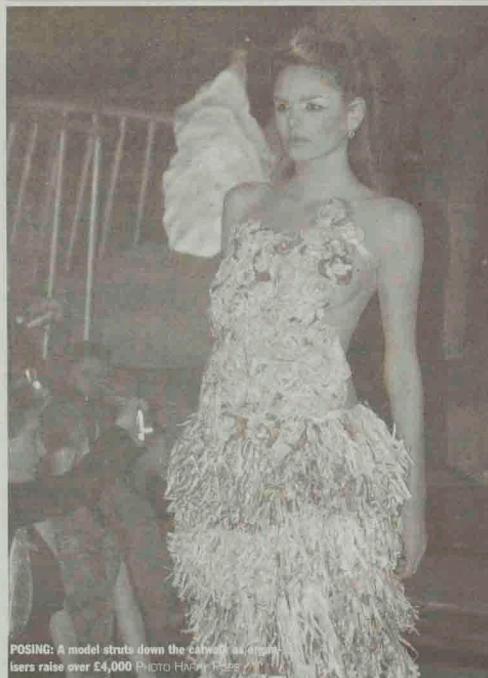
LS: "I think you'd be surprised, the majority of the population would probably favour behaving in crimes involving Mick Hucknall."

SD: "Maybe, but it's probably better to play it safe and go for deportation to one of the colonies."

LS: "To finish, let's get serious. Are there any records that changed your life?"

SD: "Mmm. Soft Bulletin by the Flaming Lips was the album that has been responsible for me becoming unhygienic and bad with women."

Fashion: Strutting along



POSING: A model struts down the catwalk as organisers raise over £4,000. PHOTO: HARRY TAYLOR

By Lauren Wallis

Tuesday night saw hip nightclub Creation play host to one of the annual Leeds fashion shows, Strut.

The evening, organised by Lucy Roiter, Lauren Caplan, Nikki Sherman, Katy Wallock, Amy Segal and Debra Goldwyn, went off with a bang, as X-Factor finalist, Chenai, belted out an Alicia Keys tune. The event, which raised money for Norwood, Anglo-Jewry's leading children and family services charity, portrayed some of the finest fashions that Leeds has to offer, boasting ten original and wearable collections.

The Moulin Rouge scene was a steamy session of lingerie, predominantly in black, and with splashes of scarlet.

Mix combined luxe sport with cute retro pieces, in stripes and spots, and a variety of textures. There was then a demonstration by the Capoeira society, who performed a sequence of martial arts and dance.

Tiger of Sweden consisted of men in suave black suits and women in chic trench coats, whilst E! True Hollywood featured eveningwear by Vicky Martin and Hugo Boss.

NBA showed cheerleaders performing a routine, and Swarovski oozed glamour, with girls modelling sexy black swimwear, and dripping in diamonds. The evening ended with a Bridal finale of contemporary wedding dresses, complete with tiaras, veils and sophisticated up-dos.

The evening's raffle prizes included a Fitness First gym membership,

Revamp champagne parties and Starbucks hamper, and the auction opportunity of a dinner date with two male models provoked one lucky lady to part with her £70!

Strut would not have been the success that it was without the fabulous creations of young Leeds designer Clare Davis.

Davis, 21, a fashion student at Leeds College of Art and Design, concocted an exquisite collection of outfits with three main themes; tailored (traditional tailoring with a modern twist), conceptual (clothes made from recycled materials) and fun (young, bright and eye-catching



Clare Davis, 21
Fashion student at
Leeds College of Art
and Design

separates).

Davis, who says that she is inspired by anything from Vogue to the mere shape of a building, plans to establish her own label after graduation, hopefully to be sold in her own shop.

She tries to design for the future rather than the current market.

She said: "It's an important skill to be able to predict where fashion is going. I love mixing unexpected items together, and have an unhealthy obsession with dresses, gorgeous shoes and handbags that my grandma would wear!"



LS

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Making a mocker-acy

While the Union is awash with election frenzy as we determine our representatives for the next year, one student has declared his campaign to encourage students to vote. It's simple, he's standing as a councillor for Headingley but if he wins he will stand down. Unfathomable.

Surely voters will simply be disheartened if the candidate they have bothered to go out and vote for doesn't actually stand up and represent them. As Nathan Carter says himself: "Resigning is the same as no one being there to represent the vast majority of the people." Exactly; so why is he depriving the electorate of the possibility of a representative?

Leeds Student wholeheartedly supports promoting democracy, and believes that it is a shame more students don't take more of an interest in local politics. What we don't support is a candidate flaunting his ability to play the system and using a gimmick to get elected, simply for the benefit of his dissertation.

Democracy deserves more respect. If Carter cares as passionately as he enthuses about getting his fellow student body to the polls then he should be willing to take on the role he is standing for or alternatively actively support another candidate.

Encouragingly this week, a union exec candidate was overheard telling a passer-by: "Just go vote, I'd rather vote for you than for the other guy than for no-one". That is caring about democracy.

Checking your health

Are we living to excess? New information out says that LS6 has the highest number of diagnosed sexually transmitted infections in Leeds and a new LUU website is encouraging students to monitor more closely their alcohol intake.

Many of us are looking at falling off the educational cliff and diving into the real world in a few months. It's meant to be a mean place, but it seems debauchery and intoxication are hallmarks of the university bubble.

No one wants a mother-figure to keep tabs on them at uni, but surely we have a responsibility to keep ourselves in good nick so we don't go off the rails. With deadlines aplenty and finals approaching, let's clean ourselves up.

If you think you've got an STI, it's best all round to get it checked and treated. In most cases, catching it early will help avoid the worst effects. Being clean is, after all, a whole big more sexy than carrying bugs into bed. And yeah, an afternoon in the boozier is more appealing all round than a session in Eddy Boyle, but it's nearly over. And if it's academic work you're trying to avoid, it's never too late to try and sort it out. Your department, the welfare office in the union or Nightline are the places to go for help and advice.

OAP picnic

The sight of old age pensioners rubbing shoulders alongside students dashing to lectures in the snow last week will have surprised many and left more dumbstruck. Throw in some biscuits and semi-made billydancers, a rotation system to boot and you've got one hell of a premise for a movie, if not a joke.

Or just the annual free-for-all that is the Action Tea Party. Bring on next year.

We've had our say, let us know what you think: email editor@leedsstudent.org.uk

Leeds Student is your paper so let us know what you're thinking. Email us with your comments but keep comments to 200 words. The editor has the right to edit letters for legal reasons. Emails printed do not reflect the views of the paper. Email editor@leedsstudent.org.uk

Responses to Ellis

After analysing the replies made by Dr Ellis, alongside the various student responses within last week's paper, it is evident that this issue has caused a great amount of interest. This interest does not stop at the gates of our universities in Leeds, as many students from institutions all around the country have been shocked and intrigued by recent events.

Despite all this interest though, I feel that we are slightly missing the true issue here. Whether Ellis holds to bigoted, fascist or sexist views is beside the point, and I agree with Tom Manger that it is better to know what your enemy believes rather than pretending they don't really think anything at all.

As long as there are different races within society there will always be racism. Although I do agree that "multiculturalism" - as it is often pervaded within our society - can have no real effect on this, for our country to function properly there needs to be tolerance on BOTH sides of the colour line.

The point which I intend to make then is this; though Ellis can not be chastised merely for how we perceive his views, he should have occupied any space given to him within this paper to respond directly on how he personally regards black students (and other groups) within this institution. Why has this question not been posed to him yet?

The simple fact is if his prejudice affects the neutrality of his work then (and only then) his position should be reviewed. Within an institution that is highly regarded within the educational community, and one that is supposed to stand for educational excellence there is no place for corruption. As a black student within this institution I feel that it is only this issue that is important. If I was an applicant for this university interested in Dr Ellis' course I would certainly think twice about applying here, and I think until this question is answered there will be many other black students who will think the same.

Sinclair Belle.

I have just read about Dr Ellis and I have listened to some students' comments about him which did worry me a lot. I studied evolution, biology and words like "race", "IQ" and "bell curve" are all concepts which don't have any scientific value; it is just racist-driven rubbish. What is more, I think it does not make any sense to differentiate "intellects" on the base of their skins colour (who was the "inventor" of the Algebra and The Astronomy)? And what to be said about the Pitagourique school in ancient Syracuse, where Greek and Islamic cultural traditions melted?

Mr Ellis accuses against multiculturalism: the reality is we perceive through senses and intellect would not simply exist without Diversity and mixing (crossbreeding). The same is true for culture. I have always thought about racists as worried and insecure people who can not face reality as it is; they look outside for borders, defences and protections, which made them,

feel safer. But, not for this reason I judge them less dangerous or more justifiable. It seems to me that most of the students who have been known Mr Ellis for a while think that too much importance has been given to his personal opinion by your newspaper. When I asked how they could minimize those strong ideas and opinions, they answered me: "You just don't know him. He loves provocation. And he is a fascinating man".

"Fascinating" is a terrifying definition for men like him, I think, and a real danger hides behind it: you cannot justify such an idea with the charm of that person. The point, in my opinion, is that he is a bloody racist - and possibly a fascist - and a teacher in the same time. As a teacher, he contributes to give his students an idea of how reality is, influencing their ideas and opinions. And it's a racist idea. I'm sorry, but at this point a simple question sounds obvious: why does the University of Leeds (one of the most rewarded institution in your country, it seems to me) allow Mr Ellis to teach and to pour into student's mind such unacceptable principles?

At least, I hope you'll be able to fire Mr. Ellis very soon...

Andrea Biffi

With regard to the furor surrounding Frank Ellis, I continue to be disturbed by the reaction to his views among students both within and outside the Russian and Slavonic Studies department. While I'm sure that Dr Ellis himself is revelling in the attention, I'm far more concerned about the prevailing state of intellectual and moral confusion that this affair has brought to light.

In their way the most shocking of all the responses to the initial interview were those that criticised the poor quality of the journalism and went on to complain that Dr Ellis's views had been portrayed prejudicially. The degree of self-deception and moral dishonesty necessary to uphold the first position is staggering. As a moral response it is equivalent, having been shown CCTV footage of an assault, to expressing horror at the grainy quality of the picture. The second response, that Dr Ellis's views were somehow presented unfairly, is equally insupportable. Anyone who was able to read those opinions without feeling a mixture of pity, incredulity and disgust should at least have the honesty and self-respect not to hide behind manufactured outrage.

The common factor in all of the inadequate responses to Dr Ellis's views is what could be termed an extreme moral relativism. This mindset has penetrated so deeply into our culture that it is unwittingly propagated as some sort of neutral, liberal norm by people who would be genuinely astonished to learn that their opinions, far from being their own, are actually the expression of a dominant and morally bankrupt complacency. Dr Ellis does indeed have the right to express his views. What he does not have the right to do, however, is to deny all responsibility for their consequences.

Contrary to what Dr Ellis and his apologists seem to suppose, opinions are not discrete and inviolable

entities, but emerge from, are reflected by, and are ultimately responsible to that infinitely complex network of human relationships that some of us quietly persist in calling society.

If Dr Ellis admits to the existence of society then it is plain, following his beloved Machiavelli, that he is only capable of conceiving of it as an entity founded upon assumptions of unalterable human selfishness and antagonism, where trust and friendship between peoples is mysteriously seen as less rational, honest or real than incessant competition and the pursuit of self-interest. Dr Ellis may think he lives in such a society. I do not. If, when considering his opinions, you find yourself agreeing with them, then that is your right. Just take a moment, however, to consider exactly what it is you are endorsing.

Steven Lovatt
Department of Russian and Slavonic Studies

Israel debate responses

Matt Kennard tells a compelling story of the "rogue state". His repeated proclamations of his Jewish heritage are fascinating and add an interesting slant to the representation of the debate in Leeds Student. What is remarkable however is how very wrong and seemingly ignorant he is of so many aspects of the nature of Israel as a state in 2006. Nonetheless his ignorance is understandable because, by his own admission, he has never been there and has "no connection" to the country. His views must, then, be totally dependent on what he has heard, read and seen from third parties, the proof of the pudding certainly not being in the tasting.

His descriptions of Israel as a "lawless state" are remarkable considering that Israel is the only democracy within the entire Middle East and a country, in which freedom of speech is respected to its fullest extent. To read the United Nations Human Development Reports and then criticise Israel's Arab neighbours would be an easy but unproductive use of his letter but to highlight the huge blame on these countries for the squalid state of Palestinian refugee camps would be highly relevant and an important addition to his vehement criticisms.

Kennard's denial of the need for knowledge of the complex, multifaceted and much disputed history of the Arab-Israeli conflict is a dangerous method of thinking which only serves to compound his apparent lack of sensitivity to the emotions involved and very reasons behind the disputes. Together with his cartoonish narrow and misleading portrayal of Israeli society the article made for factually incorrect, insensitive and misleading ignorance.

Richard Jenkins

Although the letters page last week was stuffed full of dissembling and misrepresentation, I feel compelled to respond to Joe Weissman (Letters: Israel debate is not even").

He must have been reading a different article: on three occasions he says I called Israel "evil", but if you check the article I wrote the word doesn't appear once. It's an offensive lie primarily because I would try to refrain from using such an analytically vacuous term but also because I don't believe it. He also claims I call Israel "apartheid," which, if you check the article, is again a flat-out lie.

He goes on to say that I "assume that if the Archbishop Desmond Tutu says it, it must be right" - again I never make any such claim. But it is interesting which institutions completely agree with the conclusions of Archbishop Tutu and myself. These include such "extremist" bodies as the United Nations, The International Criminal Court and Amnesty International. Weissman strangely fails to mention the verdicts of these institutions at all, preferring to repeat the propaganda he's been spoon-fed but hasn't checked. It might actually be an idea for Weissman to read the articles he chooses to comment on before incanting his knee-jerk responses.

On the subject of "The Wall", Weissman fails to acknowledge why security is the main objective, it has been built so that it annexes about 10% of the West Bank. I suspect that for someone who swallows propaganda so wholeheartedly the cognitive dissonance would be too hard to bear if he were to look into this uncomfortable fact.

Instead of "praising Israel for withdrawing from Gaza" (incidentally, the occupation continues there as Israel control the borders, water and airspace), Weissman should be asking himself why Israel has occupied Gaza and the West Bank for 38 years in contradiction of international law and elementary morality.

On a different but tenuously related topic, Derek Turner, editor of far right magazine Right Now, quite hilariously lambastes me for a "damaging misrepresentation of his character" by affirming he was a former member of the National Front. He doesn't, however, deny the quote I attributed to him when he called himself "your friendly neighbourhood Nazi" which I hope most people would think is damaging to someone's character. I can't really decide which is worse - National Front or Nazi? Turner obviously made his choice.

It is also slightly sinister that he knows what subject I do at university - "I understand Matt is a student of history" - because that has never been printed anywhere in the newspaper. My only conclusion can be that Dr Ellis have done their own investigations and handed over the findings to Ellis's mate, the "friendly neighbourhood Nazi", How quaint.

Matt Kennard

Textual harassment...

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125

Comments expressed here are not necessarily the views of Leeds Student

Comment

"A hater in the true sense"



Oliver S. Joseph

Dr. Frank Ellis made it to national radio this morning BBC Radio Four interviewed Dr. Ellis about the Bell Curve and the controversy surrounding his views, we returned in a split second to a story covered two weeks ago by the Leeds Student. "Racist" lecturer Dr. Ellis was again in the hot seat representing our university on issues far removed from his area of study. Dr. Ellis is clearly up for a fight and as this Leeds story broke into wider realms outside of West Yorkshire we are again called on to consider the parameters of freedom of expression.

One might suppose that as this story continues to run it has taken on new significance for Leeds University and UK academia. The importance of this story goes beyond issues of anonymity in marking within the university, beyond issues of prejudice within the University. The issue is Dr. Frank Ellis using his position within the university as a platform to promote racism and intolerance.

A spokeswoman for the University maintained that Leeds University "is a diverse and multicultural community whose staff and students are proud to support ... mutual respect, diversity and equal opportunity". The Leeds University Equality and Diversity

Statement recognises that: 'we still have work to do to secure a truly inclusive community'. Work is no doubt in progress and weight of bureaucratic process seems firmly behind promotion of diversity and this combines well with efforts within the University Union and our community. All this said; what is the university prepared to do if there is determination within the ranks to undermine all efforts to achieve equity, racial diversity and harmony. What is the university prepared to do about Dr. Ellis.

Dr. Frank Ellis is a lecturer in Russian and Slavonic Studies within the School of Modern Languages and Cultures. Dr. Ellis seems intent on following the tactics of the British National Party by testing the parameters of free speech in the UK. It will not surprise many that the BNP has pub-

lished a press release on their website in defence of our beloved lecturer. The BNP's contribution however is not the only material that crops up when searching for material on Dr. Ellis the World Wide Web appears littered with material by our increasingly infamous professor. Right Now magazine published an Ellis article where he writes under the headline 'Enoch was right, Ray was right' I encourage all to find and read the article. He writes: 'On 7 July 2005 we were handsomely rewarded for our tolerance and punished for our failure to keep out the immigrants who came to this country

with murder in their ugly, black hearts.' Ellis is a hater in the truest sense. Ellis is an academic who has dangerously stepped beyond the remit of his field of study, Ellis's route into the debate over a multi-ethnic Britain is through his comparative study on political correctness in Soviet Russia and the Western World today. The University remains reluctant to take action against Ellis citing its commitment to academic freedom. This is a weak position to take. Ellis has been

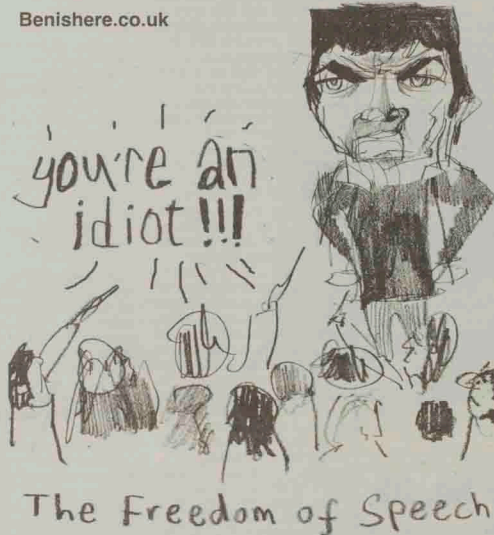
busy, representing the University of Leeds at gatherings of various right-wing pressure groups including in New Zealand and the United States. All academics should be free to travel raising the profile of the university and sharing their wisdom. It must surely be unacceptable however for a lecturer at Leeds travelling the world promoting a message entirely at odds with the stated mission and ambition of the University.

Leeds' students live in a city on the

frontline of a battle between those who seek communal harmony and those who seek to attack and divide. We have all lived through soul searching moments in West Yorkshire, and be not in doubt that diversity is under attack. Some of the London bombers rented a house up the road from my place in Burley; it remains boarded-up and a constant reminder of the pressures we collectively face as a community. Throw the West Yorkshire bombers story with stories of riots across France in autumn 2005, the publishing of the cartoons across Europe and the trial of the British National Party's Griffin and Collett in Leeds in January and you have a little collection of troubled sto-

Benishere.co.uk

The issue is Dr. Ellis using his position within the university to promote racism and intolerance



As students we will continue to fight against racism, fascism, anti-Semitism, homophobia and all manifestations of prejudice

ries which shake the very essence of our beautifully mixed communities.

As students we will continue to fight against racism, fascism, anti-Semitism, homophobia and all manifestations of prejudice. Our expectation from the university is that they continue their struggle against intolerance within the university. Dr. Ellis is not under attack as a defender of free speech, he is under attack because he is using his university appointment as a platform to promote intolerance. Today's interview showed he is prepared to fight and defend his views nationally; the university must fight back.

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Feminism is here to stay...

Jessica Geen

"I'm not a feminist, but..." is a common cry of women today.

Britain has had its first female prime minister. Women have the right to vote. It is now normal for women to attend university and compete for jobs on a par with their male counterparts. So feminism is no longer necessary? Wrong. We have not yet achieved true equality. Women are still being paid much less than men for doing the same jobs. According to the Fawcett Society, on average, women working full time earn less than three-quarters of a full time man's weekly wage. This leads to severe problems for women of retirement age, as is shown by statistics. For example, one in five female single pensioners live in poverty. This is because the pension system is based on an outdated model through which contributions are made via pay packets and as women must take time off work if they

have children, they automatically lose out on their pensions.

This is not the only risk for a woman who wants a family. For smaller companies, the current system of paying maternity leave to the mother, plus the problem of losing a member of staff can be very hard. The UKIP MEP Godfrey

According to the Fawcett Society, on average, women working full time earn less than three-quarters of a full time man's weekly wage

Bloom (as usual, suffering a severe case of foot-in-mouth syndrome) said "If you're a small business, you'd be a lunatic to hire a woman of child bearing age". Obviously, men cannot become pregnant, but society needs to recognise that in heterosexual relationships, men

have as much of a role to play in parenthood as women do. Why should we stick to outdated gender stereotypes of the man being the breadwinner and the woman staying at home to look after the house?

The arrival of the Pill in the early 1960s helped give women the same freedoms their male counterparts enjoyed, and was a revolution for women's rights, in addition to the right to a safe and legal abortion. A woman's right to control if and when she gets pregnant is a crucial part of her autonomy over her life and her body, enabling her to make her own choices in life. It is easy to take these things for granted. However, we must not become complacent. The recent phenomenon of US chemists refusing to sell emergency contraception is disturbing, as are calls to restrict, or even ban access to abortion completely. As surely as women have won these rights, they can just as easily be taken away.

One goal of feminism was for women to be judged for who they are, rather than what they look like. A recent

poll of 15-19 year olds showed that 63% of them would chose being a glamour model over other career choices such being a doctor or teacher. It appears that they have learnt from what they see in the media, that the fastest

The usual feminist stereotypes of hairy, unattractive lesbians who simply 'need a good shag' still persist

way for them to gain 'approval' is to take their clothes off and be judged solely on their bodies. The problem here is not nudity, the naked body can be very beautiful, but self-respect does not come from subjecting your body to the critical glare of the media. Young girls (and increasingly, boys) all over the country are starving themselves

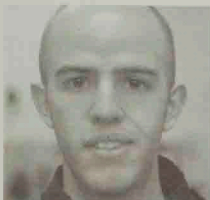
because they have learned to equate the airbrushed, unattainable media images they see with success and happiness.

The usual feminist stereotypes of hairy, unattractive lesbians who simply 'need a good shag' still persist. Some young women would rather die than proclaim themselves to be feminists, naively assuming they'll have the choice of being working mothers or staying at home with the kids. When you consider a country in which women have no freedom over their lives and bodies, and both sexes are miserably stuck in their assigned gender roles, apathy really does kill. The term 'feminism' can be seen to exclude men but this is merely a lexical problem. As yet, women are not powerful enough to discard the aims and ideals of feminism, which do not just pertain to women, but stand for equality for all. The fight is not over

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The Blair Legacy

* Blair has his legacy but it will be one of Thatcherite economics and violent foreign policy



Pete Bicknell

Fast-forward ten years and what will people be saying about Tony Blair? Will they talk about Britain's years of "economic stability" under his premiership? Will they wax lyrical over the "record levels of investment in public services" or maybe a prime minister who was "tough on crime and tough on the causes of crime"? These are among many things that Blair will want people to speak of after he's gone; for the time when Blair will step down as Prime Minister and let somebody else take the reigns is looming and he is desperate to leave a lasting legacy before he goes.

Tony Blair is on a mission during his final months as PM to push through as many reforms as he can, hoping that he can make his mark on history. But Blair already has quite a substantial legacy, some of which he appears to be aware of, and some of which he appears oblivious to. Blair knows that the conflict in Iraq casts a large shadow over his premiership, and to be frank most of the world is pretty aware of that too.

What we are seeing now is his attempt to try and sweep the war under the carpet by proposing bills, legislation and schemes, most of which are rush-jobs that haven't been thought through properly. This would be bad enough if it was only Iraq that

Tony Blair has failed consistently in his quest to build a better Britain. His legacy is a damning one, and in a situation where most people would bow out to save some grace, Blair seems intent on self-destruction

Blair had to worry about. What makes all this "reform" nonsense worse is the fact that Tony Blair has failed consistently in his quest to build a better Britain. His legacy is a damning one, and in a situation

where most people would bow out to save some grace, Blair seems intent on self-destruction.

The overriding impression that I get of New Labour in the years they've been in power is one of opportunities missed and promises broken. As a society can we really say that things are now significantly better in 2006 than they were in 1997? I can think of some small improvements such as the New Deal, the minimum wage and the upcoming smoking ban, but many of the so-called enhancements championed by Blair in the last nine years are merely a continuation of previous Tory policy.

Privatisation and economic growth may have increased Britain's standing in the world markets, but Labour has made the mistake of

Many of the so-called enhancements championed by Blair in the last nine years are merely a continuation of previous Tory policy

thinking that if our country's GDP is growing then by default everyone benefits. The truth is that the people who have benefited the most have been big business and the middle classes, while the poor have been sidelined.

Wealth distribution has not been forthcoming and under Tony Blair the gap between rich and poor in this country has grown. That is scandalous. The Labour party, supposedly the champion of the poor, has merely served to propagate Tory-ism with a slightly friendlier face. Blair refuses to increase taxation on the rich, instead favouring to raise revenue from private companies. The continuation of these schemes that sees people make profits out of providing national services and denies the public to own what's rightfully theirs, (the railways being an example) is an abomination.

Meanwhile, Blair appears happy to watch corporate fatcats line their pockets with huge profits while teachers, nurses and a whole range of public sector workers slave away on ridiculously low wages. Where is the check on capitalism that a Labour government should be implementing? We should also question the credibility of a Labour leader who happily collaborates with a hardline right-wing US president and his country's aggressive foreign policy.

Blair is now trying to push through proposals that erode our civil liberties as well, suggesting that we

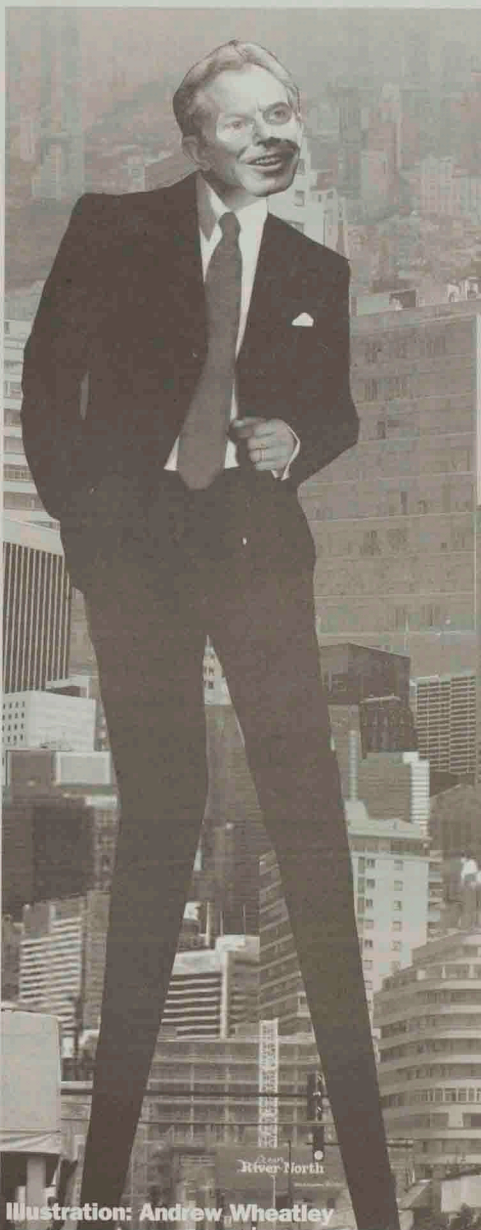


Illustration: Andrew Wheatley

all pay substantial sums of money for ID cards. Why? Are we all suspected criminals now? Recently he was proposing to detain terror suspects for ninety days without charge. Thank goodness he didn't get his way.

Tony Blair sees himself as a radical reformer, and appears to believe

Blair appears happy to watch corporate fatcats line their pockets with huge profits while teachers, nurses and a whole range of public sector workers slave away on ridiculously low wages

that when he leaves Downing Street we'll all be thanking him warmly for his work. I feel he may be deluding himself somewhat. New Labour has been utterly devoid of the radicalism that it needed to help narrow the wealth-gap in this country. Blair's antics have also made it harder for radical voices to be heard because he is endangering the stability of the Labour Party.

I fully recognise that Labour deserves to be punished for what it has done to Britain but (and I know I'm being hopelessly naive here) I still cling to the hope that Labour can become a true socialist party of the

New Labour has been utterly devoid of the radicalism that it needed to help narrow the wealth-gap in this country. Blair's antics have also made it harder for radical voices to be heard

people, and for that to happen it needs to retain some of its power and for natural change to occur from within. I'm afraid that the prospect of Gordon Brown becoming leader doesn't bode well.

Despite what the Tories say, Brown is no socialist and I hope that he is not given an instant coronation. There needs to be a leadership contest where maybe, just maybe Labour find the socialist leader that they and, I believe, the country desperately needs. Tony Blair needs to call that contest soon, or else watch his legacy go from bad to worse.

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Clockwise from right: The redundant colliery headgear at Barnsley Main Colliery; the sun sets on mining at Rossington; the colliery entrance at the mothballed Hatfield Main Colliery; at the coal face at Harworth Colliery.

Photos: Dan Johnson & UK COAL

Old K

21 years after the miners' strike and Rossington Colliery is still a mining community will have a new president, **Dan Johnson**, reports from the role of



Yorkshire's landscape has long been dominated by the pit headgear of its coalmines and, 20 years ago, the area boasted over 50 of the country's most modern and productive collieries. Today, just three Yorkshire pits remain in production and their futures are uncertain. In the manager's office at Rossington Colliery, near Doncaster, Geoff Mountain hands round the biscuits. He can afford to be liberal with the hobnobs; Rossington's biscuit tin won't be serving many more visitors. "We used to have girls up to last year but now it's vending machines," he says, describing the run-down of manpower that started with the canteen ladies. After 90 years of coal extraction, the pit will be mothballed in the next couple of weeks, at a time when coal prices are at record highs. The 59-year-old colliery manager explains that he is selling all the coal he can fetch out of the pit and he's selling it at a profit. However, the development costs of finding coal reserves mean that the pit has lost £1million a month, consistently for the last 20 months. Stuart Oliver, spokesman for UK COAL, the colliery owner, sums up the situation: "the current position is that in the next month or so we will cease production even though this colliery has probably 20million tonnes of reserves. We've hit the buffers, there's

coal there, there's markets there, but we haven't got the financial clout to develop those reserves which could give Rossington another 15-20 year lifespan". If UK COAL can't find the £20million needed to access the reserves locked underground, the Government will be the final port of call to sow the seeds of a sustainable future for the pit. Beneficial coal supply contracts signed when world energy prices were low have left collieries in the red. What the Conservative Government termed the 'ultimate privatisation' has resulted in British coal mines struggling to survive even when world prices are at a high.

Coal still accounts for one third of electricity generation in this country and with only eight operational coalmines in Britain you may wonder where it comes from. The sources are diverse, including South Africa, Columbia and America, and supplies are far more reliable than oil from the Middle East or Russia. Coal's major disadvantage is the polluting CO2 released into the atmosphere and contributing to climate change. Clean coal technologies have been developed that allow coal to be burnt in environmentally friendly ways with zero emissions. One method involves the CO2 being pumped into the cavity left by extraction of coal or oil where it can be stored indefinitely. Coal mining is not

the antiquated industry of yesteryear, either. Pickaxes and shovels way a long time ago to huge face-cutting machines and armoured conveyors that speed the coal to the surface with little involvement human hands. Thermal imaging cameras pick up any underground fire and Geoff Mountain's desk holds two computer screens controlling the automatic system that monitors the conditions throughout the mine. Still, mining is not the best occupation for a man's health and the always danger down a pit. Last week 18 miners at Maltby Colliery Rotherham were trapped in the shaft for two hours with whiplash hypothermia after the cage halted suddenly during their rapid descent.

This is not the first time that Rossington has faced closure. In 1992, just prior to privatisation, it was shut down by British Coal before being reopened when the coal industry was sold to RJB Mining which later became UK COAL. Their spokesman, Stuart Oliver explained: "this was a mine that parliamentarians said in 1992 didn't deserve a future. We reopened it a year later so the men here have had 12 years that others said they didn't deserve and it may not be the most comfortable but we can say with some pride that we proved them wrong. He holds some hope that the colliery can rise from the ashes once a



film x

FIRST IMPRESSIONS BOOKS/LOWDOWN/ARTS/MUSIC



THE OSCARS 2006



this week

THE OSCARS GEORGE ORWELL FAIRTRADE SYRIANA THE PROPOSITION TOP FIVE UNFANCIBLE MEN TRIVIUM MORNING RUNNER USE THE SPORKS LOCK DOWN LOW DOWN GATECRASHER SATURDAY FEVER BITTERSWEET BOOSH IT REAL GOOD TOP GEAR ERINSBOROUGH NEWS FILM REVIEW BOOK REVIEWS

also this week

TV-HEARTBEAT/FILM-THE OSCARS 2006

SYRIANA THE PROPOSITION (DJ) YODA TRIVIUM/MORNING RUNNER

FILM REVIEWS/MUSIC/ARTS

SYRIANA THE PROPOSITION (DJ) YODA TRIVIUM/MORNING RUNNER

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GEORGE ORWELL

plus! Andi Peters
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the
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new book

**Author's
Review**
The author
of 'The
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Moses' says
it's time
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ORWELL THAT ENDS WELL

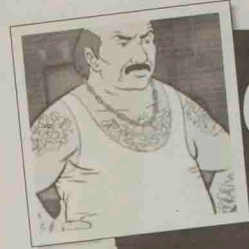
Orwell The Facts

1984
George Orwell

1984
George Orwell

1984
George Orwell

BOOKS 4&5



BAG O' NEWS

Tom is
NOT my
friend...

The heady rush of pre-high adrenaline before I jack up; the cotton mouth and Delirium Tremens when I can't locate a fix; and the sheer blissful nirvana in which I become engulfed when I finally get my medicine. Ladies and Gentlemen, I have a new addiction. And it is Myspace.

Ere I was persuaded to post a profile on what I then saw as a frivolous expedition for the terminal alone some two weeks ago, I used the interweb solely for those things for which Jesus had intended: namely email, illegal downloads and pornography. But that was then, and this is now, which in turn is the future.

I know everyone else was on top of this thing about two years ago, but I was busy what with all the pornography and all. I feel I have an air of Lazarus about me recently - I have been risen and now sit at the virtual table with the righteous folk who have been blessed all along.

Since joining this tempestuous gathering of fictional personalities, I have accumulated an array of supposed friends, including Alec Empire, Cheryl Tweedy, Jakki Degg and Chris Nieratko. Now that is all well and good, and indeed, I sleep easier at night, feeling my social status has been raised a rung, and I am one step closer to complete social domination of the two-bit celebrity world. But the real fun with Myspace lies not in finding people you recognise, but people you've never met, and systematically stalking them.

Don't get me wrong here. I am not (usually) the type of person that would follow a stranger home and peer through their windows and send them crude crayon drawings of our wedding, unless they were really hot. But this isn't real stalking of real people; this is virtual stalking of virtual people, because no-one is actually who they say they are on Myspace, are they? Everyone is elevated to the standing of social Goliath, and everyone is as cool as two chain smoking monkeys wearing trillies. For who would wittingly tell the world at large of their lack of companionship, their obsession with blutack, their inability to speak in sentences or their sexual foibles involving goat's milk? Instead, we have gathered together over sixty million well read, well rounded and well cool people.

Admittedly, there is the occasional moron who lacks even the manners to lie about themselves, but they invariably end up in Myspace the way they ended up in the real world - utterly alone, eating beans from the can with a teaspoon.

I have turned into quite the voyeur recently, too, although it is a regular side effect with addictions such as my own. There is a strange joy in reading about the lives of people you have never, nor will ever meet, and perusing their photographs. Something has just occurred to me - I suddenly understand this nation's obsession with celebrity culture. And now I'm frightened. For years I have scorned the celebrated classes, the glossy magazines within which they dwell, and those who follow their every extra-marital escapade, and now I am doing the same thing, albeit with a much lower strata of civilisation. (At this point, I would like to ignore that I did mention I have added a few famous types to my collection of "friends".)

Perhaps I should go cold turkey and try to kick the habit? I do have exams looming, and a life in the real world which needs constant maintenance. And besides, I have enough addictions already to fill up the time between sleep. Ah, fuck it, I don't care, come be my friend on Myspace!

Noel Darcy
10.03.06

**TO
MUSIC**

**From
The
Book
of
Moses**

**Monday
Funnies**

YOU LIKE?

YOU LIKE?

YOU LIKE?

MUSIC 10&11

FILMED IN YORKSHIRE

**STEVE & BEAR'S
HEAD TO HEARTBEAT**

**THE
END**

COUNTRY LIFE 12&13

wass th' dillio!??

I look?

I look?

I looking?
I looking?
I looking?
I looking?
I looking?
I looking?



Lowdown

with Olivia & Poppy

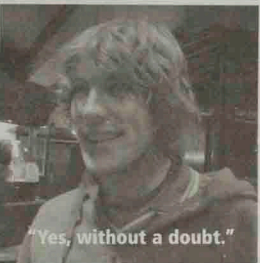
Deal or No Deal?

This week we're asking you...
Would you eat a worm for £100?



"Yes! Easily."

Matt, 21, seems rather cocksure when it comes to eating slimy things.



"Yes, without a doubt."

Jonathon, 22, may be strapped for cash or he may be hungry. We don't know.



"Yes, with seasoning."

Sarah, 21, was also very keen on a wormy snack. What does this say about students?

Oh dear. Looks like Olivia has finally learnt the evils of alcohol, and, yes, it was the hard way. She would like to take this opportunity to point out that the checkout assistant in Morrison's was right: a three litre bottle of white cider is rank and she paid the price. Literally (it was £2.99) and metaphorically. Olivia would also like to apologise to the gentlemen she was conversing with in the Faversham last week, she unfortunately cannot remember their names but would like to thank them for their interest in the Lowdown. In other news, Poppy has cut down on the old cancer sticks which is good for her and others around her. Looks like lives once filled with poison and toxic fumes have taken a turn for the better, seeing as Olivia won't be touching that stuff for a while. So why not join us in our quest for cleaner living? Or don't. It's your decision. Bub bye x

Easter's coming

Easter is almost upon us and we're sure you're trying to think of ways to entertain yourself over the break while you're back at home with your family. You may have small children to keep occupied and/or elderly grandparents to jollify. Easter offers many exciting opportunities and ideas to ensure that a good time is had by all. Poppy is a fan of blowing eggs. She used to (probably still does) get home from school and sit in her kitchen blowing eggs. Alone. She would often only manage to blow the one because she got bored. Some things never change. The obvious choice of activity around this time is to eat chocolate until you pass out. Gone are the days when parents buy hundreds of eggs, apart from Poppy's, apparently, so if you want one you have to buy it yourself, which is somewhat depressing. But make sure you go a couple of days after the resurrection and get them half price. Result! Why not dress up as a fluffy bunny and then, well, then just sit in the costume feeling Easterly? And then there's always the obligatory Easter Hat parade. These mainly take place at primary schools so you may have to make a short trip to your nearest one. Take your parents along and make them proud, we can assure you they will be. Remember to stock up on creme eggs, they will soon be gone.

Go and see...

Glaswegian four piece **Shitdisco** have been causing a stir recently. Probably because of their performances under bridges and in toilet cubicles, but the four lads have become slightly more refined. However exciting these impromptu and unconventional gigs are, Shitdisco have now embarked on a proper tour and will be gracing **The Faversham** this week on the day of **Wed 15th** (Wednesday). Apparently men sometimes feel the need to undress themselves when they hear the electro-funk-pop sounds of Shitdisco, so beware. Don't let their title fool you - they may be shit by name, but they're not by nature. Go and see them and have a dance, because it's that sort of music. Alright? Good.



Shitty Disco that's not 'shitty'

SPOTTED!

Who've you seen round Leeds this week?

A 12 year-old girl in a System of A Down hoodie, sitting cross-legged on the pavement, listening to music off her mobile phone and playing air guitar. Excellent.



A man with a real guitar.

Overheard

It's back! By popular demand

Jesus is meant to have prayed so much he bled, but where exactly did he bleed from?...I'm probably going to kill myself from the razz...she can't spell, she's got special needs...I can see your leopard print bra, oh no, they're your nipples...we fart a lot and squirt out lubricant...I've eaten kangaroo meat, it was in a Walkabout in Slough though...shitty bastard woodpeckers...the ear is the new arsehole...don't punch me in there...rabbit is the best meat...How would a man be tender with you?...I want some fucking mousse...my deodorant smells like BO which is unfortunate...

Don't miss...

You may have noticed that we've mentioned this band in here before, but that is because we love them as much as we love strawberry bootlaces. Which is appropriate, because they are Matt, Anna and Jodie, better known as **The Sugars**, and they are releasing their first ever single 'Do Wop (Sugar So Sweet)' /TV at **The Faversham** on **Saturday 18th March**. It's going to be on vinyl (classic), it's going to be pink (amazing) and it's going to be the first release for the newly-founded Bad Sneakers Records from the night of the same night every Saturday at le Fav. Not only are The Sugars releasing their eagerly-awaited vinyl but they're playing their 50s-do-wop live, with support from The Motorettes. And the night doesn't end there...Bad Sneakers DJs will be spinning their very own discs until three in the ruddy morning. It is rumoured that there's going to be a candy-floss machine and there's going to be plenty of Sugar's merch to lay your greedy little paws on, like rock with The Sugars' striped all the way through it. Get there early to make sure you get some of this, it's limited edition. Why not do as we are doing and dress 50s style? Go all out and get ready by drinking sticky milkshakes in the OK Diner off the A1. Or just get a bottle of cheapp Chardonnay from the One Stop. Just make sure you get to The Fav for this night of darn unmissable music.



Top Five Unfanciable Men. OK, we don't want to alienate our male audience here, but we thought it was about time you found out who we don't think should ever be classed as fit. Each to their own, though. Just not to *our* own. **1. Noel Edmonds** - He's diminutive, his hair is really swooshed back and he's just creepy. And a bit slimy. And a bit perky. **2. Mr Showbiz** - Of Closer magazine fame. He has the face of a female toddler but more taut and shiny with spiky blond hair. Vom. **3. Anthony Worrel Thompson** - Yes, he could cook you some nice food but do you fancy wanking up next to a little troll man with floaty hair and the voice of a hobgoblin? Smelling like kitchen grease? Thought not. **4. Jeremy Beadle** - Ooh what's that, Jezza? Oh right, it's your hand. Do you want to remove it? **NOW. 5. Jeremy Kyle** - He's not really all that ugly but he's so rude. Imagine trying to have any sort of relationship with him. He'd accuse you of lying and taking drugs, would remind you of his brother's addiction and how much he adores his children and then assault you with a cutting stare.

Fresh



Knitwear

A light knitwear is great this time of year. Drape a cardigan over your shoulders and when that gets annoying and impractical just put it on.

Raja's Takeaway

This Brudenell Grove eatery is great for food and service. The staff are willing to put their jobs on the line for your pleasure. Now that's good.

Planet Earth

We're not ones for getting excited about documentaries but this one is good. Very good. Top notch photography and weird animals. Ooh, think I just experienced The Sublime...

Deal Or No Deal

It's going prime time. Every episode is exciting. Noel gets weirder. The Banker becomes increasingly fictional. It's a game of guesswork! Genius.

On The Turn

Simon and Miquita

They're leaving. That just ain't right. Who is going to be able to take their place? Nobody. That's who. Nobody.

Premature Stripping

Yes, it's very sunny but you know how we feel about flip flops. Not before May. And they are away before September is out. For crying out loud, there's still snow on the ground.

Rapping Preachers

Can be found outside the St John centre chanting. "You might look like Beyonce but you won't be my fiance. She may be a looker but she dresses like a hooker". Charming.

Tripping Up

Always seems to happen when you think you are at your most dignified. Head held high, looking alright and then whoops. Just hope no-one important saw.



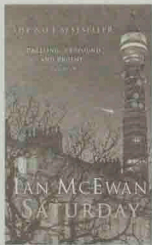
Stale

Saturday Write Fever

Ian McEwan's latest offering, *Saturday*, gets the treatment from our award-winning reviewer, Chris Tedd, this week, and we also have a look at the biography of **Mama Cass**, singer in '60s group **The Mamas and The Papas**, as well as our Editor's Choice, **One Pill Makes You Smaller**. On Page Five, Rachel Dampare tells you all you need to know about George Orwell, whose novel **Nineteen Eighty Four** won last week's Leeds Read Best Book. For dessert, we have a recipe for Brownies from our Book of the Month, **A Fair Feast**, available with £2 off all month in Union Books.

Saturday Ian McEwan

Vintage £7.99



Saturday, the latest novel of Booker Prize-winning author Ian McEwan, joins a literary tradition that includes Joyce's *Ulysses* and Virginia Woolf's *Mrs. Dalloway*, in dealing with the events of a single day, told in "real time" from a character's perspective. The Saturday in question begins with the protagonist, Henry Perwone, a neurosurgeon living in London, witnessing an aeroplane landing in flames. As the day unfolds, via an anti-war demonstration, an attempted mugging and various other events, we are given an insight into the questions and conflicts present in our "post-9/11" society.

Much has been made of the political and moral thought contained in the book, and it is certainly impressive in the way it presents a complete picture of the conflicting forces and influences that act upon us, illustrating them clearly and in rich detail. However, I felt it failed to offer any new insight into the human condition and did not cause me to view any issue in a new light, contrary to what I had been led to expect, but then that is not really the point of the book, as it seeks more to describe than to explain.

Such an ambitious concept would not be achievable were it not for McEwan's incredible skill with words; his prose is rich and concise, including all necessary detail while containing nothing extraneous, and his timing and weighting in action scenes is as sublime as ever. Of course, when compared to the Modernist works previously mentioned he is not able to capture internal thoughts and dialogue to quite the same extent: we are told what the characters are thinking, rather than experiencing it first-hand; nevertheless, these thoughts and emotions are always tangible and realistic, and of a greater subtlety than in many contemporary works.

Saturday is further evidence that Ian

McEwan remains one of the superlative novelists of our time, continuing to tackle subjects of massive scope and significance with outstanding detail and clarity. His skill and ambition only continue to increase, and one can but wonder what he may achieve next.

9/10

Chris Tedd

Dream a Little Dream of Me: The Life of "Mama" Cass Elliott Eddi Fiegel

Pan £7.99



Bearing in mind that Mama Cass is probably known as much for the fact she supposedly choked to death on a ham sandwich as for her beautiful voice and songs, a biography of her life is probably due. Cass's life story is interesting in itself, and made even more fascinating by its backdrop of the 1960s music scene. A student in Baltimore at the time of the Cuban Missile Crisis, Cass eventually moved to Greenwich Village in New York and became a central focus of the hippy music scene, singing vocals in a series of folk groups and, eventually, forming *The Mamas and The Papas*.

Her close friends included the biggest stars of the music scene, including the Beatles, Bob Dylan and Joni Mitchell, among many others. The book charts her rise to fame with songs such as *California Dreaming*, *Monday Monday* and *Dream A Little Dream of Me*, and her becoming one of the most famous women on the global music scene. With fame came acceptance as a larger woman, but she never really felt comfort-

able within herself. She suffered crippling insecurities and became addicted to slimming pills, which contained amphetamines. Like so many other stars of the 1970s, she battled with heroin addiction, including an overdose while her daughter was still very young.

Her voice was affected to the extent that, while recording, she had a nurse in the studio in case she needed medical attention. Her early death in 1974 came the night after she'd spent 24 hours at Mick Jagger's birthday party, and although Cass joined Jimi Hendrix, Janis Joplin and Jim Morrison as a casualty of the late '60s music scene, this book shows a very human side to the superstar.

It is very well-written and researched, and the author recalls the challenge David Crosby gave her, "I'll give you \$100 if you can find a single person who hated Cass". Eddi Fiegel concludes that, despite her huge fame, Cass never lost the kindness and warmth which made her a truly likeable person.

8/10

Alice Murphy

EDITOR'S
CHOICE

One Pill Makes you Smaller

Lisa Dierbeck
Canongate £10.99



Alice Duncan is the eleven year old protagonist of Lisa Dierbeck's *One Pill Makes You Smaller*, set in the experimental world of 1970s counter-culture. Borrowing from Lewis Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland*, Dierbeck sends her Alice on a similarly startling and surreal journey that is drug-fuelled, eerie and irresistible.

Her mother, Rain, has abandoned her to travel Italy with her lover and her once-respected artist father, Dean, has checked himself into a mental institution. Alice is therefore left in the care of her hedonistic, coke-snorting, pot-smoking sixteen year

old half-sister, Aunt Esme, in their father's New York apartment.

While her Aunt Esme spends her surplus on a rock star's groupie in Los Angeles, Alice is sent to the dilapidated Balthus Institute, an unorthodox summer school in North Carolina, artistically talented children, where "about eighty-eight percent of your acquaintances are to be junkies. The other ten percent will be heads". Alice wants people to notice her artwork, but seems only to attract the scornful attention she's too young to know what it is with. She is unusually well developed for her age and at school was hit on not only by her classmates, but by their fathers too, leading to her preoccupation with, and hatred of, her "breasts". At the Balthus Institute, Dierbeck's version of the rabbit-hole, the girl in the woman's body finds herself subject to the attention of thirty-five year old JD, Aunt Esme's principal drug dealer.

JD fills the role of the Cheshire cat, a haughty, arrogant and cruel twin teenager, who assumes the roles of Tweedledum and Tweedledee. Maintaining the illusion that she is as old as she looks, Alice soon finds herself in the midst of a slow, insidious seduction. Dierbeck is brilliant at capturing what it is like to be a young girl subject to the gaze of an older man. Alice is fascinated by her seducer, both power and disgust, curious as to why his body is telling her to go, but frightened of the eleven year-old in such a situation must be repulsive, yet enticing as he slowly, in convincing Alice that she is the seducer, becomes a victim.

Described by one reviewer as "a masterpiece of the counter-culture with the tragic universe of Lewis Carroll" and by another as "almost Lolita from Lolita's point of view", it is a fascinating, absorbing novel, which might find yourself reading in a single sitting. At times both disturbing and triumphant, it leaves you turning it over in your mind: always pleasant, but a highly recommended compelling read.

9/10

Freddie Huntley

Amazon Fiction Bestsellers

1. Labyrinth - Kate Mosse
2. Cell - Stephen King
3. The Time Traveller's Wife - Audrey Niffenegger
4. Brokeback Mountain - Annie Proulx
5. False Impression - Jeffrey Archer
6. My Sister's Keeper - Jodi Picoult
7. The Kite Runner - Khaled Hosseini
8. Saturday - Ian McEwan
9. The Da Vinci Code - Dan Brown
10. The Bonehunters - Steven Erikson

10.03.01

ORWELL THAT ENDS WELL

After days of intensive voting, Leeds University students decided that their Leeds Read Winner was George Orwell's classic *Nineteen-Eighty Four*. The book made a splash when it was first published in 1949 and remains fresh and contemporary over 50 years later. It has gone on to inspire the hugely popular Big Brother series, which continues to draw nutters from all over the country every summer. The novel centres around Winston, who tries to fight the totalitarian government under which he lives. His efforts to remain an individual are thwarted by the ubiquitous Thought Police and, in the end, he is made to face the punishments dished out to all those who dare to fight the all-powerful Big Brother figure. *Nineteen-Eighty Four* has all the elements of a great thriller and suspense story so it is no surprise that it is Leeds University's favourite read. We've decided to provide you with some facts about the author behind *Nineteen-Eighty Four* - George Orwell. Feel free to bore your friends and family with this information.



Orwell: The Facts

Here is all you need to know about renowned author George Orwell...

- 1) George Orwell was actually born Eric Blair but changed his name for writing purposes
- 2) Orwell was born in India in 1903, when India was still under British colonial rule
- 3) Orwell was once a student at the hugely prestigious Eton college



- 4) Orwell spent considerable periods of time living the life of a tramp as a way of investigating the life of the underclass
- 5) Orwell worked as a journalist for a while as a way of earning cash between novels
- 6) Orwell and his wife adopted a child in 1945; the child's name was Richard Horatio Blair (very posh).
- 7) Orwell wrote much of his classic novel *Nineteen-Eighty Four* while in a remote farmhouse just off the coast of Scotland
- 8) Orwell remarried just before his death in 1949; he married Sonia Brownwell
- 9) Orwell's views remained fairly leftist throughout his life, although his political views did alter.

- 10) While alive, Orwell was actually better known for his role as a journalist rather than in his role as a novelist
- 11) Orwell coined the phrase "Big Brother is watching you"
- 12) Orwell's first wife, Eileen, was once a student of J. R. R. Tolkien
- 13) George Orwell was a firm believer in the power of language, particularly as a tool for political manipulation.
- 14) George Orwell cited Jack London, Charles Dickens, Henry Miller and Herman Melville (author of *Moby Dick*) as his literary influences
- 15) Orwell thought that Jonathan Swift's novel, *Gulliver's Travels*, was one of the six greatest books ever written

Orwell died at just forty-six years old in London. He died from tuberculosis; a disease which he probably contracted during the period of his life described in *Down and Out in Paris and London*. He spent the last few years of his life in and out of hospital. The epitaph on his grave simply reads: "Here lies Eric Arthur Blair, born June 25th, 1903, died January 21st, 1950".



Our book of the month for March is *A Fair Feast* - a Fair Trade cook book; to give you a taster of what you can expect, we're giving you weekly recipes which use fair trade products. This week - it's Brownies.

Nutty Chocolate and Coffee Brownies

For 12 brownies you will need:

- 50g of dark Fairtrade chocolate, roughly broken up
- 110g of butter
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 225 unrefined (golden) Fairtrade sugar
- 50g plain flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- A pinch of salt
- 100g of hazelnuts (chopped in half)

For the frosting

- 100g butter, softened to room temperature
- 100g icing sugar
- 100g cream cheese
- 1 tablespoon stong, black Fairtrade coffee

Pre-heat oven to 180 Degrees Celsius/ 350 Degrees Fahrenheit/ Gas Mark 4. Grease a tin measuring approximately 27cm x 18cm and line with baking paper, allowing paper to rise 3cm above the tin. Roast hazelnuts in oven for 10 minutes (maximum) until lightly browned. Melt chocolate and butter in a bowl over a pan of simmering water. Sieve flour, baking powder and salt into a bowl. Stir in sugar. Beat in eggs and chocolate mixture until well-mixed. Stir in hazelnuts. Pour mixture into the tin and bake for 30-40 minutes until centre springs back when lightly pressed. Remove from the oven and allow to cool completely in tin. To make frosting, beat butter and icing sugar together until pale and fluffy. Beat in cream cheese and coffee. Spread frosting on cooled brownies. Chill in fridge for 30 minutes, then cut into squares.



00:30
What better way to spend the early hours of a Monday morning, I think, than to watch the 78th Academy Awards. I turn to Sky Movies and sit patiently for some discussion on current fashion. And, just like clockwork, the inevitable

atrocities begin: what the hell is that huge bow on Charlize Theron's ultra-constructed gown? I quickly dismiss this, however, and accept that it had to have been designed by the same guys that did the Roger Stephens building.

01:03
The opening of the ceremony in which previous Oscar hosts are too busy in movie clichés to present proves entertaining, if a little self-serving.

01:10
Host Jon Stewart gets topical, "Raise your hand if you were not in Crash". Worryingly, not too many hands are raised.

01:20
Clooney wins Best Supporting Actor for *Syriana*, and acknowledges it was a token gesture, "Alright, so I'm not winning director". People laugh, ladies yearn, George cunningly seals future Best Director award. What a guy!

01:35
Wallace and Gromit win! But why are Nick Park and his buddy sporting those crazy bow-ties? Wait a sec, why is Oscar now sporting the same crime to the eye. It burns!

And the Winners are...

01:40

After cleansing my eyes, and once the burning sensation has passed, I resume watching the coverage. Kong starts winning a bunch of effects awards. Academy voters seem to forget the laughably half-finished Brontosaurus stampede scene. My eyelids start to droop; that new Sprite energy drink is digested.

01:50

I assume I'm dreaming, as I see an animated Chicken present an award. (Later find out that it actually happened)

02:00

Rachel Weisz looks stunning as she collects **Best Supporting Actress for *The Constant Gardener*** in heavily-pregnant state. She speaks with integrity.

02:30

Those pesky Penguins waddle off with the documentary award. About to fall asleep when J-Lo comes on stage looking alarmingly bronze (even next to Oscar). This startles me.

02:40

Musical montage.

02:50

Another musical montage. Sigh.

03:05

The revelation that Robert Altman had hidden his heart transplant for over a decade is quite shocking. I start to wonder whether the female heart he received improved his movies. Probably not.

03:24

A rap about pimps, yes PIMPS, wins Best Original Song. I look around the room to find someone to share my disbelief with, but everyone went to bed hours ago.

03:40

Will Smith dispels rumours that he was killed in a car crash last year by presenting the Oscar for **Best Foreign Film**. He appears desperate for a job. **Tsotsi** wins, by the way.

03:50

Philip Seymour Hoffman wins Best Actor and then says "I love" a lot of times. Unfortunately, he doesn't do a Capote impression.

04:05

In an astonishingly weak category (she was against Keira, for crying out loud) **Reese Witherspoon steals the Best Actress**. Apparently she's wearing Christian Dior. "I'm just trying to matter," I wonder if she's joking, but apparently she isn't. Part of me dies inside, and then I realise that she reminds me of 90s horror B-movie icon The Leprechaun.

04:20

Starting to worry about that 9am lecture now. **Ang Lee** then sends

sages to people in what I assume to be Chinese. As my attention picks up I appreciate that he's probably just won **Best Director for *Brokeback Mountain*** - although I never actually have this confirmed.

04:25

The big one - surely *Brokeback* will take Best Picture?

04:27

"And the winner is!" - Jack Nicholson grins - "Crash!" - he gestures with another grin and points two fingers upwards in a gun-like motion. He then puffs his cheeks to signify his shock. After hours of stupid speeches, I can no longer distinguish the truth from my nightmarishly creative subconscious. Crash? The race-relations film that started promisingly, but in the end had to rely on images of flickering fire in order to achieve any kind of emotional response. Crash? Really? Tell me it's a joke.

But it was no joke. Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yes **Paul Haggis' *Crash* had won Best Picture**, an award that seems to be given out with a thick coat of irony these days.

With this in mind the frontrunners for 2007

appear to be Seann William Scott's

"Cockblockers", and Samuel L.

Jackson's latest, "Snakes on a Plane".

Expect Jenna Jameson to

romp the Best Actress category.

Yes these are worrying

times, and, as I fall asleep at

somehow close to 5am, I

long for a return to the reliable

days when underrated

masterpieces such as

Driving Miss Daisy

could strut away confidently

with the Best

Picture. Zzzzzzz



Bittersweet Life, though the title seems to suggest some sort of spiritual journey movie, is kinda not. Kinda not, in that instead of some protagonist finding love or a shade of inner peace, we have in a Korean, violent thriller revolving around crime rings. With some obvious echoes of *Oldboy*, *Bittersweet Life* follows Kim Sun-Woo, a wealthy and prestigious hotel-owner by day, but by night a lethal and trusted right-hand man to crime lord Mr Kang. One day entrusted to spy on Kang's girlfriend, Hee-Soo, things take a turn for the worse for Sun-Woo when he uncharacteristically spares her life and that of her other lover. What ensues are the horrible, horrible consequences - Sunwoo, gets punished for his act of pity by former colleagues for not fulfilling his duties and is deeply traumatised by these events.

After all, getting buried alive, and having your favourite hand smashed by an oversized wrench is not a pleasing experience. With a nod to Western heroes who go on the revenge warpath, Sun-woo gets mean. In the "Don't Piss These Guys Off" Hall of Fame which includes Chuck Norris, Russell Crowe, Rambo and, to a significantly lesser extent, Jeremy Beadle, Sun-woo is up there with the best of them - he really takes/delivers some punishment in the film, which makes me think he should be related to Hamlet or something. While you can feel his sorrow and pain, the person who should be the victim of the film is the person who has to clean up all the mess and consequences of his actions after his wake. How inconsiderate of the man.

Though the first half build-up seems a bit slow in introducing the main characters and setting the main storyline in motion, the second half is anything but. The pace immediately picks

up, and is unrecognisable compared to the emotive themes of the early film - fights are brilliantly brutal, and it leads to a great, if slightly typified, bloody finale.

Yet behind the scenes of violence, there are some subtle and perhaps complex themes, which I suppose makes the film a little different to other ultra-violent flicks. To think that all this pain and suffering could have been averted if someone admitted they were wrong, suggests the sheer ignorance of man's belief in their own right - life is volatile - no matter your "good" deeds in past, in 5mins it can all go very wrong.

I suppose my only question mark is the use of subtitles - due to the Oriental setting, where room interiors are around 90% white, it probably fair to say it made for interesting reading - but I have lectures who can't write anyway, so it wasn't that much of a problem.

Overall, *Bittersweet Life* is a very good film. There are some great, if bizarre scenes of black humour, and some very stylishly shot, if a little over-the-top, action. It's a visually stylish veneer. Those who have seen the film will probably agree that the film's style isn't what you might think it is - the director does his best to make it more than that. While the general plot is nothing revolutionary, this is still a decent film to watch every now and then.

8/10 Ali Hung



Syriana is a baffling and never wholly lucid look at the global oil industry...but that's exactly the point. If the vast array of characters, from the oil tycoons to the boardroom gents to the Sheiks, do not know the bigger picture, we certainly won't be privy to it. The film's writer/director Stephen Gaghan (of *Traffic* fame) attempts to show some of the consequences of the pursuit of riches and the amoral attempt for oil-based domination.

The film sets out the good from the bad in the very first instant, as Bob Barnes (Oscar-winner George Clooney), the CIA's Middle East odd-job man, is tortured by God-knows-who. Hardman Barnes appears to have had it all before, as he barely bats an eyelid while his finger nails are brutally ripped from their digits. He begins to uncover the dangerous truth, though we get no access to his findings as it becomes increasingly unclear who he's working for. Meanwhile, hedonistic energy analyst Bryan Woodman (the wonderful Matt Damon), after suffering a gut-wrenching family crisis, naively thinks he can alleviate the oil crisis by becoming the confidant of a Gulf Prince (Alexander Siddig).

The attempt to draw up a simple plot line is impossible, for here the bigger picture proves labyrinthine, a matrix that no one the world over has the answers to. The interwoven stories do illuminate the vast cast's strong performances. However, we need this many recognisable faces to keep us hanging on by a plot-thread, especially since we

rarely afforded any character's motivations. When the vicious net of self-interest, bribery and brutality is exposed on screen, the point becomes clear: the oil business will either get you rich, or get you killed.

Syriana becomes all the more complex because Gaghan seems keen to generalise the East and is reluctant to wholly criticise the West. There is no overt blame placed, and it certainly feels like no political illumination is attempted. The only Pakistanis are playing cricket in some wasteland after they get sacked from the oil refinery...the only Muslims are suicide bombers. How's that for generalisations, conservative Hollywood! It's been called a politically charged epic. I'd prefer to call it politically apathetic.

Syriana assumes that the audience has a long enough attention span to deal with this density; it is absorbing, if only because you're trying to work out what the hell is going on. The tagline tells us 'everything is connected'...after sitting there for two hours, I wish I knew how. (6) *Katie Abbott*

Syriana

The Proposition

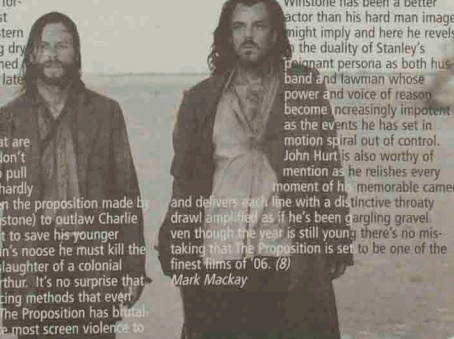
It's high praise that John Hillcoat's second stint in the director's chair should be on a script penned by Nick Cave should recall memories of the inimitable Westerns of Clint Eastwood, Sergio Leone and Sam Peckinpah but can still carve its own unique niche alongside such illustrious company. But despite the sun soaked vistas and pistol packin' outlaws this isn't the Wild West. *The Proposition* presents a brilliant portrait of a land, in the words of John Hurt's grizzled bounty hunter, long forgotten by God. Every last drop of glamour the Western ever had has been wrung dry for this bleak, blood stained and fly covered vision of late 19th Century Australia.

Much like the recent spate of hardboiled Asian thriller and American horrors that are rediscovering their bite, don't expect *The Proposition* to pull ally punches. You could hardly expect anything less when the proposition made by Captain Stanley (Ray Winstone) to outlaw Charlie Burns (Guy Pearce) is that to save his younger brother from the hangman's noose he must kill the man responsible for the slaughter of a colonial family, his elder sibling Arthur. It's no surprise that with unconventional policing methods that even Dirty Harry would shun, *The Proposition* has brutality set to stun. Unlike most screen violence to

titillate or elicit morbid giggles but to underline a harsh, visceral reality where moral certainty is disconcertingly absent.

All of the cast give excellent performances, which even David Wenham's caricatured English accent cannot undermine, and although Guy Pearce continues to impress with a low key leading performance, it's Ray Winstone who deserves to be singled out for praise. For so long

Winstone has been a better actor than his hard man image might imply and here he revels in the duality of Stanley's poignant persona as both husband and lawman whose power and voice of reason become increasingly impotent as the events he has set in motion spiral out of control. John Hurt is also worthy of mention as he relishes every moment of his memorable cameo and delivers each line with a distinctive throaty draw amplified as if he's been gargling gravel. Even though the year is still young there's no mistaking that *The Proposition* is set to be one of the finest films of 06. (8) *Mark Mackay*



There's been too much horror-lite of late. Hollywood's shamelessly cuts down on the gore in order to allow kids to enjoy the diluted remakes of 70's horror classics. While this makes adequate millions for the studios in the short-term, when you cut out the horrific side of horror there's very little left!

Thankfully when redesigning Wes Craven's genre shocker for the jaded post-9/11 spectator, the big-wigs have decided to let this gore-fest slip through their net, and anyone that's endured the original will appreciate this facsimile. We follow a pleasant suburban family, as they embark on vacation and travel through the middle-American desert in their SUV, trailer in tow. Things take a turn for the worse however when they find themselves broken down in the desert hills, and subjected to brutal attacks from malformed locals.

Director Alexandre Aja lets the blood run freely and the camera linger longer than many will find comfortable. Although those familiar with his 2003 picture 'Switchblade Romance' will rightly see 'Hills' as a step backwards for the Frenchman. The problem is that this kind of film always resonates truer if it's a low budget experience and the actors are unknown to us. If you recognise that the girl that's being brutally raped onscreen will be starring in 'Lost' when you turn on the TV that evening, then the thin illusion of realism evaporates.

Nonetheless this is still a decent slice of horror-porn, and with the likes of 'Hostel' and 'Slither' still due this spring, it's looking a promising start to 2006 for shock freaks. But should we heap praise on a remake just because it merely lives up the original? In the current Hollywood climate, the answer is unfortunately a resounding 'yes'...and that might be the most terrifying thing of all. (6) *Alex Smith*



The Hills have Eyes

www.jeedsstudent.org.uk

8

GATECRASHER:

SEB-SATIONAL DES-COTHEQUE



Desyn Masiello

Is Radio One's former prog-jock still worthy of the cruel moniker 'Seb Mundane'? Is Discotheque a style and no substance? After a night at **Type Andy Lane** sets the record straight...

It's been an eventful seven months or so since a whirlwind of propaganda announce the arrival of Gatecrasher's second club, Discotheque, to the corner of New Briggate Grand Arcade. Openly embraced by the city's student population, the die-hard clubbers have proved somewhat harder to convert, and the Hyde Park graffiti artist who daubed "Be disappointed" across a billboard in September could easily be forgiven a moment of self-congratulation at the accuracy of his prediction.

As the initial wow-factor gave way to nagging difficulties, the much-heralded video dance floor was not the only thing to be taken back to the drawing board, as co-founder and musical director Simon Oates is happy to admit, "The last 5 months have shown us that people don't necessarily want to be surprised at Gatecrasher. They come expecting a big night out and a proper clubbing experience and that's what we need to make sure we deliver."

Now, under new management and with a vastly improved weekend line-up, the signs are that Discotheque is finally in a position to establish itself as a valued part of the local clubbing scene. In the chocolate box of Leeds venues, where My House a forbidden pleasure and the Mint Club provides something to really get your feet into, the seductive décor, champagne cocktails and VIP booths – seating six for a cool £200 a night – simply reek of indulgence and with countless mirrors to satisfy the more narcissistic clientele, Discotheque has an irresistibly sweet and luxurious centre.

The substance tonight is provided by one of London's premier nights, engineers and run by the evergreen Seb Fontaine and promising the eagerly-awaited show of a potential superstar DJ-in-the-making. Armed with a battery of quality vinyl and a reputation built almost exclusively on the strength of his live sets, Desyn Masiello has the devastating capacity to blend the superior elements of funky, progressive and tech-house into something sleek, sexy and gloriously uplifting. To the dismay of those in the VIP suite, however, the exotically-named Londoner proves somewhat less adept at meeting the demands of international travel, and as midnight arrives, word spreads that he's stranded in Amsterdam awaiting a connecting flight from the continent.

"In the chocolate box of Leeds venues... Discotheque has an irresistibly sweet and luxurious centre"

In his absence, the onus is on the chief architect of Type to ensure this excursion from its regular home at The Cross in London doesn't end in anti-climax. Five years on from career-defining residencies at Ministry of Sound and Cream, Seb Fontaine continues to exhibit an impressive knack of moving with the times, and occupies territory of house bordered by an impressively wide range of sub-genres. In response to a steady warm-up set from resident Corey, he delivers a peak-time serving of soulful, melodic electro-house, laden with dark, dynamic basslines and topped with the spiralling bleeps of Tomas Andersson's track "The Others".

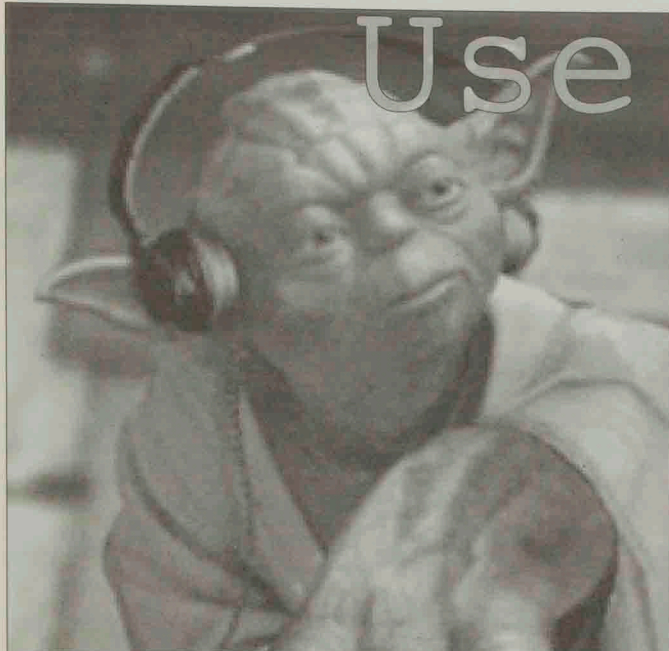
In the heyday of its Sheffield enterprise, Gatecrasher was as much of a social Mecca as a place to merely dance the hours away, and it's amusing to note the broad range of characters that are here to enjoy Fontaine's performance. From age and appearance to dress code and dance moves, they are united less by style and social grouping than by an appreciation of the musical palate on offer, and there's even room for a few renegade glow-sticks to sneak their way onto the dance floor. The sound system, battered to within an inch of its life at the now-defunct Metropolitan nights, responds by scattering thick, heavy basslines of the type seldom enjoyed at the venue's early days, and threatens to dislodge the regal picture frames suspended above the crowd.

Six months in the music business is time enough for occasional chart-toppers to fade into obscurity, but a nightclub's reputation must be built on more consistent and durable foundations. The era of big-room trance may be a thing of the past, but there is a pedigree to the Gatecrasher brand that also carries with it a certain expectation. Upcoming sets from Scissor Sisters and Xpress2 suggest that the promoters are increasingly prepared to venture away from the template of anodyne funky house and realise the undeniable potential of the venue: to challenge, excite and entertain.

Leeds Clubs

Use

The Sporks



DJ Yoda, came to play at @ The Elbow Rooms on Saturday the Fourth of March so our very own *Judas Iscariot* went along to see the beatmaster at his turntables, only to find the key sense had shifted from the audio to the visual and not with success...

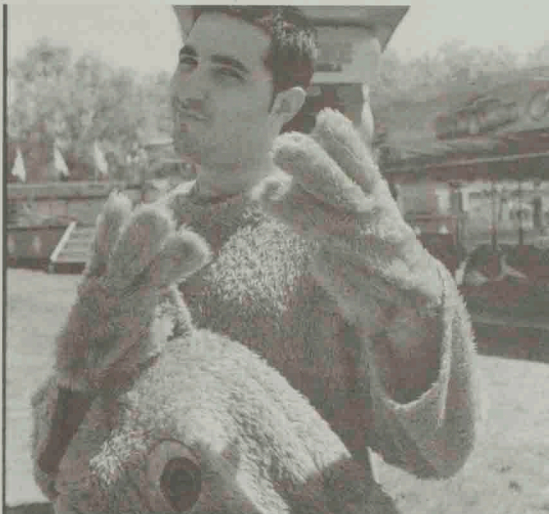
Loafers and long sleeved shirts were the order of the evening on Saturday at the Elbow Rooms. DJ Yoda, no longer solely the staple of the UK hip hop fraternity, has transcended the barrier and become something of a people's champion, and I don't mean that as a compliment.

Stacked to the rafters, the altogether too small club was heaving with the type of clientele normally reserved for the now defunct Halo, and Yoda aimed to please his audience. Rather than focusing his energies on his usual cut and paste stylings, the little green Jedi chose instead to

throw up a rather bland collection of run of the mill hip-hop, with a minimal amount of scratching, and very little of the quirkiness he has become renowned for.

The problem ultimately stemmed from the fact that Yoda no longer relies exclusively on his turntable wizardry, and now incorporates a visual mix into his sets. Now, this is no bad thing, and truth be told, the visuals were mighty impressive, albeit on screens far too small to fully appreciate. But, the man seemed more focused on the focal side, and the sounds inevitably suffered.

In fairness, the music wasn't as bad as I made out, but it just lacked Yoda's special touch. My real beef was with the crowd. As a crowd of true hip hop fans stood in the cold and wet, and were eventually turned away, I heard one girl on her mobile saying "Yeah, I'm just going to see DJ Yogi or something." Despicable.
6/10

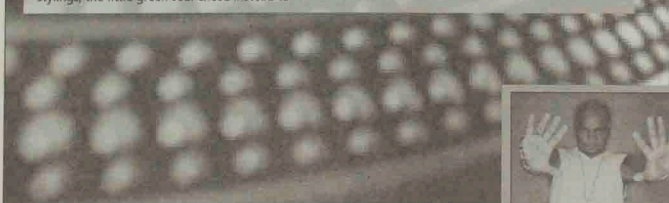


LockDown LowDown

So this time Lockdown is back, the third of this academic year and sure to be the ultimate Lockdown experience - DJ Teebee. I hear you shout "The Norwegian black belt ninja, with the baddest of the bad, dark and simply outstandingly elaborate baselines, is coming to Leeds? Heavy, heavy (I can't quite contain myself with excitement over this)!" For all of you that dun know about this genius, Teebee is an outstanding contender in the d&b scene and will be coming with tunes that range from the down right dirty, to uplifting and melodic, he is guaranteed to bring amazing depth and passion to the excellent venue Northern Light, be it dancing about behind the decks and pumping his fists or concentrating deeply in the mix, Teebee constantly transmits an intense energy into the crowd throughout his sets.

Other artists playing consist of greats such as Ray Keith and Navigator alongside the headliner and the very fine dub plate

manipulator, Nicky Blackmarket, who will be gracing the decks and mic in the main room, this all fuses together to provide a line up which is a fiery mixture of quick stepping and truly progressive, outstanding class, all of which will be warmed up by our very own DJ DL. In the back room, the all grown up and talent saturated lyricist, Micall Parkusun alongside Enzyme and Malice who will be spitting over some sweet rolling hip hop beats - for a time when you may find yourself all run out on the d&b vibes. As for the back room, the night will be hosted by Unification, which presents, Leeds based DJ Reckless, laying down a set which I am confident, will consist of a fine selection of new and old school breaks - all of which will be rinsing out until 4am. Bo... this is set to be a night to surpass most - Don't bother passing up the chance to see Teebee, trust you will regret it, he is sure to be phenomenal.
Clara Spencer-Phillips



MESSIAEN
 L'Ascension
 ARUTUNIAN
 Concerto and Overture
 Friday 10th March
 7.15pm
 Leeds Town Hall

FAURÉ
 Requiem
 SAINT-SAËNS
 Friday 10th March
 7.15pm
 Leeds Town Hall

LEEDS UNIVERSITY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
 SYMPHONY ORCHESTRAL COLLEGE
 LEEDS UNIVERSITY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
 SYMPHONY ORCHESTRAL COLLEGE
 LEEDS UNIVERSITY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
 SYMPHONY ORCHESTRAL COLLEGE



No Shocks, from Cox!

Album



'Love Travels at Illegal Speeds'

Parlophone

Graham Coxon's strengths lie where he can create a fun, rocky and sometimes delightfully gritty sound that personifies him as an artist, even if the real Graham is known for being somewhat reclusive and introvert. And to be fair this (sixth) is altogether a more accomplished album than his previous 'Happiness In Magazines', released in 2004. There is more coherence throughout the journey of tracks; a remarkably more thought-out approach to mapping out the album than the previous, which may have had a bit more raw force. But then again you remember that this album's meant to be all about the issue of love, and how much you love the tone of Graham's voice and its strange and beautiful mix between Johnny Rotten's snarl and the child-like playfulness of Dennis the Menace. Yes, you could kinda like this.

The album starts with the righteous power chords of 'Standing On My Own Again', before all the usual Coxon laid-back petulance over 'Can't Look At Your Skin'; both of which are punk-rocky melodies that Graham knows he has pretty much mastered, yet don't really seem to show much evolution or deviance from his previous work.

Unfortunately it's the same story through the thirteen tracks, with the possible exception of the wonderfully surreal and floaty 'Flights to the Sea', which uses some intelligent instrument samples... I think I heard a flute in there somewhere? At the end of the day, sure, the album rolls out picturesque slices of Coxon that you could just make a clucking sound to with your tongue and go Ah, that's typical Graham Coxon, that is. And that'd be the problem. A glossier finish, but nevertheless this album struggles to improve on the creative variety that made 'Happiness...' such a commercial success. Especially with the recent influx of 'London' bands come The Rakes or Hard-Fi or Bloc Party, Graham's current niche of nerdy London punk-rock, finished off with that city drawl has much more competition than it used to. Graham will have to be careful not to rest on his laurels and try to develop some new melodies or beats; but then again let's see the aforesaid bands write and perform five more albums

first. 7/10

Karim Khan



Trivium God Forbid Mendeed

You know you're about to experience a special night when you're greeted in the pit by a grey bearded man asking, "ARE YOU READY TO ROCK?"

It's easy to see why there's such a diversity of ages tonight as all bands draw common influences such as Iron Maiden, Metallica, Slayer and Avenged Sevenfold. This showed with Scotland's **Mendeed** currently touring their well reviewed album *This War Will Last Forever*, who played a very tight set and fortunately didn't suffer the same technical drawbacks experienced later, leaving a very impressed audience recoiling from their constant torrent of technical hardcore. 6/10

New Jersey's **God Forbid** didn't disappoint either. Although they're mainly promoting *Constitution of Treason* old classics, such as *Network*, were welcomed well, whipping the crowd into an instant frenzy. This rapport with the crowd was held so strong that

The Met 2nd March

even a broken snare drum couldn't daunt the hulking vocalist Byron as fans hung on his words. Ending on *Constitution of Treason*'s final track, *Crucify*, they received deserved respect from an awe stricken crowd. 7/10

Just under a year since their last UK tour, **Trivium**'s set format remains unchanged. But their "If it's not broke, don't fix it" mentality paid off well as they unleashed a barrage of double bass upon the waiting fans, opening with key album tracks *Like Light* to the *Flies and Rain*. Unfortunately they were let down by technical difficulties with a droning buzz drowning out the guitars, making their characteristic ripping riffs and old school solos nigh inaudible. However towards the end of the set this was rectified allowing them to dedicate a cover of *Pantera*'s *Walk to murdered* guitarist "Dimebag" before playing with the audience improvising songs from classic artists such as *Iron Maiden* to *Lynyrd Skynyrd*.

Finishing on fan favourite *Pull Harder on the Strings of your Martyr* they were cheered off with a horned ovation after beating a fatigued crowd into an indomitable fury. 8/10

David Fairclough

Morning Runner

Reading four-piece and Coldplay's touring accomplices **Morning Runner** descended under the arches on Saturday night to showcase new material from their debut album *Wilderness Is Paradise Now*.

Opener 'Be All You Want Me To Be' sets the tone for the evening with its garage-rock onslaught, the only clear otherness being the inclusion of a pianist. However, this single attribute is what primarily sets **Morning Runner** aside from the rest of the post-punk Libertines bandwagon, as their sound is now able to differentiate from subtle melodies into spiralling post-rock zenitis.

The problem with **Morning Runner** is that you can't quite pin them down, they have more testicular fortitude than Keane but not quite the power of *Black Rebel Motorcycle Club*. From the heart-puncturing rhythm of 'Hold Your Breath' with its infectious skip and brush drum beat to the fast paced energy of new single 'Burning

Benches', its at times neither either or. Movement on stage is kept to a minimum, the most active of the four being the catalogue crew *Headinleyesque* Ali Clewer on drums who at times explodes into frenzied soundscapes echoing traits of a man possessed.

The seminal point of the evening however comes when vocalist *Matt Greener* dedicates 'Frayed Edges' to his son. The song has a simplistic, dark, soaring melody and is a statement of true intent, almost that authentic it could at times be a soliloquy. In a current musical climate that gives continues to show more interest in the archetype of *Pete Doherty*'s extra curricular activities, *Greener's* appreciation for his audience is more than a breath of fresh air.

At times, **Morning Runner** just don't seem too sure on what route they are actually taking: their rock antics lack angst and the only problem with their more subtle moments is that there are a handful of bands around that can be blunt and do it better. They're middle of the road and you know what happens when you're middle of the road: you get run over.

6/10

Sam Kershaw



The Cockpit 4th March

YOU LIKE?

The Like, Are You Thinking What I'm Thinking? (Geffen)

The Like are a wonderful thing: a supergroup made up of the daughters of some people who are apparently quite big wheels within the rock industry (an A&R man, Elvis Costello's former drummer, someone else), who aren't famous enough for anyone to have heard of but are apparently of sufficient importance for their press material to mention. Almost as if their PR company wants people to get the impression that The Like didn't wind up with a record deal due to their own abilities, but because their dads know people who know people... which is a very peculiar approach to take.

It's not as if the girls themselves aren't talented enough. All the thirteen songs-plus-one-super-special-UK-bonus-track here are perfectly catchy, well-versed in the fashionable modern teen angst of the day, and merrily pilfer from some pretty choice artefacts - 'June Gloom' sets itself bouncing along to the tune of the verses from 'Mr Blue Sky', for instance, while 'You Bring Me Down' is a gauzy shoegazing beauty recalling early Lush or All-Natural Lemon & Lime Flavors. It's a very easy listen, with plenty to admire, a catchy, vaguely dreamy take on the poppier end of 90's alt-rock.

It's just that it also happens to be a completely bloodless affair. Look back at the last sentence of that last paragraph. Try saying it aloud without feeling just a tiny bit of your humanity erode. Lush, ELO, My Bloody Valentine and so on all had a sense of something else going on, their music was intended to evoke something beyond "Yeah, that guitar's pretty good." They had character, something The Like seem to be totally liberated from. There's vague angst, but with no kind of drama behind it, and as for any kind of a sense of humour? Piff-Z Berg's voice is like an American Sophie Ellis-Bextor (i.e. "thinking" becomes "thankin'"), but without any of the sparkle, torment, or wit that makes her such an effective pop musician. When she sings that "it looks like the end of days," it quite patently doesn't.

On one level, then, it's a good album. It's catchy, engaging, that kind of thing. The Like, however, are all about the music. And that only gets you so far. (6) William B Swygart



CUBON BROTHERS A-Z (SundayBest)

Having witnessed these guys at the Leeds Festival last year, it was a pleasure to once more experience their blend of uplifting party vibes. Their latest album, A-Z, is an iPod type ensemble not dissimilar to the *Back To Mine*-style of records hitting the stores lately. Overseen by Radio 1's Rob Da Bank, the trio have delivered an ensemble that emulates their live performances, dipping toes into various genres of music that have inspired them and provide the setting for a carnivalesque mating of music.

Their unique Mardi Gras of an album is a two-disc extravaganza of the finest soul, funk and latin sounding music ever to grace the reverberations of a speaker. From the starting blocks, the classic funk workout of the Average White Band, sampled by the epitome of cool, The Sugar Hill Gang; for The Message ("Don't push me, 'cos I'm close to the edge") thrusts its seventies, flare-adorned hips in your face begging you to take part, then on to Bobby Valentino's 'Use it Before You Lose it', with Samba rhythms that are a call for continual pumping and dancing like a fool round your room shaking your pair of imaginary maracas, the winding-down relief to be found in the smoothness of Fat Freddy's 'Wandering Eyes'. This soul Mana of the highest order is to be my personal favourite of the album, with the Maori's cool vocals gliding effortlessly across the bass guitar and easy trumpeteering, easy now. The first CD is wrapped up with the one and only Lionel's 'All Night Long'.

The flip-side lifts you out of the seventies wonderland into more modern times with sojourns through the streets of Naughty By Nature, De La Soul and Ugly Duckling providing you with "Just a little Samba" as well as the old school bohemianised hip hop beats of old lore.

As well as these giants of rap there is a plentiful bounty of disco thrown in for good measure and is finally wrapped up in Zapp's sexy 'Mo Bounce To The Ounce'.

Buy this now to bring summer crashing tamberine first into your spring. The dopest Nostalgia abounds. (8) David Greenhalgh



Howling Bells & The Voom Blooms

The Fav, March 1st

It's difficult to consider Howling Bells objectively, such is the wonder and desire provoked by lead singer Juanita Stern's voice. It is something else: demure, inviting, histrionic and pleading all at once. You can't help but take the apple, fall in love with her and listen to the rest of the set through a haze of rapture and enchantment.

Yet judging on such immediate gratuity is misleading, and discredits a band that, thankfully, stand up to objective listening. The music is just as sultry: both vampiric and brooding, it subtly entices you in. It sounds as if written on edge - of the night, or sanity, or emotion, and provokes a similar languid consciousness in the listener. A restrained rhythm section gives space for the vocals to take fore, but if anything they are usurped by the lead guitar playing. Number after number of great hooks are thrown out, all played with restraint and precision.

It's this poise - perfection, even - that is the only fault in their performance. There's almost too much polish, an inhumanity to Howling Bells. It's difficult to dispel the sense of a band playing at you, rather than to you. Regardless, this is more challenging than most new music, and well worth investigating. (8)

Latest hot young pretenders off the indie bandwagon, *The Voom Blooms* (what were they thinking with that name?) have got the image down to a tee: tightly clothed, immaculately coiffured and good-looking. It's difficult to ignore pre-conceptions when they begin and sound like another band who want to be Bloc Party - with their 'regional' vocals (London, thankfully), tight rhythm section and angular guitar lines - but aren't quite as good.

But bemoaning originality and influences and sound-alikes never made for a fun gig, which is what this is. Image only matters if the music needs something more - here it belies real quality. 'Lovers' is a wonderful opener: a veritable call to arms, floor filler and tragically all wrapped up in an immediately catchy tune. It should be a hit.

New single 'Politics and Cigarettes' follows, and is an altogether different beast. A slow-burning epic with military drumming, it strikes harder placed among such upbeat, refined tunes. It's the only real moment in the set when the band's sense of control is lost, and they aim at the heart rather than the hips. You can't help but be drawn in. This suggests something greater, more subtle - real potential to transcend easy pigeonholing and rise above their peers. It's out March 20th. You should buy it.

If nothing else grips quite as strongly it's more due to an as-yet undeveloped set than lack of effort. At the moment they're a decent live band with a couple of memorable songs. Only a few more are needed, really, to instigate cross-over appeal. (7) Sean Jones



Single Of The Week

Mark Ronson

'Just'
Woah its Radiohead with trumpets!
For a cover of the uncoverable, producer Mark Ronson has transformed 'Just' (Aldito Records) into a soul/jazz/oh-so-funky gem that will fit perfectly on the Radiohead tribute album, 'Exit Music', but also as a stand alone piece of club-cool! It oozes laid-back summerness for these cold winter days! Buy it. *Jannie Leighton*



The Strokes

'Heart In A Cage'

The Strokes are back with the 2nd single from their 3rd album, and they're as fresh and original as ever. From the outset there are riffs that you won't get out of your indie head for days and despite initially thinking it might not be worth getting into this slower Strokes song, you'll realise its depressing 'Heart In A Cage' (Rough Trade) content reflects brilliantly the musicality behind it.



The Chalets

'Theme from Chalets'

Full of cool, lacking substance? A ready NME's newest 'you heard it here first' it-band, The Chalets are musically decent but lyrically they seem to have nothing much to say. As hard as they try to be kitsch, they fail in being a Yeah Yeah Yeah's, Ladyfuzz, Goldfrapp super-band. Don't get me wrong 'Theme from the Chalets' (Setanta) is worth a listen, but only one!



The Common Redstarts

'Killing Street'

"What's this crazyness?" My ears exclaimed when the common redstarts 'Killing Street' (Secca) burst onto my hi-fi. Coming from Edinburgh, you perhaps wouldn't expect them to sound like Texan hellions, but bar bravos and open roads is what this single evokes and its all good! Could this be Britain's Kings of Leon, I think so.



Rammstein

'Mann Gegen Mann'

I feel like this song should be the promo-single for some sort of uber-sci-fi Xbox game where you have to kill as many two headed aliens as humanly possible. 'Mann Gegen Mann' (Universal) is nothing less than you'd expect from the German Hell-raisers that are Rammstein, and although it's not my thing, there is still definite appeal in the industrial Metal category, and is a decent listen.



Pigeon Detectives

'I'm Not Sorry'

With a name like the Pigeon Detectives, what could possibly go wrong? The answer is nothing, if they carry on with tunes like 'I'm Not Sorry' (DTR). They're still a bit raw at the moment, but the foundations are there for something big with a single here that is both uplifting and melancholy, they feel young and uninhibited, ready to steer indie-scene in an exciting direction!



FILMED IN YORK

Traffic Crossing Leeds Bridge

In 1888, Frenchman Louis Aimé Augustin Le Prince recorded the first ever moving images, and what did he film? Traffic crossing Leeds bridge. Not the most exciting thing to film around Leeds. Should have done the traffic outside Oceana on a Friday night.



Emmerdale (Farm)

For anyone who's a true fan of Emmerdale (a soap that's been running since 1972) it might excite you to know that the village has in fact had three different locations around the area. The original village used was Arncliffe in Littondale, a sleepy hideaway in the Dales, but this was soon discovered by the public and had to be abandoned. The second village used was Esholt but this again became too touristy and had to be left. YTV then poured millions into Emmerdale's current location, a closed set in Harewood, just south of Harrogate. The Harewood set is closed to the public, but there are public footpaths through the middle of it and it's an amazing find on Google Earth. If you can't resist just looking online then you could always go down to Otley cattle market which often gets used in the show.



Last of the Summer Wine

Last of the summer wine have been gracing our screens since 1973 making it Britain's longest running comedy series. The programme got filmed in and around the small town of Holmfirth, which is located five miles south of Huddersfield. There's lots of locations to see here ranging from 'Sid's Cafe' to Nora Batty's house.



STEVE & BEAR'S ROAD TO HEARTBEAT

Intrepid LS2 sub-editor **Steve Smith** and his dashing 6'3" sidekick, affectionately named **"the Bear"**, take a whirlwind day trip around all the sites of everyone's favourite Yorkshire drama series, **Heartbeat**.

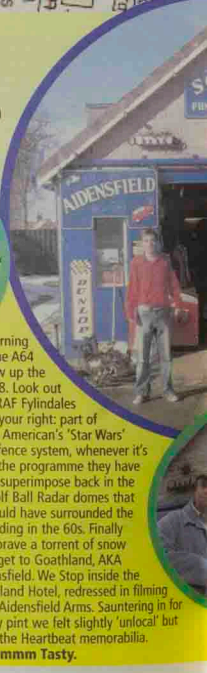
First things first, get a car, fill it up with petrol, find yourself an idle house-mate to hold the camera all day and drive off towards the Moors.

Bear says: Kill me.



Turning off the A64 we flew up the B1258. Look out for RAF Fylindales on your right: part of the American's 'Star Wars' Defence system, whenever it's in the programme they have to superimpose back in the Golf Ball Radar domes that would have surrounded the building in the 60s. Finally we brave a torrent of snow and get to Goathland, AKA Aidsensfield. We stop inside the Goathland Hotel, redressed in filming as the Aidsensfield Arms. Sauntering in for a cheeky pint we felt slightly 'unlocal' but basked in the Heartbeat memorabilia.

Bear says: mmm Tasty.



LS2

SHIRE

Brassed Off

This 1996 film of music and miners was a success for the British film industry, but did you know it was filmed here in Yorkshire? 'In Cod We Trust', the fish and chip shop, is actually in Grimethorpe, and brass band heats were, in fact, filmed in 'Piece Hall', Halifax. Now then, there's something to blow your trumpet about.



Calendar Girls

The 2003 romp of naked old women and bigger buns was filmed extensively in Yorkshire. Set in the southern Dales, the village of Kettlewell was particularly central, but Settle and Skipton were also used.



No Angels

Leeds' very own home grown hospital drama. Since 2004 our screens have been blessed by the amazing goings on at Leeds General Infirmary. Like spotting Bombhead, everyone seems have a No Angels filming story like - they were in my pub last week or ooooo I saw them filming in a car. Keep a look out, they're everywhere.



FILMING MYTHS

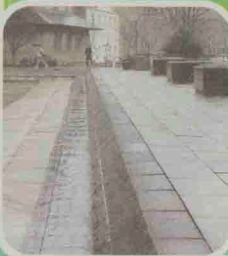
Q: Were parts of Star Wars filmed along the RED-route?

A: We're not really sure how this one started. Presumably it refers to parts of the film set in the Death Star corridor, but we're assured by Lucasfilm that none of this was done in England.



Q: Was A Clockwork Orange filmed outside the Roger Steven's building?

A: Unfortunately not. Even though the monolith and lake of the Roger Stevens building often remind us of a dystopian future, the actual filming location was Brunel University.



Finishing off the last of our I.P.A., we stumble across the icy road to the North's most famous Garage come Funeral Director's, 'Scripps'. Posing for photos next to the classic petrol pump, it's obvious that the garage has, in fact, been turned into a shop for tourists, more likely to sell ice cream than spark plugs. But it's still a right laugh, Morris Miners galore!
Bear says: Jump-start me!



Okay, so if you do finally manage to pull yourself away from the wealth of silver-screen locations, cruise on over Scarborough way. Bear and I made a few stops for some impromptu snow fights; there was at least a foot of snow.

Now you know when you have one of those days, where it seems all technology is out to get you? Well, we suddenly felt very uneasy when my Sat-Nav tried to send us across a field covered in snow, going downhill. We attempted it and soon got stuck. Obviously the Bear immediately offered to get out and push like the good friend he is...

Unfortunately for him the road was slightly more wet that we'd thought and he moaned about wet feet for the rest of the day.

Turning the Sat-Nav well- and truly off we pushed on past Whitby, Home of Dracula, and on to Scarborough. Bear Says: Me wet feet have



Walk back along the road to Goathland station, sometimes seen in HeartBeat but more famous for appearing as Hogsmeade station in the Harry Potter films. As part of the North Yorkshire Moors historic railway, it's kept in a fifties time warp. In fact, if you're so inclined, you could board a steamtrain for a day trip. Walk along the platform and bask in the magic. Although it's bloody freezing, so don't get your wand out.
Bear Says: Muggles



Getting to Scarborough, I showed Bear the wonders of both the North and South bays - furiously hunting for the building that represents 'The Royal' hospital, Heartbeat's spin-off series set in Whitby. And we found it! Perched on the seafront. And so our trip was finished, only cost me a tank of petrol, lunch for the Bear and a new exhaust.
Bear Says: Cheap as chips.



THE END

★ Communications Society ★ ★ Talent Showcase ★

Calling all ICS students... ★

Enter your best Photographs, Short Films, Documentaries and Websites for the ComSoc talent showcase this April @ Mine

Submissions: the photocopy room in the Holdsworth Building Level 3 by the end of term ★

Judged by ICS lecturers including Richard Howells and Stephen Hay.
e-mail uniconm@leeds.ac.uk for more information



Nightline

For when life gets complicated

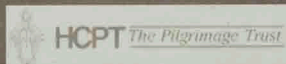
Awareness week

13th -19th March....

Look out for the owl!!

Leeds University Union Music Society
Symphony Orchestra and Chorus

FAURE Requiem



Friday 10th March 7.15pm
(Pre-Concert Talk at 6.30pm)
Leeds Town Hall

MESSIAEN

L'Ascension
ARUTIUNIAN
Concerto for Trumpet
and Orchestra

CANCER RESEARCH UK



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Wednesday 15th March 2006

11am – 3pm
Riley Smith Hall

Leeds University Student Union

www.spark.leeds.ac.uk



Boosh It Real Good

Last Week's Television with Christina Morris

It's been 12 years since Chris Morris sprang onto our screens with *The Day Today* and spawned a whole generation of comics who now create a linkage of almost incestuous productions in which they all pop-up eventually at one point or another. Garth Marenghi's *Darkplace*, *Nathan Barley*, *The IT Crowd*, BBC3's *Snuff Box* and *The Mighty Boosh* all feature work and appearances from the same small group of comedic genius, often headed up by Morris himself.

It was with a heavy heart that I noticed the final episodes of *The IT Crowd* and the second season of *The Mighty Boosh* were both scheduled for this week. *The IT Crowd*, despite its mixed response, has been infinitely watchable and hilarious for me. The undoubted talent of Richard Ayoade as Moss turned what could have been a slightly boring office sitcom into a satire which even the most hardened 'computer geek' could laugh at. Friday's episode, easily the pick of the series, was entitled 'Aunt Irma Visits' and managed to make several credible jokes out of PMT, sugar addiction and what happens when you drink too much at the office party. The crowning glory of the episode

was the short cameo of Chris Morris as the ludicrous Denholm (the team's really strange boss) and Noel Fielding as Richmond, Denholm's disgraced former colleague, banished to the basement after his obsession with *Cradle of Filth* scared the other employees.

Fielding's own project, *The Mighty Boosh*, also came to an end this Monday. Produced by Steve Coogan, the first series of the eclectic mesh of song, sitcom, and bloody weird characters gained rave reviews and a cult following. The second series took a step away from the animal madness of the 'Zooniverse', where the original action was set, and took some criticism from fans. However Noel Fielding and Julian Barratt's unique sense of comic timing remained constant, and sometimes even more bizarre in the new episodes. From a forest cult to an army of raging grandmothers to a Baileys drinking transsexual merman, the new army of characters have given the show an entirely new and insane dimension.

an eclectic mesh of song, sitcom and bloody weird characters"

"Howard unwittingly kills his coconut girlfriend"

In the final episode Vince (Fielding) and Howard (Barratt) find themselves stranded on a desert island after planning to crack the American music industry (via boat, of course). They attempt to prevent insanity by creating a whole community of people made of coconuts - initially started by Howard's creation of 'Milky Joe', a fellow intellectual. The action spirals out of control, however, and the duo find themselves on the run from the island police after Howard unwittingly kills his coconut girlfriend after a spate of domestic violence. Written down, it looks a bit strange but, believe me, in a visual form it was very funny.

With the end of these two series, I have to admit that my weekday comedy viewing looks a bit bleak. There's the new series of *No Angels*, which has always seemed like less of a comedy, more of a Hollyoaks-style soap without any male characters. Then there is *My Name is Earl*, which is wrapping up to an end quite soon so I can't get too attached. Looks like I'm going to have to go back to getting my laughs from watching *Davina* for the next few weeks.



The Mighty Boosh



Three's a crowd

Should Top Gear make its final pit stop?

The current path that television is taking these days, could perhaps be taken as evidence that humans have stopped evolving. In fact, maybe humans are actually devolving. *Top Gear* is a prime example of television's spiral towards inanity. What was once an informative discussion about cars, aimed at people who had a genuine interest in the subject, was revamped in 2002. The old format was dumped and Jeremy Clarkson was given two brand new co-presenters. These co-presenters have become pathetic sidekicks who provide little more than a fawning audience to Clarkson's pompous rants. It was quickly

realised that the 'new format' was pretence to disguise a new programme under the *Top Gear* name. It was no longer a car-lovers show. It had become what testosterone and Paleolithic pursuit wanted it to become - a macho amalgam of driving fast for increasingly ambiguous reason, and discussions, supposedly about cars, but with conclusions amounting to the 'French are pansies', all punctuated with humour surpassing all but the stupidest of men. The new series is due in May, and those of us with more than primordial-soup for brains are hoping it will be the last. Peter F. Rankin

My knowledge of cars is somewhat lacking, in fact, it's verging on non-existent. Years of practise have resulted in a finely tuned method of differentiating between one car and another by their colour. Despite my complete ignorance of the difference between a two-wheel drive and a four-wheel drive I'm still able to enjoy *Top Gear*. It may be that in becoming more respected authority on all things car-related, it may have ceased to be a car-lovers show, but it has certainly become far more entertaining. Seeing Clarkson

racing against an ice skater followed by a mini being launched from a ski jump was the only redeeming feature of this year's winter Olympics. On the rare occasions when actual car statistics are discussed and interest starts to flag, another bonus of the show comes to the rescue: the pint-sized cutie that is Richard Hammond provides something aesthetically pleasing on whom focus your attention. *Top Gear* still has plenty of gas in the tank and hopefully the new series will be one of many more. Rebecca Fishburn



Stuart Parker: Don't you know hair pulling is for girls?



Izzy Hoyland: Desperate housewife.



Libby Kennedy: What time is it? It should definitely not be Chico time.

AUS\$0.85
Friday 10.03.06
Issue 18

Erinsborough News

Short Lived Hopes

Katie Neill
Ramsay Street Correspondent

As much as we love Leeds, don't we secretly wish we all lived in Ramsay Street? The sun never stops shining, there are buff boys and babes a-plenty and they have Christmas in March, for Chrissakes. Genius. Even better, although recent years have seen the misery and distress quotient amped up, it's still nowhere near the constant doom and gloom of Eastenders and the rest of the Brit pack. Put it down to their Aussie grit, but the residents of Erinsborough are not

the sort to wallow in their misery. They go to the Coffee Shop instead and drown their sorrows in chocolate milkshake instead. Even the mortality rate on Ramsay Street seems lower than the national average - I suppose it is on at tea time and too much death doesn't half ruin an appetite. However, whenever anyone does die, they do it with style, damn it.

The recent spectacular culling of both ratings and the Bishop family, leaving Harold with only his faithful tuba for company, is nothing compared to some of the gory glories of the past. How about the is-



he, isn't he incineration of squinty Gus? Or Mad Julie Martin, mother of brace face Hannah, who - brilliantly - died in suspicious circumstances while on a murder mystery weekend. Rest in peace, departed friends.

Diane Abbott Would You?

Hackneyed old slag? Or would you Stoke her Newington?

Let us know

Text 07959549125
or email
lszwouldyou@hotmail.co.uk

Andi Peters 74% Would

"Jeepers Peters, he's behind me" Loz, 21

"Handi Andi getting Randi with Mandi" Mandi, 46

"He'd be Top of the Flops" Matt, 22

Jodie Marsh's thought of the week: "When people mistake your confidence for arrogance, remember that Jesus was misunderstood too"

Friday
March
10



Harriet Fairbrother

As I flicked through today's listings I was unimpressed by the vain attempts to liven up our Friday nights with uninspiring C-list celebrities donning ice-skates and over watched repeated episodes of *Friends*. It struck me that now is the perfect time to hark back to those innocent child-

hood days and tune your tellys to *Blue Peter*. Remember the outrageously chirpy presenters and impossibly complicated do-it-yourself thunderbirds' islands of previous years, well it's still going on. This week, viewers get the chance to phone in and question the new stars of *Grange*

Hill Holly and Donnie. Matt Baker will also be interviewing some of the country's Olympic hopefuls for the future. There is also a competition to design a character for a new programme by *Wallace and Gromit* creators, Aardman. *Blue Peter* is the perfect programme to tune into tonight.

Pick of the Day

Blue Peter

BBC One, 5pm

five

6.00 Milkshake! Old Bear Stories. 6.10 Aussie Antics. 6.15 Bear In The Big Blue House. 6.40 Hi-5. 7.15 Roobarb And Custard. 7.25 Make Way For Noddy. 7.35 Say It With Noddy. 7.40 Make Way For Noddy. 7.55 Say It With Noddy. 8.00 Fifi And The Flowerpots. 8.15 Peppa Pig. 8.20 Bird Bath. 8.30 Elmo's World. 8.50 Franny's Feet. 9.30 The Wright Stuff. 10.30 Trisha Goddard. 11.30 Five News. 12.00 Home And Away. 12.30 BrainTeaser. 1.30 Tracker. 3.35 Five News Update. 3.40 FILM: The Soul Collector (1999). Drama. 5.30 Five News.

6.00 Home And Away. Amanda begs Dan for help. 6.30 Two And A Half Men. Alan returns a keepsake he stole from Judith during their divorce. Weather.

7.00 Five News 7.30 Built For The Kill. An insight into the planet's most venomous creatures, including parasitic digger wasps which paralyse insects, and deadly jellyfish that lurk in the world's oceans.

8.00 Snake Hunter: Search For The Deadliest Snakes. Austin Stevens sets off from his home in Namibia to the forests of Zululand, in a bid to assess Africa's snakes for their speed, venomousness and swiftness of strike.

9.00 Celebrities Without Slap. Documentary unveiling the unflattering photographs the stars would rather forget, and an examination of why a bad paparazzi snapshot is now worth more than a good one.

10.00 Law & Order. New series. The detectives hunt a vicious dog and its owner.

11.00 Law & Order: Special Victims Unit. 12.00 John Barnes' Football Night. 12.55 Boxing: Fight Of The Week. 1.40 Kickboxing: Now Is The Time. 2.30 Boxing: 101 Greatest Knockouts. 3.00 Partypoker.com European Open. 4.30 World Supercross Grand Prix.

clubs

Atrium SALSOUL latin, hip hop, r'n'b

Cockpit THE SESSION Bloc Party, Blur, The Jam, T-Rex, Blondie

Metropolitan Uni STAR new wave & indie

My House RUDENOT2 with Jason Hodges

Oceana RELEASE funky house, dance & r'n'b, disco

Rehab FRIDAYS@REHAB r'n'b

Space CLADRAGS funky house, disco

University Stylus FRUITY party, indie, chart, DJ B Naughty [1Xtra] with r'n'b

Wardrobe EXPANSIONS live acts & DJ sets

Wire ABATTOIR electro, techno

Cockpit IFORWARD RUSSIA!

Fenton THE HORROR

HiFi KING CREOSOTE

Josephs Well WASP FACTORY

Vine IF I WERE KING

alive.co.uk
alive born 1993

BBC ONE

6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Mind Your Own Business. 10.00 Homes Under The Hammer. 11.00 Trading Up. 11.30 Car Booty. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. 1.00 BBC News. Weather. 1.30 Regional News. Weather. 1.40 Neighbours. The Timmins family get a surprise at Christmas. 2.05 Doctors. 2.35 Monk. 3.20 BBC News. Regional News. Weather. 3.25 ChuckleVision. 3.40 Pitt And Kantrop. 4.05 Zombie Hotel. 4.30 Living It. 5.00 Blue Peter. 5.25 Newsround. 5.35 Neighbours.

6.00 BBC News 6.30 Look North: Weather 7.00 A Question Of Sport. With Michael Vaughan and Kevin Campbell. 7.30 Stars In Fast Cars. Edwina Currie and Reggie Yates compete.

8.00 EastEnders. Jack confronts Honey and Billy over the pregnancy, while Dawn is horrified to learn the full extent of Mike's deception. Sonia finally admits her true feelings for Naomi.

8.30 My Family. New series of the domestic comedy, starring Robert Lindsay. Ben joins a secret men's club to increase his social standing, and Susan becomes obsessed with a lifestyle guru.

9.00 Hustle. New series. The team plan to con a landlord involved in smuggling illegal immigrants by exploiting his son's musical ambitions.

10.00 BBC News 10.30 Regional News: Weather 10.35 Queens Of Disco. Graham Norton celebrates the careers of some of the greatest names in disco music, including Gloria Gaynor, Donna Summer and Grace Jones.

11.35 FILM: Runaway Train (1985). Jon Voight and Eric Roberts star as escaped convicts who stow away on board a freight train, unaware it is out of control. Action adventure, with Rebecca De Mornay. Weatherview 1.25 BBC News 24

TWO

7.05 CBBC: BB3B. 7.25 Smart On The Road. 7.55 Newsround. 8.00 Blue Peter Flies The World. 8.30 Rubbadubbers. 8.40 Noddy. 8.50 Brum. 9.00 CBeebies Birthdays. 9.05 Big Cook, Little Cook. 9.25 Postman Pat. 9.40 Fireman Sam. 9.50 Tweenies. 10.15 Something Special. 10.30 Schools: Primary History. 10.50 Primary Geography. 11.30 The Chat Room. 11.50 Focus. 12.00 The Daily Politics. 12.30 Working Lunch: The Witness. 1.30 FILM: Vera Cruz (1954). Western, with Gary Cooper. 3.00 Through The Keyhole. 3.30 Sun, Sea And Bargain Spotting. 4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook. 5.15 Weakest Link.

6.00 Animal Park: Wild In Africa. The puppies are moved out of their home. 6.30 Masterchef Goes Large. The four semi-finalists compete. 7.00 Not-So-Fair Trade? The expanding Fair Trade movement.

7.30 Hands On Nature. Wildlife found in Britain's waters, from a four-foot creature spotted in a Welsh river to one of nature's great migrations at Strangford Lough. 8.00 Crufts 2006. The terriers and hounds parade round the main ring, hoping to impress the judges. Jessica Holm also reports on the first of the obedience competitions.

9.00 Timewatch. An attempt to dispel the myth that early military leader Genghis Khan was a philandering tyrant, and reveal the truth about his military and political achievements.

9.50 Dragons' Den: Best Of. Highlights of the series. 10.00 My Appalling School Report. New series. Celebrities assess their school reports. 10.30 Newswight 10.40 Newswight Review 11.35 BBC4 On BBC2: Inky Fingers: The NME Story 12.35 FILM: The Big Combo (1955). Gangster thriller, starring Cornel Wilde.

2.00 BBC Learning Zone

itv 11

6.00 GMTV. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 ITV Lunchtime News. 1.30 Loose Women. 2.30 Agatha Christie's Poirot. 3.29 Local Weather. 3.30 CITV: POCOYO. 3.40 Uncle Max. 3.50 Rugrats. 4.00 Finders Keepers. 4.30 Sabrina The Teenage Witch. 5.00 The Paul O'Grady Show. 6.00 Calendar: Weather 6.30 ITV Evening News: Weather 7.00 Emmerdale. Paul considers leaving the village, while Nicola's lies trip her up - costing her Rodney's support. UV starts making plans to ensure she gets pregnant, despite Bob's alarm.

7.30 Coronation Street. Jamie receives a phone call from the Spanish consulate, bringing news of Mike. Emily goes to visit Ed, and Gail is devastated to be sent another card signed Richard Hillman.

8.00 Tonight With Trevor McDonald. Hard-hitting investigative reports exploring the stories behind the headlines. 8.30 A Touch Of Frost. DI Frost returns to duty after a period of suspension, and soon finds himself embroiled in the case of a murdered man who has been leading a double life. Drama, starring David Jason and Amanda Root.

10.30 ITV News: Weather 11.00 Crimefighters. The Safer Neighbourhood team of South Yorkshire Police tackle antisocial behaviour in Sheffield's Manor estate by sorting out the troublesome kids directly.

11.30 Orange Playlist. Life on Mars John actor Simm visits locations that hold special memories, and selects five significant tracks from his past. 12.00 FILM: The Ripper (1997). Thriller, starring Patrick Bergin and Gabrielle Anwar. 1.45 Quizmania. 5.00 Jobfinder. 5.30 ITV Morning News.

4

6.05 Making It. 6.10 The Hoobs. 6.35 The Hoobs. 7.00 B4. 7.30 Friends. 7.55 Just Shoot Me. 8.20 Will & Grace. 8.50 Frasier. 9.20 3 Minute Wonder: Deutsche Borse Photography Prize 2006. 9.25 Water Stories. 9.30 The 100 Hottest Web Searches 2005. 9.55 A-Z Of Your Head. 10.45 From The Top. 11.10 Live Now, Pay Later. 11.35 From The Top. 12.00 News At Noon. 12.30 My Place In The Sun. 1.00 ER. 1.55 FILM: The Trifledy with Stanley Holloway. 3.30 Countdown. 4.15 Deal Or No Deal. 5.00 Richard & Judy.

6.00 The Simpsons. With the voice of Michelle Pfeiffer. 7.30 Hollyoaks. Cameron faces his fears at the Dog. 7.55 Channel 4 News 7.55 3 Minute Wonder: Tales Of The Creepy Crooked Friends. Greg Kinnear guest stars as Charlie's ex, who is overseeing a grant Ross desperately wants, while Rachel and Monica fight over a painting.

8.30 Will & Grace. Part two of two. The group embark on a road trip in an attempt to help Grace forget about Leo, but Jack and Karen soon get bored with the car journey. 9.00 8 Out Of 10 Cats. Irrelevant panel show hosted by Jimmy Carr, in which two teams answer questions based on a series of opinion polls to see who best understands Britain.

9.30 My Name Is Earl. A penitent Earl tries to make up for ruining all of Jay's Christmas, enlisting the help of Randy and Catalina to win a radio competition. 10.00 My Name Is Earl. Joy has trouble enrolling her children at camp. 10.35 Death Wish 2006. Highlights of E4 series Death Wish Live. 11.35 Ross Noble: Sonic Waffle 12.35 Stalking Pete Doherty. 1.35 Autopsy: Life And Death. Last in series. 2.35 World Cup Snowboard. 4.25 Scrapheap Challenge. 5.25 Countdown.

THE OLD BAR GUIDE TO THE WEEK

MONDAY: KARAOKE FROM 8PM FREE ENTRY

THURSDAY: QUIZ NIGHT FROM 8PM WIN ONE FLIGHT TO EUROPE EVERY WEEK

FRIDAY: FILL UP FOR FRUITY DRINKS OFFERS FROM 6PM & LIVE DJ THE WEEKEND STARTS HERE!

SUNDAY: PIES & PAPERS FREE NEWSPAPERS, PIES, PLAYSTATION 2, BIG SCREEN FOOTBALL

MONDAY-FRIDAY AUSSIE HOUR 5.30-6.30PM SOAPS & OFFERS

The Old Bar est. 1920

Saturday

March 11



Eleanor F. ellows

This 80s coming-of-age movie features five young people discovering themselves in the space of a day, which suggests that there wasn't much to discover in the first place. Nonetheless, entertainment can be had from the culture clash of Deprived Angry Young Man (Judd

Nelson) and Pampered Princess (Molly Ringwald), Arrogant Jock (Emilio Estevez) and Weird Outcast Girl (Ally Sheedy), as well as Nerd (Anthony Michael Hall), who at least achieves acceptance, if not the romantic success of the others. Perhaps not the sort of film you

expect to see at this hour, but I suppose people doing night shifts must get bored of the same old erotic thrillers. Worth bearing in mind that these characters were not nearly the cliché they have become, especially now that we have the dubious joy of various spoof teen movies.

Pick of the Day

The Breakfast Club

BBC One, 11.40pm

clubs

Discotheque
TWISTED DISCO
with Rob Wilder & David Dunne

Faversham
BAD SNEAKERS
rock, punk, funk, soul, hip hop & more

Fruit Cupboard
UCCI
r'n'b, hip hop with Ronnie Herel [1xtra]

Mint
ASYLUM
with Optimo v The Glimmers

My House
BACK TO BASICS
with Dan Gahnaia, Tristian Da Cunha, Ryan Shaw & more

Northern Light
WE ARE TECHNIQUE
birthday party with Mathew Johnson

Rehab
LIFTED
electro house with Marc Leaf, Graham Dixon & Deano

University, Stylus
BRIGHTON BEACH
soul & r'n'b, Britpop

Warehouse
SPEEDQUEEN
house, disco, soul

Wine
ROCK & ROLL
DJ Debslar

gigs

Bruce & the
SOCIAL CLUB
DAS WANDERLUST

Cockpit
MYSTERY JETS

Vine
BAM BAM FRANCS

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BBC ONE

6.00 Breakfast. 9.00 Weekend 24. 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Second Helpings. 11.30 Bill's Food. 12.00 BBC News. Weather. 12.10 Football Focus. Hosted by John Inverdale and Craig Doyle. 1.05 Rugby Build-Up. 1.20 Live Rugby Union: Wales v Italy. 3.20 Live Rugby Union: Ireland v Scotland. Times may vary. 5.25 Final Score. 5.45 BBC News: Regional News: Weather.

6.05 **Just For Laughs.** The hidden camera crew strike again, as a gang of youths kidnap an old lady, and a dog vanishes without a trace.

6.35 **Get Smarter In A Week.** Michael Aspel and Stan Williams present an experiment in which 100 volunteers undergo a week-long brain-boosting course before testing their mettle in studio puzzles and conundrums.

7.35 **The National Lottery: Jet Set.** New series. Quiz, hosted by Eamonn Holmes.

8.10 **Casualty.** Kelsey allows a patient to discharge herself, fearing she will spill the beans about their shared past. A disconsolate Sam struggles with his confidence on his first day as an HCA.

9.00 **Get Smarter In A Week.** The volunteers put their creativity to the test and see how adept they are with words and numbers as they continue to find out if the brain-boosting regimen has made them smarter.

10.00 **BBC News: Weather: National Lottery Update**

10.20 **Match Of The Day.** Gary Lineker presents highlights of today's Premiership clashes, including the London derby and Tottenham Hotspur at Stamford Bridge.

11.40 **FILM: The Breakfast Club (1985).** Drama, starring Emilio Estevez and Judd Nelson: Weatherview

1.20 **BBC News 24**

BBC TWO

6.00 Tikkabilla. 6.30 The Story Makers. 6.50 Open A Door. 7.00 CBBC: Arthur. 7.25 8838. 7.45 Legend Of The Dragon. 8.10 Watch My Chops. 8.25 The Cramp Twins. 8.35 The Fairly Odd Parents. 9.00 Dick And Dom In Da Bungalow. 11.00 Top Of The Pops Reloaded. 11.45 Sportsround. 12.00 Switch: The Witness.

12.35 **Film: 2006 With Jonathan Ross.** 1.05 The Rockford Files. 1.55 Cagney And Lacey. 2.45 Miss Marple. 5.20 What The Papers Say. 5.30 **Flog It!**

6.30 **Planet Earth.** Series exploring the planet's history and how its inhabitants have affected it, beginning as a mother polar bear prepares her cubs for a journey. David Attenborough narrates.

7.30 **Crufts 2006.** Ben Fogle presents coverage of the toy and utility dog groups. Peter Purves reports from the flyball final, while Jessica Holm provides an update on the obedience competition.

9.00 **Rite At The Rite.** Drama, chronicling preparations for the first-ever staging of Stravinsky's The Rite of Spring, in 1913 – a controversial ballet that changed the face of dance for ever. Choreographer Nijinsky is rewarded for his success with the opportunity to work on a high-profile production, but faces an agonising choice between his lover Diaghilev and a woman in the audience.

10.30 **Have I Got Old News For You.** The late Linda Smith and novelist Will Self

join in the fun on the satirical current affairs quiz, while Neil Kinnock sits in as guest host.

11.00 **Room 101**

11.30 **Athletics.** With the late comedienne Linda Smith.

12.30 **FILM: An Alan Smithee Film: Burn, Hollywood, Burn (1997).** Comedy, starring Eric Idle.

1.50 **Dear Television**

2.00 **BBC Learning Zone**

itv 11

6.00 GMTV. 9.25 Holly And Stephen's Saturday Showdown. 10.30 F1: Bahrain Grand Prix Qualifying. The opening qualifying session of the season. 12.15 **ITV News: Weather.**

12.20 **Calendar News And Weather.** 12.30 Cduik. 1.30 The Pink Panther ITV Movie Special. 1.40 The Rockford Files. 3.00 Inspector Morse. 5.00 **Calendar News And Sport: Weather.**

5.15 **ITV News And Sport: Weather.** 5.30 Harry Hill's TV Burp.

6.00 **Stars In Their Eyes Kids.** The last of this year's heats, in which five more contestants attempt to win the audience vote for the remaining guaranteed place in next week's final. Presented by Cat Deeley.

7.00 **Best Ever Muppet Moments.** Celebration of Jim Henson's colourful creations, featuring contributions from famous fans including Bruce Forsyth, Davina McCall and Michael Parkinson. Phillip Schofield narrates.

8.00 **Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?** Chris Tarrant hosts the big-prize quiz, inviting contestants to have a go at answering 15 questions that could change their lives.

9.00 **Another Audience With Shirley Bassey.** The Welsh songstress entertains another star-studded audience. Her repertoire includes new tracks alongside old favourites such as Big Spender and Diamonds Are Forever.

10.00 **Parkinson.** The veteran broadcaster chats to musical writers Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice, comedian Dara O'Brian and actress Kathy Burke. The cast of new West End show Evita also perform.

11.00 **ITV News: Weather**

11.15 **FILM: Leaving Las Vegas (1995).** Tragic drama, starring Nicolas Cage.

1.15 **Quizmania.** 5.00 **ITV Nightscreen.** 5.30 **ITV News.**

4

6.10 The Hoobs. 6.35 The Hoobs. 7.00 French Football. 7.30 World Cup Skiing. 8.00 The Morning Line. 8.55 T4: Totally Frank. 9.25 T4: Pure T4. 9.55 T4: Friends. 10.30 T4: Popworld. 11.20 T4: Friends. 12.25 T4: Chantelle: Living The Dream. 12.25 T4: Friends. 12.55 T4: Shipwrecked 2006: Battle Of The Islands. 2.00 Channel 4 Racing From Sandown Park And Wolverhampton. Including the 3.10 Sunderland's Imperial Cup 'H' cap Hurdle (2m 1/2). 4.15

Update on a woman's relocation to France. 5.25 Supernanny US. Two boys prone to violent outbursts.

6.30 **Channel 4 News**

7.00 **Deal Or No Deal.** Noel Edmonds hosts the game show in which contestants try to guess the contents of mystery boxes holding as much as £250,000.

8.00 **Bremner, Bird & Fortune.** Political satire with Rory Bremner, John Bird and John Fortune, taking another sideswipe at the state of the nation.

9.00 **FILM: Mickey Blue Eyes (1995).** A strait-laced Englishman living in New York falls for a mobster's daughter who wants to escape her family's criminal background – but soon discovers it's virtually impossible to avoid becoming involved in their 'business' empire.

Good-natured romantic comedy, starring Hugh Grant, Jeanne Tripplehorn, James Caan and Burt Young.

10.55 **4Music: Gorillaz: Video Exclusive.** El Manana.

11.00 **4Music: The Smash Hits Story.** Documentary about the history of Smash Hits magazine.

12.40 **4Music: Album Chart Show.** 1.10 **4Music: Soundproof.** 1.25 **4Music: Michael Jackson's Moments.** 1.30 **FILM: U Turn (1997).** 3.40 **The Jamie Kennedy Experiment.** 4.25 **Wild Things.** 5.10 **Countdown.** 5.55 **Making It.**

five

6.00 Sunrise. 6.55 Milkshake! Jay Jay The Jet Plane. 7.25 The Save-Ums! 7.55 Harry And His Bucket Full Of Dinosaurs. 8.20 Franklin. 8.55 Shake! George Shrinks. 9.25 Don't Blame The Koalas. 9.55 The Adventures Of Sinbad. 10.50 Blue Water High. 11.25 Movie Lounge.

12.15 **The Gadget Show.** 1.05 **Events That Changed Our World.** 2.40 **FILM: To Catch A Thief (1955).** Comedy mystery, with Cary Grant. 4.40 **FILM: Mr Magoo (1997).** Comedy. Starring Leslie Nielsen.

6.15 **Charmed.** Paired is transported back in time.

7.00 **FILM: Loser (2000).** A college student is branded a loser by his room-mates, who promptly snub him from their group – but things look up when romance blossoms. Clumsy comedy, starring Jason Biggs.

8.50 **Five News And Sport**

9.00 **CSI: NY.** Mac, Danny, Flack and Lindsay investigate the case of a man killed in a lift, and discover a world in which girls meet up for sexual encounters with much older men. Stella and Hawkes uncover the false identity of a body found dead in Central Park, learning the victim had been living a double life which ultimately led to his demise.

10.00 **Law & Order: Criminal Intent.** Goren and Bishop try to track down a latter-day Bonnie and Clyde who have already killed nine people, including two undercover police officers investigating a gun-running ring.

11.00 **FILM: Get Shorty (1995).** John Travolta plays a Miami loan shark who visits Hollywood to collect a debt – and ends up becoming the new Orson Welles. Comedy, with Gene Hackman.

1.00 **Law & Order: Criminal Intent.** 1.55 **The FBI Files.** 2.45 **The Wright Stuff.** 3.50 **The Wright Stuff.** 4.55 **Wildlife SOS.** 5.20 **Wildlife SOS.** 5.45 **Russell Grant's Postcards.**

Rent the latest DVD releases from Game On and get 10% Off single bottles of wine and share size packets of crisps. Also buy 2 bottles of wine and get a 3rd free. Oh What A Night!



the Big Night in

The new DVD machine in Game On is where you can get all the latest DVD releases for only 45p. To make it the perfect 'night in' all you have to do is take your DVD to the Chiller on the lower ground floor and you'll get 10% off single bottles of wine and share bags of crisps.

Not to be used in conjunction with other offers. DVD must be presented to receive discount

Sunday March 12



William Swygart

Alistair McGowan is a man who has already made his contribution to the decline of light entertainment on British TV through *The Big Impression*, where he (allegedly) took a place in the nation's hearts by faking the piss out of the way people pronounce vowels. His sketches involving Mark Lawrenson's

inability to pronounce the word 'moment' would also appear to have given the *Match Of The Day* team the impression that they are in some way entertaining, which is nice.

Anyway, he's back, and this time he's occupying the *Monarch Of The Glen* slot as the lead man in *Mayo*, a police drama

set in some part of Britain for which McGowan can presumably do the accent. The plot involves him finding that his new superintendent is his ex-girlfriend who has been transferred from London. Someone has paid money for this to come into existence. It may well have been you.

Pick of the Day

Mayo

BBC One, 8pm

clubs

Babycream
DJ COMPETITION
with a residency

Bar Censsa
karaoke with Steve
Warren [Magic MW]

Bar Risa
SUNDAY FUNK
ambient funky house &
live music

Creation
chart, party, r'n'b &
hip hop with Ash &
Solid C

Frank's Bar
SUNDAY RIOTS
special parties

Fudge
SHINE
house

My House
BACK2MINE
Deano & Graham
Dixon with house
classics

gigs

City Varieties
BRENDAN SHINE

Cockpit
**THE
WONDERSTUFF**

Josephs Well
THE 45 REBELLION

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Leads Metro Uni:
FIGHTSTAR*
14th Mar
**CORINNE BAILEY
RAE***
8th Apr
KUBE*
20th Apr
DESMOND DEKKER*
11th May

alive.co.uk
alive
born 1993

BBC ONE

6.00 Breakfast. 7.35 Match Of The Day. 9.00 Sunday AM. 10.00 The Heaven & Earth Show. 11.00 Countryfile. 12.00 The Politics Show. 1.00 EastEnders. 2.25 Six Nations Grandstand. France v England. (Kick-off 3.00pm). 5.10 EastEnders. 5.40 Songs Of Praise.

6.15 **Last Of The Summer Wine.** Clegg asks for the gang's help when his cousin comes to stay, and Aubrey finds his own weakness.

6.45 **Antiques Roadshow.** The team visit Australia for the first time.

7.35 **BBC News: Regional News: Weather**

8.00 **Mayo.** New crime drama series, starring Alistair McGowan as a wise-cracking detective. The team investigate the death of a man at an exclusive rehab centre, and meet their new sergeant.

9.00 **Planet Earth.** Animals that survive on the biggest peaks on the planet, from gelada baboons in China to rare footage of snow leopards hunting on the Pakistan peaks.

10.00 **BBC News: Weather**

10.15 **Panorama.** In-depth look at how Tony Blair will be remembered, looking especially at his health service reforms. The programme talks to senior aides and goes behind the scenes at Westminster.

10.55 **Rail Cops.** PC Bob Gee comes to the aid of two colleagues who have suffered racial abuse, PC Wendy Coad struggles to evacuate a tube station, and Chris Joyce helps an asylum seeker.

11.25 **FILM: Someone To Watch Over Me (1987).** Thriller, starring Tom Berenger. Weatherview.

1.15 **Sign Zone: Holby City**

2.15 **Sign Zone: Panorama**

3.00 **Sign Zone: A Passion For Churches**

3.30 **Sign Zone: How To Live Longer**

4.15 **BBC News 24**

BBC TWO

6.00 Tikikabilla. 6.30 The Story Makers. 6.50 Open A Door. 7.00 CBC: Looney Tunes. 7.05 The Fairly Odd Parents. 7.30 Smile. 10.00 Sunday Style. 11.30 The Flying Gardener. 11.40 British Isles: A User's Guide To Natural History. 12.40 Super League Show. 1.25 FILM: International Velvet (1978). Horse-riding drama, starring Nanette Newman. 3.30 Flo! It! 4.30 Animal Park. 5.30 Bill Oddie Goes Wild In Cape Town.

6.10 **Natural World.** Dr Frances White takes a journey back to the Democratic Republic of Congo to find out if the gentle bonobo ape has survived the war that has overtaken their jungle home.

7.00 **Crufts 2006.** Ben Fogle returns from Birmingham as the Best in Show title is announced, after a week of competition. The winner of the gun dog group completes the final line-up, as the pedigrees attempt to follow in the footsteps of last year's winner, terrier bitch Cracknor Cause Celebre. Plus, the finale of the agility competition, the Obedience World Cup international contest and the Kennel Club Friends for Life competition. Last in series.

9.00 **The Best Of Top Gear.** The team look back at highlights of the series.

9.00 **Petrolheads.** Actor Ricky Tomlinson and celebrity chef James Martin join in the motoring fun, and gamble on a stuntman's attempts to out-drive a team of banger racers. Neil Morrissey presents.

10.30 **Match Of The Day 2.** Adrian Chiles presents highlights of today's Premiership double-bill, featuring Manchester United v Newcastle United at Old Trafford.

11.30 **American Dad!**

11.50 **Family Guy**

12.15 **Athletics**

1.15 **BBC News 24**

2.00 **BBC Learning Zone**

itv 1

6.00 GMTV. 9.25 The Championship. 10.30 F1: Bahrain Grand Prix. Today's race in Sakhrir. 1.30 ITV News And Weather. 1.35 Calendar News: Weather. 1.40 American Idol. 3.20 American Idol. 4.15 The Crocodile Hunter Diaries. 4.40 FILM: Freaky Friday (1976). Body-swap comedy, starring Jodie Foster and Barbara Harris.

6.25 **Calendar News And Sport: Weather**

6.40 **ITV News And Weather**

7.00 **Emmerdale.** Laurel is determined to reveal the truth about Nicola, and throws her out of Mill Brook before forcing her to make a public retraction in the Woolpack.

7.30 **Coronation Street.** Mike returns from Spain a shadow of his former self. Ashley fails to get into the spirit for Josh's birthday party. Gail frets over Richard Hillman, and Roy writes a love poem.

8.00 **The Royal.** New series of the medical drama. Dr Ormerod returns to work after his accident, a new nurse starts making her rounds on the wards and Mr Middleditch makes a surprise announcement.

9.00 **Midsomer Murders.** The duo discover a murdered council clerk was an expert blackmailer, and visit the seaside home of his latest victims to work out who might have done the deed. Last in series.

11.00 **ITV News And Weather**

11.10 **The South Bank Show.** Melynn Bragg talks to John Rutter about his music. The programme also follows the composer as he records plinings at the Ely Cathedral and rehearses his Pie Jesu with a solo chorister.

12.10 F1: Bahrain Grand Prix. Highlights. Highlights of today's race in Sakhrir. 1.10 Quizmania. 2.35 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 3.35 Redcoats. 4.00 People's Court. 5.00 Jobfinder. 5.30 ITV Morning News.

4

6.00 Animated Tales Of The World. 6.15 The Hoobs. 6.40 Transworld Sport. 7.35 World Cup Skiing. 8.30 Cheltenham Festival Preview. 8.55 14: One Tree Hill. 9.55 14: Hollyoaks. 12.25 14: Hard-Fi: Video Exclusive. 3.05 FILM: Carry On Doctor (1967). Bawdy hospital comedy, starring Frankie Howerd. 4.50 Scrapheap Challenge: The Scrappy Races. 5.50 Time Team.

6.45 **Desperate Housewives.** Following a spate of burglaries, a neighbourhood watch committee is formed on Wisteria Lane. Bree discovers a disturbing rumour about George, and Susan watches her mum get married.

7.35 **Channel 4 News**

8.00 **Invasion.** Russell confronts Mariel about her change in personality since the hurricane, and Jesse meets a beautiful stranger while on holiday with Larkin and Rose.

9.00 **The Actors' Actor.** A celebration of big-screen acting, using the results of a poll carried out on both sides of the Atlantic to find the 50 thespians considered the most influential by their peers. The rundown looks at how the icons had such a long-lasting effect, and explores the stories behind their on-screen personas, talking to people who worked with them. Featuring classic film clips and interviews with UK and American luminaries of the silver screen, including Dennis Hopper, Bert Reynolds, Patrick Stewart, Jon Voight, Whoopi Goldberg, Elliot Gould, Tippi Hedren, Steven Berkoff and Phil Daniels.

1.00 **Hard-Fi: Video Exclusive.** 1.05 Album Chart Show. 1.35 Freesports On 4. The X-Box Big Day Out. 2.05 KOTV. 2.35 French Football. 4.25 Scrapheap Challenge. 5.25 Countdown.

five

6.00 Milkshake! Old Bear Stories. 6.10 Aussie Antics. 6.15 Bear In The Big Blue House. 6.40 Jay Jay The Jet Plane. 7.10 The Save-Ums! 7.20 The Save-Ums! 7.40 Harry And His Bucket Full Of Dinosaurs. 7.55 Harry And His Bucket Full Of Dinosaurs. 8.15 Franklin. 8.45 Shahei George Shrieks. 9.20 Snobs. 9.50 Michaela's Wild Challenge. 10.25 Heroes Of History. 10.55 The New Tomorrow. 11.25 Arthur's Trip To India. 11.55 Rooted. 12.20 Divine Designs.

12.55 **Five News Update.** 1.00 Wildlife Down Under With Nick Baker. 1.35 FILM: Crash Dive (1943). Romantic wartime drama, starring Tyrone Power. 3.40 FILM: The Adventures Of Robin Hood (1938). Swashbuckler, starring Errol Flynn and Olivia de Havilland. 5.35 FILM: A Knight In Camelot (1998). Fantasy adventure, with Whoopi Goldberg.

7.20 **Five News And Sport**

7.30 **FILM: Look Who's Talking Too (1990).** Kirstie Alley and John Travolta return for this rushed comedy sequel in which baby Mikey is joined by a mischievous sister. With the voices of Bruce Willis and Rosanne Barr.

9.00 **FILM: Maid In Manhattan (2002).** A maid at a posh hotel daringly tries on a designer dress belonging to a guest — but she's spotted by a wealthy politician who promptly invites her on a date. However, the social differences between them soon become apparent, and it looks as though the truth might destroy their budding relationship. Frothy but shallow Comedy, starring Jennifer Lopez and Ralph Fiennes.

11.05 **Celebrities Without Shell.** Documentary unveiling the unflattering photographs the stars would rather forget.

12.05 Winter X Games 2006. 12.55 Ironman Triathlon. 1.30 NCAA College Basketball. 3.00 Golf. 3.50 Motorsport Mundial. 4.30 Dutch Football.

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Symphony Orchestra and Chorus

FAURE Requiem

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(Pre-Concert Talk at 6.30pm)
Leeds Town Hall

HCPT The Pilgrimage Trust

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Monday
March
13



Amelia Ford

I believe we all secretly like a good shock doc on a weekday night. Channel 5 definitely seems to realise this as it brings us the latest in a long line of documentaries about weird and wonderful people, probably all kindly designed so as to make the viewer feel more 'normal'

in today's crazy world. Tonight, we are treated to the story of a woman who has shed much of the 45 stone she once weighed, as the rather 'does-what-it-says-on-the-tin' style programme title suggests. Whilst her weight and health have improved, her skin has not fared so

well - she has been left with bugginess (nice!) which she wants rid of. Let's just hope that the payment she receives for appearing on the programme covers the surgery costs for sorting out the sag. Oh hang on, she's probably having it free on the NHS...

Pick of the Day

The Woman Who Lost 30 Stone

Five, 9pm

clubs

Bar Risa
DIVE
student prebar

Dare Café,
Headingley
FUN, FROLICS & SHAMBOLICS
60's to now indie, rock, punk

Evolution
MONKEY BUSINESS
party night

Fab Café
HELIOTROPE
cult classics & indie anthems

Fruit Cupboard
KICK UP THE 80's
80s music

HiFi Club
SWEET REVIVAL
r'n'b, hip hop & soul with Jason 'Buddy' Birch & Poppy

Oceana
RENDEZVU
house, r'n'b with DJ Rob Harding

gigs

Josephs Well
FORCED TO DIE

Mixing Tin
THE SCARLET TUESDAY

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BBC ONE

- 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Animal Park.
- 10.00 Homes Under The Hammer. 11.00 To Buy Or Not To Buy. 11.30 Bargain Hunt. 12.15 Cash In The Attic. 1.00 BBC News: Weather. 1.30 Regional News: Weather. 1.40 Neighbours. Harold attacks Paul. 2.05 Doctors. 2.35 Monk. 3.20 BBC News: Regional News: Weather. 3.25 ChuckleVision. 3.40 Pitt And Kamrup. 4.05 What's New Scooby-Doo? 4.30 Grange Hill. 4.55 Blue Peter. 5.20 Newsround Extra. 5.35 Neighbours.
- 6.00 **BBC News**
- 6.30 **Look North: Weather**
- 7.00 **Open All Hours.** Shopkeeping comedy.
- 7.30 **Real Story With Fiona Bruce.** New series. Victims of terror attacks.
- 8.00 **EastEnders.** Martin is shocked by Sonia's revelation, and Little Mo struggles to defend her parenting skills when a health visitor arrives at the Slaters'.
- 8.30 **Girl Cops.** Gill Counsell has six hours to prove a case before the suspects are released. Carol Davenport pursues an escaped convict and Judith Walmsley organises a clothing amnesty.
- 9.00 **Daziel And Pascoe.** First of a two-part story. Tragedy strikes a Premiership football club when the team bus is hit by a train and the post-mortem reveals it was not an accident. Concludes tomorrow.
- 10.00 **BBC News**
- 10.30 **Regional News: Weather**
- 10.35 **Comedy Connections.** The making of Victoria Wood's dinnerladies.
- 11.15 **Film 2006 With Jonathan Ross**
- 11.45 **Film: The King Of Comedy (1983).** Black comedy starring Robert De Niro: Weatherview
- 1.35 **Sign Zone: Life On Mars**
- 2.35 **Sign Zone: Antiques Roadshow**
- 3.25 **Sign Zone: How To Live Longer**
- 4.10 **BBC News 24**

BBC TWO

- 7.05 CBBC: 883B. 7.30 SMART On The Road. 7.55 Newsround. 8.00 Blue Peter Flies The World. 8.30 Rubbadubbers. 8.40 Bob The Builder: Project Build It. 8.50 Little Red Tractor. 9.00 CBeebies Birthdays. 9.05 Big Cook, Little Cook. 9.25 Postman Pat. 9.40 Fireman Sam. 9.50 Tweenies. 10.15 Something Special. 10.30 Schools: Primary Geography. 10.40 Primary Geography. 11.00 Look And Read. 11.20 Look And Read. 11.40 Look And Read. 12.00 The Daily Politics. 12.30 Working Lunch. 1.00 Schools: Maths Challenge. 1.15 Maths Challenge. 1.30 FILM: Return From Witch Mountain (1978). Disney fantasy adventure. Bette Davis stars. 3.00 Through The Keyhole. 3.30 Sun, Sea And Bargain Spotting. 4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook. 5.15 Weakest Link.
- 6.00 **Animal Park: Wild In Africa.** A scientist tries to sedate two lions.
- 6.30 **Masterchef Goes Large.** The three finalists visit the Ritz Hotel.
- 7.00 **Top Of The Pops.** With the Zutons.
- 7.30 **A Passion For Churches.** A 20-year campaign to restore stained glass windows.
- 8.00 **Tales From The Palaces.** Planning a catrepiece for Hampton Court's maze. Last in series.
- 8.30 **University Challenge.** University of Sussex v Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge.
- 9.00 **Never Mind The Buzzcocks.** New series. Jonathan Ross guest hosts the comedy music quiz, with Fiona Phillips, Tom Fletcher, Alan Carr and Teddy Mitchell.
- 9.30 **Man Stroke Woman.** New comedy sketch series, starring Nick Frost.
- 10.00 **The Office.** David has a hard time raising staff morale.
- 10.30 **Newsnight**
- 11.20 **Kath & Kim**
- 11.45 **Kath & Kim**
- 12.10 **BBC News 24**
- 1.00 **BBC Learning Zone**

itv 1

- 6.00 GMTV. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 ITV Lunchtime News. 1.30 Loose Women. 2.30 Agatha Christie's Poirot. 3.29 Local Weather. 3.30 CITY. Pocoyo. 3.40 Blips. 3.50 Rugrats. 4.00 Atomic Betty. 4.10 Bernard. 4.25 My Parents Are Aliens. 5.00 The Paul O'Grady Show.
- 6.00 **Calendar: Weather**
- 6.30 **ITV Evening News**
- 7.00 **Emmerdale.** Jamie returns to the village with a business proposition for Bob. Rodney tries to make peace between Ivan and Paul, and Scott becomes suspicious of Philippa.
- 7.30 **Coronation Street.** Ken calls in on Mike, who's been found half-dressed in the Street. Sylvia Ramsden tells Claire she and her husband can't have children, while Matt considers snatching Josh.
- 8.00 **Tonight With Trevor McDonald**
- 8.30 **Coronation Street.** Claire screams for help when she finds Matt holding Josh, but her fear can't compare to Ashley's rage. Mike's doctor reveals he may have had a stroke, and Maria hears good news.
- 9.00 **A Good Murder.** First in a two-part drama. Juliet Aubrey stars as a woman stifled by her overbearing mother. An Albanian man offers her a chance of freedom. Concludes tomorrow.
- 10.30 **ITV News: Weather**
- 11.00 **Supernatural.** Sam and Dean meet an estate agent's son who is fascinated by insect life - which proves ominous when swarms of deadly bugs arrive in town.
- 12.00 Champions League Weekly. 12.30 Taxi Nights. 12.55 Quizmania. 2.30 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 3.30 Mum's On Strike. 4.05 Have I Been Here Before? 4.35 House Price Challenge. 5.00 Jobfinder. 5.30 ITV Morning News.

4

- 6.10 The Hoobs. 6.35 The Hoobs. 7.00 B4. 7.30 Friends. 8.00 Just Shoot Me. 8.25 Will & Grace. 8.55 Frasier. 9.20 Water Stories. 9.30 Teens On Trial. 10.00 Bricking It. 10.45 Bricking It. 11.35 Tricky Business. 12.00 News At Noon. 12.30 Supporting Acts. 12.45 ER. 1.40 FILM: Doctor At Large (1957). Medical comedy, starring Dick Bogarde. 3.30 Countdown. 4.15 Deal Or No Deal. 5.00 Richard & Judy.
- 6.00 **The Simpsons.** Mr Burns opens a casino in Springfield, and it isn't long before Marg is bitten by the gambling bug.
- 6.30 **Hollyoaks.** Mark finds out Jessica has been diagnosed with meningitis. Cameron is torn over whether to take up Declan's offer of a European tour and Sarah learns what's been bothering Amy.
- 7.00 **Channel 4 News**
- 7.55 **3 Minute Wonder: Time For School**
- 8.00 **Beating Bird Flu: An Equinox Special.** Three leading experts on influenza discuss the ways in which the deadly virus could be tackled, by investigating evidence from the 1918 outbreak of Spanish flu.
- 9.00 **The Real Dad's Army.** The last in the series examines the work of the Auxillary Unit, a secret resistance army whose mission was to wreak havoc among Nazi troops in the event of invasion. Last in series.
- 10.00 **ER.** Kovac spreads Christmas spirit, but the mood changes when the victim of a gangland shooting is brought in. Haleh's auditions for a singing partner uncover an unlikely crooner.
- 11.05 **ArtShock: Is Bad Art For Bad People?** New series. Extreme forms of modern art.
- 12.05 **Film: Drugstore Cowboy (1989).** Powerful drama, with Matt Dillon. 2.00 World Cup Skiing. 3.50 Ronda. 4.00 4Learning.

five

- 6.00 Milkshake!: Old Bear Stories. 6.10 Aussie Antics. 6.15 Bear In The Big Blue House. 6.45 Hi-5. 7.15 Roobarb And Custard Too. 7.25 The Adventures Of Bottle Top Bill And His Best Friend Corky. 7.40 Make Way For Noddy. 7.55 Say It With Noddy. 8.00 Fifi And The Flowerets. 8.15 Peppa Pig. 8.20 Bird Bath. 8.35 Elmo's World. 8.50 Franny's Feet. 9.00 The Wright Stuff. 10.30 Trisha Goddard. 11.30 Five News.
- 12.00 **Home And Away.** 12.30 BrainTeaser. 1.30 Star Trek: Voyager. 2.30 Star Trek: Voyager. 3.30 FILM: Death In Small Doses (1995). Fact-based murder mystery, starring Tess Harper. 5.30 Five News.
- 6.00 **Home And Away.** Amanda steals the electoral roll.
- 6.30 **Two And A Half Men.** Charlie dates Jake's teacher: Weather
- 7.00 **Five News**
- 7.15 **The Gadget Show.** The latest technological toys.
- 8.00 **Angry Earth.** Seismologists and scientific experts discuss the reasons why earthquakes occur, how they might be predicted, and why the growth of modern cities is increasing the danger.
- 9.00 **The Woman Who Lost 30 Stone: Extraordinary People.** How Connie Jackson lost two-thirds of her body weight through surgery - and then embarked on a life-threatening operation to rid her of her excess skin.
- 10.00 **Prison Break.** Michael discovers a key storage building has been converted into the guards' break room. Nick and Veronica find themselves targeted by the agents.
- 11.00 **The Mafia.** New series. The history of the criminal network.
- 12.00 **Dark Angel.** 12.55 **NASCAR.** 1.40 US PGA Golf. 2.30 **Boxing Classic.** 3.20 **NBA Action.** 3.50 **Motorsport Mundial.** 4.20 **Football Argentina.**

This March, LUU Student Advice Centre will be coming to you!

We will be out and about in the Parkinson Building on March 16th and in the Foyer of the Business School on March 23rd.

We will bring copies of our information and self-help leaflets and can also refer you to our main centre if we can't help you there.

Student Advice Centre
www.luucentre.com/advice

Tuesday
March
14



Amelia Ford

Well, ice-skating certainly seems to be in vogue at the moment! I know it's been snowing lately, but really... After the 10 or so weeks of the fabulous 'ice cube' in Millennium Square, the excitement of the Winter Olympics in Turin, and the inspired piece of broadcasting that was 'Dancing on Ice', it perhaps stood to rea-

son that sooner or later someone would have the bright idea of making a comedy series on ice! Set in the crazy world (!) of amateur ice-skating, only time will tell whether this new series can cut the mustard amongst the cut-throat culture of today's TV comedies. Some of the highlights promised to us are storylines fea-

tricky dilemmas such as an ice-skater considering retirement, a woman fretting over the cost of getting to the ice championships, and the mother of a star pupil who's worried about being ignored. Sounds interesting! Whatever's next - 'Neighbours On Ice'?

Pick of the Day

Thin Ice

BBC TWO, 10pm

clubs

Baja Beach Club
MILKSHIKE
chart, party, dance & r'n'b

Bourbon
POUNDIR
r'n'b & dance

Cockpit
SLAM DUNK
punk, ska, emo, metal & hardcore

HiFi Club
UNDER THE TREES
indie, electro, dance, punk-funk, 80's pop & more

University Mine
THE TUNNEL CLUB
Chris Martin with indie, artrock, electro & guitar sounds + live bands

Wire
IRON ANGA
emo, rock & metal

Cockpit
THE BLACK VELVETS

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BBC ONE

6.00 Breakfast. **9.15** Animal Park. **10.00** Homes Under The Hammer. **11.00** To Buy Or Not To Buy. **11.30** Bargain Hunt. **12.15** Cash In The Attic. **1.00** BBC News: Weather. **1.30** Regional News: Weather. **1.40** Neighbours. Paul becomes paranoid about his attacker. **2.05** Doctors. **2.35** Monk. **3.20** BBC News: Regional News: Weather. **3.25** ChuckleVision. **3.40** Pitt And Kantrop. **4.05** What's New Scooby-Doo? **4.30** Grange Hill. **5.00** Serious Amazon Diaries. **5.25** Newsround. **5.35** Neighbours.

6.00 BBC News
7.30 Look North: Weather
10.00 Watchdog. Investigation show, fighting for consumers' rights.
7.30 EastEnders. Jack expresses his concern for Honey's health, while Billy tries to get his fiancée to talk about her mother's death. Little Mo becomes overwhelmed by a barrage of advice on childcare.

8.00 Holly By. Jac accuses Nick of putting a patient's life on the line to further his own career. Sam and Connie clash over a diagnosis, and Kyla threatens to report Donna.

9.00 Dalziel And Pascoe. Part two of two. Another murder takes place, and as the detectives continue with their investigation, further secrets are revealed.

10.00 BBC News
10.30 Regional News: Weather
10.35 Drunk And Dangerous. The impact of 24-hour licensed drinking.

11.25 Medium
12.10 FILM: Halloween 6: The Curse Of Michael Myers (1995). Horror, with Donald Pleasence: Weatherview

1.40 Sign Zone: Switch
1.40 Sign Zone: The Best Of Top Gear
3.10 Sign Zone: Tales From The Palaces
3.40 Sign Zone: The Hairy Bikers' Cook Book

4.10 Sign Zone: How To Live Longer
4.55 BBC News 24

BBC TWO

7.05 CBBC: 8888. **7.30** Smart On The Road. **7.55** Newsround. **8.00** Blue Peter Files The World. **8.30** Rubbadubbers. **8.40** Bob The Builder: Project Build It. **8.50** Little Red Tractor. **9.00** CBeebies Birthdays. **9.05** Big Cook, Little Cook. **9.25** Postman Pat. **9.40** Fireman Sam. **9.50** Tweenies. **10.15** Something Special. **10.30** Schools: Around Scotland. **10.50** Folk Dance. **11.10** Horizon. **12.00** The Daily Politics. **12.30** Working Lunch. **1.00** Schools: Science Clips. **1.10** Science Clips. **1.20** Science Clips: The Witness. **1.35** FILM: The Square Peg (1958). Warmtime comedy, with Norman Wisdom. **3.00** Through The Keyhole. **3.30** Escape To The Country. **4.30** Ready, Steady, Cook. **5.15** Weakest Link.

6.00 Animal Park: Wild In Africa. How elephants communicate.

6.30 Masterchef Goes Large. The three finalists are set their latest challenge.

7.00 The Apprentice. The candidates' flair for negotiation is tested.

8.00 Meltdown: A Global Warning Journey. Polar explorer Paul Rose investigates climate change, examining previous environmental developments and conducting an experiment to predict what the future holds.

9.00 Jimmy's Farm. Jimmy fights to control Porridge the boar, as well as his hive of 800,000 bees. Meanwhile, something is killing the chickens, and the council planners are breathing down his neck.

10.00 Thin Ice. A journalist interviews Natalie and Jeanette is accused of neglecting the Penguins. Rocky becomes the new sponsor of the ice hockey team - and plans to give them a better image.

10.30 Newsnight
11.20 Climate Conspiracy Or Global Catastrophe?
11.50 Congo
12.40 BBC News 24
2.00 BBC Learning Zone

itv 1

6.00 GMTV. **9.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show. **10.30** This Morning. **12.30** ITV Lunchtime News. **1.30** Loose Women. **2.30** Agatha Christie's Poirot. **3.29** Local Weather. **3.30** CITV: POCOYO. **3.40** Blips. **3.50** Rugrats. **4.05** Prove It! **4.25** My Parents Are Aliens. **5.00** The Paul O'Grady Show. Daily entertainment show.

6.00 Calendar: Weather
7.30 ITV Evening News: Weather
6.00 Emmerdale. Bob finds out why Jamie needed his money, and Lesley asks Ivan to move back in. Dawn frets about her driving test, and ends up scratching Cain's car.

7.30 The People's Millions. Nell McAndrew and Duncan Wood take to the skies to find out more about this year's scheme to provide lottery grants for community projects.

8.00 Celebrity Fit Club. Dr Carey has shocking news for Anne Diamond, who is still facing the cold shoulder after her gastric band revelations. Meanwhile, the famous faces try orienteering with Harvey, and discover a new-age dance class isn't exactly fun for everyone.

9.00 A Good Murder. Conclusion. Kay discovers she is pregnant and blackmails her brother Ralph when he threatens to expose her lover for being an illegal immigrant. Niko regrets his actions after tricking Phyllis into signing over the deeds of the house, but his attempts to make amends end in violence and death.

10.30 ITV News: Weather
11.00 Wilson. First of a two-part profile of former PM Harold Wilson, examining his path to power and the reforms made by his government. With contributions by friends and colleagues.

12.05 Bad Lads Army. **12.55** Quizmania. **5.00** Jobfinder. **5.30** ITV Morning News.

4

6.00 Cubeez. **6.10** The Hoobs. **6.35** The Hoobs. **7.00** B4. **7.30** Friends. **8.00** Just Shoot Me. **8.30** Cheltenham Morning Line. **9.30** Teens On Trial. **10.00** Bricking It. **10.50** Tate Modern. **10.55** Tricky Business. **11.20** Re-Writing History. **11.25** Rude Britannia. **11.55** Self Portrait UK. **12.00** News At Noon. **12.30** My Place In The Sun. **1.00** Channel 4 Racing. Cheltenham Festival. The 3.15 Smurfit Kappa Champion Hurdle (2m 1/2). **4.30** Deal Or No Deal. **5.15** Richard & Judy.

6.00 The Simpsons. A cat burglar raids the Simpsons' home.

6.30 Hollyoaks. Mrs Osborne comforts Steph over losing Cameron to his European tour, while Craig steals Darren's account book.

7.00 Channel 4 News
7.55 3 Minute Wonder: Time For School

8.00 You Are What You Eat. A drag artist DJ needs Dr Gillian McKeith's help, as night after night of heavy drinking and takeaways have caused him to double his weight.

8.30 It's Me Or The Dog. Victoria Stilwell revisits Mandy and Martin Whiteman, whose two tiny dogs are wreaking havoc with their incessant biting, and offers some serious disciplinary techniques.

9.00 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares. The outspoken chef visits a hotel that was one of Derby's most popular restaurants in the 1970s and 1980s, but has since gone into a serious decline. Last in series.

10.00 No Angels. Lia's relationship with Jamie is put to the test.

11.05 ArtShock: The Human Canvas. Examining the most extreme forms of modern art.

12.05 Cheltenham Festival Highlights.
12.35 Poker. **2.05** The Man Who Captured Nessie. **3.05** Chicken Wire. **3.15** Countdown. **4.00** 4Learning.

five

6.00 Milkshake!: Old Bear Stories. **6.10** Aussie Antics. **6.15** Bear In The Big Blue House. **6.45** Hi-5. **7.15** Roobarb And Custard Top. **7.25** The Adventures Of Cottle Top. Bill And His Best Friend Corky. **7.35** Make Way For Noddy. **7.40** Make Way For Noddy. **7.55** Say It With Noddy. **8.00** Frii And The Flowertots. **8.15** Peppa Pig. **8.20** Bird Bath. **8.35** Elmo's World. **8.50** Franny's Feet. **9.00** The Wright Stuff. **10.30** Trisha Goddard. **11.30** Five News. **12.00** Home And Away. **12.30** BrainTeaser. **1.30** Star Trek: Voyager. **2.30** Star Trek: Voyager. **3.25** Five News Update. **3.30** FILM: Trail Of Tears (1995). Tearjerker, starring Pam Dawber. **5.30** Five News.

6.00 Home And Away. Amanda seduces the mayor.

6.30 Two And A Half Men. Jake bonds with Judith's new boyfriend: Weather

7.00 Five News
7.15 Kathryn Tickell's Northumbria. The folk musician explores the region's cultural heritage.

8.00 Build A New Life In The Country. Architect George Clarke helps people relocate to different parts of the UK, beginning with a couple who want to move from Surrey and start a business in Lincolnshire.

9.00 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation. Part one of two. A shootout leaves four people dead, including a police officer. When witnesses claim the cops shot unarmed men, Grissom struggles to find out the truth.

10.00 CSI: Miami. A tsunami threatens the city, but two people are killed during the evacuation. The team investigates - and discover a plan to rob a bank while everyone else is fleeing.

11.20 Prison Break
12.20 Dark Angel. Max learns of her brother's whereabouts. **1.05** NBA Basketball. **3.40** Football Argentina Highlights. **4.30** Portuguese Football.

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Laurie Whitwell
Despite the probably serious intentions behind the show, the main reason people will tune in and watch is for the novelty value; to see just how old someone can be when they have a child. Included in the documentary is Pauline (possibly Fowler) a 62-year-old coffin-dogger who lied about her age to receive IVF treat-

ment. This seems ludicrous; imagine the effects on her youngster. No doubt the kid will be christened with some wartime name, forced to bathe in a rusty metal tub and have to endure listening to the wireless for an evening's entertainment. You can just picture the playground banter they will have to suffer in

their school years; 'Hey Clive, stop playing hopscotch, your gran's come to pick you up again'. They'll be easy fodder for bullies who'll have so much ammunition to shoot them down with it is inevitable they'll be scared for life. So, Pauline, stop lying, get some Botox and go buy a budgie if you want company that bad.

Pick of the Day

Britain's Oldest Mums and Dads

ITV1, 9pm

clubs

Baja Beach Bar
SCORE
big student sports team night out

Cockpit PANIC
indie, electronica, punk, rock'n roll

Faversham Club NME
indie, electro

Frank's Bar FOR THOSE THAT KNOW
quirky, themed student nights

Fudge SYNTHIA
breaks, electro disco, drum'n'bass, dance

HiFi Club MOVEONUP
Northern Soul, Tamla Motown, funk

Oceana VODKA NATIONWIDE
r'n'b, hip hop with DJ Tony P

Wire REBELLIOUS JUKEBOX
with DJ Nick Scott

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BBC ONE

6.00 Breakfast. 9.00 Commonwealth Games Opening Ceremony. From the Melbourne Cricket Ground. **11.45** Bargain Hunt. **12.15** Cash In The Attic. **1.00** BBC News: Weather. **1.30** Regional News: Weather. **1.40** Neighbours. Harold resolves to make Paul suffer. **2.05** Doctors. **2.35** Monk. **3.20** BBC News: Regional News: Weather. **3.25** chuckleVision. **3.40** Pitt And Kamtrap. **4.05** What's New Scooby-Doo? **4.30** Grange Hill. **5.00** Blue Peter. **5.25** Newsworld. **5.35** Neighbours.

6.00 BBC News
7.00 Look North: Weather
Davina. Host Davina McCall is joined by actress Michelle Collins, who is preparing for her role as club owner Ma Baker in Daddy Cool, a Sixties-set West End musical featuring Boney M songs. She also welcomes singer Claudi Luper, whose CD The Body Acoustic will be released on March 20.

7.55 Match Of The Day Live: The FA Cup. West Ham United v Bolton Wanderers (Kick-off 8.05pm). Coverage of the fifth-round replay at Upton Park, where victory would secure a place in the quarter-finals. In the event of extra time and penalties, subsequent programmes are subject to change.

10.00 BBC News
10.30 Regional News: Weather
10.35 The National Lottery: Midweek Draws. With Eamonn Holmes.
10.40 One Foot In The Grave. Comedy, starring Richard Wilson as querulous pensioner Victor Meldrew and Annette Crosbie as his long-suffering wife: National Lottery Update

11.10 Commonwealth Games. The live action gets under way on the opening day with swimming heats at 11.10 and 12.35 and rugby sevens pool matches at 23.50 and 1.40. Times may vary.

BBC TWO

7.05 CBBC: BB3B. **7.30 Smart On The Road.** **7.55 Newsworld.** **8.00** Blue Peter Flies The World. **8.30** Rubbadubbers. **8.40** Bob The Builder: Project Build It. **8.50** Little Red Tractor. **9.00** CBeebies Birthdays. **9.05** Big Cook, Little Cook. **9.25** Postman Pat. **9.40** Fireman Sam. **9.50** Tweenies. **10.15** Something Special. **10.30** FILM: The Falcon Takes Over (1942). Murder melodrama, starring George Sanders. **11.30** The Daily Politics. **1.00** What The Stuarts Did For Us. **1.30** Working Lunch. **2.00** House Invaders. **2.30** Garden Invaders. **3.00** Through The Keyhole. **3.30** Escape To The Country. **4.30** Ready, Steady, Cook. **5.15** Weakest Link.

6.00 Animal Park: Wild In Africa. The work of camel patrols.
6.30 Masterchef Goes Large. The finalists cook for passengers on the QE2 in Las Palmas.

7.00 A Seaside Parish. An urgent search gets under way to recruit a new priest for the Isles of Scilly. Meanwhile, in Boscastle the crowds gather for the launch of the racing gig. Last in series.

7.30 Games Today. Clare Balding presents highlights from the opening ceremony of the Commonwealth Games at Melbourne Cricket Ground, and looks ahead to the first of 11 days of events.

9.00 The Apprentice. The remaining 11 candidates prepare to get a roasting in the catering business as they buy and organise meals to sell in marquees to half a million people at the Thames Festival.
10.00 The Armstrongs. Christmas cheer is lacking among the U-Fit staff.

10.30 Newsnight
11.20 Desi DNA
11.50 The Apprentice: You're Fired! Skiing Weather
12.25 Sign Zone: Natural World
1.15 Sign Zone: How To Live Longer
2.00 BBC Learning Zone

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6.00 GMTV. **9.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show. **10.30** This Morning. **12.30** ITV Lunchtime News. **1.30** Loose Women. **2.30** Agatha Christie's Poirot. **3.29** Local Weather. **3.30** CITY: Pocoyo. **3.40** Blips. **3.50** Rugrats. **4.00** Art Attack. **4.25** My Parents Are Aliens. **5.00** The Paul O'Grady Show. Daily entertainment show.

6.00 Calendar: Weather
6.30 ITV Evening News: Weather
7.00 Emmerdale. Jamie has a change of heart and returns Bob's money. Viv offers Dawn a job, and Val is transferred to a different community service – but Noreen is determined to fight the decision.

7.30 Coronation Street. Danny tells Mike to give him power of attorney. Ashley refuses to accompany Claire to an antenatal appointment. Maria has a proposal for Kirk, and Fitz considers evening classes.

8.00 The Bill. Smithy is refused permission to attend Louise's funeral and flips when a fellow inmate sets fire to a photograph of her. Keane allows CID 24 hours to gather evidence against Caplan.

9.00 Britain's Oldest Mums And Dads. The difficulties faced by older parents before and after the birth of their children, including a man who was 71 when his son was born and a woman who had twins at the age of 57.

10.30 ITV News: Weather
11.00 Jordan And Peter: Marriage And Mayhem. New series. Documentary following the ups and downs of the couple's life together as they deal with pregnancy, birth and the preparations for their marriage.

12.00 Club Reps: The Workers. Stacey decides to head home. **12.25** Craig David: In Profile. **12.55** Quizmania. **5.00** Jobfinder. **5.30** ITV Morning News.

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6.00 Cubez. **6.10** The Hoobs. **6.35** The Hoobs. **7.00** 84. **7.30** Friends. **8.00** Just Shoot Me. **8.30** Cheltenham Morning Line. **9.30** Teens On Trial. **10.00** Bricking It. **10.50** Tate Modern. **10.55** Tricky Business. **11.20** Re-Writing History. **11.25** Rule Britannia. **11.55** Self Portrait UK. **12.00** News At Noon. **12.30** My Place In The Sun. **1.00** Channel 4 Racing: Cheltenham Festival. Including the 3.15 Queen Mother Champion Chase (2m). **4.30** Deal Or No Deal. **5.15** Richard & Judy. Entertainment show.

6.00 The Simpsons. Bart becomes famous.

6.30 Hollyoaks. Mark confronts Gilly at the hospital.

7.00 Channel 4 News
7.55 3 Minute Wonder: Time For School

8.00 Relocation, Relocation. Phil Spencer revisits fashion designer Shane McCoubrey to discover whether he is living his dream of leaving London behind to release his creative juices on the Kent coast.

9.00 Fat Pets. Insight into the growing rate of obese animals in Britain, including an 11-stone Rottweiler that needs £3,000 worth of surgery if it is to survive carrying the extra weight.

10.00 Desperate Housewives. George stalks Bree, despite her best efforts to ward him off while Carlos is paroled and spends time confessing his sins to an attractive nun – much to Gabrielle's horror.

11.05 ArtShock: What Price Art? By Tracey Emin. An exploration of the life of female artists, questioning why their male counterparts can earn more money for their work and why family life should suffer in their bid for success.

12.05 Snow Patrol: Video Exclusive. **12.10** Cheltenham Festival Highlights. **12.45** Jamie Cullum: In Profile. **1.30** The Charlatans: Live In Brixton. **2.25** World Cup Skiing. **4.20** Scrapheap Challenge. **5.20** Countdown.

five

6.00 Milkshake! Old Bear Stories. **6.10** Aussie Antics. **6.15** Bear In The Big Blue House. **6.45** Hi-5. **7.15** Roobarb And Custard Too. **7.25** The Adventures Of Bottle Top Bill And His Best Friend Corky. **7.40** Make Way For Noddy. **7.55** Say It With Noddy. **8.00** Fifi And The Floweriots. **8.15** Peppa Pig. **8.20** Bird Bath. **8.35** Elmo's World. **8.50** Franny's Feet. **9.00** The Wright Stuff. **10.30** Trisha Goddard. **11.30** Five News. **12.00** Home And Away. **12.30** BrainTesser. **1.30** Star Trek: Voyager. **2.30** Star Trek: Voyager. **3.30** FILM: Columbo: The Conspirators (1978). Crime drama, starring Peter Falk. **5.30** Five News.

6.00 Home And Away. Alf decides to run for mayor, and Flynn decides to keep his condition a secret.

6.30 Two And A Half Men. Charlie dates a female version of himself but doesn't like the way she treats him: Weather

7.00 Five News

7.15 Movie Lounge. Giles Coren casts an eye over Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire and is joined by guests Stephen Fry and Hugo Weaving to discuss their new sci-fi thriller V for Vendetta.

8.00 FILM: Sleepless In Seattle (1993). Romantic comedy, with Tom Hanks as a widower whose son sets about finding him a wife via a radio talk-show, with Meg Ryan as the reporter who responds to his plea. Includes news update at 8.55.

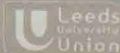
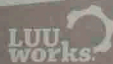
10.00 FILM: Out Of Reach (2004). Premiere. A former intelligence agent befriends an orphan girl and soon discovers her foster home is cover for a human trafficking network. Thriller, with Steven Seagal.

11.45 Partypoker.com European Open. Action from a preliminary heat.

1.15 NHL Ice Hockey. **3.45** Motorsport Mundial. **4.20** NHRA Drag Racing.

Go to the Polls again!
14th - 17th of march

The Union still needs you to vote for Union Council Members - who decide on how the Union is run and delegates to send to the NUS National Convention Choose who will represent you.



Thursday

March 16



Laurie Whitwell

How a delusional old woman and an infuriatingly annoying git can carve out a prolonged career as Britain's best loved couple is beyond me. You can't argue that it is their good looks which have forged a path to the top. Judy looks like a toy doll that has been left out in the sun too long with the effects

of shrinkage, shrivellage and - erm - wrinkleage, while Richard could easily get a part in a German porno (moussache duly added). Nor could you point at highly incisive and intelligent journalism for their accomplishment as the duo pride themselves on the infuriating practise of attempting imitations of the

latest 'cult' comedy catchphrase, in an effort to gain cheap laughs. This duo metaphorically rape that practise like no other, churning out cringingly embarrassing impressions of 'I want that one' and 'Am I bovvered?' daily. Answers to this baffling conundrum on the back of a postcard please!

Pick of the Day

Richard and Judy

Channel 4, 5pm

clubs

Cockpit
KIPPAK
with Dr Hart Wichsen
& Lady Crystal
Shandy

Dr Wu's
JACK TO PHONO
soul, funk, jazz, Latin
& house

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BBC ONE

7.00 Commonwealth Games Report. **7.50** Commonwealth Games. Swimming, cycling and rugby sevens. **12.30** Commonwealth Games Report. **1.00** BBC News: Weather. **1.30** Regional News: Weather. **1.40** Neighbours. Sky worries about Harold's strange behaviour. **2.05** Doctors. **2.35** Monk. **3.20** BBC News: Regional News: Weather. **3.25** ChuckleVision. **3.40** Pitt And Kantrop. **4.05** What's New Scooby-Doo? **4.30** Grange Hill. **5.00** Serious Amazon. **5.25** Newsround. **5.35** Neighbours. **6.00** BBC News. **6.30** Look North: Weather. **7.00**

6.00 BBC News. **6.30** Look North: Weather. **7.00** Run For Glory. Steve Cram and Sally Gunnell take the group to a military-style training camp to boost mental strength and raise fitness levels in preparation for running the London Marathon.

7.30 EastEnders. The Millers celebrate their engagement with a party in the Vic, despite Keith's reluctance.

8.00 Waterloo Road. Adam is killed in a car crash, and Donte and Chlo are plagued with guilt for their involvement in the accident.

9.00 To Kill a Burglar: The Tony Martin Story. Dramatised documentary, chronicling the 1999 case in which Norfolk farmer Tony Martin shot a man who was trying to burgle his house.

10.00 BBC News. **10.30** Regional News: Weather. **10.35** Question Time.

11.35 Commonwealth Games. A feast of live action gets under way with swimming heats at 11.35, followed by badminton and lawn bowls at 1.30 and the rugby sevens quarter-finals at 2.30. Times may vary.

BBC TWO

6.00 Breakfast. **9.00** CBeebies Birthdays. **9.05** Big Cook, Little Cook. **9.25** Postman Pat. **9.40** Fireman Sam. **9.50** Tweenies. **10.15** Something Special. **10.30** Schools: What? Where? When? Why? **10.45** Something Special. **11.00** Razzledazzle. **11.20** Primary Geography. **11.30** Pathways Of Belief. **12.00** The Daily Politics. **12.30** Working Lunch. **1.00** Commonwealth Games. **3.00** Through The Keyhole. **3.30** Escape To The Country. **4.30** Ready, Steady, Cook. **5.15** Weakest Link. **6.00** Animal Park: Wild In Africa.

6.30 Masterchef Goes Large. Looking in Michelin-starred restaurants.

7.00 The Culture Show. Verity Sharp reveals the winner of the great British Design Quest. Plus, interviews with director Spike Lee and singer-songwriter Richard Hawley.

7.30 Games Today. Clare Balding presents highlights from the opening day's events at the Commonwealth Games in Melbourne, where the first 11 gold medalists were decided in the swimming, track cycling, gymnastics and weightlifting.

9.00 The Plot Against Harold Wilson Drama. documentary revealing the efforts of BBC journalists to expose a plot to oust Prime Minister Harold Wilson in 1976.

10.30 Newsnight. **11.20** The Culture Show. **11.50** BBC4 On BBC2: Don't Watch That, Watch This! Weatherview

12.25 Sign Zone: Panorama. **1.05** Sign Zone: How To Live Longer. **1.50** Dear Television. **2.00** BBC Learning Zone

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6.00 GMTV. **9.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show. **10.30** This Morning. **12.30** ITV Lunchtime News. **1.30** Loose Women. **2.30** Agatha Christie's Poirot. **3.29** Local Weather. **3.30** CITV: Pocoyo. **3.40** Blips. **3.50** Rugrats. **3.55** Sonic X. **4.25** My Parents Are Aliens. **5.00** The Paul O'Grady Show. **6.00** Calendar: Weather. **6.30** ITV Evening News: Weather.

7.00 Emmerdale. Dawn passes her test, but also receives worrying news. Viv offers to lend Jamie the money to get his dog back, and Louise's performance at curry-oke night is a disaster.

7.30 The Way We Were. Nostalgic documentary examining life over the past 100 years. Archive film and interviews with local people explore the ways in which various aspects of life have altered. Last in series.

8.00 The Bill. With feelings running high following the death of Jordan Tomlin, the Sun Hill team arrive mob-handed to police a sell-out gig at the Bombastic nightclub, but the plan goes awry.

9.00 Footballers' Wives. Amber prepares to exact her final revenge on Bruno.

10.00 Poor Little Rich Girls. A millionaire's daughter agrees to swap with a girl brought up in a flat in the East End.

10.30 ITV News: Weather. **11.00** Poor Little Rich Girls. Concluded.

11.30 Soccer Night. **12.00** C-duk Hotshots. **12.25** Karen Sisco. **1.10** Quizmania. **3.45** Britain's Best Back Gardens. **4.10** Moving Day. **4.35** I Want That House Revisited. **5.00** Jobfinder. **5.30** ITV Morning News.

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6.05 Making It. **6.10** The Hoobs. **6.35** The Hoobs. **7.00** B4. **7.30** Friends. **8.00** Just Shoot Me. **8.30** Cheltenham Morning Line. **9.30** Teens On Trial. **10.00** Bricking It. **10.50** Tate Modern. **10.55** Tricky Business. **11.20** Re-Writing History. **11.25** Rude Britannia. **11.55** Self Portrait. UK. **12.00** News At Noon. **12.30** My Place In The Sun. **1.00** Channel 4 Racing: Cheltenham Festival. Including the 3.15 Ladbrokes World Hurdle (3m), 4.30 Deal Or No Deal. **5.15** Richard & Judy.

6.00 The Simpsons. **6.30** Halleluaks. **7.00** Channel 4 News. **7.55** 3 Minute Wonder: Time For School. **8.00** A Place In The Sun. New series. A couple from Worcester look into the financial benefits offered by buying a property in the up-and-coming housing market of Montenegro.

8.30 No Going Back: A New Life In France. New series. Benn and Amy Coley, who run a guesthouse in Biarritz, realise their venture isn't generating enough income.

9.00 9/11: The Falling Man. Documentary about a man who jumped from the World Trade Centre during the September 11 terrorist attacks.

10.30 Father Ted. Dougal is led astray by rebellious new arrival Father Damien.

11.05 ArtShock: Pervert's Guide To Cinema. The language of film. Last in series.

12.05 Cheltenham Festival Highlights. **12.35** Poker. **2.05** FILM: Next Friday (2000). Comedy sequel, with Ice Cube. **3.45** Angry George Irons. **4.00** Beating Bird Flu: An Equinox Special. **5.00** Scrapheap Challenge.

five

6.00 Milkshake! Old Bear Stories. **6.10** Aussie Antics. **6.15** Bear In The Big Blue House. **6.45** Hi-5. **7.15** Roobarb And Custard Too. **7.25** The Adventures Of Bottle Top Bill And His Best Friend Corky. **7.40** Make Way For Noddy. **7.55** Say It With Noddy. **8.00** Fifi And The Flowerrots. **8.15** Peppa Pig. **8.20** Bird Bath. **8.35** Elmo's World. **8.50** Franny's Feet. **9.00** The Wright Stuff. **10.30** Trisha Goddard. **11.30** Five News. **12.00** Home And Away. **12.30** Brainfeaser. **1.30** Star Trek: Voyager. **2.30** Star Trek: Voyager. **3.30** FILM: Freefall: Flight 174 (1995). Fact-based drama, starring William Devane. **5.30** Five News. **6.00** Home And Away.

Irene thinks someone is trying to kill her. **6.30** Two And A Half Men. Alan denies shoplifting as a child: Weather. **7.00** Five News. **7.15** Rogue Raiders: Cheetahs. The near-extinction of the wild cats.

8.00 The 20 Worst Interior Design Crimes In Your Home. A host of celebrities join Rusty Ryan and Colin McAllister to present a rundown of domestic eyesores from homes around Britain.

9.00 Killer Instinct. The team investigate a series of murders committed by a madman playing a deadly game.

10.00 House. The doctors treat a woman who collapsed in a bookies.

11.00 The Woman Who Lost 30 Stone: Extraordinary People. Losing weight through surgery. **12.00** Golazo Football Show. **1.00** Dutch Football. **2.30** Portuguese Football. **4.00** Football Argentina. **5.30** Football Argentina Highlights.

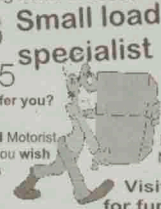
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Capote (15) (2hrs 20m)
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The Constant Gardener (15) (RT 2hrs 30m)
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Munich (15) (RT 3hrs 5m)
 Daily: 5.50pm

The Weather Man (15) (RT 2hrs) (NFT)
 Daily: 7.45; Fri/Sat Lates: 10.15

Chicken Little (U) (RT 1hr 40m)
 Daily: (11.40 Sat/Sun Only); 1.50; 3.50

The Fog (15) (RT 2hrs)
 Fri/Sat Lates Only: 11.50

Date Movie (12A) (RT 1hr 45m) (NFT)
 Daily: (10.30; 12.50; 3.05 Sat/Sun Only); 5.20; 7.30; 9.45

Lucky Number Slevin (18) (RT 2hrs 10m)
 Daily: 2.55; 5.30; 8.00; Fri/Sat Lates: 10.40

Final Destination 3 (15) (RT 2hrs) (NFT)
 Daily: 9.30; Fri/Sat Lates: 11.55

Big Momma's House 2 (PG) (RT 2hrs) (NFT)
 Daily: (9.40; 12.00 Sat/Sun Only); 2.35; 5.10

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 Sat/Sun: 10.10 Daily: (12.55 Not Fri) 15.40 18.25 21.15 NFT

The Hills Have Eyes (RT2hr10) (18)
 Sat/Sun: 10.50 Daily: (13.30 Not Fri) 16.10 18.50 21.20 Fri/Sat Late: 23.55 NFT

The Road To Guantanamo (RT 2hr)(15tbc)
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Kidulthood (15)(RT 1hr50)
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The Matador (15)(RT 1hr50)
 Daily: 20.20 Fri/Sat Late: 22.40 NFT

Syriana (15)(RT 2hr30)
 Sat/Sun: 11.40 Daily: 14.30 17.30 20.30 Fri/Sat Late: 23.30 NFT

The Weatherman (15)(RT 2hr)
 Sat/Sun: 10.20 Daily: (12.50 Not Fri) 17.40 NFT

Last Holiday (12A)(RT 2hr15)
 Sat/Sun: 11.30 Daily: 14.10 16.50 19.40 Fri/Sat Late: 22.20 NFT

Lucky Number Slevin (18) (RT2hr10)
 Daily: 15.50 (18.30 Not Tues) 21.10 Fri/Sat Late: 23.45

Date Movie (12a) (RT1hrs45)
 Sat/Sun: 11.10 Daily: (13.20 Not Fri) 15.35 17.45 20.00 Fri/Sat Late: 22.10

Good Night And Good Luck (PG)(RT1hr50)
 Daily: 15.20 (20.10 Not Weds) Fri/Sat Late: 22.30

Chicken Little (U)(RT1hr45)
 Sat/Sun: 10.00 12.10 Daily: 14.20 16.25

Big Momma's House 2 (PG)(2hr)
 Sat/Sun: 10.30 (13.00 Not Fri) 15.30

Final Destination 3 (15)(RT 1hr50)
 Daily: 14.25 16.45 19.10 21.30 Fri/Sat Lates: 23.50

Walk The Line (12A)(RT2hr35)
 Sat/Sun: 11.35 Daily: 14.40 17.35 20.40 Fri/Sat Lates: 23.35

Fun With Dick And Jane (12A)(RT 1hr50)
 Sat/Sun Only: 10.05 12.15

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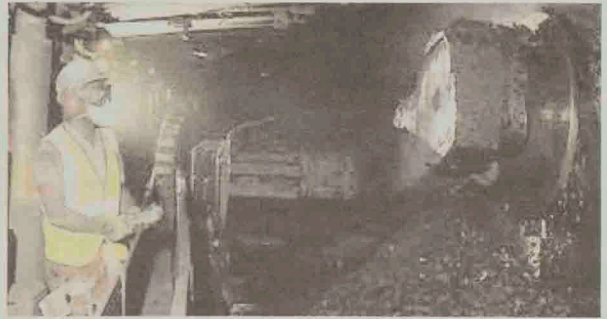
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ng Coal?

... the British coal industry is a shadow of its former self on borrowed time. By the end of the month, the last remaining pits will be redundant and yet another has been decimated. Leeds Student's mining correspondent Rossington on the loss of a pit and takes a look at the challenge in meeting the country's future energy demands.



... as the Government examines the options for powering Britain's future, One mothballed pit, Hatfield Main, has a chance of a reprieve if an investment deal is completed but it is by no means a certain and secure future.

The Energy Review aims to find clean, affordable energy sources and while coal and gas currently account for 75% of our electricity generation, Tony Blair has signalled that he wants nuclear power to replace polluting fossil fuels. Geoff Mountain is unequivocal: 'Nuclear is not the way to go. I don't want my kids and grandkids being killed by nuclear waste because the more nuclear you have, the more problems you will have getting rid of it'. The costs of building nuclear power stations are incredible compared to the investment needed to access Rossington's reserves to feed the coal-fuelled power stations but nuclear is viewed as a long-term sustainable option, despite the enormous clean-up costs. The nuclear power station at Trawsfynydd in Wales employs more people to decommission the site than were ever involved in generating electricity there. The plant costs the taxpayer £45million a year despite not having produced a Watt of electricity since 1991 and actual demolition of the heavy concrete structure will not be considered safe until at least

2080. Current estimates are around £70billion to clean up the currently active nuclear sites let alone to construct any new installations.

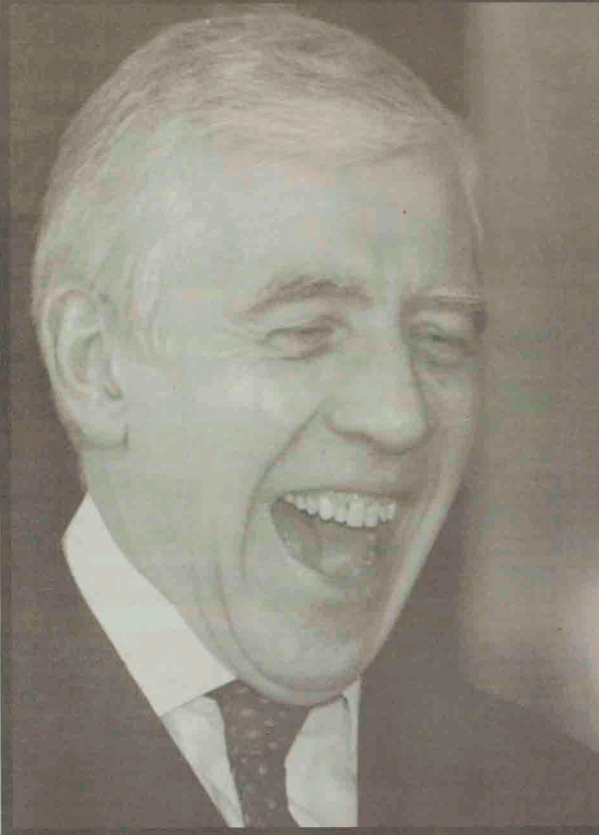
As they descend 850m underground, a journey that takes just over one minute, into temperatures of 40 degrees, the miners at Rossington are thankful for every extra day they have harvesting the rich Barnsley seam of black gold. Notice was served last year saying the pit was in jeopardy and their employment can now be terminated immediately whenever the last coal is brought to the surface by the pit winding wheel.

'The majority of the men won't get a job, I think you could count on two hands' transfers to other pits' states Mountain. Some will get jobs with a contract company that serves UK Coal's other mines but they will only be paid when there is work to do and the rest, most of them over 50, will struggle to find employment. Geoff Mountain, a veteran of the coal industry who began his career hand shovelling coal, is uncertain about his own future. He jokes that he will be on the dole before producing a letter asking if he would be interested in managing a mine in Australia. A pit closure costs far more than the total of the redundancy package offered to the men. There is reduced tax income, increased benefit payments to unemployed men, the knock-on impacts for other local compa-

nies and the loss of a valuable national resource with further reliance on foreign imports and nuclear power. 'We've been legislated out of existence' complains Stuart Oliver, obviously disappointed the Government hasn't offered the level of assistance it has given to the nuclear industry. He argues that there needs to be a new relationship between producer, generator, distributor and government to safeguard the jobs of the remaining 4,000 British coal miners. By Easter, Rossington will be another former coalmining community. Like so many other villages in the Yorkshire coalfield, unemployment, crime and a loss of pride will inevitably follow when the single source of employment is removed from these insular settlements. It is not only the jobs or the iconic pit headgear that will be missed. There is a unique sense of community in a mining village, a togetherness built on working and playing with the people from the pit; a spirit and a level of pride that will never be replicated. 'If the coalfields see ten years they'll be lucky' remarks Geoff Mountain. He's holding out to see what the Energy Review might bring but unless there is a marked change in Government policy, adoption of clean coal technologies and investment in what remains of the coal industry, it would be surprising if they last half that long.

Extra Interview

The Final Straw



British Foreign Secretary Jack Straw is Leeds University's most famous alumni. Matt Kennard went to meet the man who calls Guantanamo Bay a "Gulag" and warns of "civil strife" in Iraq.

looking surprisingly upbeat and chirpy considering that on the morning of our meeting the internee fighting in Iraq, which has been steadily declining since the bombing of the Shia mosque in Samarra, had worsened and scores of Iraqi's had been killed only hours earlier.

"I don't really know what I was expecting – a man crying uncontrollably, maybe? With the situation in Iraq so persistently violent and anarchic I suppose Straw doesn't even bat an eyelid now. If he lived and breathed every death of an innocent in Iraq he'd be in rehab by now.

"Shall we do this in my room?" he asks. I decide it's best not to argue with the Foreign Secretary and we walk down the hall. The most striking aspect of his personal demeanor is his "blokiness". He's very casual and informal (his mood changes later) and we chat about both of our colds. "It's don't the rounds," he assures me. The easy style is so shocking because I've eaten up his media persona which is of a shy, retiring – well, nerdy really – backroom boy. In the weeks prior to the interview he lost his famous glasses – apparently after advice from US State security Condoleezza Rice – which may have been a conscious decision to drop the geek chic he's famous for. It seems to have worked.

After a firm handshake (I'm glad to find my hand isn't drenched in blood) we settle down in his office. He sits his 5'6" frame down at his table and informs me I'm a "lucky man" after I tell him I was studying at UCLA in America last year.

Eager to put forward my questions I turn the Dictaphone on suggestively and ask him whether he thinks Iraq is descending into civil war. 30 people have been killed this morning alone, after all. "Well, the situation is very serious," he says and reclines in his seat. "And I was in Iraq Monday and Tuesday of last week – I actually left feeling quite optimistic and that was the message I was getting from the Sunni as well as the Shi'a and Kurdish leaders. These attacks by the terrorists are happening because Iraq is on the verge of a democratic breakthrough. But it is very serious. I don't think it's civil war – it's a grave danger of civil strife and may get – or continue to be – very difficult before it gets better."

Civil strife, eh? It was George Orwell who wrote "political language is designed to make lies sound truthful and murder respectable, and to give an appearance of solidity to pure wind." Those sentiments are swimming around my head as I return to my euphemistic trials. What's the difference between civil strife and civil war? In reality probably nothing, but in a politicians' world it's the difference between a disaster and a "democratic breakthrough".

The situation, as Straw says, is getting progressively worse in Iraq. So many die there now that it is hard to keep track of the bombs, murders and torture. Many people – especially in the Middle East – say that Iraq won't be able to return to normal until the British and American troops leave. But this poses a problem for America. If they leave now, they leave a near-fundamentalist Shi'a regime which would inevitably create strong links with Shi'a Iran and probably the large section of Shi'a Saudi Arabia who hate the House of Saud (one of America's Middle Eastern buddies). The capacity to loot Iraq for oil would also be lessened if they pulled out now. This is the conundrum,

although Straw predictably puts a different spin on it. "We're there now under a United Nations mandate and we're there on a time limited basis," he says. The mandate will run out at the end of this year unless renewed. More particularly, we're only there as long as the elected Iraqi government says we should be there. And what we, the Americans and the other coalition partners are seeking to do is to build up the Iraqi forces so that we can then draw down our forces on a province by province basis. And there is, you know, plenty of bad news out of Iraq. The better news includes the fact that there are now, I think, 230,000 Iraqi's in uniform of the National Guard or the police, capable in many areas of taking over their own security."

But this all sounds too rosy. Most people believe the US refuse to pull out because they will leave a regime that won't be conducive to their interests. Does Straw believe the Bush administrations' reasons for the war were all altruistic? "Well I think they were right," he says tellingly. "I think it's frankly for historians to judge whether they were altruistic. I mean, you know, countries act out of a mixture of principle and interest and that has always been the case. But as I say, I think the decisions which we took here were the correct ones." That's politician speak for: "The Americans did it for oil." The "principle" that Straw talks about is "democracy" – which America don't seem to keen too support in Venezuela or Uzbekistan – and the "interest" he mentions is "oil" – in which the Americans continue to be extremely interested.

With the brazenness of the Bush administra-

"There are plenty of things that we have different view to the Bush administration about: climate change and the International Criminal Court, being two examples"

Going into the Foreign and Commonwealth offices on Whitehall is like walking into 19th century Britain at the height of the Empire. Vertiginous ceilings are painted with beautiful Greek legends, the furniture looks like it's been bought from an antique sale, and important people mill around organising the political systems and economies of distant lands.

I'm here to meet the most famous and successful graduate of Leeds University since its inception some 100 years ago. Jack Straw MP is currently the Foreign Secretary in Tony Blair's Labour government but he also spent 3 years as Home Secretary after the landslide election victory in 1997.

One of his aides takes me into one of the many palatial rooms with a similarly dizzy ceiling. He tells me the "boss" – that's what they all seem to call him – will be with me "any second" and dithers himself realigning the newspapers on the table and rushes off to get the boss a glass of water. He brings it back, gives the newspapers a bit of a shuffle again and scuttles off once more, this time for about 10 minutes.

So here I am sitting by myself with a glass of water to be drunk by the Foreign Secretary. Obviously the daydreaming starts. If I remem-

ber correctly I just walked into the Foreign Office without my body or jacket being checked – I could have bought a gun or a knife – and now I am sitting next to a glass of water soon to be imbued by the third most powerful man in Britain. A terrorist with enough noose to lie about the university they studied at and the dedication to get up at 7.30am on a Wednesday could easily pop a sly little bit of arsenic in the water and kappow – a dead Foreign Secretary.

In the middle of this rather macabre daydream another sprightly young politico comes in to tell me Straw is on his way. Then just as I'm sorting out the details of the terrorist's escape, Straw arrives in his natty suit. He is

"These attacks by the terrorists are happening because Iraq is on the verge of a democratic breakthrough"

the left-wing Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez to Hitler. "I say on the Hugo Chavez situation, I'm worried about some aspects of his administration," he says, parroting the Bush position. "Particularly the human rights record and their readiness, it appears, to fund terrorists which is where they're getting to." In the Middle East? "Yeah, I think they've talked about that – certainly their active support for Iraq in the IAEA which I don't think is sensible," he says. "And, for example, these soft loans they are offering to countries around Latin America and the Caribbean, which can be very destabilising – can disrupt the oil and gas market. So I'm worried about it. We've got to handle it."

But what about Rumsfeld's remark? He rolls his eyes and sighs. "Matt, I don't comment on what other people say about other people, alright?" he says. "I'm afraid you won't... I understand why you want to get me down that road, but I'm a bit long in the tooth for that."

I decide to change the subject temporarily away from the IAEA which I don't think is sensible. Straw is heavily involved in the efforts of the West to stop Iran acquiring nuclear capabilities. Does he rule out an invasion of this "dangerous" nation? "Yes," he says firmly. "Invasion is not on anybody's agenda and I've made that very clear. This is an issue – it's very difficult – if we don't resolve it properly it could have serious consequences for international peace and security but it has to be resolved by diplomatic and political means." Well, that sounds like a promise to me. The Bush administration, however, say they "never rule anything out."

But there is one surely a rank double standard here because Bush has just been to India to approve more nuclear technology. In fact, India, Pakistan and Israel have all failed to sign up to the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) because they are all well-known nuclear powers. Yet none in the West is calling for an attack on these nations. The explanation for this hypocrisy proffered by Straw is completely astounding. "Well we wanted them to sign up to the Non-Proliferation Treaty," he says initially. "I mean let me say the difference is – and you're right to ask the question – Iran has signed up to the NPT so if it wants the benefits of the NPT which include access to nuclear technology then it's got to accept the obligations that go with it. In fact I regret the fact that India, Pakistan and

to ask whether he ever has a split between his own personal feelings and the imperatives of having to accept cabinet responsibility. "No, it doesn't quite work like that," he says and chuckles because he knows why I've asked. "If you are going to accept the privilege – and it is – of being a member of the cabinet and having your colleagues back you when they don't necessarily agree with everything you've said on your area, you've got a responsibility to back them. Also, if you stand on the manifesto – I stood on a manifesto, so did all of my cabinet colleagues – that laid down the program. Occasionally, yeah, the government's doing something you don't agree with. But that's called collective responsibility and if you don't like it you can walk."

And walk was what Robin Cook and Clare Short did over Iraq. Straw doesn't seem the walking type. Do his ambitions stretch to Prime Minister? "Very good question," he says. "But I don't". He pauses. "I'm not going to be Prime Minister and I'm delighted to have got this far and I think there's a very good candidate in waiting – Gordon Brown? I prompt. "Let us see," he says coyly.

Glancing up at the clock I try to bring the story back to the Bush administration hoping Straw has eased up after his little outburst earlier. I quote the Amnesty International verdict on Guantanamo Bay which reads: "Guantanamo Bay has become a symbol of injustice and abuse in the US administration's 'war on terror'. It must be closed down." I then venture that even Blair – Mr. America – has called Guantanamo an "anomaly". Does Straw agree with those two statements? "Well, I agree with the Prime Minister," he says faintly to rise to my bait. "The Americans have got no intention of keeping a permanent gulag in Guantanamo Bay. I mean Guantanamo Bay will come to an end at some stage and in any event, the numbers there have been cut significantly. The problem the Americans have got – and the conditions as I understand it have been greatly improved and a good thing to do is what to do with those remaining detainees that are there. And I understand Amnesty's position and that's the issue. That many of them – so I understand it – are Afghani's."

For those of you not familiar with the term "Gulag" it originates from Soviet Russia and is the name given to the slave camps run by the Soviet regime. Its overtones are politically charged and certainly not becoming of a British Foreign Secretary talking about the behaviour of his country's closest ally. Naturally I think I have the scoop of the century, and with my heart racing I move on to the episode concerning the former British ambassador to Uzbekistan. Straw has allegedly made machinations in an attempt to suppress Craig Murray's memoir which is a damning indictment of British policy towards the ugly dictatorship in Uzbekistan. "We were trying to get him to obey the rules," says Straw. "If you're a diplomat you're expected to abide by your responsibilities which include... you accept, again, privileged position, good money, access to all sorts of confidences, you got to." He pauses for a moment. "Yeah, that's the issue there." he adds.

But doesn't he find the regime there repugnant? "Well we've got a lot of concerns about the Uzbek government," he says. "And if you look in our Human Rights Report which I publish each year you'll see that it's spelt out. That's never been the issue – we've made

influenced by the message that the war in Iraq sent out to the rest of the Middle East and the world which is simply that if you don't have Weapons of Mass Destruction you could be invaded. "Look we went into Iraq – I mean, you know, you're familiar with the story – on the basis of United Nations resolution," Straw says. "Now, you can argue about whether we needed another resolution but there were about 15 resolutions already there. And they were very special circumstances. And Iraq would not have been caught up in all this trouble if it had not had a nuclear weapons program, a chemical weapons program, and a biological weapons program."

But if you go through the weapons systems that Straw ends with not one has been found in

country with no arms? "We will leave Iraq..." he says and trails off. "Well, I think we may see some draw down of troops this year," he continues. "The mandate has to be renewed at the end of the year anyway."

The double standards are again glaring. People in Middle East understand the contradiction of complaining about Saddam Hussein's WMD when through the 1980s the US was supplying him with weapons all through his worst atrocities. There is more ideological rubbish to disentangle in Western political culture. But Arabs seem to understand it perfectly. Does Straw think people in the Arab world see a double standard? "Sometimes they do," is his terse, stern answer. That Rumsfeld once supported Saddam, I say. "Well it's more complicated than that," he comes back. Well, he was selling him weapons, I counter. "I think their story..." he trails off. "We didn't by the way – as far as I know," he continues in reference to selling weapons to Saddam. "But the story on that is actually more complicated. But, you know, they will accuse the Americans of all sorts of things and there is certainly, as it were, in the Arab street a feeling of complaints about hypocrisy and double standards. At the same time the Arab street wants many of the things that the West has including education and scientific research and so on..." As he's speaking he gets up and intones, "Listen I'm going to have to go, is that alright?" he says and I nod. "Hope that's helpful. You give my regards to Leeds, won't you..."

We take a picture in front of the gilded fireplace and Straw goes back to his desk. It's 11.40 and Wednesday so Straw has to be in the House of Parliament down the road in 20 minutes to sit next to Tony Blair as he answers questions at PMQ's. I make my way out of his office, take a card from his press secretary (who took notes furiously during the interview), and exit through the lax security, leaving with the disquieting feeling that our leaders are actually pathological liars who don't believe a word they're saying.

I leave with the disquieting feeling that our leaders are actually pathological liars who don't believe a word they're saying

Iraq so it is a strange claim to make but his ruminations seem to be so divorced from reality that there scarcely seems any point in probing him more on the issue. Does he think the world is a safer place now after Iraq? "Ummm..." is his rather strange answer. Then he devises the spin tactic and: "I think it will become a safer place. And I actually think having removed the threat – the strategic threat – from Saddam, yes, I mean meanwhile you've got a problem of this insurgency within Iraq." And when does he think troops will leave Iraq, having done their Orwellian job of disarming a



The Americans have got no intention of keeping a permanent Gulag in Guantanamo Bay.

Israel have got Nuclear Weapons Systems, but you can't accuse them of breaching their obligations because they never signed up to the NPT. What we wanted to do is to get a peace process going between India and Pakistan and that is now happening – halting as it is; and also secure a nuclear free Middle East. Now, there were four countries who wanted nuclear weapons, three or four years ago: Iraq was one, Libya was another, Iran and Israel. Well two no longer pose that threat."

So Straw's twisted logic is that Israel, Pakistan and India don't pose a problem because they never signed up to the international treaty designed to combat the proliferation of weapons. A crime in itself you would think. Unfortunately for Iran they did sign up like all other responsible states. But now – even though what they are doing has been done by Israel, Pakistan and Israel – they are being threatened with sanctions and even invasion because they did sign up. So the message this sends out to the world is if you want to produce nuclear weapons just don't bloody sign up to any treaties and we'll leave you alone. Sign up to one and break it, then your gonna get invaded. The linguistic and logical loopholes politicians jump through don't often get more absurd than this.

I can almost sense that Straw doesn't believe what he is saying or at least knows it is patently ridiculous. I feel this is an opportune moment

"I am not going to be Prime Minister and I'm delighted to have got this far. I think there's a very good candidate in waiting"

protests to the Uzbek government about human rights but that's a quite separate issue from whether a former ambassador should be allowed to behave in this way.

To resolve to the fact that getting a candid answer from a politician is like getting blood out of a stone. To finish with some sort of crescendo I bring the issue back to Iraq. The desire of Iran to get nuclear weapons is clearly

Designing the show

As London Graduate Fashion Week approaches, **Chloe Wilson** has been out scouting for the finest talent the university has to offer. Alex Mawby, Nina Mountney and Holly Sherwood are the cream of the crop, in my opinion. In a series of three articles, I will be profiling their journey to their finale, the culmination of four years of hard work and determination: London Graduate Fashion Week.

Alex Mawby

What made you want to become a fashion designer?

It started from doing work experience at a fashion college when I was 16. I just wanted to look original so I started making my own clothes and then decided that I wanted to learn how to make them properly.

Who/What are your main influences?

My final collection is inspired by

French artist Alphonse Mucha and the Victorian era. I'm using details from Victorian designs so I suppose it ties with current trends. I've also taken quite a lot from the mood of summertime.

How would you describe

your style?

I think it's still changing. I'm still learning, still evolving to get my own style. But I guess I would describe my style as always quite feminine.

After graduation what would you like to do? Where do you see yourself in 10 years time?

After graduation I'm going travelling to South America to have a break and get some inspiration, and see friends. After that, ideally I'd like to move to New York. In 10 years time I would hope to be in London after gaining lots of experience from other fashion houses and, fingers crossed, setting up my own label.

What is your opinion of the British Fashion scene at the moment?

I think there are so many talented designers it's just so varied, there's something for everyone. It is really exciting.

If you could dress anyone who would it be?

Allison Goldfrapp because I think she always looks really different and original in her videos and stuff. I'd love for her to wear my clothes. My style icon is Edie Sedgwick.

What do you think about Leeds fashion at the moment?

I think Leeds is quite distinctive in its style, it's definitely trendy but it hasn't evolved much over the years I've been here. The Ugg boots still remain!!

Nina Mountney

What made you want to become a fashion designer?

When I was 15 I worked in a sewing shop, and I did theatre studies at A Level so decided to do the costume option. That got me more involved in design and I decided I really wanted a job I enjoy, so I made the decision to do fashion design.

What/who are your main influences?

Mainly couture designers and

vintage garments. I like Dior in the 1940s but for my collection I looked at their 1920s stuff.

How would you describe your style?

Glamorous, wearable, mature, detailed and intricate.

After graduation what would you like to do? Where do you see yourself in 10 years time?

I'd like to stay up North; I'll hopefully look for a design assistant job up here. In 10 years I'd like to have my own boutique where I can design what I want and do what I want to do.

What is your opinion of the British fashion scene at the moment?

It is very varied; there's something for everyone. But I think the problem with fashion is that everything has been done. A lot of things have come full circle. I think Design is a bit restricted at the

moment because designers are trying to make their clothes wearable, but in my opinion fashion should be accessible and wearable - that's the point!

If you could dress anyone who would it be?

It's difficult. The muse for my collection is Greta Garbo. But not her as a person, her persona: she's quite aloof, she's very well dressed and she's very sophisticated.

What do you think of the direction of fashion design at Leeds?

Again, it's quite varied. There's a lot of talent, and it's quite exciting to see different individual interests and inspirations as these often conflict between the group. It's healthy to have such a variety of influences.

Holly Sherwood

What made you want to become a fashion designer?

When I was at school I really enjoyed art and shopping! So I thought I'd try and combine those and I did work experience with the couture wedding dress designer Sharon Bowen. I absolutely loved it, so I thought I'd go in to fashion.

Who/What are your main influences?

I went to an Ozzie Clark exhibition in Warrington when I was 18 and that just finalised the decision to be a fashion designer. I got a few of his books, they always inspire me, the colours and psychedelic prints. I also looked at eighteenth-century costume because I've always loved all the "drama", but I am trying to tone it down to make it accessible.

How would you describe your style?

Well, I always design for

women with a bust, a waist and curves. I don't like designing for stick insects!

After graduation what would you like to do? Where do you see yourself in 10 years time?

Straight after graduation, I am hopefully going to San Francisco to visit my brother. After that try and get a job! I'm not quite sure what area I want to go in to yet.

What is your opinion of the British Fashion scene at the moment?

It's good because there are quite a few established, more mature designers as well as some good up-and-coming ones. But I just wish more people would show in London. It would make London Fashion Week a bit more interesting.

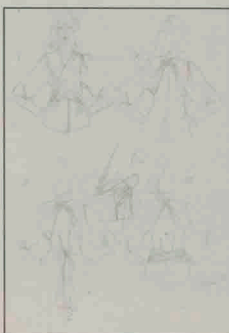
If you could dress anyone who would it be?

Well, I would really like to be involved in dressing musicians; music is where I get my inspiration from. Franz Ferdinand for example.

What do



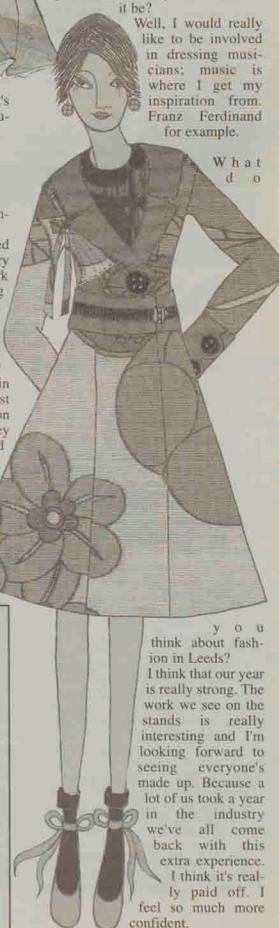
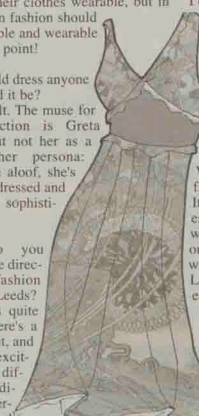
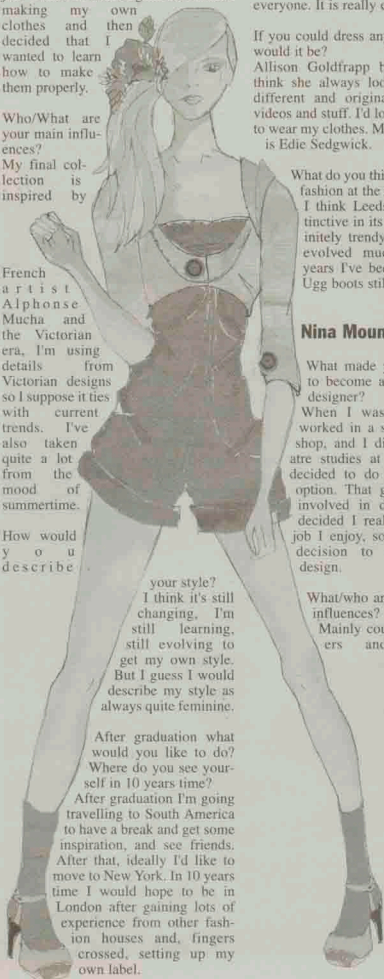
RUNWAY: (left and right) Nina Mountney's high-waist trouser and designs, (far left) Alex Mawby's bolero jacket and shorts look, and (above left and far right) Holly Sherwood's model sketches



you think about fashion in Leeds?

I think that our year is really strong. The work we see on the stands is really interesting and I'm looking forward to seeing everyone's made up. Because a lot of us took a year in the industry we've all come back with this extra experience.

I think it's really paid off. I feel so much more confident.



Dressing up

It's every girl's dream job, owning a really fine dressing up box. Victoria Anne Bull meets the owner and designer of little known boutique Little Doll, Laura McGregor

Vintage is probably more suited to your needs. For a dress designed by Laura prices range from around £65-£70. Other vintage accessories are slightly cheaper at £30-£40 for a dress, £20 for shoes and around £15-£20 for belts and bags.

The truth is that fashion can sometimes become dull. One can easily hit a rut and suddenly your whole stylistic world is falling apart. Leeds fashion is in danger of approaching this plateau. There are only so many times that you can pull off the same monotonous ensemble without arousing suspicion. The answer to this problem is not too far away. A small boutique adjoining Ryan's Vintage, Little Doll is a fashion gem. It is the perfect fusion between vintage accessories and contemporary design pieces.

Rinse boutique is that it is a combination of old and new. McGregor believes that fashion trends are spiralling downwards. Instead of girls choosing certain vintage pieces and amalgamating them with modern attire we are experiencing the 'head-to-toe' vintage effect. That is why Little Doll is seeking to offer something more diverse. In McGregor's words we should let 'the clothes speak for themselves'. When adorning one of her designs it is very possible that you will notice people glancing in your direction more than once.

As soon as you enter this cosy outlet you instantaneously want to touch and admire everything within reach. The brilliance of the blueprint is that it exudes both imagination and individuality. The owner and designer of the boutique, Laura McGregor, is both chaotic and delightful at once, you cannot help but like her. She confesses her skills are purely self-taught. Perhaps this is why there is such an unpretentious feel surrounding her work. However for all her innocence as a designer, her pieces capture a certain essence of maturity. The fabrics and cut of the garments radiate movement and versatility. With vivid colours and dazzling prints the designs are both exciting and vivacious.

Vintage accessories are all hand picked, making the process of finding that ideal bag or pair of shoes a much easier process as someone else has already trawled through mounds of these for you. Somehow it feels more special. If of course this exploration practice has become custom to your shopping experience, then Ryan's

Observing some other students browsing through the collection I intervene to ask their opinion on this new boutique. The responses are positive. The girls are typical of the clientele that will predominantly float through Little Doll's doors, youthful and fashion conscious. Although it is perhaps significant to point out that McGregor is eager not to restrict her target market to just students. Vanessa McCrossen and Meredith Berman emphasise the unique qualities of the designs. Berman pointedly adds, 'it is important to feel comfortable when entering a shop', it is surely palpable that girls simply will not purchase items from a place that does not reflect the serenity important to all female shopping trips. Luckily Little Doll appears to fit the protocol. McGregor grins as she seems to like what she hears; her gamble with individuality has triumphed. Both girls are in agreement, they would be willing to pay that little bit extra for an original piece.

The difference between this boutique and others that might be associated with it such as Blue

Vintage accessories are all hand picked, making the process of finding that ideal bag or pair of shoes a much easier process

With another boutique opening in conjunction with Ryan's Vintage in Manchester this is an encouraging start for Little Doll. For McGregor it is promising that hugely successful couture designers Roland Mouret and Vivien Westwood have made it big whilst being self-taught. In the meantime the solution to our bad weather fashion days has arrived. Hopefully this suggests a brighter forecast.



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If you are currently a first or second year and interested in editing a section, we want to hear from you. If you've had experience at Leeds Student, brilliant, but if you've done work for a local paper, LSR, Lippy or an online magazine and want to get more involved, then get in touch. We're accepting applications now for next year's sub editors for a variety of sections. Send us an email with the section you're interested in, what you like about it, what you'd change and how you'd manage your team. Also list your relevant experience. Send applications to editor@leedsstudent.org.uk before the Easter break.

STITCHES: Laura McGregor designs the clothes for her boutique, Little Doll





Latino Troika: Clockwise from top left: Michelle Bachelet; Evo Morales; Hugo Chavez

n Latin America a change is afoot. Many of the region's countries have been busy either voting or preparing to vote in their new elections and it's very clear that politics has taken a sharp turn to the left. Countries such as Venezuela and Bolivia are rejecting free-market economies and are instead embracing socialist policy.

Latin America is the area that encompasses all the nations from Mexico, southwards down the thin strip of land that joins North to South America, taking in Guatemala, Belize, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama before joining Colombia and the main continental land mass. The outlying islands of Cuba, Haiti and the Dominican Republic are also included in this region. The journey from Mexico to

Chile and Argentina is thousands of miles yet despite this distance there is definitely a sense that these countries are becoming ever more unified in adopting a socialist outlook.

Perhaps the genesis of these changes can be found in Venezuela. It was here in 1998 that the people elected Hugo Chavez, a left-winger, into power. It was a landslide victory, and despite him encountering a number of problems during his term of office such as divided public opinion, street protests and growing tensions between Venezuela and the USA, he is still there 8 years later. Chavez was in fact removed by the military for 48 hours in 2002 but he got himself reinstated and when the country goes to the polls later this year Chavez is hoping for six more years in office. Chavez is a believer in Bolivarianism – a term

Politico Latino

Something of a revolution is taking place across Latin America with left-leaning socialist governments taking power from right-wing dictatorships and increasingly resisting the influence of the US. **Pete Bicknell** reports on the political shifts afoot and the implications for the rest of the world

named after the 19th Century social democratic revolutionary leader, Simon Bolivar – a political and social movement (also known as the Bolivarian Revolution) which has gained a lot of popularity within Venezuela. The ideas behind the Bolivarian Revolution may provide clues as to why Venezuela's shift to the left has occurred. These ideals include self-sufficiency, resisting imperialism, sharing and redistributing wealth and resources among the Venezuelan people, patriotism and an end to corruption. In essence, these ideals point to a form of socialist principles which put an emphasis on localism and active participation by the general public.

It appears that this ideology is spreading. Bolivia, Chile, Uruguay and, most recently, Haiti have all elected left-leaning leaders in the last few years. Brazil and Argentina have had left-leaning governments in charge for some time now (Brazil, like Venezuela, will vote again in the near future) while Mexico, Nicaragua, Colombia and Peru, currently under centre-right rule, show signs of turning to the left in their upcoming elections.

What is interesting about the marked change of policies that are present in the Latin American area, although admittedly influenced by Chavez and the Bolivarian Revolution, is that they are essentially borne out of individual decisions and movements within each of the particular states. Although news of what is taking place around the region must filter through, this socialism has come about because people generally feel it is the right thing to do for their individual countries. This contrasts massively with the Soviet brand of left-wing ideology which many people have seen as the definitive version of socialism in recent history. Under Soviet rule the Eastern European nations were ruled from afar. Even though each nation had its own leader, ultimately the law was laid down from the Kremlin. That's not to say that this method didn't have support, for there were many loyal followers of the Soviet Union, but to support the cause often meant a surrender of sovereignty. The Latin American situation is different, because people here are supporting the socialist cause whilst simultaneously celebrating their national identity.

A key theme that runs through the left-leaning states of Latin America is that they want to make a break from the US. The US has had a big interest in Latin American affairs for some time, mainly due to the rich array of natural resources available. Going back to Venezuela as an example, a quick glance at the country's statistics show that it is rich in oil, coal, iron ore and gold. Chile is a large exporter of copper; Bolivia has reserves of natural

gas and soya beans while Brazil is home to a large coffee market. Multinational corporations from the West, and predominantly from the US, have infiltrated Latin American markets. Their argument is that their presence creates jobs and much-needed wealth to impoverished regions. For many years it appeared that Latin Americans had accepted this view, as many of the nations' governments were pro-US, free-market, and embraced globalisation. However, in recent times this perception has changed somewhat. People in Latin America have grown increasingly frustrated at the distribution of money in the wake of globalisation. The profit margins of the multinationals were high, yet money didn't appear to be trickling down to the working-classes. People at the top end, in league with government and big business, were getting richer while the poor were getting poorer, so for many it appeared that socialism should be the way forward. Coupled with that, people in Latin America wanted to see that their country's resources were safeguarded for their own use. People were also getting frustrated at what they perceived to be "meddling" by the US in their affairs. Perhaps an encapsulation of these feelings can be found in the election of Evo Morales as president of Bolivia. An indigenous man from a farming background, he is a socialist who wants to protect the natural gas reserves for the benefit of his own people and has relaxed the restrictions on coca farming. Coca leaves can be used to cultivate cocaine and the US has put a lot of money into the region to stamp out any potential production of the drug. Morales claims that coca is a part of every day life in Bolivia and insists that cocaine isn't being made, but the US disagree, leaving the countries at loggerheads with one another.

I spoke to Rob Miller, the director of the Cuba Solidarity Campaign, a British group who support the rights and sovereignty of the Cuban people. Cuba's situation is slightly different to the other countries of Latin America as it has been a communist state since 1959, but nevertheless its aims and objectives in 2006 reflect those found in Venezuela, Chile and elsewhere.

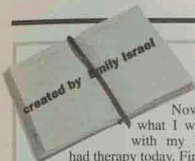
Rob told me that Latin America was "fed-up with the neo-liberal policies of the US" and was similarly sick of "the IMF (International Monetary Fund) and World Bank exploiting these countries' wealth." He spoke of Latin America's desire to be self-sufficient, not just in material resources but in human ones too, pointing out that, for example, Venezuela and Cuba had a great many trained doctors and that under a socialist regime "within 6 months of a government being elected you can have health care brought to the masses." Indeed, free health care is available to all in Venezuela.

Of course, not everyone is happy about the political positions emerging in Latin America. As well as the multinational companies, the US-based IMF and World Bank who argue for globalisation and free-trade (going against the principals of the Bolivarian Revolution), the US government will also have been watching what is happening with some disappointment. George W. Bush has criticised Hugo Chavez's courting of Saddam Hussein-era Iraq and Libya. Bush is also unhappy at the links currently being forged by Uruguay and Venezuela with Fidel Castro in Cuba, a man Bush vehemently opposes. Bush will also be very concerned that he is losing allies in the war on terror and other issues. In the UK Tony Blair expressed his distaste for Chavez in a recent Prime Minister's Questions: "It is rather important that the Government of Venezuela realise that if they want to be respected members of the international community, they should abide by the rules of the international community. I say with the greatest respect to the President of Venezuela that when he forms an alliance with Cuba, I would prefer to see Cuba a proper functioning democracy...the most important thing is that countries in south America and north America realise that they have much in common and much to gain from each other particularly through the principles of democracy".

There are also arguments over free-speech and censorship within some of these left-wing regimes. The hands of the media are often tied and journalists can find themselves under threat of death if they speak out on a sensitive government issue.

Whatever the arguments for and against the rise of the Left in Latin America, this is definitely a political development that cannot be ignored. The governmental changes we are witnessing could alter the shape of the global political landscape for many years to come, with the potential for whole-scale changes in the world's network of political alliances. There could be some extremely interesting times ahead in world affairs.

Latin America is fed up with the neo-liberal policies of the US and is similarly sick of the IMF and World Bank



Dear diary

Now know what I want to do with my life, after had therapy today. First personal tutor session. Told him about my feelings. And how I felt about that. Had to write report on 'progress' so far at university. Didn't take long. Short list of achievements triggered sudden - what's the word? Hallucination? No, revelation! - will become Prime Minister, or some other important politician. In mean time, will organise a five marches protesting against something. Friends and Joe will back me. Although Naomi had salmonella recently, so she might be a bit sensitive about the egg-throwing. Will assign her the flour. Politics. Was of age and confused in time for the 2005 elections. Voted Green. It wasn't my fault. Polar parties kept marching into each others muddy territory; RIGHT! (Tony Blair, Iraq war: Sheep-Hedonist-Imperialist-Totalitarian), LEFT! (Michael Howard, No tuition fees: equal education for all, yeah, right!), Liberals? Apparently you can't run a party, let alone a country, when you're drunk. (Note to self: Stop drinking when become Prime Minister). What are all these 'vote for me' banners at the university anyway? Vote for what? What difference does it make? Must find out.

Gahhhhhhh! Tessa Jowell! She's getting slaughtered just for having a dodgy spouse. Maybe don't want to submerge self in murky politics. What if papers dug into my past? Found out what am doing now. Didn't know it was a bung. Thought it was a didgeridoo. They won't believe me. And what if tabloids fabricated kiss 'n' tell stories? Didn't know what was doing with first boyf. And what if I got a famous husband? Who was friends with a corrupt Italian? Or worse! A celebrity! Would be followed everywhere by paparazzi and hang out

with Tom and Katie. What if became Scientist and started making sacrifices to robots or whatever it is Scientist worship? If become Scientist Prime Minister rather than atheistic one, will at least be able to claim there is a higher adjudicator of actions; relieve pressure from consequences of own flawed judgements based on military intelligence, American Lord President and oil. Heaven forbid policies should reflect the will of peace-loving people. How can Blair look at himself? Have decided do not want to follow in his dirty footsteps. Will abstain from becoming a politician. Change mind too often to be coherent, anyway. Feeling quite fragmented and disillusioned again. Must be dinner time.

Feel fat. Do you get seven year's bad luck for breaking a glass saucepan lid, or is that just with mirrors? Shattered glass everywhere. V. dangerous. Am not too devastated, don't generally steam things, just heat them. Or microwave them. Or order them. Will one day wake up gourmet rather than gormless... Cake baking in the oven. Cottage in the country. Will be a bohemian bestselling author. Have non-obese children. Loving husband. Have only been back with Joe for a week, but... might devote some time to learning how to cook, knit, and write. Gahhhhhhh! His name is Joe Jowell! Jowell! Who names their son 'Joe' with a surname like that? Awful assonance. Doesn't matter. Know he is nothing like his bastard male counterpart. Will absolutely not separate from him. It would be a charade. I love him. Blasted glass... bad omen. Will ring him just to hear his voice. Essay can wait till tomorrow.

Pisces (Feb 19 - Mar 20)

Whether you think you can or you can't, you're probably right. Gratitude is the best attitude. Love is so hard to find, but so easy to lose. What makes you different makes you beautiful. Just because it's in print doesn't mean it's true.

Aries (Mar 21 - Apr 19)

Elated by the fact that Arsenal are the only English team left in the Champions League, you consider getting a tattoo of Thierry Henry on your forehead. Do it. Even if he buggers off to Barcelona you can just pretend that it's Theo Walcott.

Taurus (Apr 20 - May 20)

You thought that you were satisfied with your Punto until you realised that some people have it full throttle with their Grande Punto. But will it complement your new girlfriend's Clio? Well it used to be more than enough to match up to your ex's fabulous Fabia.

Gemini (May 21 - Jun 21)

It's cold outside but at least there's some kind of atmosphere. Breathe. You let someone take their red dwarf into the orbit of Uranus. With your very own rimmer, the smegma jokes start to leave a sour taste in your mouth.

Cancer (Jun 22 - Jul 22)

You head to Cuba in search of socialist nirvana but all you find is a third world country with a dubious human rights record, lovely beaches and an abundance of cigars rolled on the thighs of virgins. Disappointed, you return to Headingley and find solace in a Red Square.

Leo (Jul 23 - Aug 22)

During a game of Deal or No Deal with your housemates you are asked whether you would rather shag your mum or your dad. Just remember who puts the meat and two veg on the table and who would put it in your mouth. Deal.

Virgo (Aug 23 - Sep 22)

Time goes by so slowly. The clock keeps ticking, the TV channels you keep flicking, the microwave meal you keep pricking. Are these really the best days of your life? Just wait ten years until you've got trouble and strife.

Written in the Stars



Libra (Sep 23 - Oct 22)

A short question takes you by surprise. You could live life dangerously and say yes. Alternatively just play it safe and stick to what you have already got and go with no. If the career aspirations don't get off the ground, you may just find yourself surprising people with your own short questions: do you want fries with that?

Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)

Your friends have thus far regarded you as something of a music connoisseur. In a moment of drunken revelry you mistakenly reveal your innermost secret: your musical admiration for Girls Aloud. Just so long as they didn't find your Kym Marsh memorabilia. They did? Oops. Well just pass it off as Hear'Say.

Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)

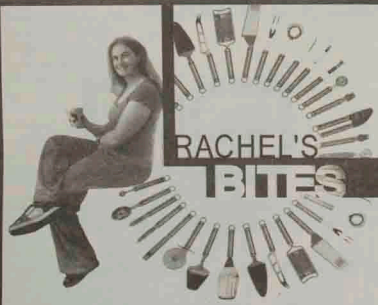
A Nike hoody, Kappa trousers tucked in socks with Reebok classics to finish it off. Do you ever feel like you're stuck in an eighties time warp? Or just from Liverpool? Let's face it, your fashion sense is an absolute disaster. Actually, you're whole life is. But look on the bright side, at least you're not writing horoscopes for a living. And called Tutti. What were my parents thinking? If your surname's Frutti, don't call your son Tutti.

Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)

You look over the edge: the view makes you dizzy. You've come a long way but it would only take a minor tumble to lead to one mighty fall. The summit may not yet be in sight but keep on soldiering through and make sure you tie your shoelaces.

Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)

Morrissey once said that, "there is a light that never goes out" but, unfortunately, your 40 watt bulb is starting to sutter. It's a metaphorical light though and not your actual light so it's time to stumble around the bedroom of opportunity, hit your shins on the coffee table of frothed, milk dreams and reach for the light switch of, erm, enlightenment.



RACHEL'S BITES

this week:coconut chicken pilaf

This is a really tasty, high energy dish low in saturated fats. It's good served hot on its own or with salad, and is also really tasty served cool for lunch the next day. The coconut gives this pilaf a rich, creamy flavour without adding too many calories to the dish.

Recipe:

Serves two

A little sunflower oil
1 small onion, finely chopped
1 clove garlic, finely chopped

2 tsp curry powder
100g basmati rice
300 ml chicken stock
1/2 red pepper, chopped
Lemon juice
Small handful raisins
1 large cooked chicken breast, diced
40g creamed coconut

Instructions

Heat the oil, add the onion and garlic and fry gently until softened. Stir in the curry powder, heat for a minute before adding the rice, stock and creamed coconut. Stir well until the coconut has dissolved. Cover and simmer for about 15 mins, adding more water if the mixture starts to dry out. Add the chicken, pepper, raisins and a squeeze

of lemon juice. Cook over a low heat for a further 5 minutes, before serving with a green salad.

to suit the budgeting carnivore. Try the butcher's row in Leeds City Markets, or any one of the halal butchers in the Hyde Park area for top-quality meat at reasonable prices.

Tip of the week

One of the easiest ways to cut down on your food budget is to go veggie. But if, like me, you really can't handle the thought of no meat, Leeds is full of places

WHICH WAY NOW...?

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LUU's pride week
8th - 12 May 2006

Between the 8th and the 12th May LUU will be celebrating the work that you, the members of LUU, have achieved this year. Take a second to remember all the great stuff you've done. Nice one! Be proud of it.

pride



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The Rileys award ceremony, the Sports Colours Dinner, the Honorary and Life Membership awards, Interfaith Forum and International Societies festival, Exhibits and lots of back patting!

We're proud of you! And we want to thank you for all your contributions and efforts. Look out for forthcoming Pride week events!



Rhinos Walk to derby win

By Allen Cooper

A thirteen-minute first half hat-trick by Leeds' Great Britain centre, Chev Walker, ensured the Rhinos romped to a convincing win over local rivals Castleford at the Headingley Carnegie Stadium.

It was the visitors who took control of the ball early on, but after struggling to break the Leeds line, it was the Rhinos who opened the scoring with their first attack after five minutes. Rob Burrow scoring under the posts after good work by Danny Williams to set him up.

Newly-promoted Cas continued to defy their huge underdog tag, but lacked that bit of quality in the final third needed to trouble the scorers. Leeds took advantage and scored again on 14 minutes through Willie Pochting.

The sin-binning of ex-Wigan man, Danny Sculthorpe, seemed to strangely galvanise the Tigers, registering eight points in his absence, with a try from Tom Haughey, and four points from Craig Hubby's boot.

His return, though, sparked an incredible spell of 30 points in just 13 minutes for the Rhinos in the lead up to the interval. Walker scored his first try with a dashing 80 metre interception, and Kirke scored on his debut five minutes after coming off the bench. Burrow then added his second after a lovely shimmy, and Walker scored again after a cheeky one-two with full back Richard Mathers. Walker completed the fifth treble of his career in stoppage time. Captain Kevin Sinfield kicked all seven conversions to make the score 42-8 at the break.

In the second half, a burst of pace from Mathers set up Danny McGuire, and after Ryan McGoldrick's consolation for Cas, McGuire returned the favour for Mathers to cross. All Laidi's got in on the act 10 minutes later with a neat close range finish, and Ryan Bailey rounded things off with a powerful solo try. Sinfield's impeccable boot saw him convert all 11 tries to send Leeds third place in the *engage* Super League.

300 SECONDS: Surf's Up

By GRAHAM CLARK



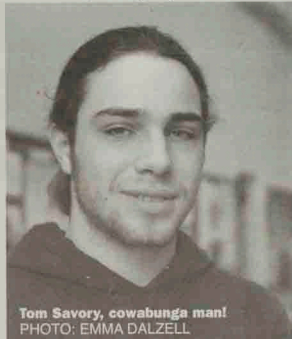
"I tried to give up meat but I lasted three days before I gave into a sausage roll"

**NAME: TOM SAVORY
ROLE: SURF TEAM CAPTAIN**

LS: So Tom, what's it like to be the surf team captain?
TS: It's really fun, but hard work too.
LS: Hard work is it, so are there any perks to being captain?
TS: Yeah I like getting involved with helping new people who have just joined to show them the ropes, that's one aspect I really like, the other is seeing people making new friends, its great when new people meet each other you get a good feeling inside.
LS: So then with you surfer guys its all sea, sand, sun and sex I guess?
TS: (Laughs) No, we're not quite that glamorous, especially not on the East Coast!
LS: Well what's the most embarrassing moment that you have endured whilst being part of the surfing team?
TS: There isn't really one story I can think of, I'm just an embarrassment every time I get drunk.
LS: What are surfing socials like then?
TS: Yeah, their pretty good. Our socials are always really good when we have just come back from a weekend away. We try and do different things and

not just sit down the pub though!
LS: All right, this is a must ask question, what football team do you support?
TS: AFC Wimbledon
LS: Really? You are the first AFC Wimbledon fan that I've spoken to, why do you support them?
TS: Well I grew up when the crazy gang was around back in the 90s, being up here and doing my surfing means I can't see them as often as I like.
LS: If I remember correctly they had a couple of half decent lads start out for them.
TS: Yeah, MC Harvey played when we first started.
LS: So apart from surfing do you play any other sports?
TS: I play a bit of football every so often, but it's mainly surfing. Oh and I use to play a bit of tennis when I was younger.
LS: Moving off of sport and onto women, being as you are a surfer dude I bet you keep a close eye on the babes?
TS: (Laughs) Quite a close eye, I've got to be careful though as I have a girlfriend, she would kill me if I did anything!
LS: Who's your perfect woman? Apart from your girlfriend!
TS: Oooh, I'd have to go with Cameron Diaz, but Cameron Diaz of five years ago when she was a bit younger. Also she loves surfing, which makes her pretty cool.
LS: Ok, on a completely random note, as it's the season of lent have you given up anything?
TS: I tried to give up meat, but I lasted just three days before I gave in to a sausage roll! My mates thought it was pathetic.

LS: Two quick fire questions, who's your favourite comedian?
TS: Eddie Izzard, although I haven't heard much of him lately. I like Ross Noble too and that guy from Brass Eye, Chris Morris.
LS: Favourite TV programme?
TS: Shipwrecked, although I haven't seen as much of it as I would like.
LS: Finally, on a random note which is the best out of the Simpsons, Futurama or Family Guy?
TS: Got to say the Simpsons as I've never really got into Futurama, or Family Guy for that matter.



Tom Savory, cowabunga man!
PHOTO: EMMA DALZELL

Leeds surfers make waves

By Matthew Box

Two surfers from Leeds Uni Surf Club reached the semi-finals of the women's event in the BUSA Surf Competition, held last weekend, where over 100 females took part.
Newquay, the Mecca for surfers, was the inevitable choice of venue for the competition, run by the British Surf Association, held from Friday 3rd March to Sunday 5th. Over 400 competitors from 34 universities battled it out to be crowned champions.
Friday saw the best of the surf of the entire weekend with thunderous waves mercilessly pounding the low-tide sand bank. Leeds Uni's male representative, Matthew Box, was drawn in an afternoon heat and

was to compete against last year's winner Nick Tiscoe. Some hope remained as the top two surfers in each heat went through to the next round. Unfortunately, Matthew, along with two of his fellow competitors, were washed by a rip current into the adjacent surfing peak where the other heat was being battled out. All three surfers had to exit the water and re-enter into their own area.
This debacle left little time for surfing, and the battle for second place was decided upon white water rides. Much to his frustration Matt was knocked out in the first round.
On Saturday, the women's first and second heats were contested. Representing Leeds were Claudia Stein and Jen Smith. Both Claudia and Jen came top of their first heat, and came second and first respec-

tively in their following heats. This jubilant result meant that Leeds was still in with a chance of some silverware.
By Sunday the surf had deteriorated into a cross-shore wind-chop. Jen won her third round heat with two good, solid rides down the line. Claudia did well to come second in her heat, utilising her considerable skills on someone else's long-board. Both ladies made it through to the semi-finals and the Leeds supporters went wild.
In the semi-finals Jen and Claudia battled against the elements to little avail and were both knocked out. They did themselves proud, particularly as they were the only two women to represent Leeds Uni, and out of about 100 female competitors they both made it to the last female surfers.



PHOTO: Claudia in action

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Steady Eddie

★ Former Leeds United boss talks to Leeds Student about his former playing days and a possible return to management

By Patrick Smith

He never thought he could make a living out of playing football. But, like every schoolboy, in the back of his mind Eddie Gray always dreamed of playing for one of the game's glamour teams.

In 1964, the promising 14-year-old pacy left winger was playing for Scotland schoolboys and was being chased by as many as 35 professional clubs who were queuing up for his signature.

But when his father told him that a man from Leeds United had come up to see him play and would like to take him to Elland Road for a trial, Gray admits that his first words were "who?"

"It wasn't a glamour club back then. Most Scots went to Spurs or Manchester United", said Gray, now 58, before Scotland's friendly against Switzerland last week, undiminished by 30 years in Leeds. "I have to admit I'd never heard of them before they approached me. I didn't know where Leeds was." It was Don Revie, the great Leeds United manager, who talked him into signing.

"He said 'you might not have heard of us now, but in the not too distant future we're going to be one of the most successful sides in Britain'. When it came to making people special, he thought of everything," says Gray, in his trademark Glasgow drawl.

Gray repaid Revie's faith in him with 577 appearances for the club and went on to become a Leeds

United legend. Leeds' Irish full back Gary Kelly broke the 500 appearances mark against Luton in February this year, but such loyalty has become rare. One-club-players such as Gary Kelly, Manchester United's Gary Neville or Liverpool's Steven Gerrard are now the exceptions.

Eddie Gray made £30 per week on his first professional contract and stayed at Leeds through relegations and successes whereas the top earners at Elland Road now earn well over £10,000 a week and seem reluctant to stay when times are hard. Despite their excesses, Gray doesn't see their behaviour as greedy.

"No, not at all. They have the freedom of contract to move between clubs that we never had because of the Bosman ruling (that allowed players to move clubs for free when their contract ended). But things have progressed just like in any walk of life. They earn an awful lot of money, but I don't resent what they have," he said.

In the early 1990s, satellite TV appeared and changed the face of football. High-profile footballers such as George Best were big stars in the 1960s, but today seems like another world to 30 years ago when it was ordinary working men both in the stands and on the field. How much has changed? "Sky changed everything by putting in so much money. The game was always popular but it didn't have such a high profile. Now players get treated like film stars and it's difficult for ordinary people to get through the turnstiles because of the price. It was always a good job

Prince punishes Celtics

The Leeds Celtics ended their season in a tightly contested 6-0 defeat under the hooves of the Staffordshire Stallions writes

The game was almost totally dominated by running as both sides strove to punch their way to victory. The only score of the game came in the first quarter as the Celtics were still coming to terms with Staffordshire's style of play. As if taken by surprise they failed to cut out the wide, sweeping runs, and short, sharp drives through the centre. The Stallions quarterback, Jason Prince, gained the final half-yard momentum for a goal line pile-up to be called as a touchdown.

The rest of the game was marked by sheer defensive determination. The Celtics cut out any possibility of a Stallion passing game with bat-downs from Ed Paine and Ed Morgan, and an interception by Alex Dziedzian.

The Celtic aerial threat was slightly more pronounced and brave catches were made by giant tight-

end Mark Smith and rookie wide-receiver Chris Smith.

The Celtics shored up their line with great performances by Nad Mughal, Paul Matthews, and Chris Price while the veteran linebacker trio of Richard Nice, Danny Thompson, and Andy Stevens hunted the Stallion ball carriers.

Running backs Dan Prewitt, Adam Goldsmith, and Joe Coulatte threw themselves into the Stallions but could not get into the endzone. Despite playing the game of their lives, and great blocking from centre Ian Frazier, the Stallions stacked eight men in the centre of the field and the mass of bodies proved effective.

Perhaps the 6-0 score line accurately reflected a game dominated by both sides defensive units. But it did not do justice to the efforts of the Leeds Celtics, or the 16 years of outstanding effort from the award-winning head coach Orlando Weekes, who leaves to join Senior League side the Yorkshire Rams.

Ladies United

While Chelsea and Liverpool are the favourites in the men's cup, Leeds United Ladies have a fantastic opportunity to make it through to the FA Cup Final, having equalled their best run in the competition to date writes *Ralph Shepherd*.

The side have avoided favourites Arsenal to be drawn against Liverpool Ladies at Guseley Football Club on Sunday. Liverpool are top in the Northern Premier League while Leeds are currently standing midtable. Leeds are looking to better their previous record in this competition where they lost in the semi final to the eventual winners Croydon 2-1.

Leeds Ladies went through in style beating last year's finalists Everton 3-1 after legendary striker Kaz Walker bagged herself a hat-trick in the 5th round. The team beat Birmingham Ladies by the same scoreline. Walker once again getting herself on the score sheet along with current England international Sue Smith, who scored a sublime goal.

Liverpool meanwhile scraped through their quarter final beating fellow Northern Premier League outfit Newcastle United on penalties 8-7.

Leeds manager Julie Chipchase is excited by the prospect of being in the final but is obviously wary of a side which is sitting at the top of their own league. Chipchase said: "I have to be pleased with the draw, but no way do we think we are in the final already. If we don't play to our best we will be punished by them."

"I have always said the FA Cup is very special. I want Leeds in the final. We will all be working from now until our game to prepare in the right way to make sure that happens."

Star player, Sue Smith, was already excited and looked ahead to the biggest game for six years:

"I am delighted with the draw, we have to be. I want to get to that final so badly, so do all the team. We are in good form though and don't fear playing anyone."

but you weren't always spotted in the street".

Widely regarded as the greatest-ever Leeds United side, between 1965 and 1974 players such as Gray, Peter Lorimer, Billy Bremner and Norman Hunter helped Leeds to win all three major domestic titles and do well in Europe under the management of Don Revie. He was well-known for his meticulous approach and Gray says that his methods, though eccentric, worked for him.

"Revie was very astute. He put emphasis on the right diet, the right fitness training; he was years ahead of his time. Two or three times a week he would get all the young players in his office very early in the morning and make us drink a mixture of milk, eggs and sherry. It worked for me".

Eddie Gray is only one of a select few players, along with another Leeds legend John Charles, never to receive a single booking. How did he manage that? "It was a far more physical game back then, but we had enough players in our side that could look after that sort of thing. I can control myself, plus you could get away with more back then".

After 18 years with the club, such was his reputation that Gray was given the role of player-manager in 1982, his first of several management posts, but was sacked in 1985. After management stints at Rochdale and Hull City, Gray inevitably found his way back to Elland Road as youth coach in 1995 under Howard Wilkinson and with Paul Hart established the Leeds United Academy that launched the careers of Alan Smith, Harry Kewell, Jonathan Woodgate and, more recently, James Milner. He returned briefly as caretaker manager in 2003 but insisted it was a temporary job.

Asked about the state of the Scottish game, Gray argues that it is hard for a nation with such a small population to compete on a world stage.

"There used to be a culture of street football — that's how everyone got into it. Kids have more to do these days". He is proud of his 12 Scottish caps and says it was a high injury he suffered aged 16 that kept him out of the national side — the exact same injury that is currently keeping one of his protégés, Jonathan Woodgate, out of the England team.

The question of whether he would be cheering on Sven's England team in the summer's World Cup is met with a rare chuckle and a flat "No", but he admits the "auld enemy" have a good chance of going all the way. "England should be in with a shout, but you can't write off the host nation. And of course Brazil are always a threat".

Before I go, I ask Eddie whether he would rule out a return to management. "Well, I'd never say never".

What if Leeds United were to give him a call again? Could it be third time lucky? "Again, you can never say never. These jobs tend to go to younger men but I wouldn't rule it out", said the 58-year-old.

If, when the club's current purple patch ends, the job becomes available, it seems that Eddie Gray will be one name near the top of the shortlist — and 'never' could well come sooner than he thinks.

That's good business

By Olly Roland-Jones

The Business School won the Intra-Mural Division One Championship after a fine 3-2 win over long-term rivals Christian Union on Wednesday at Bodington playing fields.

The C.U were perhaps favourites going into the tie having won the Championship in semester one, and having defeated a classy Wanderers outfit the previous week. However despite falling behind early the Business School finished the game strongly to take the title on a pitch that frankly was not fit for a game of this standard.

The C.U will certainly count themselves unlucky not to be crowned Champions and were clearly heartbroken at the final whistle, but were perhaps feeling the effects of a long and tiring cup

run outside of Intra-Mural football were certainly hindered by their makeshift keeper, as they conceded two sloppy second-half goals.

The Business School skipper said he was "delighted at the way the lads played today, even though the conditions were terrible we gave it our all and did not let our heads drop when we went behind".

In the 3/4th place play off the Wanderers produced an outstanding performance to push Civil Engineering down to fourth place. Goals from Crisp and Khanna were doubtless the highlights in a game marred by some terrible defending, particularly by Dave Coulshed and Luke Salkeld whose mistakes could have cost the Wanderers a deserved third place finish. Wanderers stalwart Rich Crisp said that third place "was a dream come true" for a side who were battling relegation in semester

one. Business School go on to play the winners of the Saturday Intra Mural League for the chance to take on the best of Leeds Met social footballers in a highly anticipated Varsity game, though rumours that this will be played at Elland Road are still to be confirmed.

The following players are to be congratulated on making it into the Intra Mural team of the season, this side was chosen by referees from matches played over both semesters: Dave Meynell, Richard Anderson, Oliver Roland-Jones, Barry Bardsley, Daniel Breen, Kev Jennings, Barry Bardsley, Luke Lodge, Paul Smith, Brendan Stern and Richard Crisp.

All that remains is to thank Patrick Craig for his invaluable work behind the scenes at the sports office.



Breakdancers break through Squashed

By Ben Schofield

A love match between Leeds' A and B break dancing crews decided the fifth annual Uni Champs at Newcastle University on Saturday.

Leeds A's dynamism and experience shone through for them to clinch the title over the novices, in what was a chilled out final staged after a day's battling.

Ed Stephen, an old-timer on the b-boying circuit and last year's captain watched the action: "Everyone let them do their shit; it was well chilled," he told Leeds Student.

The 8-strong Leeds A crew exploded into the arena first and threw down a routine to DJ Rob Life's (Breakin' Bread) tunes. Hamad from the Bs responded with a cheeky set. But it was Tasha — one of only two girls in the final — who whipped up the crowd with a set including an invert from

head stand.

Shane Fenton was on top form for the As, with onlookers saying the 32-year-old pushed hardest for the crew. He and Alex Cookman demonstrated their power with young Scott Coulson, 17, adding frantic but compact footwork.

But praise should also go to the Bs. Stephen said: "Leeds B would have been happy just to go through the first round, but they managed to take it all the way.

"I'm really proud of them." Commitment and passion were the watchwords for the Bs, some of whom have only been on the scene since September.

Both crews had to battle in three other rounds to get to the final. Leeds A spent the day facing first defending champs Newcastle A and then London's ICL. But the toughest round was the third which saw them in a grudge match against

Manchester Salford.

Salford's experienced crew were down two men from last year, but old-timer Gavin may have lost it for them when he slipped and crashed out during a routine.

The Bs had an easier route through to the final, meeting first beginners Durham, and then Newcastle B.

"Frank [Boggis-Rolff] killed it after Durham botched their routine," Stephen said.

The closest battle was against Warwick in the third round. The West Midlands had been on the circuit longer, but the Bs kept up the momentum to scrape through to the final.

DJs Renegade (Extended Players) and Kenny Masters (North Stars) spun the tunes during the heats.

The trophy comes back to Leeds after only a year away as Leeds last took the championship in 2004.

Leeds University students scored a double whammy at the BUSA Squash championships last weekend, winning in both the men's and women's finals.

First year Economics and Management student Saurav Ghosal, already ranked in the world top 100, scored a straight-games win over Loughborough's Jethro Binns to take the men's title as Lauren Siddall, third year Sports Science, took the women's title for the second time in three years after a five-game victory over Nottingham's defending champion, Emma Bedoes.

Lauren said: "It was a good comeback because last year I was injured. The result is really good for Leeds Uni and hopefully it will encourage more squash players in."

The Leeds University women's third team also had success last week, demolishing Huddersfield 10-2

Exclusive interview: Eddie Gray

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Student sport

Photo: Mark G. M. 2008

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Ten in a row

★ Rowers smash 100,000m indoor record in Oceana

By Julian Pearce

A team of ten rowers from Leeds University Boat Club blew apart the 100,000m indoor rowing BUSA world record in Oceana this Wednesday, in front of an animated and vocal crowd of supporters.

Steve Mellor, Rob Wood, Ali Brown, Mark Pitcher, Kamal Grewal, Rich Bainbridge, Luke Forrester, Pete Vanns, Eric Vlemmings and Simon Croft trounced the previous record by over ten minutes to beat the standard set by the club in 2004. The challenge was witnessed by a nightclub full of supporters and the event formed an important part of the evening's proceedings as the record was broken on the stage in the main room of Leeds' premier student night.

Event organiser, Ben Stuart, said: "It's amazing the way that things have come together. The planning has been going on since December but ultimately you have

to take your hat off to the ten guys putting themselves through hell to represent the club and break this record. I'd also like to thank Chris and the team at Vodka Nationwide for overcoming some last minute glitches and giving us a night to remember and something for which the University and the Boat Club can be proud."

The record itself is an awesome test of strength and stamina, the team of ten taking it in turns to pull fifteen strokes as hard as they can before the next rower takes his place.

Such an energetic pace and rapid changeovers means there was no time to strap feet into place so they had to be physically held to the machine by hand. In theory, each rower should have rowed around 10km and been on the machine 100 times over the night. The average 500m split for the ordeal was 1min20.5secs, a split which most gym users would struggle to come close to once, let alone for 100km taking into account pace lost on changeovers. On one stroke the split fell to just 1:08.

This year's time for the 100,000m was set at an astounding four hours, twenty eight minutes and twenty seven seconds, beating the previous record, set in Baja in 2004, by ten minutes fifty three seconds.

Assisted by sponsored backing from Deloitte and from Virgin Active in the form of use of their facilities, the team were assisted by around another ten members of support crew with jobs ranging from medics, technical support and giving general moral support. The record is recognised by the people who make the most common rowing machines. Concept 2, the company which supplied the ergos free of charge for this event.

As the team pulled through the pain barrier and reached for those final few strokes, the gathered crowd went wild to "The Final Countdown" before a particularly apt rendition of Queens' "We are the Champions".



PHOTOS: MATT LLOYD

Leeds Met Job Shop

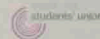
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Graduate Fair

Wednesday 15th March (10am - 4pm)
Events Hall, Student Union
Leeds Met Civic Quarter

Thursday 16th March (10am - 4pm)
Hospitality Suite, Metceno
Leeds Met Headingley Campus



Got a story or an opinion? Send us your sporting views to: sport@lswb.org.uk