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That Friday free thing

Leeds Student

Friday, April 28, 2006

Vol 36 Issue 20

Ongoing dispute



As lecturers strike still not resolved, NUS pleads for exams to be set

By Alex Doorey

As May exams loom closer, the National Union of Students is pleading with the Higher Education Union AUT to rethink its decision to cancel student assessments, an action which could prevent finalists from graduating.

The u-turn in policy aims to prevent the possible long term damage to students' future prospects and comes after three years of support for both Nathe and AUT campaigns for a 23% pay rise. The Union still commits its support to the democratic rights of both organisations to the strikes, but by its most recent actions aims to prevent backlog and major disruption during exam time. Instead, the NUS is appealing for a 'mark and park' approach, where students are still assessed, but their results withheld until the strike action ends. Kat Fletcher, NUS national president, said: 'NUS stands firmly by its decision to back both Nathe and AUT in their call for better pay. However, we want to once again raise our concerns about the decision taken by AUT not to set exams as part of this industrial action. I have raised this matter with them on a number of occasions, and now strongly urge them to reconsider this tactic.'

But yesterday the AUT once again rejected calls from the university employers to scale back its industrial action so that pay negotiations facilitated by mediation service ACAS could begin. The employers conceded only that their initial 6 per cent over two years offer would have to be improved to end the strike.

Leeds University Union welcomed the NUS decision and has joined in the appeal to curb the strike action after an outcry from its students. A spokesperson for the union said: "We believe

that the choice of the AUT to target students at the most crucial point in their education is worthy of condemnation and that the AUT now runs the risk of damaging the long term relationship between student and academic unions."

This week the union voiced its concerns to the AUT: "We believe that it is in the interest of our members that academic staff are well paid and motivated. However, we are very disappointed that other options, such as a boycott of administration, have not been considered. Our members should feel confident that they will get the degree they deserve on time."

Meanwhile, students are becoming increasingly frustrated about the uncertainty over degrees and examinations.

Josef Baledio, 20, who studies Environmental Geology, said: "Leeds is lucky to still have its lectures running. If more money is going into the University, why can't the lecturers get more? Is there not a happy medium?"

In an attempt to control the situation LUU will be holding open meetings for students with the AUT and University on May 3 and 4 to discuss the short term implications of the strike. "Since the boycott began, we have offered support to students concerned about the implications for their degrees" said Democracy and Communications Officer Erin McFeely. "We will encourage students to keep using this service."

On Tuesday Vice-Chancellor had words of reassurance for students. He said: "I believe that all or almost all of this term's written examinations will take place as normal even if the dispute is not settled quickly. This means that the industrial action will not prevent students from getting their degrees. In other words, I expect that the majority of final year and master's students will be able to finish on time."

Student meetings will take place in Roger Stevens lecture theatre 17 at 1pm.

A Professor's view

"I now earn about £50,000 gross as a Professor, last year I earned £45,000, but people in my position in industry could earn about £70-£80 thousand and that's if they just had the job of a senior scientist; with management and promotions they could be earning a lot more. I know of one lecturer from Sheffield who received a 50 per cent pay rise when he moved into the Pharmaceutical industry from teaching. I have been tempted to leave the University and I have been offered jobs, but I've always stayed because I like the control I have over my research, which I would lose if I moved into business. Pay is important, especially from my point of view. I want to be able to raise my family and live the sort of life that my friends do, but the intellectual stimulation you get from working within a university has been a big compensation."

"But this intellectual freedom to choose our own research is diminishing with more and more bureaucratic controls, which is very worrying. If we lose control over what we're allowed to research, and the pay doesn't get better, there's not going to be any incentives to staying at Universities in Britain. Nearly all of my PhD graduates have gone to work in the USA, because they offer them better incentives, like far less teaching. A lot of the staff, like me came in the late 60s and early 70s, and when you look around at the university's aging staff, I have to think, what is keeping young people here? I've had a successful career, but what can I offer them?"

"I have a young family and a mortgage, large commitments and I have to think about how I'm going to help my children get through university."

"My experience is that I've had a 20 year pay freeze and that says to me that I'm not valued, I'm not important. The 3 per cent offer does nothing to address this; it's an insult to be honest."

"I find my salary embarrassing. I have to work with people from big companies sometimes and I can't afford to live like the people I work with, but they just expect me to."

• by Malcom Povey, Professor of Food Physics at The University of Leeds

'NOW THEN, NOW THEN': Sir Jimmy Saville takes LS out for a pizza SEE PAGE 12 & 13 PHOTO: PATRICK NIXON



Sketch

By Mark Ramsden

Writing back in January, when the lecturer's strikes were a mere threat, I said the negotiations seemed like an episode of Deal or No Deal. A game of offers and counter offers; risk and reward.

The one-day strike has now finished. The boycott of assessment, which could threaten some student's graduation, is in its second month. Such a serious situation merits yet another crap TV comparison.

One show alone can reflect the high politics and tension of the strike - Channel 5's Touch the Truck. The 2001 show, unbelievably not re-commissioned, had a very simple premise. The person who can touch the truck the

longest gets to keep it. Perhaps the bigger challenge was spending so long in Essex's Lakeside shopping centre with presenter Dale Winton.

Channel 5 showed half hour daily updates which mainly showed people touching a truck. The contestants tried not to fall asleep; so did the viewers. The truck was eventually won by a hippy whose strategy was to concentrate on pretending to wax the truck. Mr. Miyagi style. He didn't even want the truck.

Both the lecturers and their employers are trying to make sure they are the last ones touching the truck. It's a waiting game.

The lecturers think that the universi-

ties will have to give in so that students can get their grades and degrees. The universities are hoping that the lecturers will call off their strike out of compassion for their students or out of boredom (see Touch the Truck, above). Or that public opinion will turn against the academics.

The latter seems to be happening. Whilst, to begin with, students generally supported the walkouts, things may be changing. A day off lectures seemed like a gift but now people want their essays back. An online petition against the strikes has been launched (www.aut-boycott.co.uk).

Even some student unions have start-

ed to question the strike. Forgetting solidarity for their teaching comrades, student's leaders from 21 unions around England wrote to the AUT lecturer's union suggesting they end the strike, citing damage to teacher / student relations.

LUU is amongst them. In a statement, the union condemned the strikes, deviating from its previous position, which supported the lecturer's pay claim whilst expressing concern for how the strike would affect students.

With increasing student concern this compromise position was always going to be untenable. Everyone knows you can't sit on the fence forever. Or can you? Now that's a TV show!

Two-year degrees trialled

By Paddy Cooke

Cash strapped students will soon have the opportunity to gain an honour's degree in just two years, thanks to government proposals to boost numbers at university and ease student debt.

The compressed, two-year degree scheme is to be piloted from September, when Staffordshire University, Derby University, Leeds Metropolitan University, the University of Northampton and The Midway Partnership in Kent begin to offer "fast-track" courses in business, sport and biomedical sciences.

The courses are expected to appeal to students eager to start their careers earlier, without the burden of large student debt. Participants will sacrifice their summer holidays and study for an extra term to complete their degrees in the shorter time.

At Leeds Met, students can take an accelerated two-year programme in the faculty of sport and education.

Steve Denton, pro Vice-Chancellor, advocated the flexibility that an opportunity to take courses over the summer would mean.

He said: "Although media attention has focused on fast-tracking to an honours degree in two years, any student could benefit by, for example, taking a module in an intensive summer session to balance their other commitments in a traditional semester."

A system of American-style credit accumulation will also allow students to take study breaks and take longer to complete degrees.

Bill Rammel, the higher education

minister insists that the changes are necessary to help the UK compete with the emerging economic powers of China and India, by offering students more flexibility and choice.

He said: "The assumption was that studies would be taken over a fixed period of time, punctuated by a holiday pattern driven by university, rather than student, need. But just because a model fits some people well doesn't mean it fits all - and increasingly we live in a world where people expect that service providers will have scope to offer flexibility, not uniformity."

The NUS have welcomed the

move as an acknowledgement by the government of the growing problem of student debt but have questioned the motives of announcing the plans just months before top-up fees are introduced.

NUS Vice President for Education, Julian Nicholds, said: "It's good that the Government are finally acknowledging that debt may deter students from university, and that a shorter course could equal less debt. But we need to question the motives behind announcing such plans just months before top-up fees come into force. We know from recent reports that applica-

tions are set to drop this year, but attention may divert from this by interest in shorter degrees. This would be very convenient for the Government, who are evidently concerned about meeting their pledge to widen access."

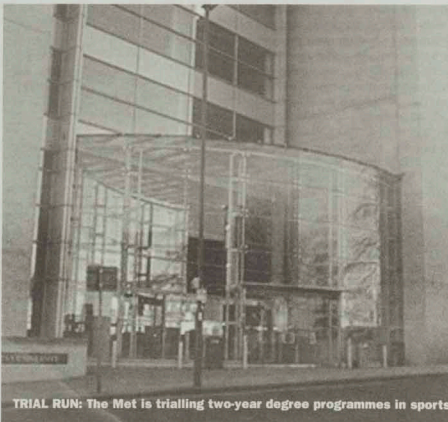
The plans are aimed at helping the government reach their ambitious target of 50 per cent of 18 to 30-year-olds in higher education by 2010, with the figure currently standing at 43 per cent.

Academic unions have also registered their concern about the plans. Natfhe claim that reducing the length of time it takes to complete a degree will "devalue" the qualification and the AUT are worried that research will suffer due to the increased workload for the staff.

Leeds University AUT Vice President, Steven French, said: "If the plans for two-year degrees involve teaching through the summer, as some commentators have suggested, that will have an obvious impact on our overall research effectiveness. And in general we would be extremely concerned about the impact on academic workloads, which have undergone a huge increase in recent years, with a consequent rise in levels of stress".

2nd Year Cultural Studies student Martin O'Neill believes that reducing the length of time spent studying for a degree would diminish the university experience.

He said: "For me, two years at university would not be enough. The government seems to want to churn students out into the workplace as soon as possible but the 3 year uni experience helps you grow in nonacademic ways



TRIAL RUN: The Met is trialling two-year degree programmes in sports



GLOBAL STUDENT NEWS

By Emma Grundy

A series of student campsites have sprung up on American campuses this week, as students protest against funding cuts, higher fees and in their opposition to the war in Iraq.

The organization started at Rutgers, the state university of New Jersey, three years ago and is known as "Tent State University" (TSU). The protest originally ran for one week every spring but has now spread to 15 campuses across the US.

The founder and organiser of the Tent State, Tom Degloma, had the aim of radicalising a new generation of students and advocates the slogan of "education not war".

The campaigners have linked the huge government spending on the War in Iraq with university funding cuts and soaring tuition fees, their motto is "alumnus brokus maximus" which supports the argument that war is consuming billions of dollars that should be used for education.

This week, around 170 tents have been pitched at Rutgers' campus, with as many as 1000 students present depending on the time of day. Even the lecturers are supporting the protest and some members of the academic staff have moved lectures into the tents.

This week, a spokesman for TSU said: "The truth is that there is no budget crisis. There is a crisis of values and leadership! The US spends \$200m a day on the war in Iraq and tens of billions of dollars each year in tax cuts for millionaires and giveaways to giant corporations.

"We need new spending priorities, not more wrongheaded cuts. The Rutgers board of governors has failed to lead the university to prevent damaging budget cuts year after year. That's why, since 2003, thousands of students, faculty and staff have come together each spring for Tent State University."

The Tent State University message concludes: "Be bold, be free, and have a great time. Education is our right. The war must be stopped. Without you, it won't happen."

WEATHER

Friday April 28
Light Cloud
Low 7°
High 13°



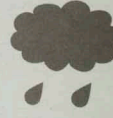
Sunday April 30
Fair
Low 8°
High 15°



Tuesday May 2
Light Showers
Low 4°
High 10°



Thursday May 4
Showers
Low 6°
High 12°



Saturday April 29
Clear
Low 6°
High 17°



Monday May 1
Cloudy
Low 6°
High 12°



Wed May 3
Showers
Low 6°
High 10°



Egging on the winners

LSR jocks smash the Eggheads' winning streak and dip into £17k winnings

By Emma Grundy

Five Leeds students put on a cracking show this Easter when they won an amazing £17,000 on the BBC quiz show, Eggheads.

The show boasts a panel of British quiz game show champions, such as Judith Keppel, the winner of Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?, and Christopher Hughes, this year's Mastermind champion, who then compete against five members of the public for a cash prize. If the 'Eggheads' win, the prize money rolls over for the next week.

Matt Wheatcroft, the organiser and team captain, has always been an 'avid quizzer' and entered other quiz shows such as Bargain Hunt and Braitseaser.

He said: "I've watched Eggheads for a while now and thought it would be a good chance. I also decided that in a team game there wouldn't be so much reliance on my own intelligence, thus giving us a fighting chance"

The rest of the team was made up by fellow LSRfm.com DJs, Beth Forrester, Jo Leicester, Chris Lockery and Simon Farrant.

The seemingly arrogant panel of champions won over the student team. Chris said: "I developed quite a serious crush on Judith Keppel. I know there is an age difference of sorts, but there's just something about prim, cut-glass accents



CRACKING UP: Winners Matt Wheatcroft, Chris Lockery, Beth Forrester, Simon Farrant and Jo Leicester

that make me go a bit fizzy."

The filming of the show took place in the same studio as Blue Peter and at the same time as the shooting of 'Just the Two of Us', giving the team a chance to meet some celebrities. Beth said: "We could hear Beverly Knight from our dressing room and we saw Trevor Nelson, Nikki Campbell and Brian from Big Brother!"

The contestants have won a whopping £3,400 each, but after drum kits, holidays and festival tickets Matt admitted: "It's amazing how quickly it goes though; I think I've spent a grand already!"

A work on the Wilde side

By Alex Doorey

Leeds University is celebrating their acquisition of the magazine instrumental to the fall of Oscar Wilde.

The Chameleon magazine, of which perhaps a dozen of the original print run of 100 remain, contains witticisms by the famous writer.

The magazine was used as evidence against the poet and playwright during his trial for acts of indecency.

Wilde, whose works include the play "The Importance of Being Earnest", had been asked to contribute to the Oxford rag which also contained a poem by his lover, Lord Alfred Douglas.

During prosecution, Wilde was asked for the meaning of the poem, particularly the line "the love that dare not speak its name".

The Chameleon, a Uranian publication for bisexual males was popular amongst Oxford homosexual law-reformers, whom Wilde became a spokesperson for through his works.

Wilde was arrested in 1865 and charged with "committing acts of gross

indecency with other male persons".

He stood against the father of his University lover, who was enraged at their public displays of affection.

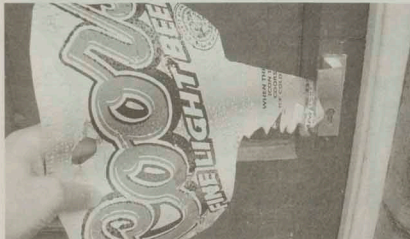
Using money from benefactors Fay and Geoffrey Elliot, The University also acquired Wilde's lecture notes on aesthetics from his 1882 tour of America, during which Wilde completed one hundred and sixty lectures in two hundred days, an academic triumph

which heralded his rise to fame.

The official acceptance of the works took place on Monday, April 24 and was marked by the public naming of a reading room after the Elliotts.

Leeds University Vice-Chancellor, Michael Arthur, said: "Their growing collection would be prized in any research library in the world and we are privileged to have it in our care at Leeds."

Coor it's unsafe



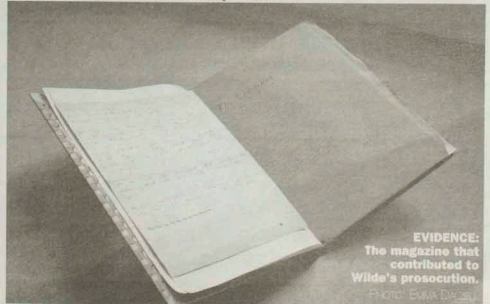
LOCK UP: Residents complain that the new Coors promotion shows when students are not in
PHOTO: PEGGY HEMON

Coors Lager's latest promotion had to be withdrawn after complaints that it advertised to burglars who wasn't at home.

The beer company's wheeze involved early risers being greeted by a message in their letterbox telling them to "open their doors for free beer" and when the intrepid residents venture outside they find an A4 package detailing the promotion.

After receiving complaints that these packages let criminals know whether or not the resident was in, Coors quickly changed their tactics.

A spokesperson said: "It was one morning and then we stopped; we didn't realise that it was a high burglary area. As soon as we found out we started pushing them all the way through."



EVIDENCE: The magazine that contributed to Wilde's prosecution.
PHOTO: EMMA DUNN

Landlords raise standards

This Easter new legislation was passed to ensure landlords have to have higher standards in Houses of Multiple Occupancy (HMO), which are mainly student houses. Paul Tait takes a look at the new standards that landlords will have to comply with. Photos: Regis Hemon

The idea is to combat the poor physical condition of some residences and to tighten the health and safety regulations surrounding HMOs.

Landlords will have to apply for licences which, according to the Chair of the Leeds Letting Agents, Naveen Ahmed, means landlords will spend "around a day" filling in forms for every property they let. The licences they will receive are valid for five years. The LLA has worked closely with the Leeds City Council in the last two years to ensure that these changes can be as smooth as possible. Naveen Ahmed said: "I think that smaller landlords and parents of students who buy to let could feel the effects more. Bigger landlords have been readying their houses for these changes. Landlords who have been subscribing to Leeds City Council and Unipol code of standards for years will already have met lots of the requirements".

For example, the issue of at least one toilet and bathroom being available for every five people is one that these voluntary codes already address. "Students are protected because instead of some of these improvements being optional by being part of one of the codes of standards, they are now protected by law."

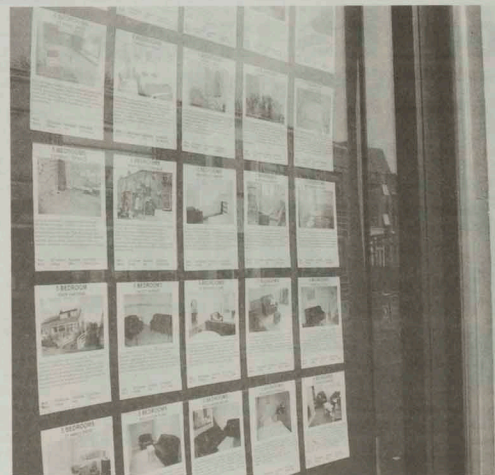
Although the house must be occupied across three stories, most large student houses are, as these include any occupied basements or attics.

Landlords have a three-month grace period which began on April 6, meaning that those who have not yet applied for their licences will not be penalised until July 6. If they are caught operating without a licence where one is required, there may be the opportunity for the tenants to apply for a rent repayment order. It will be easy for tenants to check to see if their landlord is licensed as a register of all licences held will be available for inspection by the general public.

The changes state that there must be at least one kitchen, toilet, and bath or shower, between five people. But a point of contention has been the issue of wash basins.



The government says that a HMO house contains as many "units of accommodation" as there are people living there. According to the new rules, this would mean that each unit would require its own wash basin – a possibility which has enraged landlords who see it as economically unviable and as having the potential to do more harm than good. Naveen Ahmed said: "We estimate that it could cost £500 per room to have that facility and if we were to put basins in every room then I think those costs could well be passed on to students."



Gigs Summer 06

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

the Refec mine

MAY	THE CHARLATANS
£21.50	02.05.06
SISTERS OF MERCY	
£20	03/05/06
THE STREETS	
£21.50	12.05.06
THE ZUTONS	
£16	16.05.06
BEAUTIFUL SOUTH	
£25	24.05.06
THE FUTUREHEADS	
£13.75	31.05.06

MAY	CHARLATANS AFTER GIG PARTY
FREE WITH TICKET STUB	
£3.50 OTHERS	02.05.06
THE BLOW OUT SESSIONS	
ETBC	03/05/06
ROCK OF AGES	
MINE AND CODA	06.05.06
£4	
NEW MUSIC AT MINE	
FREE	08.05.06
THE TUNNEL CLUB PRESENTS KUBICHEK!	
£3.50	09.05.06
ZUTONS AFTER GIG PARTY	
FREE WITH TICKET STUB	
£3.50 OTHERS	16/05/06

FRUITY ALICE IN WONDERLAND	STYLUS, MINE & BAR CODA	05.05.06	£3.50
RILEYS AFTERSHOW FRUITY	STYLUS, MINE & BAR CODA	12.05.06	£3.50
THE FA CUP FINAL	THE OLD BAR	13.05.06	FREE
BRIGHTON BEACH	STYLUS & CODA	13/05/06	£5
CHAMPIONS LEAGUE FINAL	THE OLD BAR	17.05.06	FREE
THE WENDY HOUSE	STYLUS, MINE & CODA	20.05.06	£4.50

www.leadstickets.com
 info: 0113 380 1332
 Leeds University Union, Lifton Place, LS2 9JT





to compete at £45 per week rents and I think that those days are gone. It should also improve the perception of the industry because there won't be those 'scare' programmes on television. There will be a slight increase in rents, or at least a levelling of rents as a result of these upgrades. "I don't think Leeds has any 'problem areas', so I don't think the possibility of the Council extending the powers to cover all HMOs will be an issue."

"The key issue is safety. The legislation has to start somewhere and the greatest risk is when you have three floors and you're trapped on the top floor during a fire, for example. If you go down to two stories or four people, or both, then the risk diminishes."

"Licensing will reduce the number of HMOs – landlords have to be fit & proper, and so do their properties, so this will get rid of some. And the extra hassle will put off more (not to mention students' parents).

Richard Tyler continued: "The work of the Lobby continues into its seventh year. From July, the Lobby will be making sure that all eligible HMOs are licensed. The Lobby has already campaigned to License the Lot – the Council has agreed to consider this next year, once compulsory licensing is under way, and our Area Committee supports the proposal. Comprehensive HMO licensing is also in the interest of the universities and their students. The Lobby will encourage them to take an interest too."

"I'm sure the costs will be passed on to tenants – a local landlord said exactly this in a news item on Look North on 4 April.

"Along with Shelter, and many others, we lobbied for broader criteria when the Bill was going through Parliament – to no avail. Local authorities have the option to apply to the government for additional powers to license all HMOs in a designated area. We have been pressing for this for over a year. We would like to see the universities and Student Unions in Leeds supporting us, but they have yet to do so. The Council has agreed to look at the issue in a year's time. Our local councillors support us."

Reporting hate crime

LGBT are addressing the issue of hate crime in a new workshop this week.

The Hate Crime Reporting workshop will cover what a hate crime is, discuss why people do not report them and how to report any incidents. It aims to dispel any myths about hate crimes.

The workshop is this Tuesday at 7pm in Meeting Room 2 in the ARC.

Careering to an ethical job

Ethical careers are being showcased at Leeds in a bid to win over new grads.

The Careers... Making a Difference fair hopes to attract finalists who are interested in working in charities, the environment, healthcare, overseas work and other similar ethically concerned jobs.

The fair, which is being held this Tuesday in the Parkinson Court, is a joint venture by the Careers Centre and the People and Planet Society and sponsored by the Ethical & Environmental Assembly of LUU.

Service calls

Call figures released by Nightline show that men use the service the most.

To date, over 488 men have called the listening service this year, compared to 215 women. Relationships, sexuality, loneliness, family, relationships, friends and health are the main topics, but, worryingly, 16 calls have been expressing suicidal feelings.

Kerry Sellars, Nightline Coordinator, explained the findings. She said: "I think the fact that so many men call is that guys rarely talk to each other about stuff like that whereas as girls are always pouring their hearts out to their friends."

"In its 30th year Nightline is proving to be as invaluable as ever to Leeds University Students."

The information line has helped 1,650 students and total calls are up this year by 20 per cent.

Comic giveaway

LEEDS'S OK Comics are holding a Free Comic Book Day on Saturday 6th May in support of Oxfam. Several major publishers whose comics are available from the shop are producing a comic that represents their range of books, to be given away from 9am.

The comic shop in Thornton's Arcade are running the promotion as part of the Oxfam Control Arms Campaign, and will be inviting customers to sign the Oxfam Million Faces Petition by providing a self portrait. Comics will be available until stocks run out.

Student run

This Sunday, thousands of students from all over the country will take to the streets of Leeds to compete in the first Great Student run. The 10k race, which is open to members of Universities, colleges and schools from the age of sixteen will run from the Headingley Carnegie Stadium through the city centre to the Headingley campus of Leeds Met. Entries are open on the day on the acre at the finishing point. Runners of all abilities are invited to take part.



"I think this idea has not been thought through and has been considered by the government from the point of view of those tenants in a bedsit. Also, the issue of condensation in bedrooms could potentially cause major problems."

The fees [for Leeds] range from £1185 for a 9-10 person property with no discounts, to £425 for a 5-6 person property with full discount."

Dr Richard Tyler, Co-Ordinator of the Leeds HMO Lobby, said: "HMO licensing certainly won't solve all our problems, and it doesn't even apply to all HMOs – but it is a significant step forward. However, it will cover most HMOs in and around Headingley."

"The Lobby has already campaigned to License the Lot – the Council has agreed to consider this next year, once compulsory licensing is under

is one of basic economics; someone has to bear the cost. I think some will be swallowed by landlords as they will see it as an upgrade to their property.

"I don't think wash basins are attractive to students – in my experience they are more interested in other improvements.

"For professional landlords, a big plus is that this will get rid of the cowboy landlords. Some of them try

way, and our Area Committee supports the proposal."

Amy Angus, 2nd year Fine Art, said: "The new legislation is a good thing, as students are now protected by law rather than an optional code. I don't think students should bear any of the cost and I would like to see it protect all students no matter what size house they live in."

Naveen Ahmed said: "The cost issue

Wash basin installation could cost £500 per room



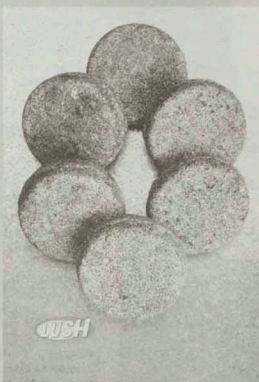
LUSH competition

We've got eight sets of the lush hybrid shampoo and conditioning bars to give away

HYBRID shampoo & conditioning bar (£4.50)... ideal for All Sorts of hair types! Containing a mixture of herbal ingredients to stimulate the scalp and to add buoyancy and movement to hair. There's softening Fair Trade cocoa butter mixed with charcoal to absorb excess sebum production and to cleanse the hair. Fresh lemon juice also cleanses the hair, but adds shine and is excellent at lifting dirt and grime – ideal for after a day at the beach. Detoxifying sweet fennel oil helps get rid of any excess toxins and tones the scalp, while pine oil can either cool you down or warm you up, depending on how you're feeling – so great on hot summer days!

Available from lush stores or at www.lush.com

Email editor@leedsstudent.org.uk to win



LUSH's Pride Week
8th - 12th 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



It's a week of partying and recognition in all areas of the Union including:

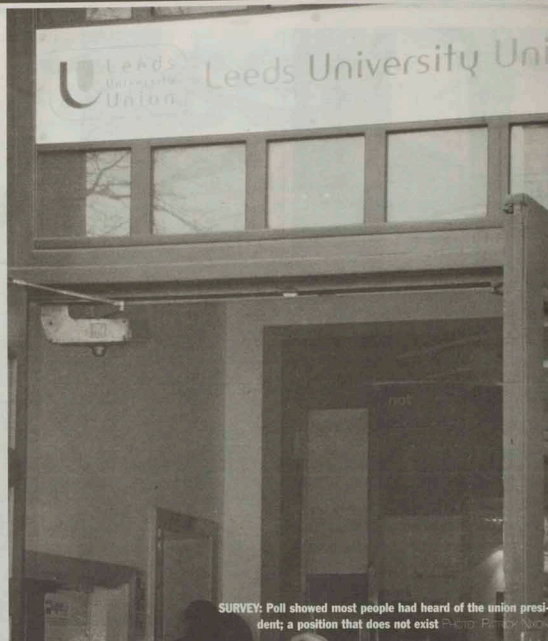
THE RILEY'S

12th May 2006

LUU'S ANNUAL AWARD CEREMONY

Visit luuonline.com for more information or to nominate your society for an award.

We're proud of you! And we want to thank you for all your contributions and efforts. Look out for forthcoming Pride week events!



SURVEY: Poll showed most people had heard of the union president; a position that does not exist. Photo: Patrick Nixon

Presiding over the union

By Alex Doorey

Leeds Student Newspaper has been commended as the most useful information source available from the University, in a recent poll. In a survey of nearly six thousand students, 56 per cent claimed to be regular readers of the paper, with 54 per cent rating it as a good source of information. In contrast, 83 per cent of students that took part had never read 'The Gist' magazine, and only 7 per cent had read 'The Document'.

The survey yielded interesting results about the Union's political activities, with 60 per cent of students unaware of Union campaigns and nearly 80 per cent interested in seeing the Union pursue more local issues. However, 73.5 per cent of voters said they

had heard of the Leeds Student President, a position which does not exist at Leeds.

36.7 per cent voted the Union the most successful asset of the university, with the Library and university courses leaving 78 per cent dissatisfied. In a vote on Union services, CATS came out on top, with the highest percentages for both quality and service.

Although the survey attracted some of the highest participation of any conducted at the university, there has been criticism that the results are undemocratic. Over 60 per cent of participants were female, Caucasian first-year art's students, a bias that undoubtedly influenced the result that the Union caters best for undergraduates. Only 2 per cent of participants were from the university's disabled community, and there were no questions about access and disabled facilities.

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LS2 Editor: Zofia Niemtus

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Features: Dan Johnson

Sport: Ky Capel, Michelle Cooksley, Guy Fowles

Comment: Matt Kennard

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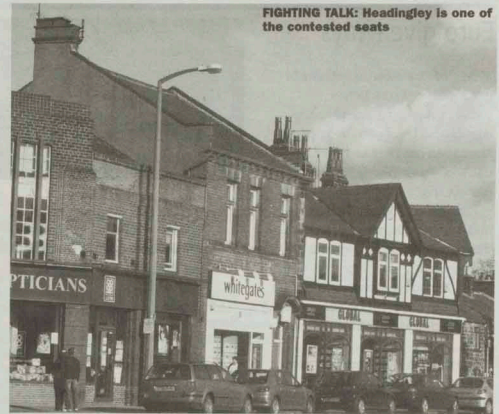
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New kids on the block

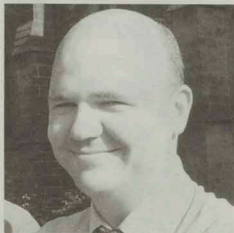
While students have their minds on looming exams, candidates are battling it out to get their votes in for the Leeds city council elections on Thursday. Jessica Salter asked the five Headingley candidates why we should put our mark next to their name



* Headingley Candidates



Sequoyah Nicolai Dominik De Souza Vignewaran
Alliance For Green Socialism



Martin Hamilton
Liberal Democrats



Lesley Evelyn Jeffries
Green Party



Katherine Helen Mitchell
The Labour Party



Christopher Roan Wales
The Conservative Party

The Alliance for Green Socialism is exactly what it says. First, we want to save the planet. Climate change and other pollution look likely to make the earth unfit for human habitation really soon. We also want a fair society, not one based on greed and exploitation. The two things go together. There is no way a society based on capitalism - quick profits, endless growth, me first - can be made sustainable. You cannot green capitalism.

I am a student (Politics & Peace) so I understand the concerns of students and young people. I opposed the war in Iraq and I oppose the continuing occupation of Iraq. All the major parties (including the Lib Dems at some point) supported or went along with that illegal war. The Alliance for Green Socialism opposed it from the start.

Leeds City Council is currently controlled by an unholy coalition of Tories, LibDems and Greens who just follow the same right-wing agenda of privatisation and cuts as New Labour. Vote instead for a councillor with some clear principles and ideas.

Martin Hamilton is the Liberal Democrat Candidate for Headingley, and the sitting Councillor. He is 35 years old and a graduate in European Studies from the University of Hull where no less than Charles Kennedy's future wife signed him up as a Lib Dem.

He has worked at the University of Leeds for the last ten years as European and International Manager responsible for helping the University obtain grants for research from Europe and overseas. His connections with Headingley go back to school days when he joined Yorkshire County Cricket Club as a means of getting out of A level revision!

He hopes to win his third election in Headingley in the space of four years.

I have been a long-term campaigner on behalf of the community in Headingley, because it is a dynamic and exciting community to live in, but has recently been badly served by unscrupulous landlords, who put little back into the area. As a University lecturer myself, and mother of two students, I am only too aware of the pressures on the HE sector at the moment, and am proud to put forward the Green alternative to the current funding of HE, which would see a return to grants for all young people and free education for all.

I would wish to see the council taking a much tougher line on the polluting effects of high car use, as well as an improvement to the system of public transport in the area. An integrated transport system, with single-system pre-pay tickets for buses and trains, must be a simple step forward.

The future of the planet is an urgent political issue: I would like to see local councils introducing the means to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in their areas, and to educate and encourage citizens to take responsibility for their own ecological footprint: the time to start is now.

I loved being a student in Leeds; it has the perfect combination of a vibrant lively growing city so close to the university. I lived in shared housing in Headingley, so I know how agents/landlords behave by charging high rents for poor housing that is dirty and poorly maintained. Then when you move out you have to hassle constantly to get your bond back only to find ridiculous deductions.

I believe young people are interested in politics but politicians in general are unrepresentative of the people they represent. As a young woman, who has £10,000 of student debt, struggled to find a 'graduate' job and trying to get on the property ladder I hope I am more representative than many other candidates.

Headingley is a fantastic place, however a balance between students and residents must be struck. That's why I am campaigning amongst other things for all Houses of Multiple Occupancy to be licensed to ensure students have safeguards against landlords and residents will also benefit from student having greater responsibility for their properties.

Students make up 61 per cent of Headingley residents - yet we have no representation on Leeds City Council. I am a student and I know the problems we face - the cut-throat housing market, substandard accommodation, the rising costs of transport - and of course, tuition fees.

But it's not all about us - it's about the local community too. I want to fight to build bridges between students and local residents, so they feel like one community. I want to boost recycling in the area, to make Headingley a better home for all of us. I want social justice for those who have no homes; and I want to investigate why our system has failed these people. I want to help establish student villages around Leeds, so that our increasing numbers still allow for a vibrant and active community of local people in Headingley.

Elected or otherwise I'll fight for all the changes I mention above and more - but if we are really to improve our environment and make Headingley the best place in Leeds to live, then it takes all of us - and I will continue to work, not appear, but alongside you all as we make it happen.

* How to vote

First, check you're registered to vote: you can check by calling 0113 2478290. Polling cards are being delivered now, and on Thursday, simply take the card to your nearest polling stations, which are situated all over the area, including Headingley Community Centre, Brudenell Social Club and The Cardigan Centre. For more information call Electoral Services Helpline on 0113 2476726 or email electors@leeds.gov.uk

* Other Leeds Constituencies

Hyde Park and Woodhouse
Muhammad Arfan, Alliance For Green Socialism
Mina Kainyck, The Labour Party
Giles Edward Neafcy, Independent
Linda Valerie Rhodes-Clayton, Liberal Democrats
Tim John Sunderland, Green Party

Kirkstall
Bernard Atha, The Labour Party
Christine Ruth Coleman, Liberal Democrat
Benjamin Robert Jackson, The Conservative Party
Martin Leslie Reed, Green Party

Weetwood
Judith Mara Chapman, Liberal Democrat
Anne Johnson Cherry, The Labour Party
Martin Francis Hemingway, Green Party
Daniel Kennedy, Alliance For Green Socialism
Gillian Margaret Leake, British National Party
Guy Martin West, The Conservative Party

For more constituencies log on to leeds.gov.uk

Euro giveaways

A duo of innovating students graduating from Leeds University this month have successfully copied a popular American marketing model called "pay-per-performance marketing".

The pair, Jason Dainter, 21 and Daniel Chinnery, 22, both final year Computing and Management, set up the website Eurogiveaways.com after noticing that there were no European equivalents at the time.

The website tempts members into doing marketing for a range of companies with the promise of expensive rewards such as iPods or Xbox 360s.

Observing the news

Kamal Ahmed, Executive Editor of news at the Observer, is giving a lecture next Saturday about the future of newspapers.

Ahmed, who studied Political Studies at Leeds and was a Leeds Student writer, will discuss working in the printed media and how his career as part of Alumni Day.

"I might be ill, but I'm not dead - Is there any point in newspapers in an iPod world?" is in Rupert Beckett Lecture Theatre on Saturday 6 May, 5pm. Tickets are free but required. Contact Rosie Akerman on 0113 343 6683 or rakerman@adm.leeds.ac.uk



300 SECONDS: Circus Fool

By PADDY COOKE

"there's probably an extremist clowncore movement out there"

Name: Chris Sowerbutts
Course: 2nd year French and Linguistics
Title: President of the Juggling and Circus Skills Society

LEEDS STUDENT: "How is life treating you today?"

CS: "With herbal remedies and plenty of bed rest."

LS: "Are you tired of every single person on campus asking you if you had a good Easter yet?"

CS: "Not quite."

LS: "Did you have a good Easter?"

CS: "Now I am. But yes it was very pleasant thanks for asking. How was yours?"

LS: "Ask anyone on campus and they'll tell you. Why don't you start by telling us who founded who founded the juggling and circus skills society?"

CS: "Some guy a while ago I guess."

LS: "And how many members do have?"

CS: "Somewhere between about ten and thirty - only a few hardcore fanatics."

LS: "Are any of your members clearly

lacking in juggling and circus skills?"

CS: "I think I'm probably still the worst."

LS: "Do you ever perform for your adoring public?"

CS: "There are a few people who like to help out with charity events but we're generally quite shy."

LS: "Do you harbour a secret ambition to run away and join the circus?"

CS: "I did until I just finished my essay."

LS: "Would you say circus performers have a shelf life?"

CS: "I don't know but most smell like they've already gone off."

LS: "So is it a young man's game?"

CS: "No in fact I've heard they've started promoting it in old folks homes as gentle aerobic exercise."

LS: "What circus skills do you have in your repertoire?"

CS: "Erm I can juggle a bit and I could probably do a handstand - at a push."

LS: "What made you want to learn?"

CS: "Having far too much time on my hands."

LS: "So you don't come from a long line of circus performers then?"

CS: "My dad still maintains I'm the milkman's son so I'm not really sure."

LS: "And what do your family and the milkman think of your circus skills?"

CS: "My dad thinks it's a "waste of a good education" and my mum's just happy I'm not sitting around getting high

and watching cartoons all day."

LS: "Are people always asking for a demonstration at parties and on nights out?"

CS: "It's not really the kind of thing you talk about at parties - unless someone has some balls with them - then I'll have a little go."

LS: "What are the most valuable items that you've ever attempted to juggle?"

CS: "A girlfriend and a social life."

LS: "Do you get embarrassed if things go badly wrong when you're performing?"

CS: "What are you implying? I'm a virile young male and I'll take none of your

slander. Whoever told you, you can tell her she was crap."

LS: "Would you say that there is a hierarchy of circus performers?"

CS: "Yes I think everyone at clown school probably dreams of one day being the ringmaster."

LS: "How are your balloon animal making skills?"

CS: "I reckon I could have a go at making a snake."

LS: "Clowns: Funny or scary?"

CS: "Strangely melancholy. Because they know they're not funny."

LS: "Should clowns be encouraged to wear full costumes at all times like Krusty the Clown and The clown?"

CS: "I think it would be pretty harsh to have to wear a clown suit whilst you're trying to work a little romance although there's probably an extremist clowncore movement out there that gives it a shot."

LS: "Should we fear this clowncore movement?"

CS: "Not yet, but there day will come."

LEEDS STUDENT: "Who would you most like to perform for and why?"

CS: "Peter Griffin, because he laughs at everything."

LS: "And finally, what is the worst piece of advice that you've ever received?"

CS: "Jump... I mean duck."



PHOTO BY JESSICA SALTER

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Music and New Lyrics by

STEPHEN SCHWARTZ

Originally Produced on the New York Stages by

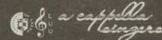
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Freedom of speech is precious

As far as I can gather, a number of students are seeking to have a lecturer dismissed because they find his views are unacceptable in a university community. Look North appeared to think he should confine himself to Russian studies. I take it that an essay on the Russian Revolution written in 1918 by a leading German/Polish communist would fall within that remit - though perhaps only in a Russian translation. A couple of sentences are remarkable for their insight and prescience, emphasising the unqualified need for free, open discussion at every level of the body politic: 'Without general elections, unrestricted freedom of the press and association, free conflict of opinion the life in every public institution will die, will become a pseudo-life in which the bureaucracy alone will be the active element. Public life will gradually fall in somnolence, some dozen party leaders with inexhaustible energy and boundless idealism will direct and govern, under them a dozen highly intelligent people will rule and an elite selected from the working class will be invited from time to time to attend meetings to applaud the leaders' speeches and unanimously accept the resolutions put before them...'

The second passage is even more incisive and pertinent in the present context: 'Freedom only for the supporters of the government, only for members of a party - no matter how numerous they happen to be - is not freedom. Freedom is always only freedom of someone who thinks otherwise. Not because of a fanatical belief in 'justice', but because all I that is instructive, healing and cleansing about political freedom depends on this essential point and ceases to be effective when 'freedom' becomes a privilege.'

The writer is Rosa Luxemburg who, as a woman, a Jew and a communist, had a far deeper personal experience of discrimination than I could ever have had, and I imagine this has something to do with her unqualified support for freedom of speech. (Not long after writing these words she was murdered by members of the Freikorps - right wing militia.) Her argument rests firmly on the proposition that free, open exchange, hence clash of opinion, is essential to the life of any public institution. From this we may infer that the way to deal with views we regard as abhorrent is not to proscribe but to refute them and in so doing re-think and re-affirm the basis of our own beliefs, thereby opening the possibility of persuading others - and this must be the case in an institution dedicated to thinking and learning. Alongside the principle of non-discrimination in the University Charter we might insert: 'Freedom is always only freedom of someone who thinks otherwise.' I'd like to see

these words inserted in German, in memory of their courageous author, but this is perhaps too much to ask.

Raymond Hargreaves
 Department of German, retired

Defend free speech but not with more prejudices

Chris Brand's letter (March 17th) defending Frank Ellis left me with an even more pessimistic view of our lecturers than Ellis himself did. Before criticising him I must say that I agree with his intentions in the letter, which were to defend freedom of speech. While Ellis's views are offensive to the groups he denigrates, he is also merely voicing his prejudices - prejudices which we all have as humans, prejudices which only become discrimination when acted upon (which I am not aware that Ellis has).

It was how and not why Brand defended Ellis that irked me. His argument consisted of the premise that the attack on Ellis could then justify 'similar' attacks; on homosexuals for "their expensive AIDS habits", and on feminists for "their cavalier failure to support the family and continuation of the human race". Spoken as counter-arguments or not, these surely exemplify Brand's own fascist views. Which 'feminists' is he referring to? Feminists and families aren't mutually exclusive, and haven't been since early last century. Perhaps we should substitute 'feminists' for 'lesbians' to see his real argument. And the view that AIDS is spread solely among homosexuals was also thwarted some time in the eighties. It's about what lecturers crawled out of the stuffy caves of academia into the 21st century.

Rachel Brown
 English Finalist

Article was entrapment

I feel very angry and disappointed about the suspension of, and disciplinary action being taken against, Dr Frank Ellis for voicing his opinions. Albeit opinions that I strongly disagree with, I feel it is important that in a country where we are lucky enough to have freedom of speech, people should be able to express their opinion without fear of reprisal.

The article in the student newspaper was the beginning of what, as far as I can see, became a fevered witch hunt. The article, to begin with, was poorly written, and the interview was structured with the prime purpose of getting

Dr Ellis to voice his opinions, knowing they would provoke strong reactions. Is this not a form of entrapment? Dr Ellis did not use the newspaper as a platform; he answered the

questions that were asked. As one of Dr Ellis's students I can honestly say that he has never used his lectures/seminars as a pulpit. Any discussions that have arisen succeeded in provoking interesting and important debates, with many students arguing against Dr Ellis, a stance he strongly encourages.

It is extremely sad that as a result of this witch hunt by (mostly mis-informed) students, an excellent and very intelligent lecturer has been suspended, depriving Russian students of an expert within his field.

Please, in today's world of political correctness and scaremongering, do not let freedom of speech suffer. Do not let Dr Ellis' become a victim of the hysteria caused by a badly written student newspaper article.

Nicky Brown

Academics should be free

The issue surrounding Dr Frank Ellis is incredibly simple. Freedom of speech, coupled with freedom to think and research. Have we really reached the point in Great Britain where what we think and say must firstly be approved? If so then explain what is the difference between Stalinism and Britain in 2006.

Yours faithfully,
 Gregory Lauder-Frost
 Chairman, Traditional Britain Group

Student Gumball rally

I am organizing a Student Gumball rally this summer on behalf of the teenage cancer trust (www.teenagecancertrust.org). Basically what the event involves are 600 uni students from all around the country driving 1500 miles on a 6 day tour of Europe. There will be organized stopovers and events en route in Germany, the Czech Republic, Hungary and Croatia. There will

be cash prizes for the top teams and we are currently in consultation with some of the UK's hottest up and coming bands to perform on certain nights. We want to raise the awareness for a charity which affects young people at university. The charity has been picked by the cast of channel 4's 'Shipwrecked' who will be coming on the rally. STA travel and Red Bull are also supporting the event. If you have any other questions then please feel free to get in touch.

Kind regards

John Buni

Student Gumball Rally
 Email: john@gumballgumballrally.com

AUT action is worrying

We would like to express our concern about the current industrial action by teaching staff. While we understand that tutors have every right to air their grievances over pay, we do not believe that it is productive or fair for the Teaching Unions to carry on with their boycott of student assessment, which could prevent many students from graduating on time and even more from achieving the grades they rightly deserve through their hard work this semester. By alienating students in this way, the teaching unions are also losing a large base of support, as students no longer feel able to support them at their own expense.

We therefore urge the members of the teaching unions to call for an end to industrial action which harms their students.

Benjamin Black - Undergraduate UAR for Arts, David Fiber - Undergraduate UAR for Engineering, Elena Margolis - Undergraduate UAR for Maths and Physical Sciences, Christopher Sproul - Undergraduate UAR for Biological Sciences

Textual harassment...

why does my mum think i'm too old for easter eggs - this holiday was genuinely the first panic attack i've had about getting old/Sammy p x

 oh my god, how good is shipwrecked. loving the double bill on easter sunday - just what i needed

 well ellis has been suspended... see what we can do when we start to protest. this is a taste of what it was like in the 60s and 70s - students were actually listened to. Pat

does listening to radio one all day actively make you stupid? Ross

 oh my life has taken a turn for the worse - i seem to be living either in the bratwurst lib or the refec - cant wait for this month to be over. pp

 apparently you can make up to £100 by 'squashing': that's fat women sitting on men. brilliant. and i thought this diet of chocolate and crisps wasn't doing me any good! sarah

 i hate revision. love facebook!

07969 549 125

We support strike

The lecturers' union AUT has asked its members to take 'action short of a strike'. This means an assessment boycott and a possible delay to this year's finalists.

LUU have condemned the action and the NUS have severed their support for the lecturers and have asked them to set exam dates. Both these organisations represent students and their first priority is students' interests so we must respect their position. It is clear that students are worried and uncertainty about exams, essays and even graduating can only add to the stress that we all suffer at this time of the year.

However, this newspaper believes that our lecturers and teaching staff do a fantastic job and we couldn't come to university, never mind graduate without them.

Leeds Student must also congratulate Leeds University on its response to the dispute. In a statement the VC has called for more money for the lecturers, but also that students' education must not be jeopardised. We applaud this sentiment.

We must also remember the support we received from the AUT and its sister organisation Natfhe when we campaigned against top-up fees. They stood by us and supported us when we wanted a fairer deal; we should return the favour for them and show our gratitude and strength of character.

This dispute would have happened now or in the future anyway, perhaps we can be remembered as the year who stood up and made a difference.

No show Ellis raises stakes

Cowboy landlords will begin to feel the effects of the new HMO legislation as the government tightens up the law.

It is about time that some of the good practices followed by members of Unipol and Leeds City Council codes of standards were mandatory rather than optional.

Leeds Student would like to see this legislation extended in a review scheduled for next year so that it covers all HMOs rather than just those with five or more occupants.

It is a step in the right direction, so let's hope that it acts as precursor to further legislative change to improve both the living standards of tenants and their relationship with landlords.

Two-year degree misses what's important

While the new two-year accelerated degrees will no doubt help more people to get into higher education, they aren't the best solution.

Of course, time and money constraints are important factors in deciding to go to university and these new programmes will help in that aspect, but students will miss out on a year of university experience.

In your first year, you're a bit unsure of the city the uni and it's only in your second and third years that you can really take advantage of all Leeds - the city and the universities - has to offer.

A better way to get more people into university would be to improve the funding for poorer students and improve the relationships with employers for those who take time out from careers to come to uni.

Egg(head) Beaters

Well done to the LSR boys and girls who won 17 grand on the quizshow of quizshows, Eggheads.

These guys have showed the world, and Judith Keppel, what Leeds students are made of.

Well done, guys.

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

Comments expressed here are not necessarily the views of Leeds Student

The Police State



Dan Johnson

Everyone feels instantly guilty when they see a police car or a cop, like they've got something to hide, but I am increasingly afraid of the police, and I haven't even broken any major laws. In fact, I haven't been so scared of them since it was revealed that our school community bobby had been introducing kids to his handcuffs and his helmet.

The police command the respect of the public and we generally agree to pay the price if we get caught on the wrong side of the law in a very British, Dixon of Dock Green, clip round the ear sort of way. It's known as policing by consent. However, things are changing and the modern police force of the 21st century is exactly that, a show of force in a cynical attempt to make the public feel safe in these uncertain times.

A police officer walking the beat today - sorry, zooming past in his Volvo - has discretionary powers the like of which haven't been seen in this country since we stopped handing out on-the-spot burnings at the stake to those suspected of witchcraft. They can stop and search you if

They can stop and search you if they think your haircut is dodgy, they'll give you an ASBO if your mother smells, and if you look like a Muslim you'll be detained in Belmarsh indefinitely.

they think your haircut is dodgy, they'll give you an ASBO if your mother smells and if you look like a Muslim you'll be detained in Belmarsh indefinitely. They have a vast array of armoury which means that if you are in the wrong place at the wrong time, they might just kill you. It appears that even vaulting tube station barriers is now an offence punishable by

summary execution.

The police originally 'tooled up' in the 1980s in response to urban unrest. Extra powers and riot equipment were introduced so they could fight back against the black youths who protested on the streets. Stop and search was extended and beatings were as much apart of the arrest procedure as 'Anything you say may be given in evidence'. Shields, truncheons, armoured vehicles and baton rounds were not enough and we eventually moved to a police force that increasingly carries live ammunition.

All of these measures were introduced without consultation with the public. They were agreed by the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO), an unelected, unaccountable body of top cops who meet in secret and are outside the scope of the Freedom of Information Act. No surprise that it was ACPO who lobbied the

I don't blame the regular coppers who put their lives on the line to protect us. It is the commanders and the politicians who want to make us feel safer and reassure us that we won't be mugged or happy-slapped.

Government to allow 90-day detention without trial.

They have consistently increased the ability of police officers to take away the freedoms of the public and now they have a rival. The Serious Organised Crime Agency (the British FBI) came into being on April 1st but this is no April Fool. The Director-General (SOCA doesn't even have a Chief Constable) can grant his officers the powers of a customs officer, immigration official or a police officer, even though SOCA agents aren't required to take the oath sworn by police constables. Again, there are no elected representatives monitoring this Quango, which also shares powers with that other bastion of openness and accountability, MIS.

But enough of the heavy stuff. What of the officers on the streets? The ones so laden-down by the weight of the technology on their belts that they wouldn't stand a chance of ever catching a thief, even if they weren't all nursing huge bellies full of doughnuts. Here, the police are pulling off a real long con that even the Hustle team would be proud of. It now takes so long to train a police officer and so much to kit he/she out with the full set of gear that they no longer bother. Instead, police forces up and down the country have taken to employing people who aren't quite bright enough to be proper cops (traffic wardens and other vigilante types),

dressed them up as police officers and sent them out to walk the streets to 'reassure the public'.

This happy deception of the good folks of Britain is carried out by Police Community Support Officers. They look like police officers with their peaked caps and their radios and their shiny jackets but they have, in fact, no power whatsoever. And guess what? They cost about half as much to train and employ.

A genuine police Superintendent told me that the Community Support wardens are not trained to enter 'situations of confrontation'. We have allowed the police all these extra powers and then we rely on these jumped-up street librarians who have to ask criminals if they would mind terribly waiting for 20 minutes until a proper copper can attend. I have the same powers of arrest as these fraudsters that are now ponding this beat. Why the devil can't we stop this waste of taxpayers money and have the real McCoy, even if you don't get as many genuine bobbies to the pound?

It doesn't stop there. Not content with invading our communities, the phoney police are now patrolling motorways the

I mean really, for crying out loud. I don't even have a beard, or wear a turban; I'm not even black. Is nobody safe from this menace?

length and breadth of Britain. It is so annoying to have to slow right down to 70mph just to overtake a patrol vehicle of the Highways Agency because their vehicles look distinctly like police cars. Except Highway Patrol Officers might

look like police officers but if they see you speeding they can't do a thing about it. Traffic cones are all that come under their jurisdiction.

It is all about the perception that the police are maintaining a constant presence to protect us from the baddies and it is a big sham done on the cheap. The reality is that instead of the long arm of the law looking out for us, the long-nose of the state interferes in every aspect of our daily business with its CCTV and its ID cards.

You might think I've been reading too many conspiracy websites or listening too closely to the Human Rights brigade but my rant does have a grounding in reality.

Before Christmas, I was stopped in the street by two genuine coppers, unusually walking the beat. My progress along the highway had been halted under Section 44 of the Terrorism Act 2000. And their reason for thinking I was a terrorist intent on the destruction of our country, our way of life, our freedom and everything we stand for? I was carrying a fluorescent jacket rolled up under my arm.

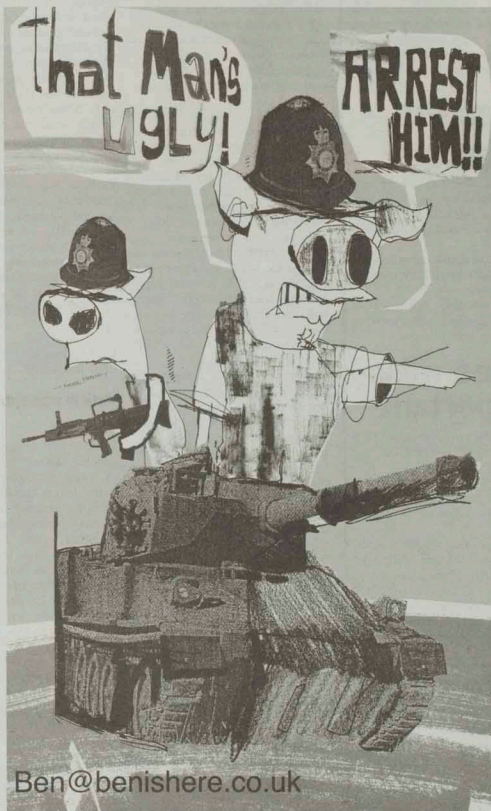
I mean really, for crying out loud. I don't even have a beard, or wear a turban; I'm not even black. Is nobody safe from this menace? And pardon me, Sherlock, but I don't expect a would-be terrorist is really going to wear a high-vis jacket. Presumably they suspected I was an off-

We have allowed the police all these extra powers and then we rely on these jumped-up street librarians who have to ask criminals if they would mind terribly waiting for 20 minutes until a proper copper can attend.

duty Community Support busybody and wanted to see if I fancied going for a doughnut. Maybe they deduced that I was going to use the offending article to draw attention to myself in an anarchistic protest about our ever-more draconian police force.

I don't blame the regular coppers who put their lives on the line to protect us. It is the commanders and the politicians who want to make us feel safer and reassure us that we won't be mugged or happy-slapped or blown-up. That is why they create the illusion that the police are everywhere, all of the time and that they have the power and the tools to do anything necessary to stop the bad guys getting us. Frankly, if this is what it takes to protect our freedom, be afraid. Be very afraid.

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Comments expressed here are not necessarily the views of Leeds Student

Opinion

Close Encounters



Stuart Worthington

My decade old camera recently relinquished its final flashes of life. In the search for its successor, I solemnly realised that we are already living in the forecasted future. The dearly departed Minolta Vectis 400 will be sorely missed; thankfully no megapixels, memory cards or complicated downloading software, just a simple and intuitive process of point, shoot and process.

On the technological superhighway I often find myself as a reticent slow-coach. I don't own a computer or even a DVD player, I can barely program my CD player, never mind a VCR, and I recently required the help of a friend when my phone politely requested me to insert my SIM card. Like a dismal first attempt at intercourse, it turned out that it was in fact already partially inserted but not quite making a full and complete connection.

Whilst I may take offence to being placed in the 'universal laggard' category by the intimidating marketing men, I have to concede that there are some technological advances for which

resistance would be both futile and foolish. Absurdly I am currently seated at a university computer copying up this technophobic tirade, but I console myself with the fact that at least I am copying up from my fountain-penned scroll. But faced with the option, I give a wide berth to any machine that involves an intricate array of buttons and flashing lights and therein lies part of the problem: 'technological advancement' is nerd's code for 'unnecessary complication'.

Even Luddite-leaning losers can grasp the concepts of on, off, backward, forward. All I crave is to be able to push a simply labelled button, the machine to whirl into action and for me to put

Most gizmos are essentially expensive, time-wasting pieces of junk.

my feet up. Instead one is faced with endless modes and settings enabling us to set the oven from the other side of the Atlantic to cook a meal for a week on Thursday.

Most gizmos are essentially expensive, time-wasting pieces of junk. It should not be surprising that the definition of a gizmo is 'a gadget, gimmick, thingumajig'; that's dictionaries' code for 'an unnamed item of trickery'. You don't need it and if you wait long

enough, other people will come to the same conclusion. Faxes were less reliable than carrier pigeons and landed you with equal amounts of unsolicited shit. Videos were comparable in size to Belgium and cost about their GDP to buy. Meanwhile MiniDiscs were used by those people who weren't content doing their own thing but instead were desperate to be part of the next big thing. It wasn't.

Many people seem more than willing to let gadgetry run (or should that be ruin?) their lives and as such it is no surprise that a recent UK survey found

that half of written communication is by e-mail, a third by text message and just 13% by pen and paper. It's little wonder that the modern, cursory approach to handwriting makes my scribble look like perfectly formed, Headmistress cursive.

The advent of mobiles, PDAs and BlackBerrys (or as I recently embarrassingly referred to them, BlackCurrants) herald an era of ever increasing dependence on technology. The name of the mobile phone operator O₂ plays on the public's phone dependent mindset, in fact it is implied that we

can't live without it. It isn't that long ago since people used to make absolute and rigid plans on which you could rely; instead we now change our minds at the eleventh hour and wait until quarter past to inform the other party of our tardiness. Previously pedestrians interacted in the street; instead everyone is wired up to their iPods or else informing their friends that they're running late. It was once even possible to not feel guilty about turning off your mobile. Does one really deserve reproach for wanting to be uncontactable?

Above all, I loathe the notion of integrated obsolescence. It should not be obligatory that owners of a mobile phone more than 6 months old deserve personal ignominy. Ignore the laggard label and hold out until you actually need a replacement; you don't need the added gizmos. I have yet to see anyone video call, video message or even picture message. As far as I can tell everyone just calls and texts, just as they did on their previous, fully functioning phone.

My attitude may seem old-fashioned but I feel prepared for the future. If the Iranians do decide to employ their 'technological advancement' (again read 'unnecessary complication') of enriched uranium I will be armed with my trusty fountain-pen and pristinely presented handwriting. Although I'm not sure how many people will want to read my ramblings detailing the perils of technology after the bomb goes off. As for my camera's replacement, I plumped for a simple disposable.

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Illustration: Andrew Wheatley

Counter-revolution

When you see those trumped-up bourgeois cretins, also known as the Revolution Society, giving out propaganda outside the Union, you think two things: one, have a bath, and two, wake up and smell the cookies. While these lily-livered nipples push for non-existent revolution on our shores, there's a real revolution happening in Nepal.

Through the ages it's been a common past time for the over-privileged to try to overthrow the system that rewarded their parents. As usual these creeps cheerlead any anti-civilization revolution, and the same is true for Nepal now. Everyone talks up the beauty of an anarchic rabble challenging civilization as we know it. In fact, the events in Nepal are some of the most odious and barbaric of recent times.

For those not aware of the happenings, a brief outline is in order. Nepal is a beautiful old place. As all the great outposts of civilization, it has a Royal Family. According to the disgusting blasphemy of the Republicans in this country, we are told our Royal

Family is a "burden" on our economy. I think the barbaric actions of the Nepalese masses reflected the deterioration of our moral values and the sapping of our deference to our Royal Family. For a start we should enforce the blasphemy laws and make sure the people who think it is funny to hope for the Queen's death should be put behind bars. Would you want people to be able to call for your death? Thought not.

The great King Gyendra of Nepal decided that he needed to take over the powers of his government five years ago. It was in response to a break down in the fabric of his society. Like all great monarchs he took it on himself to sort it out. The predictable bollocks came from Left field. They squealed about "democracy", "justice" and "human rights", while chomping on a sesame-seed gluten-free bagel with pecorino cheese, and sipping on an orange-mocha Frappuccino. Cretins.

None of these terms can be applied to Nepal. It is in danger of descending and coming under the jurisdiction of

an "autocracy of the masses", much like the scenario engendered by President Hugo Chavez of the Communist Republic of Venezuela.

Nepal is in danger of coming under the jurisdiction of an "autocracy of the masses", much like Hugo Chavez's Venezuela.

and stinking students. I know which I prefer, you probably do too.

The only way we can help the soon to be engulfed people of Nepal is to invade militarily. A ground force under the remit of the United Nations needs to be put together to defend this once-great nation against its enemies. The time has come to stand up for civilization and the rights of the monarchy all over the world. Otherwise, we will only have more Robespierre's and more Terrors.

The Revolution Society are in danger of going so far up their own backsides they won't be able to see their Gucci belt buckles. Let's hope Nepal is saved before the elitist scum in our country cheerlead another sick operation in a far-away land.

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Johnathan Speke
(Anonymity requested)

The only way we can help the soon-to-be engulfed people of Nepal is to invade

Jimmy from the

Don't be fooled by the rocks that he's got, Sir Jimmy Savile is a real Leeds Legend, a unique character; a true British eccentric of the old school. His career has spanned decades and been even more random than his dress sense. **Dan Johnson** caught up with him at one of his favourite eating-places in his home city

Photography: **Patrick Nixon**

Suddenly a wave of anxious excitement floods the restaurant and the attention of the waiters is instantly directed towards the entrance. An aging figure huddled in an Adidas sports jacket and baseball cap shuffles through the door, carrier bag in hand. Brief flashes of gold and diamond dart around the room, ping-pong back and forth between the mirrored walls as the jacket is removed to reveal a blue Nike tracksuit, open at the neck to showcase medallions and chains nesting in an insulating mat of chest hair. A long white wispy mane is released from the baseball cap and a familiar greeting fills the room, "Now then, now then"; Sir Jimmy Savile has come for lunch.

This Knight of the Realm is now in his eightieth year, with shell-suit for armour over a chain mail string vest, a battery of bling weaponry, and a Rolls Royce as his trusty steed. Sir Jimmy, an honorary law graduate of the University and an OBE, exudes persona and is as bright and colourful as he ever was on TV. "One problem about always being happy and cheerful is that you can very easily be a pain in the arse to everyone that knows you," he says in characteristic punctuated speech.

James Wilson Vincent Savile was born in Leeds and has always lived in the city; at least, he has always kept a place to live in the city. "I've got a place in Scarborough, a dog kennel in Regent's Park in London and an estate up in Glencoe," he reports after doing a tour of the restaurant greeting the waiters and diners of The Flying Pizza in Roundhay; 'his local'. "Leeds was always lively. It's multicultural because there are 90 different nationalities. As far as I'm concerned to live in the middle of 90 nationalities, you pick up all manner of opinions and words and phrases."

He sees himself as a leading player on the Leeds scene. "Once you've been a governor of a place, as I have been for 50 years, you don't take kindly to being a punter. You don't like being a punter if you've been a boss. 'cos I can't go anywhere without being the boss: it's my nature, I'm a governor." Instantly he begins with one of his extensive library of stories. "If I go out at night time and there's a dozen lads wandering about with nothing to do and they see me. 'Oyoy, Jim!', straight away, go across to them and I'm a lot more powerful with them and I'll say, 'right then lads, what's happening now, what's going down tonight, got a few quid have we?' And all of a sudden they are gob-smacked and they go 'err...no'. 'Oh, I see, alright, well, eh, have a nice night lads, see you later, ok?' So I've banged them before they can bang me and that's saved my life a few times."

After starting life as a coal miner, Jimmy became a club owner, an athlete, a DJ, and then a TV personality as well as raising millions for charity along the way. His first club was the Mecca on County Arcade in Leeds and he acquired a no-nonsense, heavy-handed reputation. He describes an occasion when a police inspector visited him after one young man's evening at The Mecca had ended with a visit to A&E. "I said to him (the policeman), 'your daughter comes in here and she shouldn't; she's 16 and you let her and I presume you would like me to make sure she is ok but if you don't want that and you want me to hand her over to these dirty druggie bastards then they can have her and you can sweep her up afterwards but until you tell me to lay off, if I see anybody trying to get her, if they stay alive they're lucky and if they die I don't give a shit anyway because that's

what they're trying to do to my teenagers; kill 'em."

What does he think of youth culture today and modern music then? He is quick to warn me off trying to compare today's music with that of 40 years ago but delivers his verdict on the sounds of the 21st Century. "Today the front end of the music, the voice, has gone backwards and the back end, the backing music, has now gone front end. So you've got tunes today where the lyric is indecipherable, you can't really hear it; but there's nothing wrong with that because that's what it's supposed to be. What it's supposed to be is the bling-banggy up front, right, and some lyric in the room next door so I say today's music suits today's people."

Sir Jimmy leans back, utters a strange 'u-u-a-u-a-u' yodelling noise and relights his trademark cigar. His fingers are spread wide with the sheer volume of jewellery around each one. Rocks of all shapes, sizes and colours enchant and almost hypnotise me with their dazzling sparkle. A diamond encrusted watch shimmers on his wrist, threatening to blind anyone attempting to tell the time by it. Suddenly, food arrives despite no order being placed to my knowledge, certainly not by me, and the table is furnished with garlic bread, pizza, pasta and white wine. I ask Jimmy if The Flying Pizza is his favourite restaurant. He prefers a transport café named Danni's in Otley, where "you can eat yourself silly for two quid". "I can drive down there in my new Rolls Royce, a convertible worth £300,000, and park it on the front and people who don't understand say 'why do you come here?' I say 'I've been coming here for 60 years'. I won't stop going now just because I got lucky, I've been there longer than they have, so I'm the Godfather, you see?"

I'm not entirely sure I do see but I press on regardless and ask how often he eats out. "None of my (eight) places has an oven. Oven means cooking. Cooking means washing up and preparing and cooking means lazy because your man, if he's got ladies who look after him, will get out of his chair, sit at the table and eat and then go back to his chair. That's not my scene."

He has lived his life without a permanent companion, devoted to his mother. "The Duchess" until her death. A Louis Theroux documentary about Sir Jimmy suggested he had kept her room exactly the same as when she died and that her clothes were still in the wardrobe. "Can't be bothered to change it," he retorts. "Louis carried on about me keeping her clothes in the wardrobe, what a load of bollocks. Everybody has pictures of their family. I think that artefacts are just as important. I might go in the wardrobe when I'm in Scarborough just to bring back memories. Everybody keeps photo-

graphs so why should somebody have a go because I keep artefacts?"

Chris Morris once reported live on air that Savile himself had died and I wonder if he has a fascination with death. It has been suggested that his voluntary work at various hospitals involves performing tasks in the mortuary. "If you're a hospital porter that is one of the jobs. Nothing wrong with it, it's the only place you can have a cigar where nobody complains."

Curiously, the ubiquitous cigar has actually been at Jimmy's lips very little and I enquire what he makes of the smoking ban to be introduced next year. "It won't affect me. I can smoke anywhere I want," he says, confidently. "That is not so much smoking to me as a celebration, because I worked down the pit and I was getting no money a week. Lighting a cigar reminds me that those days were yesterday and these days are today so it's a psychological celebration."

He keeps a formidable fitness regime and says he has run 217 marathons, 300 bike rides and had 107 pro fights as a wrestler. "By rights, instead of being here, I should have been out training today; I train to stay alive. I never wanted to win a marathon because if you win something you won't win it the next year. If you don't win anything, you can't lose anything. It's the taking part that counts."

Quitting aggressively at a slice of pizza-bread from behind his Oakley sunglasses, Sir Jimmy is self assured and aware of the presence he has in the compact restaurant but he encourages me to treat this as a family dinner and says he will answer questions on any subject and snaps "next" when he reaches the end of one of his tales and I do not immediately supply another inquiry.

We move on to Big Brother. Channel 4 has asked him to appear on the show every year since its conception, as has 'I'm A Celebrity Get Me Out Of Here'. He refused until they agreed to let him enter the house on his own terms. "I was in out like a Royal Marine Commando," he says, clasping one of the medallions swinging from his neck. Did he warn to any housemates in particular? "I get on with everyone, it's my nature. I don't try to do anything, I'm just myself. I'm more than happy to enjoy people for what they are, so I got on with all the housemates like good 'uns."

Remembering that Jimmy spent a number of Christmases at Chequers with Margaret Thatcher, I ask if that includes George Galloway. Sir Jimmy divulges a little of his philosophy on the nature of the human race. "Human beings are two things. There's what they are and what they do. A surgeon can be a decent fella', but he can also cut your leg off, because that's what he does. George, as somebody to be with, is very pleasant, terrific. But what he does is different class. He is associated with militant people. I don't agree with what he does and I think there's better ways for him to earn a living. I told him he should have been a disk jockey. Funnily enough I hear this morning he's got his own radio show so he's listened to what I told him."

Jimmy says he knew the unknown 'fake celebrity', Chantelle, would win the show from the first moment he saw her. "It was a clear cut case of performance versus personality. The others were all performers and that's what they did. Chantelle knew shit about nothing so all she had was personality."

Jimmy's instantly recognisable staccato speech patterns are still evident but nowhere near as exaggerated as his many impersonators portray. It is difficult to say what has made this

unique character into such a celebrity and so wealthy. His eccentricities are partly responsible and pure longevity must have something to do with it. His most famous success was 'Jim'll Fix It', the popular show where Jim would grant wishes, like some beardless Santa-figure or a kindly uncle, and 'Fix It' for a child to have their

I can't go anywhere
without being the
boss; it's my nature.
I'm a governor

dream come true. The programme ran for 20 years into the early '90s and I am inquisitive about a possible return for the show. "I own the programme, the logo, everything," he explains. "It was on for 20 years but I have a policy of quit while you're ahead. I did 20 years on Top of the Pops but as soon as Top of the Pops started going down the tubes, I was off. I saw the way the BBC was going with the swearing and all that sort of stuff and bang, finished. Jim'll Fix It is more legendary now than when it was running as you could see from Big Brother." I reveal that Jim'll Fix It medals are on sale on Ebay but, ignoring the recent controversy surrounding cash for Blue Peter badges, he says he is 'honoured' that people are still interested after all this time.

Sir Jimmy has been fixing it for various charities and explains he has raised over £40million through his range of activities. The principle beneficiaries have been what he calls 'his hospitals', namely Leeds General Infirmary, Stoke Mandeville hospital and Broadmoor secure mental hospital. On Jimmy's other wrist, in between the bling, is a Lance Armstrong cancer band and a blue Spinal Chord injuries band.

His long and varied career has made Jimmy Savile, amongst other things, a bit of a philosopher and he is keen to pass on his advice to a new generation. "I've been where all your readers are. They haven't been where I am; they've yet to make that journey. So therefore, I must know more than they know and because over those years I've learned a lot of things that they are going to have to learn, I can fill in pieces of jigsaw that might save them a lot of grief."

He is sagey about what the future might hold and says he is working on a number of ideas. He claims to be content with what he has achieved has no regrets and says there is nothing he wants from anybody. His television appearances and willingness to be interviewed might suggest that Jimmy still craves publicity and seeks attention.

It is hard not to feel that the figure sat beside me is a characterisation of Jimmy Savile, a big act put on for the cameras and the public. He says his life is all about having fun at nobody else's expense and whilst there are brief glimpses of a darker side to his nature, it seems that few people get close to the real Sir Jimmy Savile. "I'm not a greedy fella'. I just want simple things, simple gold, simple diamonds, simple Rolls Royce. All I know is its Thursday and tomorrow will be sensational. Who knows, I could get married tomorrow but I keep a gun loaded just in case."

I'm not a greedy
fella'. I just want simple
things. Simple
gold, simple diamonds,
simple Rolls
Royce

28.04.2006



comedy/

FILM FIRST IMPRESSIONS BOOKS LOWDOWN ARTS MUSIC TELEVISION

↳ Sue Perkins

TELEVISION PRESENTER SKETCH WRITER COMEDIAN

also this week...

FESTIVAL GUIDE

O2 WIRELESS NASTY FEST V SLAM DUNK LOVE LEEDS

MUSIC

THE FUTUREHEADS PLASTICIAN SINGLE OF THE WEEK

LITERATURE

SOPHIE KINSELLA LADY CHATTERLEY S LOVER BLOODY HARVESTS

this week ↘

FESTIVAL GUIDE O2 WIRELESS FESTIVAL NASTY FEST V SLAM DUNK
FESTIVAL LOVE LEEDS ACROSS THE TRACKS THE PLASTICIAN BLOODY
HARVESTS LABYRINTH GENTLEMEN AND PLAYERS LADY CHATTERLEY S
LOVER THE DA VINCI CODE SOPHIE KINSELLA SUPERMAN THE
FUTUREHEADS SINGLE OF THE WEEK LET HER GO LOWDOWN



plus!/who is your idol?/
top five charity shop finds/
sue perkins/lowdown/
parklife/fresh or stale/
who have you seen round
leeds this week?

CONTENTS

Rent




Arts

Leeds Film Quarter

DON'T MISS OUT

...the best of Leeds...

GRIME, GIRLS & GODLESSNESS



Clubs

...the best of Leeds...

AN INTERVIEW WITH SUE PERKINS



...the best of Leeds...

SUE PERKINS 12&13



"I'd never met anyone who could make me laugh with laughter"

...the best of Leeds...

ARTS 6&7

CLUBS 8&9

SUE PERKINS 12&13



BAG O' NEWS

When banjo strings go bawaaaaang

W

ell, yes, and here we go again. Easter is over, your goose has been cooked, and you've gorged on chocolate till you've become surfeit and blown egg shaped chunks. So now, all that's left is to sit back and relax in the sun, drinking your last loan instalment and waiting till summer really starts. We don't have a care in the world. Except maybe all those exams and essays people keep telling me about, but we'll worry about them when we fail. Or when you fail, anyways. I'm adamant that the age old theory of hiding under a pile of coats till the whole thing blows over and hoping for the best will come up trumps again. But while doing that, I really need something constructive to spend that last free grand the government are so fond of bestowing on me (I'm never going to earn more than fifteen thousand, so mine is free...), so I've been doing a little internet shopping, and I've stumbled upon a goldmine.

It transpires that for a little green, one can construct their very own Police Squad in Iraq. And I'm not talking half assed Leslie Nielsen-esque comedy fighters; I'm talking a full scale, AK-47 toting crack commando vigilante wrecking crew.


An ordinary Iraqi Police uniform will set you back \$15 (US), but the next step up to a Police Commando uniform will cost just another \$9. Another shop in Baghdad will set you up with official badges ranking from Captain to Major-General for just \$2 dollars each, and we all know how easy it is to pick up a few high velocity rifles at Baghdad's Bab al-Sharje market. The Nahdha car showrooms, just a few miles away from the market will also hook you up with fully marked police cars for a little over \$12,000, but I really don't feel like splashing out too much, so my little phony squad can walk. Commandos always look so much more menacing when they're on foot anyways.

So now I have my army, the real question lies with what to do with it. Regular readers of this column (if there actually are any) will know I have a penchant for harming police forces, but the joy of Easter has really helped me assess my outlook on life, and I feel I should strive to work on the side of good rather than evil. So, I have decided, I am going to use my commandos to fight the Americans. It's the perfect play. My guys will show up to help the Yanks with some ill thought-out "Peace-Keeping" exercise, lulling them into a false sense of bravado fuelled security, then bam! Shards of Luis Vitton sunglasses and chewing gum flying everywhere. It shall be glorious. I might also use the fellows for a little robbing and looting, but that will merely serve to cover costs of ammunition and wages. And maybe a dental plan, but defiantly not a pension scheme. These fuckers are never gonna make it past thirty. You see, I have a rather short attention span, so after a while, I'm just going to send them on suicide missions to test their allegiance to my cause. Has anyone ever combined warfare and circus acts? That's going to be my calling card. My soldiers will have to form pyramids on top of motorbikes before they are allowed to shoot anyone. Or just drive around in really tiny cars. And if any one steps out of line, they will forfeit the opportunity to wear their shiny uniform, and have to put on a brassiere instead.


The A-Team don't got shit on me.

Noel Darcy


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
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atrix Revolutions



Time passes



Time passes



Time passes

wass th' dillio!?

Lowdown

with Olivia & Poppy



Deal or No Deal?

This week we're asking you...
Who is your idol?



Yasmin, 23 chose Brucey because he's an all round entertainer, almost 110 and has a hot wife. They just don't make them like that now.



Simeon, 21 likes Noel for his hair, sharp way of dressing and ability to stretch a 5 minute show to almost an hour.



Pete, 21 says Lionel's his idol because he can dance on the ceiling. He's a God.

Hiya loves, welcome back! Hands up who missed us? What, no-one? Come on, you're secretly ecstatic that we're back in your lives, filling your days with funny anecdotes and cheeky giggles. Hope your easter hols were jam-packed with chocolate, fluffy bunnies, newly-hatched chicks and freshly-born lambs, hot from the womb. We both had ruddy fun times. However, the time is upon us for knocking down to do some 'real' work as the exams and the end of second year are creeping ever nearer, and more and more people ask what we're going to do with our degrees. Truth is, we don't know. Probably nothing. Olivia wants to start working in some seedy, nameless strip-joint in Bethnal Green, probably just as bartender not a stripper. It's the glamour she yearns for. Poppy's got her eye on the local meatpackers (not the club...and also not on gay men - she's tried that arena and it's a massive no-go for a woman). Are you in a similar situation? Why not waste three hours of your life taking a Morisy Test? They'll end up telling you to get a job in telemarketing. Ace. With love x

Overheard

THIS WEEK'S WINNER:
"If people had had armbands, they probably would have survived the tsunami."

(We would like to point out that it was two adults having the above discussion.)
Do you suck his little head off first, or do you put all of him in your mouth?...When I go out I always take a lighter with me so that if I get raped, I can set fire to my muff...I love the text message, I love it...Who would win out of a tag team fight between a badger and a vole?...You don't like it? Frigid...

Park Life

Summertime when the weather is fine... Mungo Jerry, 1970. It was a "summer" song (if you're one of those like me. Not that I own this record, of course...) and it was for a particularly graphic car accident. Not so fun anymore. Poor Mungo Jerry. Their only "hit" ruined. But at least they can rest easy in the knowledge that they played a valuable part in teaching us how to drink responsibly. And you should keep those important sentiments in mind whilst you spend your days and nights sitting in Hyde Park. Now the weather is good. I say good, but mean more tolerable. Yet this won't stop the vast majority of us buying beer from a certain shop that isn't so budget, despite its name. And it won't stop people from purchasing disposal BBQs from the One Stop that will most likely make any meat cooked on them carcinogenic. Mmm... fumeq. Ooh, watch out for the unruly poi that's flying dangerously close to your head. And try not to watch that couple who have obviously got a room/garden/toilet of their own. But hey, who cares! The sun's out and it's vaguely warm. Not warm enough for flip-flops, or to leave your jacket at home, but never mind. It's sunny! Yeah! We just all go quickly and seek out any patch of grass, be it park, roadside verge or roundabout's island, and sit on it until our arms are covered in goosebumps and we go home with blue lips. Because it's April. Not July. But we are English. And that is our curse. Happy sun-bathing. Don't forget your knotted hanky.



Have a Butcher's...



SPOTTED!

Who've you seen round Leeds this week?

A Viking funeral in Whitby. Probably real-life Vikings. We just don't know.



Go and enjoy...

Saturday night is alright for fighting, as Elton John once said. But (unbeknown to the wig-wearing super-ponce), Saturday night is also alright for chinchillas, especially this Saturday night when **The Brudenell Social Club** plays host to **The Chinchilla Festival**. Now, before you get all worried that we're trying to persuade you to go to a rodent appreciation festival, this is actually an all-day-long (well, from 3pm) music festival featuring some ruddy good bands. **Charlottefield** are one such band, hailing from the leafy vale of Kent (from the very place we are from, incidentally), playing very loudly and with lots of shouting and feedback. If you like noise music and rocking the fuck out, you should go and see Charlottefield. Or go later and see the illustrious **Joeyfat**, who are perhaps equally loud but even more more theatrical. Their gigs often involve the handing-out of wooden spoons, eye patches and fake mustaches. Always useful. After all, any band that can weave the line 'You don't have to be mad to work here but it helps' into a song deserve some respect. See www.chinchillaweb.co.uk for more details.

Fresh



The Loan

Thank the Holy Lord that it's arrived, like a present from a heavenly being.

The Summer

Huzzah. Hot summer nights get ever nearer, lounging around in the park all day with bottles of cider, the sun not setting till 9pm. Don't revise, it's nearly summer!

The World Cup

For a couple of weeks you can pretend that you're well into football in the name of patriotism. Cheering on a winning England team is highly satisfying.

Easter left-overs

Those of you who weren't big old greedy guts and gobbled up all your chocolate on Easter Sunday can now make those Mini Eggs go as far as possible. Remember, they won't be available now till next Easter. Ration.

On The Turn

Shipwrecked Indecision

Tigers or sharks. Tigers or sharks. Tigers. No The Sharks! No The Tigers! Bugger it, we don't know. Which would you choose? Sharks.

Summer clothes

Come the rudd on - it's still April there is really no need for shorts and vests unless you're playing sports. And flip-flops? NOT YET!

The word 'funky'
OK, use it to describe music, fair enough, but not clothes/hair/interior design/a chair/a dog. It induces a little bit of bile in the mouth.

The National Express

We left it too late for the train so had to suffer this hell hole. Smelled like piss and fish and egg and fanny. Not a pleasurable time. Avoid.



Stale

Top Five Charity Shop Finds. You don't only find special vintage clothes and rare vinyl in charity shops. Oh no. You can also find a load of grubby shit and, should the mood take you, you can purchase it for much more than it was originally priced (which in some cases was £0). These are the best we've found. 1. **Toothbrush** - Used, bad condition, price undisclosed, on inspection was found to be yellow, crusty and free with a plane trip in 1987. 2. **One bin bag** - Wrapped up with a piece of string, it was thought to conceal a lovely ornament or such like. Turns out, it was simply the bag, going for 3p. Shocking. 3. **Swimming costume** - It was bad enough anyway being turquoise and rucked, but also had a stain on the crotch the colour of egg yolk. A little bit disturbing. 4. **Pornographic novels** - a surprisingly large number of these can be found in chazza shops. We found one that RECOMMENDED bestiality. We didn't take their advice. 5. **Half-used toiletries** - Are you really so much of a skin-flint that you have to buy second-hand toiletries? Get a grip on your life.

Bloody Good Reads

The Easter Break is over and **Books** is back to brighten up your days. This week we've got our usual selection of reviews to give you some ideas when browsing the local bookshops. There's a review of **Bloody Harvests**, **Labyrinth**, **Gentlemen and Players** and the ever-controversial **Lady Chatterley's Lover**. On page 5 there's a review of the soon-to-be-released-on-film **The Da Vinci Code** and the **Editor's Choice**.

Bloody Harvests

Richard Kunzmann

Pan £6.99



Richard Kunzmann's debut novel is a hard-hitting account of life in a violent South African society, where witches kidnap and kill children in order to use their body parts for medicines. The police team investigating one such killing is headed by Harry and Jacob, a white Englishman living in South Africa and a native African respectively, whose wildly different upbringings lead to different perspectives on the case. Through the use of two protagonists, one from the reader's own culture, and one from an African one, Kunzmann is able to show the reader how deeply the issue of race still permeates African society, more than a decade after the end of apartheid. This mixture of cultures is also apparent in the juxtaposition of modern and ancient tribal culture employed by the aforementioned witch doctors, who firmly believe that incantations and ritual killings can cure all manner of ills, but who also carry guns and drive expensive cars.

The main story in the novel is interspersed with excerpts from the childhoods of both main characters, which, although confusing at first, allows the reader an insight into their psyches, which lead to an understanding of why they joined the police force, and why this particular case means so much to each of them. Kunzmann cleverly also includes incidents from the pasts of the villainous characters as flashbacks. Knowing the history of these characters in no way justifies their actions, but does lead the reader to their explanation of them. This is an excellent novel, which I would highly recommend to anyone who likes crime fiction, although the presence of incredibly gory scenes mean that it's probably not suitable for bedtime reading!

8/10

Lauren Blyth

Labyrinth

Kate Mosse

Orion £7.99



Since the publication of *The Da Vinci Code*, the world of fiction has been flooded by numerous quasi-historical thrillers, jostling for a seat on the bandwagon. There are some people who would accuse Kate Mosse's *Labyrinth* of being one of these novels, but they are just plain wrong. *Labyrinth* is, quite simply, a beautiful piece of storytelling. The basic precept of the tale is, once again, loosely based around the legends of the Holy Grail. Unsurprisingly, there is a secret society that was formed many centuries ago to protect the secret of the Grail, and just as predictably, there are others seeking to learn the nature of the secret for their own, evil ends. The similarities to Dan Brown's *The Da Vinci Code*, stop there, however. In the case of Mosse's novel, you could actively attempt to solve the puzzles yourself, or just sit back and enjoy the efforts of the characters, which, thanks to Mosse's lyrical writing style, is equally as enjoyable.

With several different plotlines running alongside one another, some set in the present day, some in the thirteenth century and all in the Languedoc region of France, the construction of the book is carefully balanced and always seems to be one step away from becoming too confusing to follow, without ever becoming that cryptic. The characters – of which there are many – are all beautifully rendered, and given the right level of depth, something which is often lacking in the majority of today's novels. The two female leads in particular, Alice and Alais, seem like old friends by the end of the book, and it's easy to find yourself willing them to succeed.

Mosse's attention to detail is incredible; she even uses the language, Occitan, a variant of French spoken in the areas of France featured in the story, and provides a very useful glossary of words at the end of the book. Her knowledge of, and passion for, the town of Carcassonne is obvious, and comes through clearly in her writing. Fans of the genre will appreciate the book, but there really is something for everyone in *Labyrinth* – action, romance, philosophy, theology, and mystery. You name it, it's there. Just don't let the fact it won Richard and Judy's Best Read of the Year, 2006, put you off!

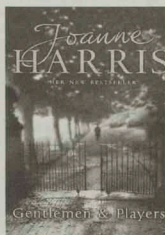
9/10

Katie Dunn

Gentlemen and Players

Joanne Harris

Bantam £6.99



Gentlemen and Players is the latest novel from celebrated local author, Joanne Harris. Set in St Oswald's School, an exclusive, fee-paying, boys' Grammar school in the North of England, it explores the divide between privilege and poverty through the lifelong grudge of Snyder, whose working-class father was once caretaker at the elite school.

The school motto is "Audere, Agere, Auferre", which translates as "to dare, to strive, to conquer" and Snyder lives by this motto, firstly impersonating a St Oswald's pupil under the false name Julian Pinchbeck and later by joining the teaching staff under a second pseudonym. Planning to exploit the system in order to devastate its very foundations and traditions, Snyder opposition comes in the form of the Classics master, Roy Stratley.

Stratley is a marvelously illustrated character, gently echoing the old-guard stereotype that's inevitably found in every school: soon to retire, he has been at St Oswald's for thirty-three years and is looking forward to his "century" of one-hundred terms spent there. Temperate, eccentric, shrewd and dignified, he is the human manifestation of St Oswald's values, and provides an unwitting foil for Snyder's plans.

Besieged by classroom wars, suit etiquette and e-mails, Stratley's voice narrates half of the events, alternating with both the youthful and adult Snyder. Although confusing initially, this technique helps to sustain the sense of opposite players in a chess game, constantly changing strategy and shifting territory.

The catastrophic event which lead to Snyder's initially unfathomable debt of hatred for St. Oswald's is slowly revealed through a series of flashbacks and memories. Although the gradual developments are credible, the twist is easily anticipated and not as surprising as it might have been had Harris dropped the penny earlier. It is an interesting idea, and achieves its success through sheer simplicity, but will not surprise the observant reader.

Harris' classroom scenes are masterful, acutely observed recreations of the wit and organised chaos of the classroom, and I imagine they would seem even more evocative to those who have actually attended a school like St Oswald's. Regardless, the memories of school more generally are pleasantly recalled by *Gentlemen and Players* and its intriguing blend of school memoir, murder mystery, coming-of-age novel and adolescent romance is served up adroitly and compellingly. Like all of Harris' novels, her latest comes highly recommended.

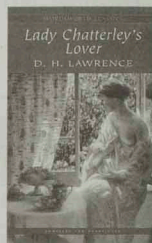
8/10

Freddie Huntley

Lady Chatterley's Lover

D.H. Lawrence

Wordsworth Editions Ltd £1.99



I was frankly shocked at just how explicit this novel was. Written in the 1920s, I was under the illusion that people just didn't talk about sex as frankly as D.H. Lawrence does in what has become a classic novel. While, nowadays, we have become somewhat desensitised when it comes to sex, it still retains a certain shock value when found in print. The recent adaptation of this story for BBC Four has brought it back into the public sphere and provided a stark reminder of just how far ahead of its time this book really was.

Lady Chatterley is a well educated girl who falls in love with, and then marries, an aristocrat. He is subsequently injured, confining him to a wheelchair. As time goes on, however, Connie realises that she is not going to be able to live without some kind of sexual excitement and intrigue. She begins by having a short affair which gives her a taste of life outside her increasingly stifling marriage. The real story begins when she meets Mellors, the gamekeeper. He is everything that her husband is not: he is not very academic, is from a working class background and refuses to mince his words. He is sexually aggressive and doesn't wrap Connie in cotton wool just because she is a lady.

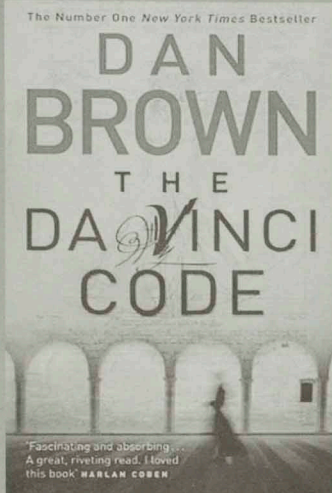
The sex scenes, while explicit, are also beautifully poetic and Lawrence's descriptions are always vivid. Beneath the issue of the love affair is also an underlying class issue. The contrast between Mellors and Connie in terms of social background is always an unspoken issue. Their relationship is all the more complex because not only is it an extra-marital affair, it is also one which transgresses the class boundaries. Connie is, at times, unable to understand the way Mellors speaks and finds his thick, rural accent difficult to ignore. While she is used to men like him being around her, she is not used to having them so deeply engrained in her personal life. Following her through a journey of self-discovery provides an interesting subtext.

The book is, and will always be, relevant because it is about love and lust – subjects which will always be prevalent in society. The British are notorious for their prudish behaviour, which is probably why we will always be fascinated by books like this which can look at sex and lust for what they are – a natural part of life, without which things would become pretty dull.

10/10

Rachel Dampare

CRACKING THE CODE



The *Da Vinci Code* has plagued the bestsellers' lists for so long now that it's hard to remember a time before Dan Brown was a household name, but for those of you who would like to read the book before it is released on film this summer there's still time and here's a review to give you an idea of what you're in for...

The Da Vinci Code
Dan Brown
Corgi £6.99

As famous as the *Harry Potter* books, and experiencing similar worldwide sales, *The Da Vinci Code* is in danger of suffering the same sort of backlash, where people become so tired of the hype surrounding a novel that they lose any desire they might have had to read it themselves.

Alternatively, you might have been waiting for the hype to die down so that you can actually read it without constant interruption, having to discuss it with every person who notices what you're doing.

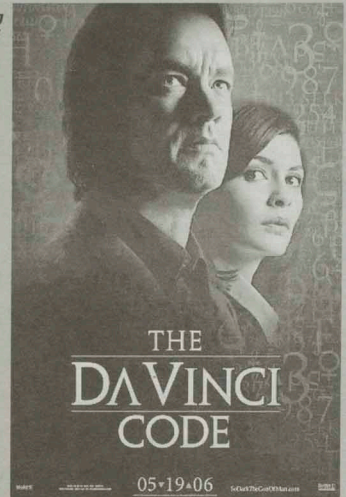
The controversy surrounding the imminent film will have done little to change the minds of those set in their resolve not to read the novel, but if you are considering going to

see the film, I would urge you to sacrifice your anti-hype principles and read the first. It is worth it.

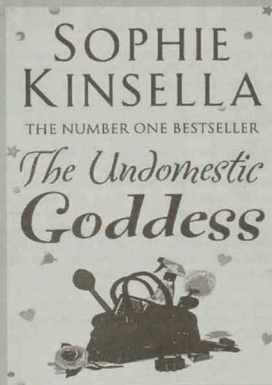
Enjoyment of *The Da Vinci Code* depends on having an early acceptance that it is poorly written and that the techniques used to sustain suspense are painfully transparent. Once you have come to terms with this, however, the narrative content easily makes up for it.

The pace is unrelenting throughout and you will probably find yourself exhausted by the end. The religious controversy surrounding the book is, to my mind, ridiculous. The vast majority of readers, whether Catholic or otherwise, will be unoffended and simply entertained.

This won't be the best novel you will ever read, but it is ideal to turn to for a little mid-revision escapism and you still have plenty of time to read it before the film is released.



Editor's Choice



The Undomestic Goddess
Sophie Kinsella
£6.99
Publisher: Black Swan

I'd like to make a confession: I am hopeless. I can't cook, I can barely clean and my organisational skills are pretty atrocious, which is why I can so wholly sympathise with Samantha in this novel.

She is a successful lawyer who has managed to work her way through the system

despite all the odds being against her as a woman, but, as a consequence, she is completely devoid of any domestic skills.

We start the story with her being on the cusp of receiving a promotion when she suddenly realises that she has made a serious error which will cost her company £50 million. On realising this she walks out of her office, too afraid to face the consequences of her mistake and wanders into a posh house where she somehow lands herself a job as the housekeeper.

It is quite amusing to see her cope with trying to cook and clean in a huge house when she is incapable of even cooking for herself. She ends up making a fair number of cock-ups which she always manages to get out of - just about. While at her new place of work she meets and falls in love with Nathaniel, the sexy gardener.

On discovering that Samantha is an impostor, Nathaniel plays a key role in helping her to redeem herself and learn the skills she needs to remain in her new line of work. Their relationship is quite heart-warming, really; maybe it's just because I'm a bit of a girl but I couldn't stop myself saying "Aaaaaaww" when they started to get together.

As the novel progresses it becomes clear that Samantha was not in fact responsible for the fatal error that cost her her job but when faced with a chance to have her old job and her old life back she is faced with a dilemma. She has had a taste of a more relaxed lifestyle where she can have a lie-in on weekends and enjoy the company of people who are interested in things other than money. Will she go back?

This novel doesn't pretend to be a great literary classic but it does provide some light relief from the day-to-day stresses of student

life. It doesn't demand too much cranial activity and you'll probably find that you get through it quite quickly. Essentially, this novel shows that no matter how bad things get there's always a bright side: words to live by, don't you think?

8/10

Rachel Dampare

New Book of the Month

True Brit
John Cleese & Kim Johnson
Titan £9.99

The latest in Titan's *Superman* series, April's *Book of the Month* is a new graphic novel by John Cleese, of *Monty Python* and *Fawlty Towers* fame, and Kim Johnson, *Monty Python* script writer for twenty-eight years, with artwork by John Byrne.

The child superman's rocket crashes on earth in a town even smaller than Smallville. Adopted by the Clarks and named Colin, he is brought up to fit in, hide his powers and to try not to stand out in a crowd. As the grown Colin starts to flex his super-muscles though,



the question on everybody's lips is what the neighbours will say...

You can get £2 off our *Book of the Month* by cutting out the token and taking it to Union Books before the end of April.



Before you go screaming off that Rent hasn't come out yet, I'll admit that this is a completely unofficial review of a pirate dvd, purchased over easter. Not that I'm an-advocate of black market film piracy but sometimes it's hard to resist. Especially when the film in question comes in a nice colourful box with an amazing menu system and special features. I have payed the price though. The film's sound does run about a second in front of the visuals, and I did spend a lot of time sorting that out, but with this level of cinema, I kind of wish I hadn't bothered.

Don't get me wrong, I'm a huge fan of Rent. I've been lucky enough to see it in the West end and on Broadway, and the soundtrack has been a regular resident of my ipod. When I first heard the film was being made, I was slightly dubious of the decision to choose Director Chris Columbus, more famed for kids films like the Goonies and Harry Potter than gritty social

commentaries - but I was still glad it was being made. The original trailers looked good and I was expectant. Oh how wrong I was.

I can honestly say that this film is awful. Everything is wrong, not least the bright use of bright colours which makes it look more like an overly clean gap advert than a dirty New York back street. For some reason they've also tried to turn parts of the song lyrics into spoken word. Fine, but be so good as to remove the rhyming first so it doesn't

sound like a rendition more befitting William Shatner. The direction is uninspiring and sometimes careless, single long shots are too reminiscent of a stage, think of something new! The acting seems strained, as if

they know the low quality of what they're making but the main story still shines through. As always the music is good, but this is no replacement for the stage show and way below the mark of the-ater conversions such as Chicago.

(3) Stephanie Monet

ent

Arts

One of the strangest film titles of the year is an autobiographical story of a 1980's marital breakdown, written and directed by Noah Baumbach. If you are looking for a mature expose of the games parents play once they have decided to separate then this is for you. As self-obsessed academic, Bernard, Jeff Daniels demonstrates how an aggrieved parent will use any trick in the book to get one over on their partner, in this case the fabulous Laura Linney as his ex-wife, Joan.

Bernard is being eclipsed by Joan not only in the marriage bed but also on the career front, as she gleefully publishes her first story in the New Yorker. Bernard manipulates his older son, Walt (Jesse Eisenberg), who displays all his father's literary pretensions and even claims authorship of a Pink Floyd song in the school talent show, to merit his father's attention. Younger brother Frank (Owen Kline) sides with his mother as both brothers boomerang back and forth between their mother's comfortable home and Bernard's bachelor slum. Frank appears to take the divorce in his stride until his parents are called into school to discuss his deviant behaviour. This is a masterful scene revealing in all its horror the parental neglect and the intellectual arrogance of these two self-absorbed adults.

You really want to know what happened to each member of the family after the end of the film's reach - surely the mark of a wonderful, assured movie. (9)

The Squid and the Whale

DON'T MISS OUT

The annual season for new writing is here again. Northern Exposure is returning to the West Yorkshire Playhouse with productions of three exciting plays for your viewing pleasure.

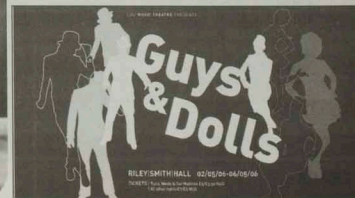
Foxes

Foxes is the new play written by Alice Nutter - and, yes, she was in Chumbawumba before leaving the group to pursue her writing career. But don't let that discourage you, this promises to be a warm hearted, modern romance, tinged with modern society's trouble of reconciling differences in a multicultural society. Set in the Little London area of Leeds, the story is about working girl, Loretta, who lives with her troublesome younger brother, Garth. Nextdoor her neighbours, Eric and four other asylum seekers, spend their days desperately trying to avoid deportation.

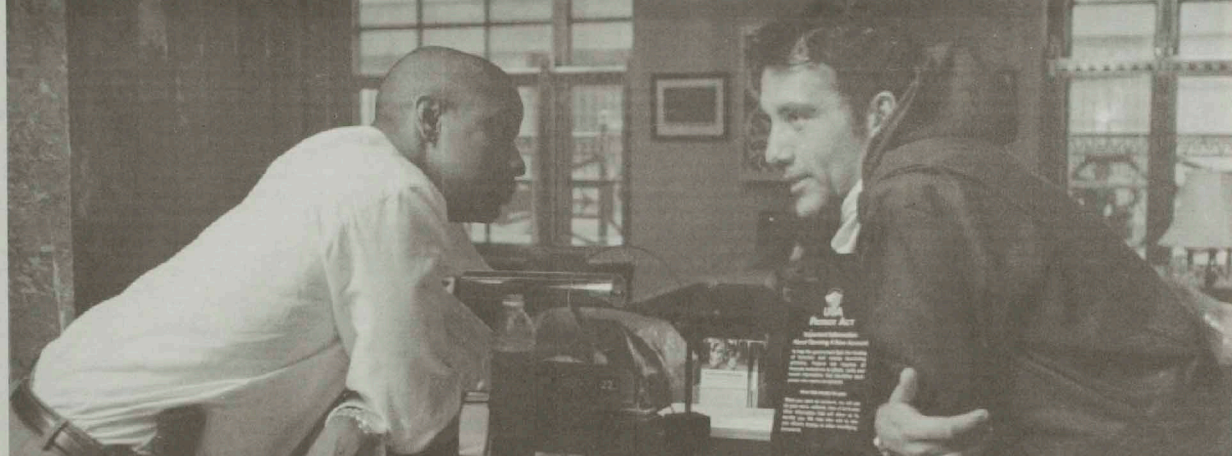
Showing at the West Yorkshire playhouse from 26th April - 6 May. Student tickets can be purchased at £5 from Mon-Wed, and subject to availability.

Bus

This is a new play by Leeds writer Mark Kirby, set on the buses of Leeds. It doesn't take much imagination to envisage the comic possibilities of a drama set on buses, On The Buses not withstanding. This play takes a slightly unexpected turn, and avoids the usual routes that such a setting imposes in basing its storyline around a 'bus war' between, on one side, Sam and Vickers, two of Leeds' bus veterans, and Ben and Anna, a pair of bus route imposters.



Inside Man



New York. Racial tensions. Denzel Washington. It must be 'A Spike Lee Joint'. *Inside Man* is by far the most commercial film Spike Lee, director of *Do The Right Thing* and *Malcolm X*, has ever made, but his latest joint is far from burnt out. Lee has adapted extremely well to the realm of big budget Hollywood thrillers displaying fluent, stylish direction and with the big bucks of a mainstream movie Lee has managed to attract an all-star cast that can even afford to have Clarice Starling and the Green Goblin in supporting roles.

The film wastes no time in cutting to the chase, or the heist, as a gang disguised as painters take over a Manhattan bank and a hostage crisis soon ensues. NYPD detectives Keith Frazier (Denzel Washington) and his partner Bill Mitchell (Chiwetel Ejiofor) are assigned to the scene and it's not long before Washington's police negotiator faces off against Clive Owen's criminal mastermind, who assures us that he has set in motion the perfect bank robbery. One of Owen's ingenious machinations to thwart the cops' efforts is to have all the hostages and the thieves wearing the same indistinguishable outfits. Do the SWAT team dare risk an assault on the bank

that could easily become a bloodbath or can Washington ignore the diversions and intervention of Jodie Foster's agenda driven deal-breaker and stop an ultra-calm Clive Owen. What's going down is more than a bank robbery, but to say anymore would ruin the story.

Denzel Washington is one of the best, arguably the best actor working today and in his fourth collaboration with Spike Lee, Washington doesn't disappoint by displaying his trademark charm and making the put upon detective Frazier wholly believable. Even though Lee has restrained most of his usual prominent social commentary, the New York setting has the Brooklyn native in his element as he revels in the city's rich ethnic diversity whilst playing off the tensions of post 9/11 America. A hostage who has been released is immediately branded a terrorist by the SWAT team because of his headscarf.

Inside Man is thoroughly entertaining and riveting to its very last scene, and just maybe it will entice a few fans sold on its solid thrills to check out Lee's earlier independent work.

(7)Mark Mackay

Reeker

A true tour de force for the time-honoured conventions of modern day horror, reviewers claim that *Reeker* consciously sets out to adhere to nearly every recognisable genre marker in the book. Most readers I'm sure are already beginning to sigh. A group of 5 stereotypical students go on a road trip, are forced to take an alternative route to a deserted town, where they mysteriously break down and soon discover that said town is actually a conduit between the living and the dead. It does sound a little too familiar. Throw in a few painfully slow camera pans, a villainous monster type, sprinkle a generous portion of gore and special effects, and you have a... fire box office suc-

cess. However, what sets *Reeker* apart from such formulaic competition is the way in which all of these conventions are set in the context of the plot. Writer/Director David Payne does not deny that the viewer will recognise the formulaic pattern that the film adopts, but would tell you that the emphasis of the film is more on the sensory side of horror. Payne is considered a master of suspense in the making, and reportedly he also has a penchant for contemporary cult references. So by the sounds of things we can expect an amalgamation of such quality ingredients in *Reeker*.

Tom Foster

Leeds Film Quarter

Fanomenon

Fanomenon is back and ready to take you on a journey into terror with some special late night double bills to put fear in your hearts. This coming Saturday will see exclusive previews of two new horror flicks that have been given audiences on the festival circuits plenty of nightmares. First up is *Reeker* (see left), an incredibly gory tale of a decaying creature who wears a gas mask. Following that is *Wild Country*, a blend of *Werewolf* movie and Ken Loach. So make sure that from 11.30pm this Saturday you come to the **Hyde Park Picture House**.

REEKER - Sat 29th April, 11.30pm

Inspired by horror classics such as *Carnival of Souls*, *Evil Dead* and *Friday the 13th*, *Reeker* is an incredibly sick, ferocious and gory tale that every genre fan will be talking about. Five students on route to a party are forced to spend the night in a deserted motel - big mistake. Whilst there they experience visions of the mutilated dead and dying, while being preyed upon by a decaying gas masked creature. Showing as part of a Fanomenon double bill with *Wild Country*. Buy tickets for both for only £8 / £7.

WILD COUNTRY - Sat 29th April/Sun 30th April, 11.15am

Writer/director Craig Strachan's lycanthropic debut feature blends genre thrills and a sense of realism to create an intriguing blend of an American *Werewolf* in London and Ken Loach. A group of teenagers on a hiking trip find events taking a sudden and bloody turn for the worse when a shepherd is mauled to death and the youngsters realise they are being stalked by a savage beast. Buy tickets for both for only £8/£7.



GRIME, GIRLS & GODLESSNESS

Of all the blags that come the way of a 'Clubs' editor, gaining free entry to a grime night at a small-capacity strip club has got to rank as one of the more interesting. Then again, The Fix-Up know a thing or two about experimenting, both with venues and the values of decency. Some of you might remember DJ Assault, of 'Suck My M.F. Dick', 'Pussyshaver' and 'Nipples-n-Citts' fame, doing his obscene Ghetto-Bass thing down amongst the pool tables at their Elbow Room night. March 2006 saw the envelope being pushed yet further, as Planet Mu's Manchester grime crew, Virus Syndicate (with DJ Mark One), and their buddy, Dub-Step, pioneer and Radio 1 resident, The Plastician were invited to bring the rave to The Buffalo Lounge, the name of which alone positively oozes refinement and decency.

Virus Syndicate, headliners for the night, were not only celebrating the launch of their 'Work Related Illness' LP but also crew member, Goldfinger's, birthday, and, what with all the topless pole-dancing going on beside them, seemed to be having a good time. Their energetic live-set saw them MCing over exclusive dubplates as well as vintage tunes from some of the scene's biggest producers such as Roll Deep's Wiley. The Fix-Up crowd reacted well to Virus' 'Slow Down', first performed over the top of Skream's ubiquitous 'Midnight Request Line' and later over its Mark One-produced original instrumental.

Just seconds after arriving and cutting through the crowd, The Plastician was up and ready to take over from his Virus Syndicate buddies, all of whom freestyled over the beginning of his set. Those who witnessed him play the Bassment's Pollen night (before a certain minimal techno star's lawyers had forced him to change his name from Plasticman), will know why The Plastician has found worldwide acclaim and a sought-after BBC slot. His Fix-Up set was no exception, working in both sides of DMZ 007 (annoyingly DMZ were hosting a room at the West Indian Centre's Transmission on this very night, so like buses, these Leeds grime nights...), bootlegs of Reel2Reel and Eurythmics and MCs Shizzle and Nappa's take on his own 'Cha'.

In terms of vocal duties, The Plastician's set became something of a free-for-all with what seemed like a bus-load of un-billed likely-lad MCs all vying for the mic. Unfortunately, their skills couldn't always match The Plastician's impeccable selections, but their vehement competition to be heard was enough to keep things interesting. Individual members of Virus Syndicate would periodically intervene, sometimes making the talent gap between signed and wannabe MCs painfully clear. However, it was clear that this night was about more than just your average grime rave. Innovative passes had been developed for the lucky few who got their tickets early enough, comprising of fancy Fix-Up lanyards and access to a special passworded section of the Fix-up website featuring exclusive recordings and pictures from the night. The Fix-Up DJs, too, deserve a mention with Skunkrock and DeVille setting up the night nicely before the headliners' arrival.

"In terms of vocal duties, The Plastician's set became something of a free-for-all with what seemed like a bus-load of un-billed likely-lad MCs all vying for the mic"

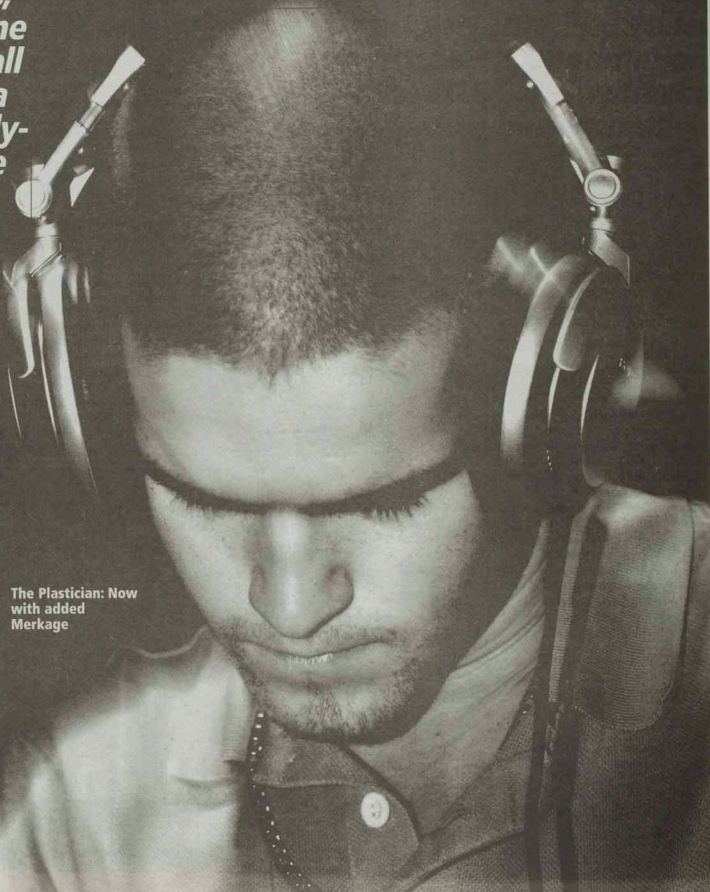
Although Grime and Dubstep was the order of the day, these earlier sets were a little more eclectic. The Fix-Up DJs have been known to mash-up anything from Booty-Bass to Soca, genres which are relatively under-exposed in Leeds. Bootlegs of Lil' Louis' 'French Kiss' and Candi Statton's 'You've Got the Love' helped to create a party atmosphere ahead of the night's main billings.

It seems fair to say that Leeds hasn't always benefitted from an abundance of grime or dubstep nights. Wire's promising, monthly night 'Our Thing' seems to have fallen by the wayside in 2006, after featuring some impressive guests like JME and BBC 1Xtra's Cameo. However, The Fix-Up, Transmission's regular DMZ backyard and even good old LUU (notably putting Roll Deep on at Mine), seem to be going some way to make up for the shortage.

Those of you who were unaware, or unable, to make it March's event need not worry. The next Fix-Up sees Virus Syndicate return to the intimate environs of The Buffalo Lounge for another headline slot. Mark One, who laid down instrumentals for Virus at the March show, is also billed for a separate DJ slot, and those of you who caught him at 'Technique Takes Over' last year will know the kind of dancefloor devastation he is capable of.

As if this isn't enough, scene-legend Darqwan (aka Mr Oris Jay) and Bingo Beats' grime/drum and bass connoisseurs Chase and Status will also be playing as well as Fix-Up residents Skunkrock and DeVille and other guests. With advance tickets going for only £6 this second strip-club outing seems to good to miss.

Patrick McIntock



The Plastician: Now with added Merkage

BARE MERKAGE!

Big Tunes at The Fix Up:

- DMZ: 'Haunted'
- The Plastician: 'Cha'
- Skream: 'Midnight Request Line'
- Virus Syndicate: 'Slow Down'

Leeds Clubs

Breaking the Funk



Photos: Lionel Miller

Breakestra @ The Hifi Club

It was with much expectation and excitement that we headed into town to see the great Breakestra. Both of us long-term fans, however first time viewers we were greatly looking forward to hearing the nine piece funk outfit do their extremely funky thing in perhaps the most perfect venue for such a gig - very intimate and ultimately cosy in the artist audience relations. We arrived to the sounds of Speech Defect... three emcees and one DJ! Is this familiar to anyone? A phenomenal cross between the Beastie Boys and Ugly Ducking in the style of their beats. The mixed crowd ranging from people who grew up with funk music right the way through to the new school beats collective, whom gave Speech Defect a mixed reception as they pranced about the stage. Their track entitled The Anthem was the standout track from the set; with live saxophone over the rolling beat and some tasty keys

action creating one funky head-noddingly beautiful hip hop track.

All the same, people were undoubtedly there primarily to see Breakestra, who were incidentally on tour to promote their new album *Hit The Floor*, which we did as they hit the stage. For anyone who has heard their *Live Mix Parts One or Two* mixes then you will be pleased to know that Breakestra follow this format for their live shows as well. For those of you that don't; basically the band keep playing short clips of famous funk tracks, most of which have been sampled at some time or another by the crafting genius's of the hip hop world. Each clip leads in to the next in much the same way a DJ would blend between the tracks, the noticeable difference is that Breakestra are performing it all live on their instruments! This makes for a fast paced set that keeps energy levels high and the majority of feet moving. They also played many tracks from their new album, including *Stand Up, Show & Prove,*

Family Rap, You Don't Need to Dance and of course their albums title track *Hit The Floor*. All of which went down very well indeed with the punters, who were clearly extreme funk aficionados and all of which savoured every single moment of the Breakestra experience. The band clearly noticed this as their encore seemed almost as long as their main set itself!

They are an unbelievably talented group of people and as a band work brilliantly together, vibing off each other. Unfortunately *Mix Master Wolf*, the regular front man couldn't make it but the stand in female vocalist they had instead put on an excellent performance in a Pam Grier soul sister style, licks that sent shivers down many a

slumping spine. Special mention should go to James King the saxophonist for playing the alto and tenor saxophone as well as the flute and was witnessed numerous times performing an exceptional combination of the two at a time! Leeds really is lucky to have venues such as the Hifi Club and the Wardrobe that put on such great funk bands from all over the world thus, it is good to see that many people clearly enjoy and support them in it.

Words: Lionel Miller & Dave Levantis

Innovation in the sun - June 20th to 27th feat. Unification.

Innovation in the sun returns to the stunning resort of Lloret de Mar (Barcelona) for its third season of d&b holiday madness. This well established event is recognised as one of Spain's main dance festivals and has emerged as Europe's most talked about and eagerly awaited clubbing holiday, with many people making it their annual escape from normal life. The event will be held across the three venues of the Colossos club complex.

This years event will be showcasing label nights from Breakbeat Kaos, Full Cycle, 1XTRA, Liquid V, Charge Recordings, Dogs on Acid, D&B Arena and also collaborating with Moondance and Leeds very own Unification to bring you an Old Skool, Jungle and Hardcore extravaganza (Friday 23rd-Monday 26th June)!

What other attractions do you need: sun, sea, plenty of sssangria and a few thousand anything goes ravers, the latest and greatest tunes and performers creating a community spirit and supreme vibe that all like minded d&b heads are hungry to sample for the first time or relieve again and again. Check online for prices, they are cheap like the birdy (£199 for seven nights) and include breakfast and dinner. The venue is a 150k sound system across three clubs with all the trimmings, such as

lazer shows and foam parties. You enter through the recently refurbished courtyard to the outdoor chill out area which comprises a swimming pool and BBQ area. One minute from the beach the venue is accessed by four clubs and a four thousand capacity will be packing this out! Dance Energy vs. Unification. On Saturday 27th May at Northern Light. £8 adv. £10 before 11 and £12 thereafter. Arena one will be Hardcore breaks hosted by dance energy playing some old skool dance classics from the nineties and mixing them up with some new vibs twist. Enzyme, Malice, Top Buzz, Distortionz and our very own Reckless amongst others.

Arena two is Ol Skool jungle hosted by frequency 88.1 fm with the Central Beats Sound System, Steppa, Prophecy, Simon Scott, Shock, Ruckspin, LD50, Dirty Le Roi, 3rd Gen, Digital, Rubin, Retro, DJ DL, Essence, Nu-Sense and some hip ho pubes from Elliphino.

Arena three is Dub, Roots and Reggae, hosted by High Pressure and Chili Recordings with Lowlife featuring Bongo and Chili, Dan Man and the High Pressure crew with The Scratch Technician and many more. Outside there will be a chill out zone with live fire breathing and juggling. It's going to be heavy. Bring on the summer.

Words: Reckless & Clara Spencer-Phillips

Drum Major presents Ohmega Watts with support from Elliphino at the Wardrobe, St Peters Square, Leeds on Friday 5th May. Doors are at ten and admission is eight pounds adv. or ten on the door. Red hot mic-rocker and producer Ohmega Watts is widely becoming recognised as one of the freshest and most talented artists to have emerged out of hip hop in ages. His 2005 self produced debut solo LP *The Find* is earthy, organic and spilling

over with original soulful funky licks; twenty two quality tunes with pretty much no fillers featuring nearly twenty guest MCs as well as Curtis Mayfield-esque vocals and razor sharp rhymes from Ohmegahimself. The music press have been tripping over themselves to heap praises on this man but don't take our word for it, this is something you must come and see/judge for yourselves..

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Didn't Get Leeds Tickets?

So your **loan** is in and there are only a few weeks of **pub** dodging and throwing together assignments to go. We are all dreaming of the **beer** gardens of **Leeds** whilst cramming for our finals. But maybe, just maybe, there are more crucial shindigs to attend over the not so distant **summer** days of freedom? Hurray: there are! This is a guide for **music** lovers and sunny weather revellers of the Leeds **Student** population. It would be wise to attend one or more of these **events** over the coming months, **trust us...**

O2 Wireless Festival

WHERE: Harewood House, Leeds.

WHEN: Saturday 24th June & Sunday 25th June

LINE UP: Massive Attack, Goldfrapp, Pharrell, DJ Shadow, Gnarl Barkley, The Who, The Flaming Lips, The Zutons, Eels, Plus many more

HOW MUCH: Saturday: £32.50 plus fees
Sunday: £37.50 plus fees

This is a relatively new festival that's already pulling in the big names and, arriving for the first time in the Leeds area, the perfect substitute activity for the 'would be' Glastonbury weekend.

Nasty Fest V

WHERE: The Faversham, Leeds.

WHEN: Saturday 13th May, 4pm - 4am

LINE UP: Bromheads Jacket, Plan B, Neil's Children, Professor Green, Yes Boss, Metronomy, The Yell Oxfam, Glamour Models, Shut Your Eyes and Burst Into Flames, Kalev, To My Boy, The Hair, Bam Bam Francs, This Ain't Vegas and more.

HOW MUCH: £12

This line up has everything from Hip-Hop, Indie, Grime, Metal, Punk, Electro, New Wave, Acoustic and tickets are nearly sold out so snap them up quick!



Slam Dunk Festival

WHERE: Millenium Square, Leeds.

WHEN: Saturday 27th May, 2pm - 10.30pm

LINE UP: Fall Out Boy, The Academy Is, Thursday, Hundred Reasons, Capdown, The Hush Sound, and hellogoodbye, with even more to be announced.

HOW MUCH: £20

The aftershow, for those who didn't get tickets, is 'Slam Dunk' at the Met Union with DJs Ben Ray & Kev Fisher. It's gonna be Punk, Emo, Ska, Metal, Screamo & Hardcore-tastic!

Love Leeds

WHERE: Lotherton Hall, Leeds.

WHEN: Sunday 28th May

LINE UP: Felix de Housecat, Axwell, Greg Vickers, Krysko, Robbie Rivera, Stonebridge, Tom Novy, The Hoxton Whores, The Trophy Twins, Judge Jules, Marco V, Tall Paul, Sander Van Doorn, The Tidy Boys, Scott Project, Mark EG, Kutski (Radio 1), Alex Kidd, Tiefschwarz, M.A.N.D.Y, LuvDup and MANY more.

HOW MUCH: £39.95
£49.95 (V.I.P)

14 hours, 8 Arenas, 10,000 clubbers and a Bank Holiday Monday to recover! What more could you ask for.

Across The Tracks

WHERE: The Blank Canvas, Leeds.

WHEN: Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th July (*Subject to licence)

LINE UP: There will be a diverse line up which will be officially announced on Tuesday 2nd May.

HOW MUCH: £7

There will be a strong emphasis on new and interesting music as well as local bands, with a music policy across the board from guitar, electro, indie and folk to funk, soul, jazz, and hip hop, with both live bands and DJs. Keep your eyes peeled for this one!

House Music

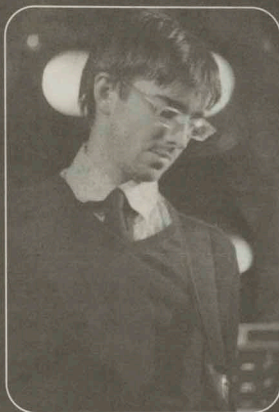
ADVANCE REVIEW!

The Futureheads New and Tributes 679 Recordings

Leeds three-piece, **The Lodger**, are quickly making friends in the industry with their mix of saccharine guitar pop and bitter lyrics. Hell, they're even *Leeds Student's* Single of the Week. High praise, indeed. With this in mind, *Richard Crisp* went to meet bassist Joe and leadsinger Ben to talk Dance To The Radio, Top of the Pops and Editors.

How did The Lodger come into being?

B: I feel like I need to explain, some people must think I must be a complete wanker because band members keep leaving but I jumped into an unsettled line-up. The Lodger originated as a solo project but I was offered the chance to perform at a gig with the Kaiser Chiefs and the Crips so I had to get a band together so I got Bruce on drums and I taught Lisa to play bass. Since things started to get serious though, Lisa couldn't commit to the band and Bruce decided to stay loyal to The Somatics so now we've got Joe on bass and Katie on drums.



Now that we're up to speed on the past, what plans do you have for the future?

B: Well we're on a couple of compilations at the moment and there's the single to keep things ticking over. Then the plan is to put out a collection of the singles so far and then work on an album.

Up to now you've worked with Alan Smyth, do you think you'll continue to work with him in the future?

J: Yeah, he's got a really good approach to things in that he doesn't look for the technical parts of songs, he looks for the feel of songs, which suits me.

B: You can tell he's a songwriter himself and has a real feel for it.

What music are you listening to at the moment?

B: I like Girls Aloud. Their single 'Biology' is in the top three of my most played songs on iTunes. It has a verse then a chorus and then another chorus. What the fuck!

J: One band I'm listening to a lot at the moment is The Research. I think their album's excellent. You just sort of sit there listening to it and think 'oh I

wish I'd written that'.

And what about bands that you don't like?

B: I'm not going to name any local bands. J: I don't really like Editors. I'm not a fan of bands that rock out. I think songs should be three minutes or less. Any longer than three minutes and you're in dodgy territory.

Your music is unashamedly pop but would you be willing to abandon your indie credentials and appear on Top of the Pops?

B: I'd go on Top of the Pops. You know The Smith's were on Top of the Pops all the time and they looked really good because they looked a bit weird, you know, like they shouldn't be there but they should be there.

The Lodger's new single is available from Monday and they're also playing the Leeds University Summer Ball. So watch out for them.



To read the full version of this interview, check out *May's Sandman Magazine*, which is available for free at various outlets throughout Leeds.

The Futureheads have emerged as perhaps the most idiosyncratic, original and innovative of the bands to come out of the post-punk influenced British indie revival. Along with peers Bloc Party, Maximo Park and some guys called The Kaiser Chiefs, the boys from Sunderland achieved megastardom off the back of their first album. As such the reception of their follow up could be viewed as an advance warning of whether the plethora of home grown success stories of recent years can ride out the media hype blitz and leave a lasting impression on British music.

The pitfall, as always with second albums, is that the music remains static while the band has moved on. Or that if a progression is made it's to a bloated, post-fame egotistical fantasy world. The surface details bode well; rather than relocate to a glitzy rock n' roll hub like London or Los Angeles, these four Mackem's opted to record 'Tributes and News' at a farmhouse-turned-studio on the distinctly unglamorous but, more importantly, distraction-free Yorkshire Moors. As the opening lines of 'Yes/No' attest to, keeping the ground firmly in sight is important here: 'Go home! Brick yourself in! Think about it properly! Go back to the beginning!'

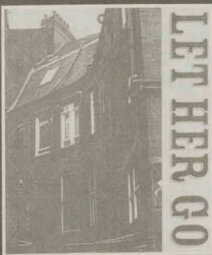
Musically the aforementioned opening track is frenetic, singalong and, in short, everything The Futureheads do so well. But heavier. Forthcoming single 'Skip to the End' revolves around a jangly guitar riff/ percussion heavy centrepiece and, while enjoyable enough, fails to pack any real punch. Elsewhere the album contains more than a few slower songs. This is where the only real gamble appears from a band who made their name with blink-and-you'll-miss-it indie disco hits. Of these the scratchy XTC-esque riffery and big marching beat of the title track are the most noteworthy. This slowing of pace is unfortunate; elsewhere in song writing and musicianship the Futureheads have become more intricate and polished without losing the catchiness exemplified in their trademark vocal harmonies.

The frenzied guitar work of 'Return of the Berserker' and slicing chords of closer 'Face', along with that still irresistible regional twang in the vocals, ensure the more plodding numbers are buoyed up by the stronger material. While it seems doubtful this will become an instant classic as 'The Futureheads' did, 'News and Tributes' is a staunch and rewarding follow up. 8/10
Joe Dennett

Single Of The Week

The Lodger 'Let Her Go' 'We Come From The Same Place'

(Angular Records)
For all you Sienna-worshipping, Vivienne-wearing, rose-sipping fashionistas, just so that you know what to buy from Topshop: flowers are in this summer. Or, at least, that's what The Lodger would have you think. But then, every day in The Lodger's world is summer and new single 'Let Her Go' is no exception. It's the sound of butterflies fluttering playfully in the sunshine with horns and lyrics just starkly enough so that it doesn't sound too much like the Polyphonic Spree. Take it outside, plant it in your garden, water it twice a day, and watch it blossom. But not before you've listened to the ace b-side, 'We Come From The Same Place'.



...And The Rest

Del Amitri are back! Oh no, my mistake: it's **Snow Patrol** with new single 'You Are All I Have' (Interscope) and it's about as urgent, important and life-changing as a Del Amitri comeback tour. Third albums often leave bands in front of a forked road and Snow Patrol have taken the road most travelled: the road to selling out stadiums, stateside success and selling out any modicum of credibility they had after the release of *Final Straw*. 'You're all I have' is so built for Wembley encores that it actually drags the lighter out of your back pocket and waves it in the air for you.

Speaking of Stadium, the **Red Hot Chili Peppers** are back as well with the lead single off new album, *Stadium Arcadium*. The rock pioneers who brought us such cerebral classics as 'Catholic School Girls Rule' and 'Give It Away' have rested on their laurels with the O-Clite 'Dani California' (Warner). Kiedis should start taking smack again because it definitely made

him a more inspirational lyricist.

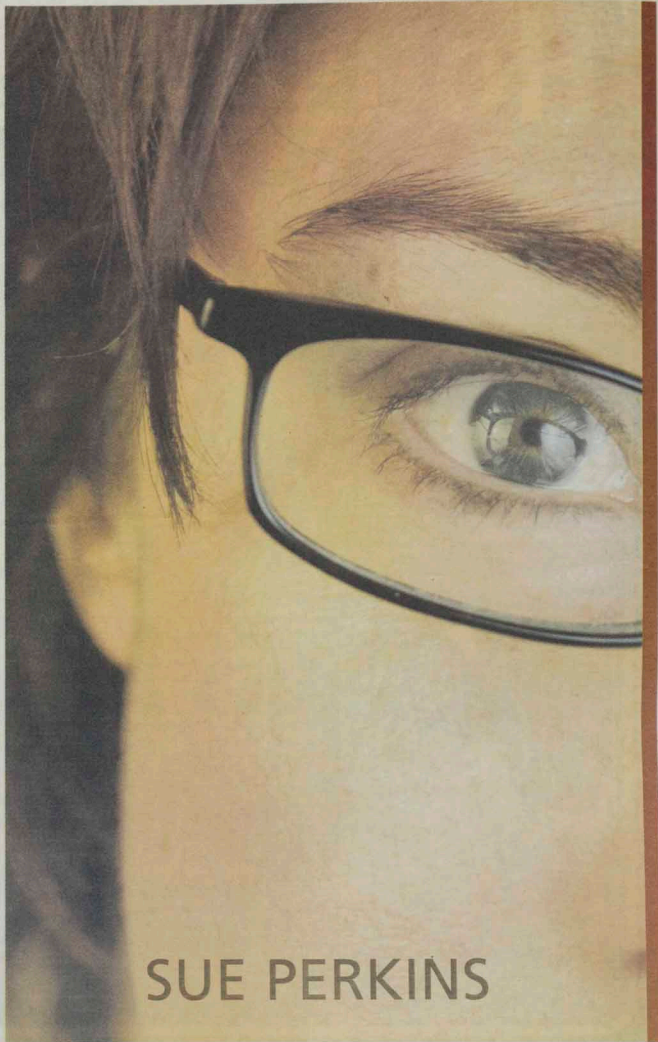
Continuing the trend of eighties revivals, **Beatfreakz** have dragged Rockwell and Michael Jackson from the grave of commercial suicide and jazzed 'Someone is Watching Me' (Data) up for a noughties club audience. Except for 'jazzed it up' read 'done nothing at all' and for 'noughties club audience' read 'kids in the playground'. Anyway, at least Beatfreakz are unashamed in their pillaging of the best bits of the eighties and don't try and disguise it as something new. Like Fischerspooner.

'Five square pegs in one round hole, Five opposites; no common dress code, no two-tone hair, no skinny T-shirts.' **Captain's** description of themselves suggests that they wouldn't last five minutes at the Fab before being kicked out in a whirlwind of polka dots, horizontal stripes and second hand leather. 'Broke' (EM) though, and it's Joy Division homage disguised as twee-pop would go down a treat.



AN INTERVIEW WITH

SUE PERKINS



It's a rainy Wednesday night and a slight, brunette woman is making an audience in Leeds laugh about getting stuck in the city's inner ring road, which she compares to being in a pinball machine. It is Sue Perkins' first UK tour without comedy partner Mel Giedroyc, but unlike fellow duo Rik Mayall and Ade Edmondson, she was quick to tell me there hadn't been a dramatic bust-up.

"Mel can't tour at the moment, she's got small kids, and I've always wanted to try stand up," she said. "So there's no trauma or scandal - we're far too low-

key for that."

In fact, when talking about Giedroyc, with whom she co-hosted daytime TV shows such as (ital) *Light Lunch*, (ital) *Late Lunch* and (ital) *Ri:SE*, Perkins' language became almost elegiac.

"We were just very close and very connected and very similar. I'd never met anyone who could make me just cry with laughter.

"Someone said to me that I'll never love anyone as much as I love Mel, and in a way that's true, in an entirely platonic relationship. At its heart it's quintessential-

ly perfect - the perfect sexless relationship."

The pair met while they were both students at Cambridge University and members of the comedy club Footlights.

"It was my first-ever stand-up gig. She was in the audience, pissed and heckling - and we became mates. She was violently sick that night, I remember that."

After graduating, Perkins began to work as an English teacher, a move which was to prove unsuccessful.

"The only skill I really learnt from teaching was the skill to avoid being

teacher ever again," she said.

"I was a terrible teacher. I wasn't very much older than the kids. I was 21 and they were 14. It felt like I was in a room with my sister and I've never felt that I can teach my sister anything.

"Equally, it felt like I had nothing to say to these kids. I was teaching in an inner-city comprehensive, and they were just savvy."

In the meantime, the 'Mel and Sue' double act was put on a back-burner - until Perkins received a surprise phone call from Jennifer Saunders.

"I thought it was somebody taking the piss actually. I thought it was my friend Sarah doing an impression. I said, 'That's the worst impression I've ever heard. Could you go away and improve that because she doesn't speak like that. Goodbye, you idiot.'

"Then ten minutes later Mel phoned in a state of shock. I thought someone had died. She said, 'I've just had an answer machine message from Jennifer Saunders...'"

Luckily, Saunders didn't take offence and asked the pair to write material for (ital) French and Saunders.

From there, Channel 4 invited the duo to host the daytime chat show (ital) Light Lunch, which then spawned the early-evening version (ital) Late Lunch. For a while, Giedroyc and Perkins were the unstoppable queens of quick-witted but inoffensive TV chat.

When asked to name her highlight from these years, Perkins reacts lightning-quick:

"Meeting David Hasselhoff. The Hoffmeister. Germany's über-rock god. The leather-faced, shiny shoe-wearing Baywatch babe. It doesn't get better than that. A magical moment." she said, laughing.

"I hate going through the list of people that you really like that you've interviewed but honestly we had such a laugh. We have interviewed most people and they were all great, actually, in the main.

"But I don't like to say what was my best moment because it sort of implies 'game over'. That was the glitzy, lucky, high-end slice of my career and now I'm just doing things that are weird and testing and interesting."

A stint on Channel 4's morning show (ital) RI:SE, which replaced the axed Big Breakfast, was less successful for the



"I'd never met anyone who could make me just cry with laughter."

pair and they ended up appearing in the best-not-mentioned Kingsmill adverts.

From that point, there was only one route left to take - reality TV. Perkins said her appearance on (ital) Celebrity Big Brother in 2002 was "forgettable - and forgotten". On the show she had appeared withdrawn, almost morose.

"It's a great programme. I just shouldn't have been in it," she said. Perhaps her demeanour on the show was as a result of her recent break-up with fellow comedian Rhona Cameron (who had openly discussed the dissolution of their relationship when she appeared on (ital) I'm A Celebrity, Get Me Out of Here)? Perkins denied that she had been 'outed' by Cameron on the show.

"Yes, it got mentioned, but best not to say by whom because I wouldn't want to stir that up again."

Did she regret not coming out herself beforehand?

"No, I think everyone has their own time frame. If I stand for anything its defending the right to do it when you want to do it. I'm not ashamed of anything really. I think it's easy for people to say 'You should have done it before' but it wouldn't have been very appropriate if I had done it before, because before that relationship I was actually shagging a bloke.

"There's a limit to what people deserve to know about me but there's also an obligation and I'm glad that I'm out and [have fulfilled] that part of the bargain. I've no regrets about being out and I'm very proud and delighted with being gay, actually. It's my favourite thing."

And had she spoken to her fellow CBB housemates since the show?

"I met Mark [Owen]'s ex-girlfriend and we texted him. He's grand, he's about to start touring. And Goldie's such a magical bloke. I really love him. And, bizarrely, I bumped into Anne Diamond, so there's no bad will between anybody."

Now Perkins, 36, divides her time between performing stand-up shows, appearing on Radio 4 programmes and writing her first novel, which she described as "dark, nasty, unpleasant, twisted fiction, with no jokes in".

So did she have any plans to resurrect the double-act with Mel?

"I'd like us to tour, but we're getting a little bit older, you know. So we'll see."

Claire Armstrong

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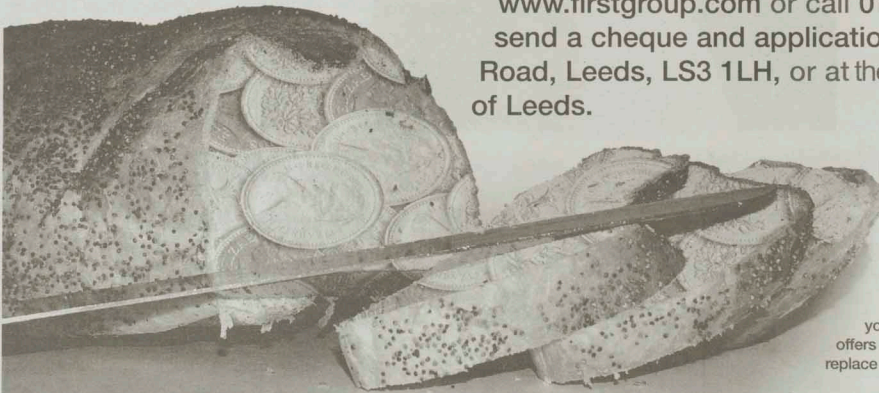
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Easter Treats

Last Week's Television with Laurie Whitwell

The Easter break provided many things: a much deserved rest from studious exertions; the tempting beginning to summer with hints of sunshine, smiles and, erm, sandals; and an obligatory cool-off of egg-related chocolate. *Forrest Gump* once philosophised that "life is like a box of chocolates", but what the lovable moron didn't know was that his sentiment of unpredictability could also be extended rather nicely to a show that has irrationally become compulsive and gripping viewing: *Shipwrecked: Battle of the Islands*.

Pitched with the commendable (and false) premise that it follows the five-month journey of castaways "challenging themselves with nature" and "discovering their inner-selves", *Shipwrecked* is really an excuse for the viewing public to sit back and gawp at bikini-clad women and Speedo-attired males posturing around white beaches and swimming in the picturesque Pacific Ocean. Personally, I have no qualms with the producers employing their powers of selection and choosing mainly "Beautiful People" to inhabit the islands, as doing so provides a well-timed visual message on a Sunday morning; the perfect tonic for a hangover. And the chocolate box

"Shipwrecked is an excuse for the viewing public to gawp at bikini-clad women"

assortment of eye-candy that has developed in both Shark and Tiger tribes manages to cater for all tastes (here's where my attempted analogy gets a bit tenuous): for the masses there's the classic milk chocolate kind of beauty that Laura and Katie possess; those who enjoy only the finest delicacies have the luxurious treats of model Leah and sugary Anna; and exotic indulgences, like Buddhist Annie and Turkish Delight Alara, are there for those with an acquired palate (apologies for the clearly male bias, here). The makers have even managed to complete the confectionary collection by including the 'unfortunate' Charlie Freeman who personifies that dodgy-tasting choccy left in the box at the end that even the sweetest-toothed chocolate-lover refuses to touch.

The added spice of the competition format that's been mixed in for a bit of substance provides the perfect excuse for repeated tuning-in. Not really to see which tribe the new arrival will join, but to observe what ingenious games the groups have invented in order to convince said new arrival to choose their island. These schemes

"the mantra of 'taking one for the team' is often shouted"

often involve lots of drinking, blindfolding and nudity – in that order – while the mantra of "taking one for the team" is shouted (apparently that means pretending you fancy someone to entice them onto your island, crazy eh?). What has also resulted from the element of rivalry is a good deal of non-intentional comedy with many incidents of self-doubling tactical talks, embarrassing team-bonding exercises (we're talking of The Office proportions) and much crying and girly fighting when the latest castaway makes a contentious choice.

Not content with getting a thinly veiled 18-30s holiday on the house, these pushy freeloaders expect to win prize money if they belong to the triumphant island with most inhabitants. A whopping £70,000! Oh, wait, they have to share it between the 15 of them? Which when worked out at four-and-a-half grand each, it becomes debatable whether it's much reward for giving up work for half a year, especially when you consider they could have been one of those work-shy loons opening boxes on *Deal or No Deal* for equally as long and walking away with a load of dosh. Get that banker on the phone, primitives!



Key takes one for the team



Something takes the biscuit for Crawford

Is *The Simpsons* as funny as it used to be?

The Simpsons is the longest running animation series in history and has recently aired its 371st episode. Remarkably, it is still as funny as ever. The show's enduring appeal is a result of quality writing and a vast array of secondary and cameo characters, many of whom have become cult figures. By catering for its cult audience without alienating its mainstream appeal, *The Simpsons* has extended its natural lifespan and looks set to remain on our screens for years to come. The Introduction of Ricky Gervais as a guest writer

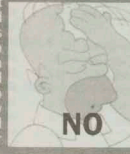


YES

managed to achieve the impossible and actually make the show funnier. The people who say *The Simpsons* isn't funny anymore are just comic-book guy geeks who can't take the fact that their little cult show doesn't belong to them anymore and has gone on to bigger and better things. Gervais' episode got the highest viewing ratings in *Simpsons* history; would people still bother tuning in if it wasn't funny?

Douglas Cribbage

At its peak, *The Simpsons* was the funniest show on television. People forgave its shameless merchandising and cultural ubiquity because underneath all that was a programme with the perk of having an animated cast was that *The Simpsons* was more durable than its live-action competitors: Bart could remain ten forever, and this seemed to be a good thing. However, the laughs began to dry up. By season ten the show appeared to be starved of ideas and deteriorated into a shell of its former



NO

self, its trademark virtues of parody and irony replaced by lazy slapstick pratfalls and clumsy surrealism. It still has flashes of brilliance, but has simply run out of steam. There are now almost more bad episodes of *The Simpsons* than good ones, and that's sad, because it should be remembered as the greatest show of all time. It probably won't be anymore, and not even our Ricky can change that, as his lacklustre episode proved.

Phil Spooner



Gerard Rebecchi: Hair bands are like so 1986.



Susan Kennedy: Erinsborough News is Susan's choice.



Libby Kennedy: Why silence is a virtue...

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Issue 20

Erinsborough News

Her Majesty's Neighbours

Elizabeth Leyland
Ramsay Street Correspondent

As part of her eightieth birthday celebrations, Queen Elizabeth embarked on a surprise tour of Ramsay Street. A small crowd waited to welcome her. Janae barged to the front and presented her majesty with a bunch of flowers accompanied by her phone number. She explained that Prince William was welcome to ring her "any time he wants". Her majesty nodded and smiled.

Between Erinsborough High School and Lassiters, there was a short pause while the Queen answered a call. "Darling mama, please tell Harry that an Osama bin Laden costume will be just as popular with The Sun as his Nazi one." Resounding cool, she whispered

"Do be quiet, dear, until you're off speakerphone."

After gushing service from Lou at the General Store, her majesty overheard Steph discussing "Charlie", her unborn baby. "If it was a girl she would have been Camilla." "What excellent taste", muttered the Queen, without a hint of sarcasm; "those names suit each other so well."

Harold announced that the visit was to conclude with a special Royal send-off. The citizens of Ramsay Street sang "God Save The Queen", accompanied by the Salvation Army band (that unfortunately happened to be playing "Happy Birthday" at the time). Her majesty discreetly tucked Janae's phone number into her ear to dampen the din. "You're welcome here any time, M'am" Paul



Robinson offered, charmingly, but he received a Royal "Pardon?"

"Many Happy Returns, darling", said Prince Philip, when reunited with his wife. "To Ramsay Street? In another eighty years that would be delightful", replied Queen Elizabeth.

Oprah Winfrey Would You?



Would you like to find yourself on a sofa with the big O? Let us know.

Text 07969549125
or email
ls2@uldyou@hotmail.co.uk



Michael Portillo 66% Would

"Hey Mickey, you're so fine, you're so fine, you blow my ...mind" Jo, 18

"Good ol' Mickey blue eyes: hell yeah" Mo, 21

"Oh, I thought you said 'armadillo' Jon, 18

Friday
April
28



William B. Svoygart

Tonight's episode could be a case of booking interesting guests then putting them together in the wrong formation. Your host is the usually-reliable Sean Lock, and the guests are the civil rights campaigner Shami Chakrabarti and Peter Capaldi, a.k.a. evil Malcolm Tucker from *The Thick Of It*. Now, on paper you

have three interesting figures, but put in the context of HIGNFY it's difficult to see how it'll work: Lock's usually at his best as a quipping guest panellist; when she has someone to argue with Chakrabarti is fantastic, but it looks like she probably doesn't here; and Capaldi's an actor, presumably best suited to having people

interview him about acting, which isn't going to happen tonight. The three of them have the potential to be fantastic, but equally might end up falling rather flat. It'll still be better than *Grumpy Old Men*, though, because it won't feature John Stapleton's opinions on skateboarding.

Pick of the Day

Have I Got News For You

BBC ONE, 9pm

clubs

Cockpit
THE SESSION
guitar, electro, disco
punk & retro indie

Dr Wu's
COMMUNITY
Neil Jacques & crew

Faversham
NEW BOHEMIA
funk, soul, hip hop
with First Word
Soundsystem

HiFi Club
FUNKSOULNATION
70's soul, funk with
Jazzanova

Majestyk
FRIDAY NIGHT
Ibiza anthems, r'n'b,
dance, chart & party

Metropolitan Uni
STAR
new wave & indie

Rehab
FRIDAYS@REHAB
r'n'b

Soul Circus
SEXBEAT
garage, indie

Wardrobe
EXPANSIONS
round the globe with
live acts & eclectic
DJ sets

Wire
MOMENTUM
d'n'b with Artificial
Intelligence, Utah
Jazz, TC1, Stress
Level

Cockpit
RICK WITTER & THE DUKES

Fenton
GRASSHOPPER

Vine
THE GOOD DIE YOUNG

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born 1993

BBC ONE

6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Missing. 10.00 City Hospital. 11.00 Homes Under the Hammer. 11.30 Car Booty. 12.15 Cash In The Attic. 1.00 BBC News: Weather. 1.30 Regional News: Weather. 1.40 Neighbours. 2.05 Director's Debut - The Lightning Kid. 2.55 Director's Debut - Stephen Tompkinson's Story. 3.20 BBC News: Regional News. 3.25 CBBC. 5.35 Neighbours.

6.00 BBC News
6.30 Look North: Weather
6.55 Party Election Broadcast.

7.00 A Question Of Sport. With Richard Dumwood and Shelley Rudman

7.30 Airport. The victorious European Ryder Cup team return home.

8.00 EastEnders. Little Mo is horrified when Freddie is taken to hospital - and even more upset that everyone blames her for his condition. Deano sets out to teach Grant a lesson.

8.30 My Family. With Ben away, Susan decides to take her mother to a cocktail night at the art gallery, where she mistakes a dealer for a courier. Last in series.

9.00 Have I Got News For You. Comedian Sean Lock quest hosts the satirical current affairs quiz, with panellists Peter Capaldi and Shami Chakrabarti.

9.30 The Smith & Jones Sketchbook. The duo discuss the writers they have worked with, including Rory McGrath, and delve into the comedy archives to showcase some of the work they produced.

10.00 BBC News
10.35 Regional News: Weather
10.35 Friday Night With Jonathan Ross. With Amanda Redman and Dennis Waterman.

11.35 FILM: Ace Ventura: Pet Detective (1993). Comedy, starring Jim Carrey.

12.55 FILM: Hercules In New York (1965). Comic adventure, starring Arnold Schwarzenegger.

2.30 BBC News 24

BBC TWO

7.00 CBBC. 8.30 CBeebies. 10.30 Schools. 12.00 The Daily Politics. 12.30 Working Lunch. 1.30 Snooker: The World Championship. The semi-finals continue in Sheffield.

6.25 Party Election Broadcast. 6.30 Party British Menu. Chefs Galton Blackston and Antony Worrall Thompson prepare to face the judges as they discover who will be representing the Midlands and East region in the grand final.

7.00 Snooker: The World Championship. Live coverage of the third and penultimate session of the opening semi-final at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield. The two players will return tomorrow afternoon for their final session, aiming to follow in the footsteps of last year's finalists Matthew Stevens and Shaun Murphy.

9.00 Battle For Warsaw. Timewatch investigates the Poles' wartime battle against Nazi forces to recapture their capital city, Warsaw. Victory for them would have signified a major achievement, but their attempts to force Hitler out were scuppered when the Red Army failed to support them.

9.50 What The Ancients Did For Us. The legacy of the Romans.

10.00 Grumpy Old Men. Celebrities including Rory McGrath, Rick Wakeman and Will Self offer a mature perspective on modern technology and the binds of daily life.

10.30 Newsnight
11.00 Newsnight Review
11.35 Snooker: The World Championship. Highlights of the semi-finals at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield.

12.25 FILM: If These Walls Could Talk 2 (2000). Drama, starring Vanessa Redgrave: The Witness

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. 2.00 60 Minute Makeover. 2.59 Local Weather. 3.00 CITV. POCOY. 3.05 Dog And Duck. 3.20 Uncle Max. 3.35 The Amazing Adrenalini Brothers. 3.45 Grizzly Tales For Gruesome Kids. 4.00 Bratz. 4.30 Rising Damp. 5.00 Wycliffe.

6.00 Calendar: Weather. 6.25 Party Election Broadcast. 6.30 ITV Evening News: Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. Dawn receives a custodial sentence, while Jimmy has grand plans for the show home at the development. Val plans to commit political suicide to appease Pollard.

7.30 Coronation Street. Social worker Genna pays the Battersby-Browns a visit, where Cilla gives a rare and impassioned speech in defence of her family. Gail considers tranquilisers to help her sleep.

8.00 Tonight With Trevor McDonald. Hard-hitting investigative reports exploring the stories behind the headlines.

8.30 A Touch Of Frost. DI A kidnapper demands a ransom from a supermarket magnate in return for sparing the life of a boy who has been reported missing. Frost manages to identify a likely suspect - but with no clues to go on, it looks as if throwing away the rule book may be the only way to save the child. David Jason stars.

10.30 ITV News: Weather
11.00 Tarrant On TV. A comedian taking a break in a tank of scorpions, and Americans coming up with a novel way to film raunchy scenes.

11.35 Orange Playblast. Celebrity guests' favourite tracks. 12.00 The Mint. 4.05 Jeremy Kyle Show. 5.00 Jobfinder. 5.30 ITV Morning News.

4

6.00 Grabbit The Rabbit. 6.10 The Hoobs. 7.00 84. 7.30 Friends. 8.00 Everybody Loves Raymond. 8.25 Will & Grace. 8.55 Frasier. 9.25 Playing It Straight USA. 10.15 My Big Fat Obnoxious Boss. 11.10 Without A Trace. 12.00 News. 12.30 House Auction. 1.00 Racing from Sandown Park. 2.00 A Place In The Sun: Home Or Away. 3.00 Come Dine With Me. 3.30 Countdown. 4.15 Deal Or No Deal. 5.00 The New Paul O'Grady Show. Daily show.

6.00 The Simpsons. Marge enlists in the local police academy.

6.30 Hollyoaks. Russ's troubles come back to haunt him.

7.00 Channel 4 News
7.30 Unreported World. Documentary charting the rise in Kenya's poverty-stricken areas.

8.00 Will & Grace. Guest starring Luke Perry.

8.30 Will & Grace. Will agrees to fire Karen's pastry chef - until he comes up with a novel recipe.

8.30 Eric McCormack and Debra Messing star.

9.00 Green Wing. Caroline begins to regret her choice of lodger, and Dr Statham decides to enter the world of politics. Meanwhile, Martin becomes a pimp.

10.00 My Name Is Earl. Buying a Mother's Day gift is next on Earl's list as he tries to make up for all the years he didn't bother. Comedy, starring Jason Lee.

10.30 Beauty And The Geek. The couples undergo further challenges, including rescuing mobile phones from trees and rowing a boat filled with fluffy toys across a lake.

11.30 Keane: Video Exclusive.
11.35 Live 24. Coverage from the music event.

1.10 The Sopranos. 2.15 The Sopranos. 3.15 Poker Nations Cup. 4.45 3 Minute Wonder: I Saw You. 4.50 3 Minute Wonder: I Saw You. 5.00 Countdown. 5.45 Vee-TV.

five

6.00 Milkshake! 9.00 The Wright Stuff. 10.30 Trisha Goddard. 11.30 Five News. 12.00 Home And Away. 12.30 BrainTeaser. 1.40 FILM: Sleeping With The Devil (1997). Drama, starring Shannon Doherty. 3.30 FILM: Don't Talk To Strangers (1994). Thriller, starring Pierce Brosnan. 5.30 Five News.

6.00 Home And Away. Tasha reveals she has joined a religious cult.

6.30 Two And A Half Men. Charlie tries to manage his money. Weather.

7.00 Five News. The day's headlines around the world, with Helen Fospero.

7.30 Bear Attack. Documentary telling the tale of the fatal attacks that have been carried out by the Kodiak bears of south western Alaska, and the possible reasons for their vicious behaviour.

8.30 Nice House, Shame About The Garden. New series. Designer Robbie Honey heads up the team giving neglected gardens a new look. The group come to the aid of a Bromsgrove couple with a neglected and overgrown backyard.

9.00 Ant And Dec: A Showbiz Marriage. Documentary profiling the Georgie duo's rise to stardom, from their first appearances on children's TV show Byker Grove to gaining the lead roles in British movie Alien Autopsy.

10.00 Law & Order. A new apartment block is torched and a woman is caught in the blaze. Police drama, starring Jerry Orbach.

11.00 Law & Order: Special Victims Unit. The team's search for a serial rapist leads them to a suspect who was the victim of the same crime as a child.

12.00 John Barnes' Football Night. 12.55 Boxing Fight Of The Week. 2.10 Kickboxing: Now Is The Time - Night Of Combat. 3.00 Indy Car Series. 3.50 Poker Night. 5.20 World Supercross Grand Prix.

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William B. Swygart

Proclaiming this to be the best film magazine on terrestrial TV isn't saying much, because that just means it's better than *Film 'n' Sadly, Wimbledon* fails to live up to expectations? *2006* and Five's *Movie Lounge*, which is basically 45 minutes of wanting Giles Coren to desist from harassing your television. *Talking Movies*

is impressive enough on its own, though, considering the range of films they cover and analyse – it has got much more depth than you'd expect an arts programme on *News 24* to have. This week, for instance, the programme looks at Robert DeNiro's Tribeca Film Festival and asks if it's becoming too Hollywood.' It's

difficult to think of any other terrestrial programme that would even mention the Tribeca Film Festival, let alone attempt any kind of critical analysis of it. Oh, and Tom Brook standing in Times Square brings back fond memories of James Richardson presenting *Giuseppe Football Italia*. Mmm, cappuccino...

Pick of the Day

Talking Movies

BBC TWO, 12.50pm

clubs

Cockpit
THE GARAGE
rock, punk, metal

Discotheque
ROGER SANCHEZ*

Fab Cafe
THE ROBOT'S REJECT CLUB
punk, indie

Faversham
BAD SNEAKERS
funk, soul, hip hop with Johnny Florida

Fruit Cupboard
BASS CITY GROOVERS
funk, house

Highwood Hotel
JOE PALLOKA'S SOUVILLE
soul, Motown, r'n'b

Mint
TECHNIQUE
Ricardo Villalobos

My House
BACK TO BASICS
Ian Smaggle & Jon So Tinxo

Rehab
SUGAR DADDY
disco, soul, house

Warehouse
SPEEDQUEEN
house, disco, r'n'b

Wine
ROCK&ROLL
DJ Debstar

Faversham
HOWLING BELLS

Millennium Square
KAISER CHIEFS

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BBC ONE

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen. **11.30** Great British Menu. **12.00** BBC News: Weather. **12.10** Football Focus. **1.00** Grandstand. **1.05** Snooker: The World Championship. **2.20** Around the Grounds. **2.30** Snooker: The World Championship. **3.45** Football Half-Times. **3.50** Snooker: World Championship. Times may vary. **4.30** Final Score. **5.10** BBC News: Regional News: Weather. **5.30** Weakest Link.

6.20 **Strictly Dance Fever.** Graham Norton invites the remaining eight couples to razzle-dazzle on the dance floor with their cheeky Charleston and guapacha routines in a bid to win the all-important vote.

7.20 **Doctor Who.** The Doctor investigates reports of strange creatures in a London school – and encounters a couple of old companions. Guest starring Anthony Head and Elisabeth Sladen.

8.05 **The National Lottery: Jet Set.** Eamonn Holmes introduces the quiz in which hopeful contestants battle it out to win a round-the-world trip.

8.40 **Casualty.** Maggie tries to hide her anguish as she tells her children they have the chance to go to Malaysia with their father. Receptionist Alice packs her bags and Ellen is caught off guard.

9.30 **Strictly Dance Fever.** Graham Norton returns to announce the result of the viewers' vote.

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

10.20 **Match Of The Day.** Highlights of today's Premiership clashes, including the crunch game at Stamford Bridge between Chelsea and Manchester United.

11.40 **FILM: Dracula 2000 (2000).** Stylish horror, starring Jonny Lee Miller.

1.15 **Friday Night With Jonathan Ross**

2.15 **BBC News 24**

BBC TWO

6.00 Boogie Biebies: CBeebies Birthdays. **6.20** Tweenies. **6.40** Big Cook, Little Cook. **7.00** CBBC. **12.00** See Hear!: The Witness. **12.50** Talking Movies. **1.15** **FILM: Murder At The Gallop (1963).** Mystery, starring Margaret Rutherford.

2.35 **FILM: The Horse Soldiers (1959).** Western, starring John Wayne and William Holden.

4.30 **Snooker: The World Championship.** The first semi-final reaches a conclusion. **5.30** Great British Menu.

6.00 **Flog It!** Paul Martin presents a valuation day from the BBC in Bristol, taking a trip on one of the city's ferries and admiring sets of antique woodworking tools

7.00 **Snooker: The World Championship.** Hazel Irvine is at the Crucible Theatre to present live coverage of the closing session of the second semi-final, where the winner is guaranteed prize money of at least £100,000. Subsequent programmes subject to change.

10.00 **Q: Quite Interesting.** Quiz with a difference, as Stephen Fry poses questions and awards points for the most interesting answers. Panelists Bill Bailey, Rob Brydon, Rich Hall and Alan Davies attempt to discuss topics including custard, Cardiff and campanology.

10.30 **Joebuilding: The Stalin Heritage Trail.** Jonathan Meades takes about the architecture that sprang up under the Russian leader's rule.

11.40 **Never Mind The Buzzcocks.** Dale Winton hosts the music quiz show, with guests Suzi Quatro, Sally Lindsay, Ben Fogle and Andy Fairweather-Low. Last in series.

12.10 **FILM: Bandolero! (1968)** Western adventure. James Stewart stars: The Witness

2.00 **BBC Learning Zone**

itv 1

6.00 GMTV. **9.25** Holly And Stephen's Saturday Showdown. **11.30** Sabrina The Teenage Witch. **12.00** ITV News: Weather. **12.05** Calendar News And Weather. **12.15** GP2. **12.45** **FILM: The Absent-Minded Professor (1961).** Disney fantasy comedy, starring Fred MacMurray. **2.25** The Rockford Files. **3.25** **FILM: Up Pompeii (1971).** Bawdy Roman rom, starring Frankie Howerd.

5.05 **Calendar News And Sport.** Weather. **5.20** **ITV News And Sport.** Weather. **5.35** **FILM: Hulk (2003).** Premiere. Comic-strip adventure, starring Eric Roberts.

8.05 **Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?** Chris Tarrant invites another line-up of contestants to have a go at answering 15 questions that could change their lives – with Ask the Audience, Phone a Friend and 50-50 available to them if they get stuck.

9.05 **Ultimate Force.** New series of the drama about an elite SAS unit, starring Ross Kemp. Red Troop are sent to a former Soviet state, where they are told to work with local forces to rescue an embassy worker's kidnapped daughters. Hemo is forced to swallow his pride and submit to the orders of new captain Patrick Fleming – but starts to suspect some of the soldiers helping them in the mission are actually trying to sabotage the rescue attempt.

11.05 **ITV News: Weather**

11.20 **Local Weather**

11.20 **FILM: Another 48 Hrs (1990).** Average comedy thriller sequel, starring Eddie Murphy as the wisecracking convict who once again joins forces with tough San Francisco cop Nick Nolte.

1.10 The Mint. Game show.

4.05 **People's Court.** Real-life disputes.

5.00 Nightscreen.

5.30 **ITV Morning News.**

4

6.10 Hoobs. **6.35** Hoobs. **7.00** 4Endurance. **7.30** Formula 3. **8.00** The Morning Line. **8.50** T4: Futurama. **9.20** T4: Live 24. **9.30** T4: Mission Impossible 3: Evolution Of A Blockbuster. **10.05** T4: Popworld. **10.55** T4: Friends. **11.20** T4: Beauty And The Geek. **12.30** T4: Live 24. **12.40** T4: Shipwrecked 2006: Battle Of The Islands. **1.50** T4: Live 24. **2.00** Racing From Sandown Park And Ripon. The 3.15 **Betfred Gold Cup Chase (H/cap)** (3m 5 1/2f). **4.10** It's Me Or The Dog. **4.40** Supernanny. **5.45** Deal Or No Deal.

6.35 **Channel 4 News**

7.05 **Britain Without Water.** The Channel 4 News team assesses the water shortages across the UK this summer, and question what can be done to ease drought conditions.

7.35 **A World Without Water.** An investigation into the increasingly high-profile issue of uneven water supplies around the globe, with the struggle to obtain uncontaminated liquids causing the deaths of 300,000 children a day.

The programme follows the experiences of four families in Bolivia, India, Tanzania and the US and explores what the future may hold in a world where the demand for clean water could rise significantly.

9.05 **FILM: The Last Of The Mohicans (1992).** Legendary frontiersman Hawkeye rescues and falls in love with a British officer's daughter during the Anglo-French War in North America. Adventure, starring Daniel Day-Lewis.

11.10 **Green Wing.** Caroline begins to regret her choice of lodger, and Dr Statham decides to enter the world of politics.

12.15 **4Music: Live 24.** **1.45** Album Chart. **2.10** Coldcut. **2.25** Akala. **2.35** Moco. **2.45** Michael Jackson's Moments. **2.55** King Of The Hill. **3.20** Poker Nations Cup. **4.50** Punk'd. **5.15** Countdown.

five

6.00 Sunrise. **6.55** Milkshake! **11.40** The Gadget Show. **12.25** Fifth Gear. **1.30** **FILM: Untamed Frontier (1952).** Western, starring Joseph Cotten. **2.50** **FILM:**

The Island At The Top Of The World (1974). Disney fantasy adventure, starring Donald Sinden. **4.40** **Charmé.** **5.30** **FILM: A League Of Our Own (1992).** Alcoholic coach Tom Hanks reluctantly agrees to train an all-female baseball team. Sentimental comedy drama, also starring Geena Davis.

5.50 **Five News And Sport Update** on the day's headlines and fixtures, presented by Helen Fospero.

8.05 **NCIS.** The team investigate the case of a Navy lieutenant whose body is found 10 years after his disappearance. Declared a deserter, he received a dishonourable discharge – chiefly because \$11 million went missing from his ship's safe on the day he vanished.

9.00 **The Real CSI.** Series focusing on the work of forensic detectives in Las Vegas.

9.30 **CSI: NY.** A billionaire playboy and his date are shot by a Bowman during a party celebrating a local artist, leaving the girl dead, the host in shock – and detectives unsure which of the pair was the target. Gary Sinise and Melina Kanakaredes star.

10.30 **Law & Order: Criminal Intent.** Goren and Eames try to prevent a terminally ill banker robbing taking both his life and that of the unwitting accomplice he enlists to assist him with his final heists.

11.30 **FILM: Cobra (1986).** Brainless, violent thriller, starring Sylvester Stallone as a tough American cop who takes on an army of killers. With Brigitte Nielsen and Andrew Robinson.

1.00 **Quiz Call.** Interactive game show.

5.35 Animal Airport.

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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
April
30



William B. Swygart

Yes, technically it's Monday morning, but *King Of The Hill* really doesn't get enough love. It may not have the catchphrases of *The Simpsons* ("Yup" doesn't really count) or that bit in *Family Guy* where Chris gets pulled through the supermarket shelf into the video for 'Take On Me', but it has better charac-

ters than the pair of them. One could certainly argue that Peggy Hill is the best female lead character in any animated sitcom ever — she's much more than just the "saintly housewife cleaning up her husband's mistakes" that Lois Griffin and Marge Simpson all too often wind up being, but a proud, ambi-

tious, yet still strangely lovable woman, always desperate to prove herself and obstinate in her convictions, no matter how wrong they might be (e.g. her skills in Spanish). It's not quite as funny as its rivals at their peaks, but it's a lot more consistent, and arguably far more involving.

Pick of the Day

King of the Hill

Channel 4, 2.15am

clubs

Bar Risa
SUNDAY FUNK
ambient funky house & live music

Discotheque
GATECRASHER CLASSICS

John O'O Fleming, JFK, Tails 2XLC, Rank 1, Riley & Durrant, Stevie G, Grace, Filthy Rich, Tin Tin

Faversham
NEW BOHEMIA BANK HOLIDAY SPECIAL
with Afronaught, Quantic & guest

Fudge
SHINE
house music

Townhouse
100% LATINO
Lubi, Fabio B & DJ Silvaov with salsa, bachata, r'n'b latino

Fenton
CONQUEST OF STEEL

Millennium Square
THE KAISER CHIEFS

Vine
MISS BLACK AMERICA

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16th May
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24th May

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BBC ONE

6.00 Breakfast. 7.40 Match Of The Day. 9.00 Sunday AM.

10.00 The Heaven & Earth Show. 11.30 Bargain Hunt. 11.30 Countryfile. 12.00 The Politics Show. 1.00 Wallace & Gromit: The Wrong Trousers. 1.30 FILM: The Hunchback Of Notre Dame (1996). Disney animation, with the voices of Tom Hulce and Demi Moore. 2.55 EastEnders. 4.45 Lifestile. 4.55 Points Of View. 5.10 Songs Of Praise.

5.50 Antiques Roadshow. 6.35 The Impressionists. New series. Drama charting Claude Monet's part in creating Impressionism. The painter meets the contemporaries with whom he would found a new artistic movement. Julian Glover stars. 7.35 BBC News: Regional News: Weather

8.00 Mayo. Alex is offered a promotion in London, leaving her and Mayo to investigate what could be their last case together — the death of a cleaner asphyxiated with a dagger. Last in series. 9.00 Waking The Dead. Part one of two. An abandoned car belonging to a former Home Secretary is discovered in a Belfast garage, containing a skeleton and an unexploded bomb. Concludes after the news. 10.00 BBC News: Weather

10.20 Waking The Dead. Part two of two. The team search Alice Taylor-Garret's home and soon make a discovery which leads to yet another baffling revelation — but it's not long before the case takes an explosive turn. 11.20 FILM: Parenthood (1989). Family comedy, starring Steve Martin. Weatherview

1.20 Sign Zone: Holby City
2.20 Sign Zone: A Passion For Churches
2.50 Sign Zone: Armstrongs
3.20 Sign Zone: Stately Suppers
3.50 BBC News 24

BBC TWO

6.00 Boogie Beebies: CBeebies Birthdays. 6.20 Tweenies. 6.40 Big Cook, Little Cook. 7.00 CBBC: Batfink. 7.10 Krypto The Superdog. 7.30 5miles. 10.00 The Flying Gardeners. 10.15 Hands On Nature. 10.45 British Isles: A User's Guide To Natural History. 11.45 Super League Show. 12.30 Sunday Grandstand. Introduced by Hazel Irvine and Suzi Perry. 12.35 MotoGP. 2.00 Gymnastics. 3.00 Snooker: The World Championship. Times may vary. 6.00 Coast. Nicholas Crane continues around the Welsh coastline from Cardigan Bay to Llandudno, discovering how two bridges were built across the dangerous Menai Straits.

7.00 Top Of The Pops. Featuring Dirty Pretty Things, Graham Coxon and a live performance by the Red Hot Chili Peppers. 8.00 Snooker: The World Championship. Hazel Irvine and Ray Stubbs present live coverage of the second session of the final at the Crucible Theatre, where a further eight frames are scheduled to be played. Shaun Murphy was the surprise winner last year and the players will be looking to succeed the Rotherham man and take home a cheque for £200,000. With analysis from Steve Davis and John Parrott. Subsequent programmes subject to change.

10.30 Match Of The Day 2. Review of the day's Premiership action, featuring Tottenham Hotspur v Bolton Wanderers at White Hart Lane. 11.20 FILM: The Wild Bunch (1969). A group of ageing outlaws, bound by a private code of honour and friendship, find themselves at odds with early 20th-century society. Western, starring William Holden.

1.40 BBC News 24
2.00 BBC Learning Zone

itv 1

6.00 GMTV. 9.25 CITV. 10.30 Jonathan Dimbleby Including ITV News And Weather. 11.30 The Planet's Funniest Animals.

11.45 Volvo Ocean Race. 12.45 Calendar News: Weather. 12.50 The Crocodile Hunter Diaries. 1.50 FILM: Bill & Ted's Excellent Adventure (1989). Comedy, with Keanu Reeves. 3.25 FILM: Chitty Chitty Bang Bang (1968). Adventure, with Dick Van Dyke. 6.00 Twisted Tales. New series. A Billericay man recalls publishing his own newspaper.

6.25 Calendar News And Sport: Weather
6.40 ITV News And Weather
7.00 Emmerdale. Tom invites Jean out for a drink, much to Terry's dismay. Pollard organises a hasty photo opportunity in a bid to make political capital out of Val's unpopularity with local voters.

7.30 Coronation Street. Kelly offers a homeless Becky somewhere to stay. Danny tells Frankie he'll give her £50,000 as a divorce settlement, and the Battersby-Browns celebrate good news. 8.00 Heartbeat. Lord Ashfordly's niece is devastated when her prize racehorse is kidnapped and held to ransom, while a seedy photographer promises to make a star of Phil Bellamy's stepdaughter.

9.00 Agatha Christie's Marple. A blizzard forces the sleuthing spinster to spend a night in an isolated Devonshire manor house — where a ouija board predicts a murder. Mystery, starring Geraldine McEwan.

11.00 ITV News And Weather: Weather
11.10 12 Books That Changed The World. 12.15 World Rally Championship Highlights. 1.15 The Mint. 3.20 Fat Chance. 3.45 Redcoats. 4.10 Boot Sale Treasure Hunt. 5.00 Jobfinder. 5.30 ITV News.

4

6.00 Grabbit The Rabbit. 6.10 The Hoobs. 6.35 The Hoobs. 7.00 Transworld Sport. 7.55 World Superbikes. 8.25 Vee-TV. 8.50 T4: One Tree Hill. 9.45 T4: Live 24. 10.00 T4: Holyoaks. 12.35 T4: Live 24. 12.50 T4: Shipwrecked 2006: Battle Of The Islands. 2.00 T4: Totally Frank. 2.30 T4: Sugababes: Video Exclusive. 2.35 T4: The OC. 3.35 T4: Live 24. 3.55 World Challenge. 4.55 The Search For King Solomon's Mines. 5.55 The Worst Jobs In History.

6.55 Desperate Housewives. Edie gets the wrong idea about Karl and becomes convinced he is going to propose. Meanwhile, Carlos discovers more about Gabriel's relationship with her mother. 7.45 Channel 4 News

8.00 Invasion. Russell and Dave investigate events on Szura's island in the Keys, while Underlay sets out to discover the role of the military in post-hurricane changes. 9.00 Darren Brown: Trick Of The Mind. The illusionist travels to Monaco, where he performs a fantastic memory feat. He also tries to make an amputee feel sensation in his missing limb. Last in series.

9.30 TV Heaven, Telly Hell. Sean Lock invites comedian and Peep Show star David Mitchell to reveal his best and worst TV moments, which include Terry and June and spiritual programme The Heaven and Earth Show. Last in series. 10.00 FILM: The Firm (1993). Harvard graduate Tom Cruise begins to realise the high-class company he's been head-hunted to work for is controlled by the Mafia. Thriller, with Gene Hackman.

12.50 Sopranos. 1.50 Album Chart. 2.15 King Of The Hill. 2.40 KOTV. 3.10 South American Football Championship. 4.05 French Football. 5.55 Inuk.

five

6.00 Milkshake! 12.30 Divine Desires. 1.00 Five News Update. 1.10 FILM: Saddle Trip (1950). Family Western, starring Joel McCrea. 2.35 FILM: The Secret Of The Incas (1954). Adventure, with Charlton Heston. 4.30 FILM: Battle For The Planet Of The Apes (1973). Sci-fi action adventure, with Roddy McDowall.

6.05 Five News And Sport
6.20 FILM: Cop And A Half (1993). Tough detective Burt Reynolds is not amused to find himself partnered with an eight-year-old would-be policeman. Shamboolic comedy adventure, with Norman D Golden II.

8.00 Everybody Hates Chris. The visit of the school photographer gets Chris hot under the collar, and after he convinces Rochelle to buy him a new outfit, she starts selling cosmetics to fund the purchase. 8.30 Everybody Hates Chris. Valentine's day means trouble for Chris when he develops a crush on a girl with a mean boyfriend, and his parents try to deal with Drew and Tonya's popularity with the opposite sex.

9.00 Britain's Favourite TV Weddings. A rundown of the best small-screen nuptials, including EastEnders' Alfie and Kat tying the knot, and the punch-up that marked the start of Charity and Tom's Emmerdale marriage. 10.30 My Wedding Day Ruined My Life. Fiona Allen presents the happiest day in a bride's life can go wrong — from punch-ups at the reception to breaking up with the groom after just four hours.

11.35 World's Wildest Police Videos. A male cop goes undercover in drag. 12.25 Major League Baseball Live. Cleveland Indians v Texas Rangers. 4.10 Motorsport Mundial. 4.30 Portuguese Football.

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28.04.06

Monday
May
1



Laurie Whitwell

Far from being a cheeky peek under the bed sheets of the world of winging, *Wife Swap* is – and has been for a while now – staple viewing for those who enjoy watching mismatched couples forced together with the resulting uncomfortable silences and uncomfortable, erm, shoutings.

This week the wife of a former US serviceman, who makes her children do press-ups as a punishment, changes places with a mother whose children are used to showing their father no respect. I'm thinking this clash of ideals should result in some serious child beatings, possibly fol-

lowed by some retaliatory mother beatings, probably followed by further mutiny-ending child beatings. Totally unrelated, yet nonetheless important, is a question I've often pondered: when the cameras aren't rolling do the wives swap all their marital responsibilities (nudge, nudge)?

Pick of the Day

Wife Swap

Channel 4, 9pm

clubs
Bondi Beach Club
MENTAL MONDAYS party

Discotheque
CHIC BEAT
funky house & r'n'b

Evolution
MONKEY
BUSINESS
party night

Fruit Cupboard
KICK UP THE 80'S
80's pop & charts,
funky house

HIFI Club
SWEET REVIVAL
r'n'b, hip hop & soul
with resident DJ
Jason 'Buddy' Birch

Oceana
RENDEZVU
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hip hop, disco

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BBC ONE

6.00 Breakfast. 9.00 Animal Park. 9.45 Homes Under The Hammer. 10.45 Car Booty. 11.30 Bargain Hunt. 12.15 BBC News: Regional News: Weather. 12.40 Match Of The Day: Live. The Women's FA Cup. Arsenal v Leeds: United (Kick-off 1.00pm). 3.00 Cash In The Attic. 4.00 FILM: George Of The Jungle (1997). Comedy, starring Brendan Fraser. 5.25 BBC News: Regional News: Weather. 5.30 Party Election Broadcast. 5.55 FILM: The Mask Of Zorro (1998). Swabackbuilding adventure, starring Antonio Banderas.

8.00 EastEnders. Little Mo is questioned by the police over Freddie's injuries. Margaret calls at the Fowlers' with surprising news, and Jane tries to avoid Grant.

8.30 DIY SOS. New series. The team revisit the Wiggett family in Rusden, where parents Glen and Dean sleep in the lounge while their bedroom remains uninhabitable.

9.00 New Tricks. A series of unsolved dog killings appears to have resumed. The cruelty of the crimes affects Lane's judgement – especially when his own pet dies. Richard Briers guest stars.

10.00 BBC News: Regional News: Weather
10.30 Comedy Connections. A look at the making of taboo-swearing 1960s comedy that Was the Week that Was, revealing how the Conservative Party inadvertently secured the show's future.

11.10 One Foot In The Grave
11.40 FILM: Tootsie (1982). Cross-dressing comedy, starring Dustin Hoffman, Teri Garr and Dabney Coleman. Weathernews

1.35 Sign Zone: Planet Earth
2.35 Sign Zone: The Queen At 80
3.35 Sign Zone: Girl Cops
4.05 Sign Zone: Stately Suppers
4.35 BBC News 24

BBC TWO

7.00 Lazy Town. 7.30 Boogie Beebies. 8.00 CBBC: Arthur. 8.15 Looney Tunes. 8.20 What's New Scooby-Doo? 8.40 Even Stevens. 9.05 The Fairly Odd Parents. 9.30 Live! Up. 10.30 The Story Of Tracy Beaker. 11.00 FILM: The Magic Pudding (2000). Children's animation, with the voice of Geoffrey Rush. 12.10 Top Cat. 12.35 FILM: The Blue Max (1966). Aerial drama, with George Peppard. 3.00 Snooker: The World Championship. Live coverage of the third session of the final. Subsequent programmes subject to change. 5.55 Party Election Broadcast. The Conservative Party look ahead to this week's local elections.

6.00 Eggheads. Quiz, hosted by Dermot Mulroney.

6.30 Great British Menu. Simon Rimmer takes on Marcus Wareing to represent the North of England in the culinary contest.

7.00 Snooker: The World Championship. Live coverage of the concluding session of the final at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield, where the first player to win 18 frames will be crowned champion. Subsequent programmes subject to change.

10.00 Have I Got News For You. Sean Lock guest hosts the satirical current affairs quiz, with The Thick of It actor Peter Capaldi and Shami Chakrabarti of Liberty joining regular team captains Ian Hislop and Paul Merton.

10.30 FILM: Wonder Boys (2000). Creative writing professor Michael Douglas, dejected by the news that his girlfriend is pregnant, and harassed by his editor, students and friends alike, is inspired to finish his latest novel by a youngster whose unusual outlook gives him a new perspective on life. Superbly witty comedy, with Tobey Maguire.

12.15 BBC News 24
1.00 BBC Learning Zone

itv 1

6.00 GMTV. 9.25 The Championship. 10.30 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 11.30 FILM: The Best Of Benny Hill (1974). Compilation of the funnyman's best moments. 1.05 ITV News And Weather. 1.20 Calendar News: Weather. 1.30 Loose Women. 2.30 60 Minute Makeover. 3.30 British Superbike Championship. The fourth meeting of the season at Oulton Park. 5.30 Wycliffe.

6.30 Calendar: Weather
6.40 Party Election Broadcast.
6.45 ITV Evening News: Weather

7.00 Emmerdale. Terry and Jan finally admit their feelings for one another.

7.30 Coronation Street. Audrey fears for Gail's health as she seems reliant on sleeping pills.

8.00 Airline. Ricky Tomlinson turns up at John Lennon Airport, Leo Jones stops a passenger taking two boxes of dead hares onto his flight and an American faces a long wait.

8.30 Coronation Street. Leanne tells Danny to cut all ties with Frankie, unaware he's renewing his efforts to get his estranged wife back.

9.00 FILM: The Matrix (1999). A computer hacker learns the world is a virtual reality fantasy, and joins a team of freedom fighters trying to expose the truth. Stunning sci-fi adventure, starring Keanu Reeves.

11.30 ITV News And Weather

11.45 Supernatural. Believing ghostly forces to be at work, Sam and Dean travel to Minnesota to investigate a report of a man vanishing into thin air. Fantasy drama, starring Jared Padalecki.

12.45 Champions League Weekly. 1.10 The Mint. 3.20 Have I Been Here Before? 3.45 House Price Challenge. 4.10 I Want That House. 4.35 I Want That House. 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 Everybody Loves Raymond. 8.25 Will & Grace. 8.55 Frasier. 9.20 Playing It Straight USA.

10.10 My Big Fat Obnoxious Boss. 11.05 Without A Trace. 12.00 Cheers.

12.30 FILM: Airport (1970). Oscar-winning disaster movie, starring Burt Lancaster and Dean Martin. 3.00 Come Dine With Me. 3.30 Countdown. 4.15 Deal Or No Deal. 5.00 The New Paul O'Grady Show.

6.00 The Simpsons. Bart gains a sense of civic pride.

6.30 Hollyoaks. Nicole jumps to conclusions about Justin.

7.00 Channel 4 Lost
7.15 Destination Lost

Recap of the first series of Lost, piecing together flashbacks from the characters and examining the mysteries of the island.
8.05 Dispatches: The Muslim Reformation. Islamic teacher Tariq Ramadan explores the future of his faith, and considers how followers could apply the Koran's doctrine to life in the 21st century.

9.00 Wife Swap. A woman from Lancashire who rules the roost in her household swaps places with her Norfolk counterpart, who is expected to cook all the meals and wait on her husband hand and foot.

10.00 ER. Sam receives an intriguing job offer when she treats a man who faints, and Dr Weaver considers a hip replacement as she struggles around the hospital with her crutch.

11.05 FILM: National Lampoon's Animal House (1978). Anarchic campus comedy, starring John Belushi, Tim Matheson and Tom Hulce.

1.05 FILM: Resurrection Man (1997). Drama, with Stuart Townsend. 2.50 Dispatches: Undercover Copper. 3.45 Michael Carroll: King Of Chavs. 4.45 1300cc. 4.55 A Container. 5.00 Scrapheap Challenge.

five

6.00 Milkshake! Franklin. 6.20 Bear In The Big Blue House. 6.45 Hi-5. 7.20 Roobarb And Custard Too. 7.30 The Adventures Of Bottle Top Bill And His Best Friend Corky. 7.45 Make Way For Noddy. 8.00 Say It With Noddy. 8.05 Fifi And The Flowerets. 8.20 Peppa Pig. 8.25 Funky Valley. 8.35 Trich. 8.50 The Clangers. 9.00 The Wright Stuff. 10.30 Trisha Goddard. 11.30 Five News.

12.00 Home And Away. 12.30 Atlantis: In Search Of A Lost Continent. 1.35 FILM: Ben-Hur (1959). Oscar-winning epic. Charlton Heston stars. 5.30 Five News.

6.00 Home And Away. Dan tries to cover up his gambling.

6.30 Two And A Half Men. Part one of two. Charlie falls in love with a crazy woman: Weather

7.00 Five News
7.15 Hidden Ashes. Part one of two. Recalling England's Ashes series victory.

8.00 Fifth Gear. Tiff Needell and Jason Plato compete to find the best super-salon, Jon Bentley investigates fuel-saving schemes, and Tom Ford visits a club for millionaire car enthusiasts.

9.00 Robbie Williams' Secrets. A selection of home truths about the pop star's personal life, featuring the stories of people who have shared bizarre experiences with the singer.

10.00 Prison Break. Lincoln's execution is delayed when the judge learns of concerns over the identity of the show's murderer. Michael considers a new escape plan, but the others fear it is too dangerous.

11.00 The Joy Of Sex Education. How Britain's youth have coped with learning about the birds and the bees.

12.00 Movie Lounge. 12.50 NBA Action. 1.15 NASCAR. 2.05 US PGA Golf. 2.55 NHL Ice Hockey. 5.30 Motor Racing.

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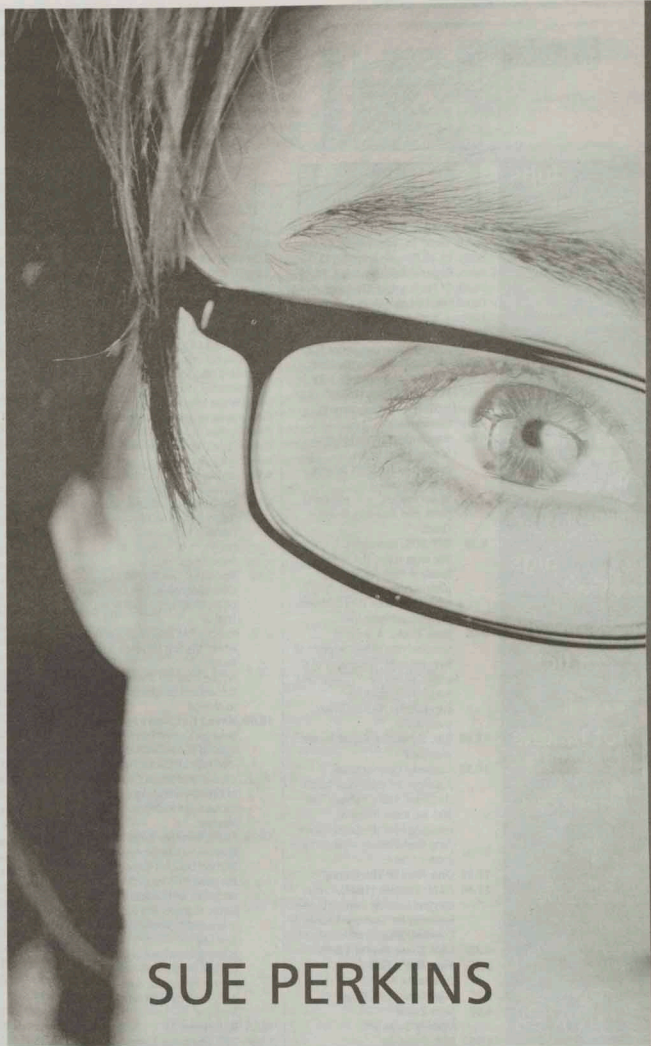
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AN INTERVIEW WITH

SUE PERKINS



It's a rainy Wednesday night and a slight, brunette woman is making an audience in Leeds laugh about getting stuck in the city's inner ring road, which she compares to being in a pinball machine. It is Sue Perkins' first UK tour without comedy partner Mel Giedroyc, but unlike fellow duo Rik Mayall and Ade Edmondson, she was quick to tell me there hadn't been a dramatic bust-up.

"Mel can't tour at the moment, she's got small kids, and I've always wanted to try stand up," she said. "So there's no trauma or scandal - we're far too low-

key for that."

In fact, when talking about Giedroyc, with whom she co-hosted daytime TV shows such as (ital) Light Lunch, (ital) Late Lunch and (ital) RI:SE, Perkins' language became almost elegiac.

"We were just very close and very connected and very similar. I'd never met anyone who could make me just cry with laughter.

"Someone said to me that I'll never love anyone as much as I love Mel, and in a way that's true, in an entirely platonic relationship. At its heart it's quintessential-

ly perfect - the perfect sexless relationship."

The pair met while they were students at Cambridge University members of the comedy club Footlights.

"It was my first-ever stand-up. She was in the audience, pissed and hilling - and we became mates. She was lently sick that night, I remember that.

After graduating, Perkins began work as an English teacher, a move which was to prove unsuccessful.

"The only skill I really learnt from teaching was the skill to avoid being

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Wednesday

May 3



The first in a series which tries to examine happiness: what it is, why it happens, and how to get more of it. It seems to be on roughly the same lines as 'Making Slough Happy', another investigative programme on the subject that the BBC aired some time ago, except that rather than take the 'experiment' structure, this

seems to be more geared to finding different extant examples of 'happy' people and establishing the so-called followed 'formula'. The Gross National Happiness principle in Bhutan seems to be an issue of particular focus, interesting in that it puts actual happiness over, say, the measurable qualities of economic prosperity

yet the approach of the programme appears to try and quantify happiness on the line of economic principles. While the example of Bhutan is certainly interesting, the thrust of programmes like this seems to be trying to establish whether or not happiness can be reduced so much as to make it not particularly worthwhile.

Pick of the Day

The Happiness Formula

BBC TWO, 7pm

clubs

Cockpit PANIC indie & electronica, punk, new wave & rock 'n' roll

Creation MAGIC party music, r'n'b, & hip hop, dance mix

Faversham CLUB NME indie, alternative & electro

HiFi Club MOVEONUP Northern Soul, Tamlia Motown, funk & 60's

Oceana VODKA NATIONWIDE party, r'n'b, hip hop & disco

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Josephs Well DEATH BY STEREO* 17th May PEN KNIFE LOVE LIFE 25th May

Huddersfield Stadium Galpham Stadium BRYAN ADAMS* 1st Jun.

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BBC ONE

6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Missing. 10.00 City Hospital. 11.00 Homes Under the Hammer. 11.30 Car Booty. 12.15 Cash in the Attic. 1.00 BBC News: Weather. 1.30 Regional News: Weather. 1.40 Neighbours. Karl worries Katya will reveal all to the Medical Board. 2.05 Doctors. 2.35 Murder: She Wrote. 3.20 BBC News: Regional News: Weather. 3.25 CBBC. Charlie And Lola. 3.35 Arthur. 4.00 Watch My Chops. 4.30 Really Wild Show. 5.00 Blue Peter. 5.25 Newsround. 5.35 Neighbours.

6.00 BBC News
6.30 Look North: Weather
7.00 School's Out.
7.30 Trauma.
8.00 Seaside Rescue. Rescue helicopter India Juliet is scrambled when a girl goes missing in the sea. A seal pup needs life-saving care and rough seas overwhelm a yacht off Weymouth. Last in series.

8.30 Super Vets. The race is on to save Emma the snowy owl's sight. Tommy the dachshund goes to theatre for more spinal surgery, while Poppy the rabbit needs work on her broken leg. Last in series.

9.00 Beverly Allitt: Angel Of Death. Charlie Brooks appears in this documentary drama about the nurse convicted of killing four children and injuring nine others on her ward at Grantham Hospital.

10.00 BBC News
10.30 Regional News: Weather
10.35 The National Lottery: Midweek Draws.
10.40 Paparazzi: National Lottery Update
11.40 FILM: Big Trouble (2002). Premiere. Comedy, with Tim Allen. Weatherview
1.00 Sign Zone: Would You Buy A House With A Stranger?
2.00 Sign Zone: Alternative Medicine: The Evidence
3.00 Sign Zone: Seaside Rescue
3.30 Sign Zone: Stately Suppers
4.00 BBC News 24

BBC TWO

7.00 CBBC: Looney Tunes. 7.10 Astro Boy. 7.30 Level Up. 8.30 Lazy Town. 8.55 Boogie Beebies. 9.25 Tweenies. 9.45 Pingu. 10.00 Lunar Jim. 10.10 Our Planet. 10.20 Ethelbert The Tiger. 10.30 Trade Secrets. 10.40 Horizon. 11.30 The Daily Politics. 1.00 The Plantman. 1.20 Lifestile.

1.30 Working Lunch. 2.00 FILM: Narrow Escape (1997). tense drama, starring Gerald McRaney. 3.30 Flop It! 4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook. 5.15 Weakest Link.

6.00 Eggheads.
6.30 Great British Menu.
7.00 The Happiness Formula. New series. Mark Easton explores the science of happiness.

7.30 Holidays in Euroland. New series. Tim Samuels embarks on an eye-opening jaunt exploring the realities and oddities of Europe. He begins by meeting a Polish drag queen in the hunt for a European identity.

8.00 The Hairy Bikers' Cook Book. Part one of two. The duo hop on their Harleys to explore Mexico. They take over the bandstand in the old town of Oaxaca to rustle up a feast of gamouale and refried beans.

8.30 Eating With. An insight into the early influences that led actress Sadie Frost to become a follower of the healthy eating revolution inspired by the beanie vegetarian culture of the 1970s.

9.00 The Apprentice. The heat is on as the four remaining candidates face a series of grueling interviews with three of Alan Sugar's toughest colleagues, before not one but two candidates are fired.

10.00 The Apprentice: You're Fired! Interview with the show's rejected candidates.

10.30 Newsnight
11.20 Jerry Building: Unholy Relics Of Nazi Germany: BBC Four on BBC Two
12.00 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. 2.00 60 Minute Makeover. 2.59 Local Weather. 3.00 Louie. 3.10 POCO. 3.15 Tractor Tom. 3.25 Mr Bean: The Animated Series. 3.35 The Amazing Adrenalini Brothers. 3.45 Grizzly Tales For Grousesome Kids. 4.00 Bratz.

4.30 Rising Damp. 5.00 Wycliffe.
6.00 Calendar: Weather
6.30 ITV Evening News: Weather
7.00 Emmerdale. Pollard makes a short-lived promise to spend more time with Val, while Simon is surprised to see Ivan back in the village and loses no time in renewing their friendship over a pint.

7.30 Coronation Street. Adam lashes out at Danny and tells Sean he really misses Mike. Leanne encourages her boyfriend to play dirty in his divorce case and Audrey confronts Keith about their relationship.

8.00 The Bill. Gina gets wind of Will and Dan's interest in boxing and bullies them into signing up for an inter-service contest, while Zain and Suzie investigate bare-knuckle fighting.

9.00 FILM: The Matrix Revolutions (2003). Premiere. The final part of The Matrix trilogy sees the desperate residents of Zion battling to stop the machines destroying them and their home. Action-packed sci-fi sequel from the Wachowskis brothers, starring Keanu Reeves, Carrie-Anne Moss, Hugo Weaving, Laurence Fishburne. Continues after the news.

10.30 ITV News: Weather
11.00 FILM: The Matrix Revolutions (2003). Concluded.

12.00 Fans United. 12.25 The Mint. Game show. 4.05 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 5.00 Jobfinder. 5.30 ITV Morning News.

4

6.10 The Hoobs. 6.35 The Hoobs. 7.00 B4. 7.30 Friends. 7.55 Everybody Loves Raymond. 8.20 Will & Grace. 8.50 Frasier. 9.15 Playing It Straight USA.

10.10 My Big Fat Obnoxious Boss. 11.05 Without A Trace. 12.00 News At Noon. 12.30 House Auction. 1.00 FILM: They Who Dare (1953). Wartime drama, starring Dirk Bogarde. 3.00 Come Dine With Me. 3.30 Countdown. 4.15 Deal Or No Deal. 5.00 The New Paul O'Grady Show.

6.00 The Simpsons. Part two of two. The would-be killer is revealed.

6.30 Hollyoaks. Justin is horrified to learn Nicole has told Hannah about his affair.

7.00 Channel 4 News
7.55 3 Minute Wonder: Out Of The Box. Alternative look at the red telephone box.

8.00 10 Years Younger Bikini Special. New series following four women who have recently lost huge amounts of weight as they get expert help to regain the bodies of their youth in preparation for the beach this summer.

9.00 Grand Designs Revisited. Kevin McCloud meets up with Denise Daniel and Doug Ibb, who set out three years ago to turn a dilapidated 18th-century house in the Creuse region of central France into a B&B.

10.00 Desperate Housewives. Gabrielle and Carlos decide to adopt a child, and tensions erupt between Ber and her son. Noah learns more about Paul Young, and Tom dislikes taking orders from his wife.

11.05 Robbie Williams: Video Exclusive.
11.10 Mississippi Burning: The End Game.

12.10 The Sopranos. 1.20 PJ Harvey: Live In Concert. 1.50 South American Football Championship. The Copa Libertadores. 2.45 KOTV Classics. 3.40 Transworld Sport. 4.35 Wild Things. 5.25 Countdown.

five

6.00 Milkshake! Franklin. 6.20 Bear In The Big Blue House. 6.45 Hi-5. 7.20 Roorbar And Custard Top. 7.30 The Adventures Of Bottle Top Bill And His Best Friend Corky. 7.45 Make Way For Noddy. 8.00 Say It With Noddy. 8.05 Hit And The Flowerets. 8.20 Peppa Pig. 8.25 Funky Yule. 8.35 Titch. 8.50 The Clangers. 9.00 The Wright Stuff. 10.30 Trisha Goddard. 11.30 Five News.

12.00 Home And Away. 12.30 BrainTeaser. 1.30 FILM: While Justice Sleeps (1994). Drama, with Cybill Shepherd. 3.20 Five News Update. 3.25 FILM: Gambit (1966). Crime caper, starring Michael Caine. 5.30 Five News. 6.00 Home And Away. Leah is furious when Dan tells her about his gambling debts, but Irene urges her to give him a second chance.

6.30 Two And A Half Men. Charlie is furious when Alan decides to make

his cousin Jake's guardian in the event of his death. Comedy, starring John Cryer: Weather
7.00 Five News
7.15 England V Germany: The Legends. The commemorative match (Kick-off 8.05pm). Colin Murray introduces this evening's unique occasion at the Madejski Stadium, organised to celebrate the anniversary of England's

1966 World Cup triumph. Stars from a broad range of sports will represent their countries tonight, as Paul Gascoigne pulls on an England shirt one more time, along with former greats Chris Waddle, Jamie Redknapp and Matt Le Tissier.

10.00 FILM: Escape To Victory (1981). PoW adventure, with Michael Caine, Daniel Massey, Pete, Bobby Moore, Ossie Ardern, Mike Summerbee, Russell Osman and John Warwick.

12.15 Poker Night. 1.50 Major League Baseball: Wednesday. 4.45 Motorsport Mundial. 5.15 World Motocross Championship.

Exams not being set?
Essays not being marked? Worried about how the strike affects you?

OPEN MEETINGS FOR ALL STUDENTS WITH

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Wednesday 3rd May, 3pm

Thursday 4th May, 3:30pm BOTH AT THE RILEY SMITH HALL

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Thursday
May
4



Election Night
Election Night's an event. It should be celebrated more, except that it's just unpopular enough still to justify a small feeling of geeky superiority while enjoying it. It's only the locals this time, but even that's pretty entertaining and can be more so than the General Election. More often than not, it's the slightly

lower-key figures in politics who prove the most interesting (or risible). Of course the focus will be largely on London, and speaking from the self-dubbed London of the North (and despite being from Cambridge), I'm going to enjoy pretending to be an underdog while the Capital hogs all the attention. The relevant local

area will be covered between 12.15 and 1.30. Although, of course, elections are not, repeat, are not, popularity contests for the party leaders, it'll be interesting to see how the new Lib Dem and Conservative front-men weather their first 'electoral test'. Hopefully there'll be some good, pointless graphics too.

Pick of the Day

Election Night

BBC ONE, 11.40pm

clubs

Dr Wu's
ABSTRACT SOUL
soul, funk, jazz, Latin

Faversham
GIGANTIC
electro, rock

HiFi Club
THE HARLEM BUSH CLUB
jazz, funk, soul & hip-hop bands with resident DJ

Mission
HOMO
dance, popstars with Karl Lucas

Oceana
LIVE SCENE
dance, r'n'b & indie, 70's & 80's disco

Rehab
COFFY
r'n'b & hip hop

Wardrobe
PUEBLO LATINO UK
salsa, latin jazz & timba bands with DJs Lubi Javanovic & Fabio Bahia

Cockpit
BLACK MOUNTAIN

HiFi Club
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ONE

6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Missing. 10.00 City Hospital. 11.00 Homes Under the Hammer. 11.30 Car Booty. 12.15 Cash in the Attic. 1.00 BBC News: Weather. 1.30 Regional News: Weather. 1.40 Neighbours.

Izzy plots to get Ned out of Erisborough. 2.05 Doctors. 2.35 Murder, She Wrote. 3.20 BBC News: Regional News: Weather. 3.25 CBBC: Charlie and Lola. 3.35 Arthur. 4.00 Watch My Chops. 4.30 Really Wild Show. 5.00 Totally Doctor Who. 5.25 Newsround. 5.35 Neighbours.

6.00 **BBC News**
7.00 **Look North: Weather**

7.00 **Open All Hours.** Arkwright decides to expand his empire by opening a mobile shop in a bid to impress Nurse Gladys Emmanuel. Shopkeeping comedy, with Ronnie Barker and David Jason.

7.30 **EastEnders.** Sonia prepares to execute her plan during Margaret's visit, though Martin has doubts about whether the scheme will work. Little Mo is reluctant to discuss the previous day's outburst with her shocked family.

8.00 **New Street Law.** New series. Drama about a barrister who breaks away from his mentor's chambers to set up his own firm with a group of ambitious friends. In the first episode, defence lawyer Jack Roper is determined not to give up on the case of a girl charged with arson.

9.00 **The Street.** Premiership hopeful Billy Roberts risks his future at the top when he is caught stealing and is then expelled from the football academy where he trains. Despite being admired as an upstanding member of the community, his departure from training leads him astray.

10.00 **BBC News**
10.30 **Regional News: Weather**
10.35 **Question Time**
11.40 **Election Night**

TWO

7.00 CBBC: Looney Tunes. 7.10 Astro Boy. 7.30 Level Up. 8.30 Lazy Town. 8.55 Boogie Beesbies. 9.25 Tweenies. 9.45 Pingu. 10.00 Lunar Jim. 10.10 Our Planet. 10.20 Ethebert The Tiger. 10.30 Schools: Watch. 10.45 Something Special. 11.00 Razzledazzle. 11.20 Primary Geography. 11.30 English Express. 12.00 The Daily Politics. 12.30 Working Lunch. 1.05 FILM: Blood Alley (1955). Action adventure, starring John Wayne. 3.00 Escape To The Country. 3.30 Flog It! 4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook. 5.15 Weakest Link. 6.00 **Eggheads.**

6.30 **Great British Menu.**
7.00 **Comedy Doubles.**
New series. Mark Benton introduces two classics from the BBC comedy archives, beginning with episodes of 'Allo 'Allo! and Fawlty Towers.

8.00 **The Curious House Guest.** Jeremy Musson investigates the history behind Renishaw Hall in Derbyshire, home to the Stwell family who made their fortune when coal was discovered in the grounds.

8.30 **Mastermind.** John Humphrys presents the quiz show, with the specialist subjects of mountaineering, American military aircraft, Ian Rankin's Rebus novels and the life and career of Michael Schumacher.

9.00 **This World.** Investigation into the growing number of women being murdered in Guatemala - a place where fingerprint databases, forensic science and crime profiles do not exist.

10.00 **Nightly Night.** Jill's world falls apart when she discovers Cathy is pregnant with Don's child. Following a failed attempt to seduce him, she tries to impress his 12-year-old son. Comedy, with Julia Davis.

10.30 **Newsnight**
11.20 **The Smoking Room**
11.50 **Dragons' Den**
12.20 **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. 2.00 60 Minute Makeover. 2.59 Local Weather. 3.00 Louie. 3.10 POCOYO. 3.15 Tractor Tom. 3.25 Mr Bean: The Animated Series. 3.35 The Amazing Adrenaline Brothers. 3.45 Grizzly Tales For Grown-up Kids. 4.00 Bratz.

4.30 Rising Damp. 5.00 Wycliffe. 6.00 **Calendar: Weather**
6.30 **ITV Evening News: Weather**
7.00 **Emmerdale.** Pollard is disappointed at the outcome of the election. Len has a windfall, and Louise tries to explain why she feels uncomfortable about being regarded as Kayleigh's new mum.

7.30 **Zoo Vet At Large.** Zoo vet Matt Brash faces his fears by handling a tarantula as he shows students how to overcome their phobias, and the owner of a little owl with a suspected tumour gets a shock.

8.00 **The Bill.** Will is teamed up with Emma on a capture car initiative and a trip to the pub after a successful operation ends with a kiss, while Sam accepts a dinner invitation from Stuart.

9.00 **Vital Signs.** Rhoda mistakenly causes a rift with her best friend Jules, and is forced to escape the attentions of a smooth-talking medical student. Tony is approached about a new job.

10.00 **Murder Squad.** Part two of two. Detectives continue to hunt the killers of a 19-year-old man who was stabbed in Plumstead. Lengthy surveillance operations result in three further arrests.

10.30 **ITV News: Weather**
11.00 **Soccer Night.**
11.30 **Last Orders**
12.00 The Mint. 4.10 Britain's Best Back Gardens. 4.35 Moving Day. 5.00 Jobfinder. 5.30 ITV Morning News.

4

6.10 The Hoobs. 6.35 The Hoobs. 7.00 BA. 7.30 Friends. 7.55 Everybody Loves Raymond. 8.25 Will & Grace. 8.50 Frasier. 9.20 Playing It Straight. 11.05 Without A Trace. 12.00 News At Noon. 12.30 House Auction. 12.55 FILM: The One That Got Away (1957). Wartime adventure, starring Hardy Kruger. 3.00 Come Dine With Me. 3.30 Countdown. 4.15 Deal Or No Deal. 5.00 The New Paul O'Grady Show.

6.00 **The Simpsons.** Bart and Milhouse vie for the role of Fallout Boy in a new film about their hero Radioactive Man.

6.30 **Home And Away.** Max is furious to hear Clare's version of events on his return from holiday, and wastes no time in evicting Mel from the flat.

7.00 **Channel 4 News**
7.55 **3 Minute Wonder: Out Of The Box.** A payphone is moved to the city. Last in series.

8.00 **A Place In The Sun.** Amanda Lamb comes to the aid of a Surrey couple who are looking to start a new life in rural Spain, and shows them around properties in the Andalusian province of Jaen.

8.30 **A Place In The Sun.** Amanda Lamb offers advice to a London family looking for the perfect holiday home for £130,000 and suggests searching for a property on the Italian Riviera. Last in series.

9.00 **Bradford Riots.** Drama by Neil Biswas retelling the violent events of July 7, 2001, when residents in the Manningham area of Bradford experienced some of the worst riots in Britain.

10.35 **FILM: The Craft (1996).** Horror, starring Robin Tunney and Rachel True.
12.30 The Real Vampire Chronicles. 1.30 South American Football Championship. 2.25 A World Without War. 3.55 Dispatches: The Muslim Reformation. 4.50 Unreported World. 5.15 Countdown.

five

6.00 Milkshake! Franklin. 6.20 Bear In The Big Blue House. 6.45 Hi-5. 7.20 Roobar And Custard Too. 7.30 The Adventures Of Bottle Top Bill And His Best Friend Corky. 7.45 Make Way For Noddy. 8.00 Say It With Noddy. 8.05 Fifi And The Flowerets. 8.20 Peppu Pig. 8.55 Funky Valley. 8.35 Titch. 8.50 The Clangers. 9.00 The Wright Stuff. 10.30 Trisha Goddard. 11.30 Five News. 12.00 Home And Away. 12.30 BrainTeaser. 1.30 FILM: The Legend Of Walks Far Woman (1982). Drama, starring Raquel Welch. 3.50 Five News Update. 3.55 FILM: Irresistible Force (1993). Action adventure, with Stacy Keach. 5.30 Five News.

6.00 **Home And Away.** The cult comes to Summer Bay.

6.30 **Two And A Half Men.** Charlie's old flame has a sex change. Weather

7.00 **Five News**
7.15 **Rogue Raiders: Wild Boar.** Jake Willers investigates the resurgence of wild boar in Britain and the problems they create. He also visits Berlin, where the animals have been seen in residential areas.

8.00 **Bride And Grooming.** New series. Following a group of soon-to-be-wed couples that they undergo drastic makeovers, beginning with a groom who wants a face-lift to make him look younger on his big day.

9.00 **House.** The doctors struggle to find out why a heart transplant patient went into anaphylactic shock in a sterile room, and discover there is more to the case than an allergy.

10.00 **Grey's Anatomy.** Meredith fears she may have made a mistake while assisting a heart surgery.

11.00 **Suburban Shootout.**
11.30 **Swimming.**
12.00 **Cosmetic Surgery: Below The Belt.** 1.00 **Golazo Football Show.** 2.00 **Portuguese Football.** 3.30 **Football Argentina.** 5.00 **US Major League Soccer.**

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Mission Impossible (12a) (RT 2hr 30m) (NFT)

Thur Only: 10.00; 11.00; 11.30; 12.00; 1.00; 2.00; 2.30; 3.00; 4.00; 5.00; 5.30; 6.00; 7.00; 8.00; 8.30; 9.00; 10.00; 11.00

Slither (15) (RT 2hr) (NFT)

Fri-Wed: (11.00 Sat/Sun/Mon Only); 1.30; 4.00; 6.30; 9.00; Fri/Sat/Sun Late: 11.30; Thur Only: 11.15; 1.45; 4.15; 10.15

16 Blocks (15) (RT 1hr 55m) (NFT)

Fri-Wed: (10.40 Sat/Sun/Mon Only); 1.10; 3.40; 6.15; 8.45; Fri/Sat/Sun Late: 11.20; Thur Only: 10.40; 1.10; 3.30; 5.50; 8.20; 10.50

Silent Hill (15) (RT 2hr 25m) (NFT)

Fri-Wed: 12.40; 3.25; 6.25; 9.15; Fri/Sat/Sun Late: 12.00; Thur Only: 5.25; 8.15; 11.10

Eight Below (PG) (RT 2hrs 20m) (NFT)

Fri-Wed: (9.45 Sat/Sun/Mon Only); 12.25; 3.10; 5.50; Thur Only: 11.50; 2.40

American Dreamz (12A) (RT 2hr 10m) (NFT)

Fri-Wed: (10.00 Sat/Sun/Mon Only); 12.35; 3.00; 5.40; 8.15; Fri/Sat/Sun Late: 11.00; Thur Only: 7.45

Take The Lead (12A) (RT 2hr 20m) (NFT)

Fri-Wed: (10.10 Sat/Sun/Mon Only); 2.30; 8.00; Fri/Sat/Sun Late: 10.50

Scary Movie 4 (15) (RT 1hr 45m)

Fri-Wed: (10.20 Sat/Sun/Mon Only); 12.45; 2.50; 5.00; 7.15; 9.30; Fri/Sat/Sun Late: 11.40; Thur Only: 9.30

An American Haunting (15) (RT 1hr 50m) (NFT)

Fri/Sat/Sun Late: 10.40; Thur Late: 10.45

She's The Man (12A) (RT 2hr 10m)

Fri-Wed: 12.50; 5.20

Inside Man (15) (RT 2hrs 30m)

Fri-Wed: 8.30; Fri/Sat/Sun Late: 11.25

The Pink Panther (PG) (1hr 55m)

Sat/Sun/Mon Only: 10.20

Ice Age 2: The Meltdown (U) (RT 1hr 55m)

Fri-Wed: (10.05; 11.50 Sat/Sun/Mon); 12.30; 2.20; 2.50; 4.40; 5.10; 7.00; 7.45; 9.20; Thur Only: 9.50; 11.40; 12.15; 2.10; 2.45; 4.40; 5.15; 7.10

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Mission: Impossible 3 (12A) (RT 2h30)

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Slither (15) (RT 1h50)

Sat/Sun/Mon/Thurs: 10.35 Daily: 13.00; 16.40; 19.00; 21.20 Fri/Sat/Sun Late: 23.40

16 Blocks (12A) (RT 1h55)

Sat/Sun/Mon/Thurs: 11.20 Daily: 13.40; 16.00; 18.20; 21.00 Fri/Sat/Sun Late: 23.35

Freedomland (15) (RT 2h10)

Sat/Sun/Mon/Thurs: 11.15 Daily: 13.45; 16.15; 18.40; 21.10 Fri/Sat Late: 23.50

Silent Hill (15) (RT 2hr25)

Sat/Sun/Mon: 11.30 Daily: (14.30 not Thurs); 17.30; 20.30 Fri/Sat Late: 23.20 NFT

Tristan and Isolde (12A) (RT 2hr 25)

Sat/Sun/Mon/Thurs: 11.55 Daily: 14.55; 18.10 NFT

American Dreamz (12A) (RT 2hr10)

Sat/Sun/Mon/Thurs: 12.20 Daily: 14.50; 17.20; 20.00 Fri/Sat/Sun Late: 23.00 NFT

Eight Below (PG) (RT 2hr20)

Daily: 12.20; 15.00 NFT

Unknown White Male (12A) (RT 1hr50)

Fri/Sat Late: 22.50 NFT

Scary Movie 4 (15) (RT 1hr45)

Sat/Sun/Mon/Thurs: 11.00 Daily: 13.15; 15.40; 17.55; 20.10 Fri/Sat/Sun Late: 22.20

An American Haunting (15) (RT 1hr 50)

Daily: 20.50; Fri/Sat/Sun Late: 23.10 N

Take The Lead (12A) (RT 2hr20)

Sat/Sun/Mon: 10.45 Fri-Wed: 13.40; 16.45; 19.50 Fri/Sat/Sun Late: 22.45 NFT

Alien Autopsy (12A) (RT 1hr55)

Fri-Wed: (18.30 not Tues); 20.55 Fri/Sat Late: 23.15

Ice Age 2 (U) (RT1hr55)

Sat/Sun/Mon: 10.50; 12.10 Fri-Wed: 13.10; 14.30; 15.30; 17.00; 17.50; 19.15; 20.15
 Thurs Only: 14.30; 17.00; 19.15 Fri/Sat Late: 22.30

She's the Man (12A) (RT 2h05)

Sat/Sun/Mon/Thurs: 10.30 Daily: 12.45; 15.15; (17.45 not Tues); 20.20

The Shaggy Dog (U) (RT 2hr)

Sat/Sun/Mon/Thurs: 10.40 Fri-Wed: 13.05; 15.30

Hostel (18) (RT 1hr55)

Daily: 21.30 Fri/Sat Late: 00.00

The Inside Man (15) (RT 2hr30)

Fri-Wed: 17.50; 20.40 Fri/Sat Late: 23.30



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pride week

8th - 12th May

Take a second to remember all the great stuff you've achieved this year. Nice one! Be proud of it.

A Week of Thanks 8th - 12th May

We're proud of you, the members and staff of LUU, and we want to thank you with a week of celebrations for all your contributions and efforts

Monday 8th

Celebrating LUU success - LUU Foyer

RAG celebration - University House 7.30pm

Tuesday 9th

Interfaith forum and International Societies festival

- Riley Smith Hall 10am - 4pm

Wednesday 10th

Sports Colours Dinner - Refectory from 6pm

Thursday 11th

Celebrating Our Volunteers - Riley Smith Hall 10am - 4pm

Honorary and Life membership Awards - Riley Smith Hall 1pm

Action Awards - Mint 7.30pm

Friday 12th

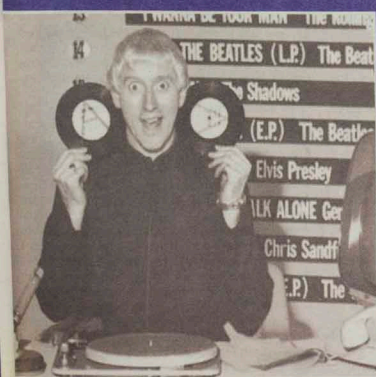
The Riley's - Riley Smith Hall 7.30pm



For full details check out www.luuonline.com/pride



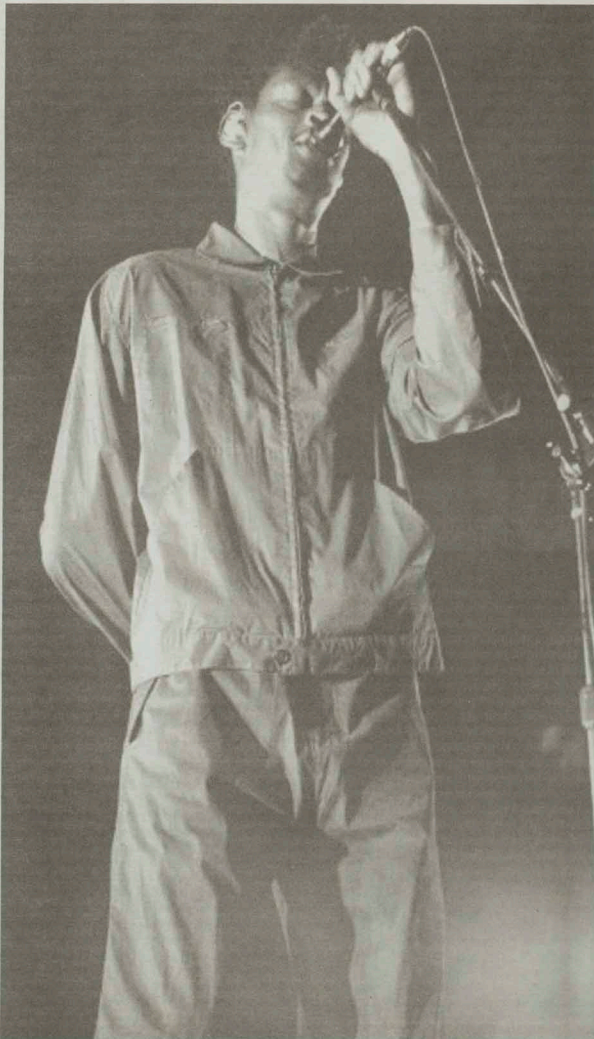
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Extra Interview

Masterclass

This month Massive Attack released a new Best Of album. **Matt Kennard** goes to talk to the band about innovation, rivalry and the war in Iraq.



According to Robert Del Naja, Massive Attack are "the most famous thing to come out of Bristol since fucking Isambard Kingdom Brunel." Most of you probably haven't heard of Kingdom Brunel (he's a feted architect), so by my reasoning that makes Massive Attack the most famous thing to come out of Bristol ever – a rather grandiose claim to fame, but, strangely, entirely fair.

Bristol's finest export realised their last album three years ago, in early 2003. It was called 100th Window and had mixed reviews in the music press, many feeling it had failed to raise the bar higher than the beautifully crafted and critically acclaimed Mezzanine, which was released five years previously.

Before that the band had established themselves as an innovative and groundbreaking act through their most famous offerings of Blue Lines, released in 1991, and Protection, which flew onto the shelves in 1994 and reached #4 in the UK charts. These albums ushered into existence their own musical genre, which has since taken flight across the world. Superficially it is called "trip-hop", but more deeply it combines elements of hip-hop and trippy psychedelia.

I catch up with Robert Del Naja – the mainstay of this "musical collective" – in the studio, where he tells me Massive Attack are "currently writing a fifth album", hesitantly titled Weather Underground and scheduled for release in far-off 2007, but they've also just finished a collection album due out later this month. "I suppose you could call it a greatest hits – but with loads of new material, sketches, unreleased stuff, and artwork and videos and the kind of circus that comes with it. It's pretty fucking mental..."

Seasoned fans of Massive Attack will be aware of their penchant for shifting their musical centre of gravity with every new offering. Del Naja says this is conscious: "The new tracks on the collective album are a reaction to what we did in 100th Window because we wanted to do something different again. 100th Window was a deliberate decision to get away from what we did in the past – not to use samples, not to choose big beats or guitars like we did on Mezzanine – but to intricately craft everything electronically. We used a lot of live instruments as well, manipulating the sounds.

"This time it's the opposite – we've gone more organic. We want every track to be two minutes with a few parts, maybe three or four instruments and not to be necessarily reliant on drums – drums haven't got to be the key thing, it could be about the vocal, it could be about the strings or the piano. The tracks are more simple, more direct, whereas 100th Window was more about layers and textures so we've shifted our ideas again. And by the time we've got through the fifth album we'll probably have moved on a bit more again."

This constant chopping and changing of styles and sounds makes Massive Attack's music nebulous and extremely hard to categorise. Does Del Naja mind the genre "trip-hop" being used to describe his work?

"We used to get upset about it when it was coined as a phrase because it was us and Portishead and Tricky and the other Bristol guys – Smith and Marty and Roni Size," he says in his Bristol, expletive-heavy lilt. "Everyone comes with their own baggage and egos and everyone knows each other, and I think everyone wanted to survive in their own way and be seen to be an individual and possibly to be bet-

ter than the other group in that very selfish male way. And when we were all labelled we resented it because it kind of bagged us all together. In hindsight I know why Jamie coined it – he's a mate of mine – because it is what it says on the tin: hip-hop done in a really fucking cerebral, trippy, psychedelic way, which was what we set out to do, so it was quite a good way to describe it.

"I think the problem is that it created a bit of a scene internationally. Like many scenes it sets like a jelly and everyone does the same sort of thing and you get some repetition, which is something we never wanted – each album we wanted to do something new and different and challenge ourselves a bit, so therefore any kind of musical scene or genre is going to counter that."

The membership of Massive Attack has changed as regularly and abruptly as their musical style – when Blue Lines and Protection were written, Del Naja was flanked by Grant Marshall ("Daddy G") and Andrew Vowles ("Mushroom"). "Mushroom's off – he went to do other things," Del Naja explains. "Grant has been quite active in terms of the studio. Grant's thing has always been that he's a DJ stroke co-producer. He'll throw ideas in the air, pick up beat samples and scratches and stuff, leave me to do stuff then come back and listen and give

We're the most famous thing to come out of Bristol since fucking Isambard Kingdom Brunel

you a vibe. And I suppose when Mushroom left the band and we were doing less sampling and scratching and moving into more writing from scratch without using samples, it obviously became a different, it dynamic. He hasn't worked on the new stuff on this Best Of yet – it's stuff me and Neil [Davidge] have been working on for a while. The fifth album has got collaborative stuff on it."

In addition to his musical commitments, Del Naja has always been extremely political. During the run-up to the Iraq war he took out a full-page advert with Damon Albarn of the Gorillaz in NME denouncing military action, all out of his own pocket. But though Massive Attack's music has always been angst-ridden and melancholic, it has never been overtly political. "I probably have been the most political in the sense that I react most strongly to things I hear and read and want to do something about them more than the others. But in the end I am part of a group, so you can't always impose it. It was only when I thought things were getting very, very serious that I wanted to use the band any way I could – the band's reputation or fan-base or influence – and try to get involved in the anti-war effort."

What does Del Naja say to those who think that musicians should stay out of politics? "There is always going to be a natural mix between the individual and the environment you exist within. Most of our cities, like Bristol, are very mixed politically, socially and racially. This surrounds every decision we make." He pauses. "Politics governs our very existence and we absorb culture all the time through music, film and art. I think the main issue is really how we get fed politics and culture through the media – how we get our culture, how we get our politics spelt out to us, how the news is read to us, how our choices are laid out, through the media. These are the things that people should be more concerned with."

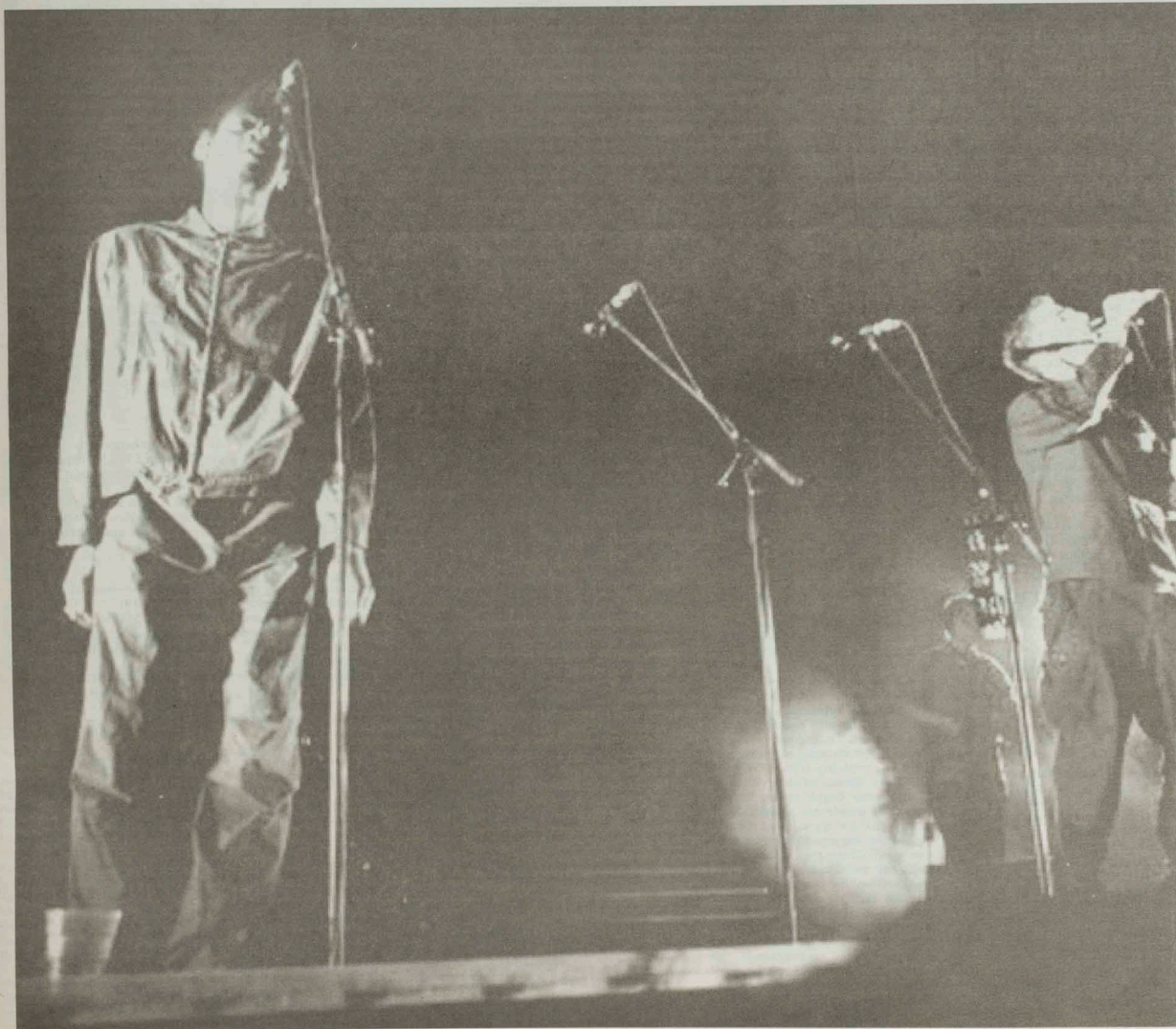
Why is this barrier between culture and politics erected, then? "It suits a lot of people's

Everyone comes with their own baggage and egos and I think everyone wanted to survive in their own way and be an individual and possibly to be better than the other group in that very selfish male way

business and political interests to try to separate the two when actually they are joined at the hip," Del Naja says astutely. "I think sometimes when you're trying to present music for music's sake, you don't want it to be politically charged because you want it to be about a simple music experience, an escape. Other times politics is a very integral part of it, definitely."

With the new collection album released later this month and their fifth album released next year, Massive Attack's the legions of fans will be waiting with baited breath. If Del Naja is true to his word, we could well be seeing the progression of possibly the most innovative band in the last 20 years even further into uncharted territory.

Sometimes when you're trying to present music for music's sake, sometimes you don't want it to be politically charged because you want it to be about a simple music experience, an escape.



Under the influence

In her series of alternative therapies, Katrina Huntley tries hypnotherapy which claims to be an answer from anything from exam stress to losing weight.

Photo: Caroline Michael



Hypnotherapy

The word hypnotherapy conjures up images of swinging pendulums, swirling eyes and people being forced to ride a chair backwards like racing in the Grand National or barking like a dog every time the audience claps.

These are prime examples of stage hypnotism and are, in fact, very different to hypnotherapy, a medical treatment successfully used in one-on-one sessions to treat conditions ranging from stress, anxiety and phobias to smoking, alcoholism and OCD (Obsessive Compulsive Disorder).

Using deep relaxation techniques, the trained hypnotherapist calms the person's conscious mind and begins to talk to the subconscious. This is

Negative conditioning in the brain caused by stressful experiences affects our everyday behaviour

the part of the mind that never sleeps and is said to be the underlying cause of every action and thought we have.

Negative conditioning in the brain caused by stressful experiences and events throughout our lives affects our everyday behaviour. Through positive suggestion the hypnotherapist is able to undo this conditioning and allow clients to come back to full awakening and find their behaviour, attitudes and thinking adapt, quite naturally, in unbelievable ways.

Going Deeper

Based in Bramley, hypnotherapist Amanda Evelyn practises at home in a stunning location resting high

I once treated a whole bunch of dinner ladies who kept nibbling at the food and cakes at work

above the city's bustle. Images of Buddha mix easily with beautiful photos of her family in the therapy room where scattered crystals add to the setting's calm feel.

Amanda first became interested in hypnotherapy after an amazing experience she had nine years ago. "One year my mum went to see a hypnotherapist about losing weight and for Christmas she bought me three sessions. I didn't believe it at first, but then I went and what that lady did to me in those three sessions was enough to make me think 'I want to do this.'"

Trained by the best in the field, Amanda explains how each hypnotherapist is expected to learn the basic techniques and then use their own imagination to devise stories and visualisations to aid their client in relaxation. In Amanda's case, she may take clients on a beautiful country walk, or on a relaxing stroll along a sun kissed beach and once the client is completely relaxed, though still fully aware of her talking, Amanda can begin to work her magic. "If people are unsure about exactly what therapy to have I always suggest the 'baggage clearing', a session where clients are encouraged to clear out their minds of negative thoughts from the past, being able to focus on having a clear and positive mind and stop holding onto negative things and feelings from the past everyone usually goes for this because everyone has baggage."

Though it is hard to believe how such simple techniques can be so effective, every person Amanda has treated speaks of the positive effects it has had on their lives.

Treating desperate clients who

have tried all alternatives, or others who simply want to expand their self-awareness and follow their soul. Amanda has received cards, gifts and endless thanks for not only helping people see the underlying causes of certain behaviour, but making them feel more positive and confident in everything they do.

Finding Focus

Common problems that hypnotherapists treat include smoking, weight loss and self esteem and Amanda explains how she can often stop smokers in one or two sessions. "Others can maybe take a few more but for some it works instantly and fantastically after one, it really depends on the individual and how much they want to change their behaviour."

People often come to Amanda for the first time a little nervous, full of preconceived ideas and expecting a version of the Paul McKenna type stage shows mentioned earlier. "People think they are going to be out cold, that they won't know what's happening to them, then they are completely surprised at how nice and relaxing it is, and how aware they are of everything going on."

The client outlines exactly what they want from the therapy and Amanda asks them any background questions she thinks may be relevant before explaining a little about how the mind works. "Nothing too technical" she adds, "just about the different parts of the mind and what techniques I will be using."

Amanda goes on to tell me about some of her more unusual and out-

People are completely surprised at how nice and relaxing it is, and how aware they are of everything going on

standing cases: "I once treated a whole bunch of dinner ladies who kept nibbling at the food and cakes at work". She smiles recalling the ladies struggles to keep off the canteen food. "An outstanding case, though, was an alcoholic lady who came to see me, she had tried everything, I thought she would need a few sessions but she actually stopped drinking in one session. She has turned her life around and is a completely different person now."

Clearer Future

The fact a person has decided to come and see Amanda in the first place is half the battle of admitting they want to overcome a problem. "I would also like to take a course in advanced hypnotherapy," says Amanda about her plans for the future, "there are courses coming out all the time, therapists coming up with new strategies and techniques. The mind is a big place and there are always new things being found out." It's clear that there is plenty more she wants to learn and to show others. "I would like to one day teach hypnotherapy or positive thinking, like a life coach because you can turn your life around in your own mind."

This is the time of year when students are most likely to feel the strain of their work, when stress and anxiety piles up alongside the paper work and students question their own ability and self-confidence. Amanda is quick to confirm that hypnotherapy can help in every way.

"It's absolutely brilliant for exam stress, I've seen students before that want to heighten their positive thinking or stay calm during exams and have always had really good results. It's perfect for relaxing and being able to remember what you know instead of having a blank. Being able to bring forward the information that you need and focus so that everything you are reading or writing sinks in."

With the potential for amazing changes and greater focus in all you

do, even if you don't have a specific problem, hypnotherapy can boost your general confidence and encourage a positive outlook on every task you embark on. More to the point, if there are issues blocking your thinking and affecting your plans, hypnotherapy can clear the excess baggage and make space for the fresh thinking you need.

Recommended

Sessions take between 1-2 hrs and cost between £35-£50, depending on the therapist and treatment

Amanda Evelyn Dip.Hyp
Students are offered a 10 per cent discount off her usual charge of £40.
Frenbank Villa
Halfmile Lane
Leeds
LS13 1DA
Tel: 07977208191
Home: 0113 2551516

Robert Gilbert MA, D HYP,
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8 The Grove, Alwoodley, Leeds,
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Email: roger@rogergilbert.co.uk

Professional Therapeutic
Counselling/ Hypnotherapy
Time and Place Therapy, Central
Leeds and Harrogate
Tel: 07875 217497
www.timeandplacetherapy.co.uk

www.nrah.co.uk
The National Register of Advanced
Hypnotherapists in the UK

www.isma.org.uk
The International Stress
Management Association- To promote
sound knowledge and best practise
in the prevention and reduction
of human stress.

www.hypnosis.org.uk
A site with links covering many different areas of hypnosis

The Parent Trap

Easter break, a time for new life with spring in the air, and, as Stuart Worthington found out, also a time to find out whether your parents really mean what they say
Illustration: Ben Summers

Primary school was a simpler and happier life: no prejudices, preconceptions or pretence. With deep-rooted respect for our parents' vastly superior wisdom, we followed their every word. There was neither stress nor aggravation: that's what parents were expected to deal with on our behalf. With little warning, along

clothes and coins littered the floor as if the authorities were after me and I'd had minimal time to pack for my daring escape. Alas, my parents didn't find this excuse remotely plausible and failed to even raise a wry smile when I explained that it was just one of my little jokes. My silliness was supposedly getting out of

that a bit of hydrogen peroxide and a few UV rays would turn my hair orange?

Vanity really doesn't suit you and neither does that rouged hair. If you want to spend time on yourself, invest in your future and do some studying.

You never quite realise just how far

ally a wrong way to pack a dishwasher: the Denby plates are fine, but the matching bowls are a big no-no; no objections to the Wedgewood, but the cheap plastic containers from Morrisons labelled as dishwasher safe are supposedly not; and the 5-in-1 Powerball tablets are being saved for special occasions. It soon emerged that my packing of the dishwasher was not special enough to warrant Finish's finest.

If we want your help, we'll ask for it.

You did.

Well we actually said that you

creators had noticed a change in my behaviour.

You really should be getting out of the house more. You don't ever seem to make an effort with socialising: it's no wonder that no one wants to be your friend.

Love Heart sweets worked a treat and soon everyone wanted to 'Be My Friend'. I made such an effort with these new found acquaintances: we went bowling, laser quest and we were even cool enough to go roller-skating. However, I soon faced difficulties with our crazy level of spontaneity.

A little more warning of where and when you are going out would be what some people say to be considerate.

It was more than a little bamboozling exactly what my parents wanted to do with my expected time of return from the roller-rink a week on Tuesday. Well, apparently they needed to know what to buy for dinner and also when they could be alone to get down to...tinkling the old ivories. It's funny: I've never actually heard them play the piano, despite how often they say that they practice. Perhaps they are shy about that sort of thing. My return time was purposefully overestimated in order to reduce the chance of being late but this turned out not to be one of my best ideas. Half an hour ahead of schedule, I find that the lights are on but no one's home. Intrigued by the unlocked back door, I tentatively made my way into the moonlit garden. In the distance I could just distinguish the bush from which I could hear the rustling. It was my mother's.

You really shouldn't be dressed like that. You'll catch a cold without a coat.

My parents weren't exactly appropriately attired either, but embarrassment was already taking hold for both parties and, anyway, the opinion ban was still in force. The morning after the night before was a tense affair. Coming down to breakfast wearing both of my coats didn't exactly help matters either. In the interests of making this research scientifically watertight, I hadn't told my parents what I was doing but the extra layers of garment had finally made them cotton on.

Please stop this nonsense of doing everything that we tell you.

Now I was really confused. Was I supposed to follow their latest request or not? I finally had to admit that the experiment had come to a natural conclusion but what had I discovered, apart from my parents al fresco? (Or should that be al frisko?) Well, firstly that it is an in-built quality that parents like to find fault with whatever you have done and ever want to do. It is not a personal attack, instead an expression of how much they care. However, I'm not sure whether they ever really know within themselves exactly who they want us to be. Perhaps it is to be ourselves. Actually, it's probably not.



pops puberty and all the associated anxieties and aggression. In striving for our own identity, we don't take heed of a single word of their advice. Now we find ourselves in post-adolescent days, but still lacking complete independence. Would it be possible to recapture some simple contentment from early youth by following parents' requests, instructions and commands? Surely this would also please the folks: they so often inform me that if I am to live in their house then I should do exactly as they command.

Go and sort that despicable mess that you like to refer to as your bedroom.

The experiment began innocuously enough, and they were right. Papers,

hand.

Your sister seems to be able to act like an adult, is it really that hard for you?

Well the sister in question is eight years my elder and so, naturally, is more within the realm of adulthood. She still manages to use Sun-In like an experimental teenager, though, and this only goes unnoticed to my parents. Oh, and some RNIB members. Following in my sister's well trodden footsteps, I toddled off to Superdrug. There I found a plentiful supply of Sun-In Super For Men. These last two words were all important for my particular predicament as they proved that this was a product for men. You know, adult males. However, who would have thought

you are behind until you try to catch up. Undeterred by my natural negativity, I work solidly on my studies, taking mini breaks to tidy my room and reapply the Sun-In. It soon transpires that I have threadbare carpets, unhemmed curtains and a broken window pane that become all too obvious without a mask of clutter. Unfortunately, pointing these observations out did not prove conducive to a relaxing, homely atmosphere. On a lighter note, the hair was now nearly devoid of pigment.

It's all about poor old you, well how about helping us for once; it's not too complicated to utilise the dishwasher. Even you could manage it.

I didn't. It turns out that there is actu-

could manage it and anyway if we want your opinion, we'll ask for that too.

There was no possible way of answering that: I feared the wrath of employing the crackpot notion that is freedom of speech. Never before had I realised just how much of my dialogue could be construed to be opinion. The milk was off, but was that only in my estimation? And was it a valuable judgement that the weathered, chainsaw-wielding henchman looked to be heading for our door. He was, but only to hack Dad's tree and trim Mum's bush. Thankfully they didn't ask for my opinion on why this statement humoured me; but those trees really didn't need cutting. With opinion banned I was almost mute, well, apart from occasionally chuckling to myself. Even my fossil-head

Leeds' fashion week

As London graduate Fashion Week rapidly approaches Chloe Watson follows Leeds University's finest designers, profiling their journey in their first true experience of putting a collection together

Alex Mawby's French Victorian inspired collection is proving to be an absolute winner with a beautifully tailored cropped jacket and an innovative yet striking strapless all in one city shorts number. Entitled Primrose Hill, Mawby's collection is anything but Kate Moss imitation but rather inspired by her summer picnics in trendy Primrose Hill and this is shown skilfully from what I saw throughout the entire collection. Each piece has a wonderfully summery yet sophisticated feel to it, completely in keeping with this summer's trends, feminine and tailored yet incredibly sexy.

Talking to the girls earlier this week I asked them how they had found the process of putting a collection together so far. All were optimistic and described the process as a huge "learning curve". Nina Mountney expanded saying in doing this collection the designers have been "the designers, the pattern-cutters, the machinists, and the stylist - we are doing everything!" Which is unrealistic of a typical fashion house such as Alexander McQueen where Mawby worked for a year where he is the creative director working with a team of designers, machinists and pattern-cutters. They all agree this is probably the most stressful thing they will ever work on plus the fact that they have four years work riding on it doesn't exactly ease the pressure.

Luckily there doesn't seem to have been any disasters so far. At the model fitting the girls tutor, David gave the thumbs up to all of their designs only recommending a few alterations and a simplification for Mountney. "He recommended that I changed one of my tops for a simpler version but my simpler version still have 23 individual pieces to make it up" this has proved to Mountney that she does indeed want to work in high-fashion rather than designing for the high street, something better to find out sooner that later - "I just wouldn't be happy designing t-shirt after t-shirt". So what have the others learnt from the process? Sherwood has realised that comparing yourself to other designers is not always a good idea, "I compare myself to others more than I should and I've learnt to go with what I think and see it through, which is hard when you're surrounded by really confident designers." Mawby realised that her tendency to rush is something to work on "If I needed to change something I didn't go back and change the pattern I just did it, I don't know who I thought I was designing for" this wasn't disastrous and luckily Mawby only needs to make a couple of alterations to her collections but know knows that this is something to be aware of in the future.

In the short period I have been working with the designers it is obvious that although putting their first ever collection together has been by no means relaxing has only strengthen their determination and skill. Sherwood who prior to this experience doubted that she would ever want to work in fashion is now set on a career in fashion. Mountney has realised her own tendencies and skills truly lend themselves to couture fashion and Mawby is enjoying learning about the design process as a whole rather than from just a design perspective. And the journey is by no means over. The finale at London Graduate Fashion Week will really show what

these girls are made of.

A dummies guide to putting together a fashion collection

August 2005

The girls spent the summer thinking about what direction they would like their collection to take. All of the girls frantically ran from exhibition to exhibition in an attempt to find inspiration - Mountney headed to the Victoria and Albert Museum while Sherwood headed to an Ozzie Clarke retrospective.

September '05

It became crucial at this point that all of the designers carried out thorough research regarding their collection to form a solid base for their creative progression. This was also the perfect time to begin sourcing material and components, Sherwood even went to the lengths of having her own buttons died and visiting the Premier Vision show in Paris to make sure that her designs were up-to-the-minute. Mawby said that this was the perfect time to concentrate on their customer profile, making sure that their collection, once completed would fulfil all the needs of their target market.

October '05

By now the direction and aims of your collection are known so it's time to tackle the mundane but all important funding situation. This is commonly done by approaching companies involved in the fashion industry and trying to secure funding. Furthermore this is when the actual designing begins to take place, starting first with toiles (experimental and inexpensive mock-up pieces).

November '05

By this time the girls were well and truly in to the design and toile phase. At this point it was imperative to concentrate on silhouette rather than detail to make each piece as seamless as possible. Each of the girls also went out and about, travelling to London, Manchester and other major cities sourcing the best fabrics available.

December '05

The designers put all their ideas into outfits and presented them to their tutor for the final go ahead. Luckily all the girls got the thumbs up! As the festive period approached it was vital to secure funding and make final decision regarding fabrics before the Christmas break.

January '06

On their return to university in January all students had to hand in the first part of their project. With the feedback gained from their tutors the designers went about making toiles for their final designs using their designs from the first term.

February '06

The making of toiles continued in preparation for the first model fitting at the end of the month. All of the designers agreed that it was exciting see their work on a human body

instead of a manikin. It also highlighted what worked and what did not. The hard work was far from over as adjustments and developments continued to be made.

March '06

So that has been the design year so far. At this point the designers are making up their final pieces, perfecting every detail and continuing adjustments resulting from the continuing model fittings, all in preparation for London Graduate Fashion Week 4th-7th June and of course I will be bringing you all the news and information hot off the catwalk.



Bargain bagging

Outlet shopping centres have a bad reputation for being a bit like a jumble sale: somewhere your nan would be happy to spend a day sorting through bargains, but hardly somewhere a fashion-conscious student could afford to give up revision time to visit. However, Junction 32 Outlet Shopping Village, near Castleford, has just undergone a major transformation. The modern 'village', situated next to Escape, now has young shops like Zara, Oasis, Monsoon, Mexx, Elle, Next, Marks and Spencer, Pilot and Remington with other shops selling FCUK, Villa and Bronx shoes, with big discounts off the high street price. Leeds Student was given £150 and told to go and spend, and it took longer than we thought.

In the Ex-Z store, Zara clothes ranged from brightly coloured jumpers from £9, to linen trousers also under a tenner and this season's waist belts which were half price at £12. Far from shoving everything onto one rack, the store is as carefully laid out as Zara on the high street, with ranges of trends and colours displayed in different sections of the shop. Mexx continued the professionalism and even though we were only spending about £30 in there the shop assistants were very helpful. Although this shop is not generally on a student radar because it is a bit pricey, the discounts meant that a pair of dark denim jeans were only £12, a pair of smart black trews were



watches at half price.

Although quite busy for a wet Friday, the village was a refreshing change from the hectic state of the Headrow on a Saturday morning and unlike coffee shops in Leeds City Centre on the weekend, the coffee shops in the village were not crowd-

ed and after two hours of serious shopping was a welcome break from carrying around all our bags. Inside, with over £150 spent, the savings racked up to over £400.

How to get there

By car: Take the M621 and M1 South to join the M62 and leave at Junction 32, where it is clearly signposted from the motorway. It takes about half an hour to drive and there is free parking.

By train: It only takes 25 minutes from Leeds to Glasshoughton, which is a short walk from the shopping centre.

See www.junction32.com for more details



Savers: (top and right) stores in the redesigned village; (left) cut price trainers at Soled Out; (below left) displays in Ex-Z, the Zara outlet store; (below) beautiful bargains in Daniel Footwear



£27 and a cardigan just £19. Further around the circular layout of shops, the Designer Room had one wall was lined with men's FCUK tee-shirts, and nestled among summer dresses was a lovely Victoriana shirt and grey pencil skirt at £15 and £25 respectively.

The range of shoe shops means that there's something for everyone, from the trainer-happy Sole trader's discount store, to the upmarket Daniel Footwear, a shop stocking designer shoes and beautiful slouchy leather bags. A pair of natural leather court shoes were reduced to £49.99, perfect for an up-coming interviews and although expensive, we spied a gorgeous leather bag for £75.

Amongst the jewellers, Charles Clinkard sold ranges like the Hot diamonds collection, silver Accurist watches for as little as £29 and CK





Dear diary

Woohoo!
Signed contract for house today! So relieved, one of a hundred nagging worries vanished. £60 a week, no rats, opposite uni: next year am rolling out of bed and into lectures! Not literally coz that might hurt. Esp. if, on a whim, buy a bunk bed. Aaaaah! What have I written? Coz! A textism (is that a word, or have I just made it up? Will it need to be copyrighted? Don't want a Da Vinci Code case. Damn. Can't find dictionary). Slang. Disgusting. Unforgivable from an English student. Or worse, what if 'coz' is actually an Americanism? Like saying 'Do you want to go for coffee?' when you actually mean tea because tea is what the English do. Not that am a raving xenophobic or anything, love Friends as much as anyone.

Was having coff tea with Naomi the other day because we hadn't seen each other over the holidays (only live half an hour apart, but was so busy doing stuff I can't remember, never got round to meeting up with her. Note to self: Stop being a time-fritterer). Was crying over Joe because he hadn't called me. He was skipping first week back because of 'business'. Whatever that means. Naomi was getting pissed off with my boyf obsessed talk. Thought should be more worried about where we were going to live next year. Can't help it. I avoid things. Never press 'balance enquiry' button on the machine when withdraw cash, throw away bills and statements, and let other people sign contracts. All could think about was Joe. My tongue and tears kept rolling on.

'Oh my God, Sars, shut up! You're so wet and wordy, like the bloody Mississippi!'

Naomi's such a great best friend. Am having minor relationship blip/break-

down of biblical proportions (depending on what Joe's thinking, and I don't understand boys) and instead of comfort, she offers insults. Dry English wit bounced back;

'Shut up. If a dentist asked you to open wide, you'd do a Sharon Stone.'

'Only if he was cute.'

Oh Naomi. If I loved you anymore, I'd be a lesbian. Wish your pet name for me wouldn't be synonymous with disease, though 'Sars'. Eeegrh.. Joe called me just now. Talk about drawing blood from a stone. Sucking words from him was painful. Bastard. Felt good scolding him for ignoring work and revision. He berated me for doing the same thing. Am secretly a hypocrite. Will passionately revise from now on and prevent repetition of bog-average results in last semester's exams. Thank God am not living with Joe next year. He'd only distract me. Plato said desires got in the way of the mind. Have sudden craving for sandwich.

Went for days without bread over the holiday. Not only did Moses (peace be upon him) talk to God and see a burning bush (Bush! Bubbling contempt for the man must be what caused spurt of Anti-American waffling at start of entry!), not only did he warn of plagues and free slaves, not only did he part a Red Sea and deliver 10 commandments, he was also the cause of the original Atkins diet, before it evolved to become the scientifically discredited movement it has. For the first time ever, kept Passover. Feel v. proud. Didn't even eat matzah. Might not believe in my faith, but at least believe in the evinens of carbohydrates. Would have lost loads of weight, if had not eaten so many Easter Eggs.

Written in the Stars

with
Tutti
Frutti

Taurus (Apr 20 - May 20)

Be on red alert. Someone you're tickled pink with will soon leave you green with envy. A gold star if you manage not to let the grey skies make you feel blue.

Gemini (May 21 - Jun 21)

Revision is good for you. It's reassuringly difficult. After all, you'd expect to have to work hard at probably the best university in Yorkshire. Keep the head down and stick it out. Good things come to those who wait. Alternatively, XXXX it and have a beer.

Cancer (Jun 22 - Jul 22)

Do something different. Don't even think about it. Just do it...buy those Nike trainers you've been eyeing, for example. Like.No.Other. Impossible is nothing.

Leo (Jul 23 - Aug 22)

Experimentation is often key to discovery. If you're New to(n) the idea, don't wait for an apple to fall on your head - get out there and go for it. Eureka!

Virgo (Aug 23 - Sep 22)

Life is a rollercoaster; you've just got to ride it. Take the plunge, but don't let things slide out of control. Your emotions will seesaw unexpectedly. Remember that a decision is rarely perfect - it's swings and roundabouts.

Libra (Sep 23 - Oct 22)

Your head feels like it's full of Aero and revision is getting you in a Twirl. Break it into bite size chunks and Crunchie your way through. Lighten up brain teasers with Maltesers and if all else fails, Have a break. Have a Kit Kat.

Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)

There's trouble brewing. Let things stew and hope it's a storm in a teacup. Test anything new with caution - contents may be hot.

Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)

1 day this week when you have 2 much to do to think about 3 time, forget the lot and do what you want 4 a change. Spend your last \$ on something as worthwhile as catching a fish alive that you plan on throwing straight back in again.

Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)

Wear something absolutely hideous. If anyone compliments you on it, you will be able to deduce that: a) you can't trust them, or b) they have shocking taste. Either way, it would be wise to steer clear.

Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)

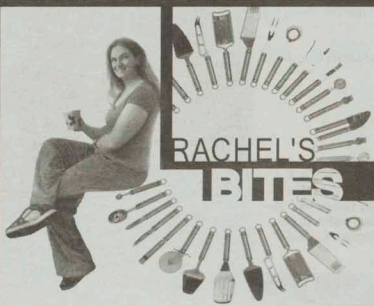
The events of this week will prove to be no laughing matter. No joke, wipe the smile off your face and grin and bear it as well as you can.

Pisces (Feb 19 - Mar 20)

Mars is popular this month, taking over the Milky Way like it's any old Galaxy. Don't get spaced out. Let chocolate lighten up the season be Twix Easter and exams like a Starburst.

Aries (Mar 21 - Apr 19)

Many hands make light work, but too many cooks spoil the broth. It all boils down to perspective. Try looking at something from a different angle and see what you find. You may just find that the waiter has pissed in the soup because of your pretentious philosophising.



this week: Tangy tomato soup

This might sound a little strange, but it's a really simple and economical combination of flavours that work superbly together. The orange juice really helps to bring out the sweetness of the tomatoes, while the balsamic and orange zest keep a slightly sharp flavour to the soup.

Recipe:

Serves four

1 kg tomatoes, chopped
1 onion, chopped
1 small clove garlic, finely chopped.
1 orange

50ml balsamic vinegar, or to taste
1 tspn sugar
Salt, pepper
Dried rosemary
200ml vegetable stock
Cream, to serve

Instructions

Heat a little olive oil in a large saucepan, adding the onion and garlic. Fry over a medium heat until the onion has just started to soften. Add the grated zest of the orange, and 1 tspn rosemary. Stir well before adding the tomatoes. If you have an open bottle of white wine in the house, add a dash at this stage if desired. Stir well, and pour over the stock to

cover the tomato mixture. Cover and keep at a low simmer for 20 minutes, before adding the balsamic vinegar, sugar, salt and pepper to taste. Serve with cream drizzled over the top. If desired, puree the soup with a blender before serving.

Tip of the week

The zest of citrus fruit is a fan-

tastic ingredient for adding a sharp tang to your recipe without overpowering the other flavours. If possible, buy unwaxed fruit - the zest will have much more flavour, and it's often cheaper. Try adding lemon or lime zest to vegetable accompaniments, stirfries, marinades and salad dressings. Be careful when adding zest to a frying pan though - it has a high oil content and can burn very quickly as a result.

Fight for fourth Wiggle Wiggle

Sporting comment

By Ky Capel

Not for a long time has the rivalry between Tottenham and their neighbours Arsenal been so fierce. Both have had terrific seasons for different reasons.

The Gunners have enjoyed great success in the Champions League, whereas Spurs will achieve their highest ever Premiership finish. However it would seem that whatever happens one club is destined to be extremely disappointed, bitter and jealous of their great rivals come the end of the season.

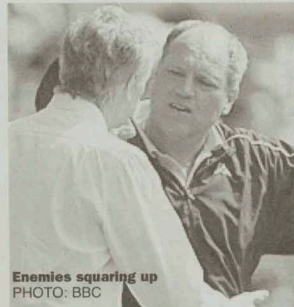
Even if Tottenham finish higher than Arsenal in the league this year, the first time they would have done so since the 1994/95 season, Arsenal could spoil the party by winning the Champions League, meaning the White Hart Lane faithful would have to settle for UEFA Cup football next season. This is something Spurs fans would have easily taken at the start of the season, but now there is great optimism and confidence that the side can qualify for Europe's elite competition.

Arsenal have put in some outstanding performances in Europe this year, however their league form has suffered. The team has lost 11 Premiership games this season so far, which is equal to the amount of games they lost in the last three campaigns combined. Tuesday's resilient performance against Villarreal earned them their first ever Champions League final appearance. They rode their luck at times, and many Spurs fans will be disappointed that the Spanish side couldn't take any of their chances,

including a dodgy penalty decision.

Last Saturday's derby match between the two has to be the most heated for years. The two managers certainly added spice to the occasion, Arsene Wenger losing his head completely and squaring up to Martin Jol with what I can only describe as Dutch courage considering that Jol is the bigger of the two, and has even said in the media: "Everyone saw what happened and I think I did really well to hold myself back. I really don't think he realises how strong I am. Otherwise he wouldn't approach me with headbutts and everything."

Arsene Wenger also had some interesting things



Enemies squaring up
PHOTO: BBC

to say after the match, most were very unprofessional and rather hypocritical: "Their first goal was a disgrace. They lie when they say they didn't see it." I'm sorry Arsene, what did you say? Now then, where have I heard a manager say 'I didn't see the incident before'?

The game itself was thrilling. Tottenham controlled the game all the way up to Henry's equaliser. No-one who watched the game can argue otherwise. The main talking point was Robbie Keane's opener. When I first saw it I didn't see anything wrong, but I could hear all the Arsenal fans in the pub complaining. The second time I saw the incident confirmed my thought that Emmanuel Eboue was grounded by his own player, not Michael Carrick.

As all the pundits have said: Tottenham were well within their rights to play on. I'm sure that Arsenal would have done exactly the same had they been in that position. Wenger shouldn't have reacted the way he did. Maybe he was feeling the pressure watching his Arsenal side being dominated on their own pitch by their supposed weaker rivals. Arsenal were lucky not to go into half-time 2-0 down, Carrick and Defoe both missing good chances for the visitors.

All that remains to be seen is whether Spurs can hold their nerve in their final two games against UEFA Cup chasers Bolton and West Ham to claim that all important fourth spot. Or whether Arsenal can crush their neighbours Champions League dreams by realising their own and beating the mighty Barcelona in Paris on May 17th, thus winning the competition outright. Tottenham fans will no doubt be desperate to get one over on their fiercest of rivals and will be praying for a Barca win.

By Staff reporter

On a cold and wet Monday evening, when the best idea seemed to not leave the house at all, the original plan was in fact to go and try a little akhshmak-ah and yasab aleya down the road in Morley. Now that's not some odd-tasting food, it's the amazing dance moves of the Zaghareet belly-dancing troupe at the Regency Ballroom.

Apart from the fun workout this class proved to be, (and most exotic for Yorkshire in March!), you get the chance to dress up like a genie and shimmy your way through music fit for Lawrence of Arabia, on a camel, in the desert. Who knew belly-dancing was actually Egyptian??

The dances, beginners and advanced, include veils and jingly sashes and are more challenging than they look, but the perfect way to shake off any remaining wintry chill.

Cassandra Richardson, a Leeds student and belly-dancer for over two years, reveals the benefits: "Belly-dancing is a fantastic way of getting in-touch with the girly girl within, it is sexy without being sleazy and looks good on women of all shapes and sizes." And you get fitter in the meantime.

• If you want to find out more about the dance, up and coming events and classes in your area www.wiggle.org.uk is an Aladdin's cave of information. It's all about the wiggle, honest!



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300 Seconds in Sport

Christians United

By GRAHAM CLARK

"We have a really good work ethic."

NAME: JAMES O'BRIEN
ROLE: CHRISTIAN UNION FOOTBALL CAPTAIN

Leeds Student: So the Christian Union have progressed to a cup final?

JB: Yes, that's correct we've qualified for the National Christian Cup final in two weeks time at Nene Park.

LS: Who are your opponents?

JB: We are playing Kings Sport; they're a side from Hertfordshire.

LS: How many games did you have to play in order to reach the final?

JB: We have had to play five games; we were lucky as we got a bye in the first round.

LS: So were all your wins pretty convincing?

JB: Yeah, they were fairly convincing, we won 2-1, 6-1, 5-2, 3-1 and 3-1.

LS: All in all it's been quite a successful year for the Christian Union wouldn't you say?

JB: Yeah, it's been pretty successful as we managed to win the first semester division one intra-mural league and we would have also been in the second semester final to play for the chance to represent Leeds Uni in the varsity match against the Met intra-

mural champions but the match would be on the same day as the Christian Cup final.

LS: That's pretty unfortunate.

JB: Indeed it is so we've given the Business school the chance to play against the team from the Met, we would have liked to play but our priority is the Christian Cup Final. (Laughs) One of my house-mates plays for the Business school so there has been plenty of banter in the house!

LS: What is your success down to? What do you feel is the most important attribute?

JB: (Pauses) Good team spirit, also the fact that we are all third year students means we have more experience than others as we have played football together a lot longer than other teams. We also have a really good work ethic as well.

LS: So, as you are an active member of the CU I take it football does not take up all your time, or does it?

JB: I'm afraid it does! Although some of the team are on the CU executive committee, but I'm very football orientated.

LS: Moving away from University football, did you by chance happen to watch the Chelsea v Liverpool match on Saturday?

JB: Yes it was a great match, very surprised at Chelsea's midfield, I did not like the negative tactics that Mourinho used, I was quite glad to see Mourinho beat purely because of his arrogance!

LS: As I'm a Chelsea fan I was extremely gutted, however who do you reckon will win the final?

JB: Liverpool should do. But I'd like to see West Ham win just because they're the underdogs. It would be great to see an English manager win a cup

final for a change.

LS: So then James who do you support?

JB: Afraid to say that I'm a Bristol City fan.

LS: If I recall you have Gary Johnson in charge now, the ex Yeovil boss?

JB: That's right, doing pretty well under him to, we have won seven out of our last eight under him, at the minute though we are very much a perennial sleeping giant!

LS: Liking that phrase! So as you watched Arsenal on Tuesday do you reckon they can win the Champions League final?

JB: Arsenal can win it, however they were abysmal on Tuesday, it was like watching paint dry. Nothing like how they play when they're at Highbury, the quick slick fast moving game they like to play, the way the play when they crush teams. Even Henry was dropping back!

LS: Do you feel that English club football is the best in Europe?

JB: Very much so, I prefer it obviously because I'm English, but the players play with more passion, you don't see players constantly going down for petty things like they do on the continent.

LS: How do you fancy England's chances of winning the World Cup?

JB: We can do it; England can win the World Cup!

LS: As important as winning it, who would you like to be the next manager?

JB: Martin O'Neill or Sam Allardyce. Sven's done well, but we need a British manager, we need a bit more passion injected into the team a bit more motivation.

LS: Right to finish off the interview three quick fire

questions. Premiership or Champions League?

JB: (Thinks) Champions League.

LS: Mourinho or Ferguson?

JB: Ferguson.

LS: Best striker the Premiership has ever seen?

JB: Tough one, but I'd have to say Cantona.



Team captain: James O'Brien
PHOTO: Patrick Nixon

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When Saturday comes Praise be!

**Intra-mural Saturday League Final
X-Tetley 2 - 1 Sporting LP**

By Guy Fowles

X-Tetley produced a resilient performance against a useful Sporting XI to claim the spoils as the Saturday league Champions and the right for a showdown with Wednesday's winners, the Business School.

This tightly contested affair saw Sporting dominate for large parts of the game only for Tetley to hit them with two sucker-punch goals against the run of play.

Against the wind Tetley struggled in the first half, and only a brilliant reaction save from keeper Josh Wilkinson prevented Sporting from taking the lead. Late in the half Tetley's Guy Fowles swung a dangerous free-kick into the penalty area, the ball ricocheting off several competing players before landing at the unsuspecting feet of Dan Lowry. Unmarked, Lowry needed no invitation to shoot and duly buried his shot past the helpless goalkeeper, giving Tetley a slender 1-0 advantage going into the break.

The second half produced a similar pattern of play. Sporting displayed their skill in creating many attacking moves only to be thwarted in the final third by some excellent Tetley defending, the centre-back pairing of Ed Smith and Jamie Pickering marshalling the back four admirably. Ironically, it was Pickering who, on a rare foray into the opponents box, connected superbly with an Ashcroft corner to send a bullet header flying into the back of the net. X-Tetley were now 2-0 up, a lead which appeared unassailable.

Sporting however, had other ideas. They pushed on in greater numbers and took siege within the Tetley half, desperately trying to claw a goal back from somewhere. With 10 minutes to go Tetley's substitute defender Aaron Jackman looked odds on favourite to mop up a lobbed through-ball, only for Sporting's pacy striker to nip in and just reach the ball first. Jackman could not put the brakes on in time and clattered into the player leaving him in a crumpled heap on the floor resulting in a penalty. The referee waved away Tetley's

protests and Sporting's captain Dan Lamport kept his nerve to convert from the penalty spot. Suddenly the score was 2-1 and game on.

In the final few frantic minutes the match really opened up as both teams missed good opportunities to score.

Founded five years ago, the X-Tetley team contains just three of its founder members with the rest of the team hailing from last year's mighty Oxley Hall. A bond of understanding and belief was apparent in their resolute

defending and willingness to fight for each other, and it was this team spirit that ultimately proved decisive.

Try as they might Sporting LP were unable to conjure the goal that would have taken the game into extra time and surely given them the psychological advantage, and as the final whistle went Tetley celebrated a remarkable double – winning the Saturday league before and after Christmas. Could they complete a historic treble?

By James O'Brien

Leeds University's Christian Union Football Club has reached the final of The Digital Solutions National Christian Cup after beating Mill Lane Churches of Liverpool 3-1.

With university success in semester one achieved with triumph in Intra-mural Division 1 "the CU" are now aiming for nationwide success in the prestigious national tournament. An achievement even more noteworthy as it is only the second year that the CU has entered the competition. Player-Manager James O'Brien described the accomplishment of his young side reaching the final as "phenomenal", while attributing most of his teams success to "a dogged determination to work for each other when the chips are down and to play every minute like its their last."

The game was a thrilling affair with both sides setting their stalls out to attack from the off. The CU took the lead after an amazing solo run from inside his own half was rifled into the net by the mercurial Goddard. Minutes later however, Mill Lane were level as the CU yet again failed to build on an early lead with the ball stabbed home following a goal-mouth scramble.

This sparked the CU to life and they began stamping their authority on the match with Nicholls' strength, Gibbs' flair and Dunkley's vision winning the midfield exchanges - the latter providing the corner from which the inspired Goddard expertly volleyed the CU back in front.

Into the second half, and the CU looked to pick up where they'd left off, with their almost telepathic strike force of Cleghorn and Kellett combining superbly for Kellett to hammer home. This seemed to settle any remaining CU nerves, and any prospective Mill Lane attacks were easily extinguished by the CU's impressive back five of Law, Clarke, Straw, Roberts and Tyrer. In fact it was the CU who looked the more likely with the introductions of Green, Ayres and O'Brien wreaking even more havoc in the visiting defence.

The CU can now look forward to facing the experienced Kings Sports of Hertfordshire, in at Rushton & Diamonds ground Nene Park on Thursday 11th May.

Team: Law; Clarke (Ayres), Roberts, Tyrer, Straw; Goddard, Nicholls, Dunkley, Gibbs; Kellett (Green), Cleghorn (O'Brien). Subs not used: Brett, Wright.



Row, row, row your boat

By James Hickman

Leeds Uni's boating team couldn't cause an upset at the BUSA Team Racing Championship, but did manage to beat their previous BUSA finals record, for races won, in an eventful three days.

This year's event was held at Grafham water, Cambridge and was comprised of more than 300 short races. Team racing is a race between six boats, three on each team, with the team score, not individual results counting.

The Championship was attended by the cream of British student sailing including potential future Olympic and America's cup hopefuls. Only teams which had qualified from regional events were invited, in total, 204 sailors, 24 mixed teams and 10 ladies teams raced in 42 identical boats.

The run up to this event had been encouraging, having won the Christie Cup a fortnight before, followed by coming through to the finals via the play-offs in a show of pure brilliance from all on the team, the week before. These years BUSA finals was set to be a corker!

Tuesday started with a gentle breeze and soon built up to a good strong breeze with a somewhat annoying choppy swell. We found ourselves drawn

in a very competitive league with Cambridge 1, London 1 and Exeter 1 appearing to be the best teams, but we had fun as the wind increased. For the rest of the day the wind continued to build making for exciting racing throughout the event.

Praise has to go to the organisers as we got through a record 128 races on the first day, despite the racing having to be called off for an hour, as a mother of a squall came through (reports of snow from one Empire).

In the mixed event, Cambridge 1, Nottingham 1 and Oxford 1 established strong starts by winning all of their races in their leagues and progressed in to the supergold league. The ladies league was much closer, with every team losing at least one race.

We unfortunately lost everyone, but each one was a close contest, with us just being piped on the post or by an unfortunate decision going against us from the umpires.

Wednesday started off with a threat to all teams that they may be evicted from Newnham College due to the noise from the previous night and the fact that someone had used the corridor as a toilet.

Wednesday saw the mixed teams split into four leagues and the ladies into two. We didn't race until late in the day. So we watched as the breeze built to

a consistent strong level and cut down sails were rigged. When we did get to race we fared better than the day before, clocking up some wins. So many so that we were equal with our 2004 record, and we still had another day of racing to go.

In the supergold league Cambridge lost their only race of the event to Nottingham, while Oxford struggled due to a missing helm (he unfortunately was clocked doing 90mph in a 50mph zone, and when breath tested he was found to be still positive from the night before). Leeds managed to get a spot in the silver league which was to be continued the following day.

Friday started off with us thinking we only had two races, but we turned out to have a total of six! Of which we won two, therefore doubling our previous mixed BUSA finals record. Strong winds throughout the day made plenty of work for the bosons, as breakages became fairly frequent.

The final came down to a repeat of the Boat race as Oxford took on Cambridge. After some delays due to kit failure, Cambridge won three races in a row and thus the tournament.

Although the Leeds team sailed well, it wasn't to their full potential. Next year they will come back fighting stronger and harder.



<< **BUSA**
championships:
Sail away

Page 23



<< **Sporting**
Comment:
Rivals do
battle
Page 21



<< **300**
Seconds:
Christian
captain

Page 21

Student sport

Friday, April 28, 2006

sport@lsweb.org.uk

Medals All Round

★ **Cycling Club retains third gold title of the season**

By Leon Foks

Leeds Uni's cyclists have once again come up trumps with an array of medals to show for their efforts.

Leeds University Cycling Club went off to Eastridge near Shrewsbury to take part in one of the most prestigious races of the year, the BUSA mountain bike race. Saturday contested the downhill with Sunday holding the Cross Country race.

After a day spent practising on Friday, the downhill team, made up of Tom Humphery, Ben Thompson, Ali Mackenzie and Ned Vardey took to the very cold and muddy hillside on Saturday to see how fast they could get to the bottom. Two attempts at the nerve-wracking, rocky and rooted course saw riders taking great risks to get their times down. The Leeds team put in solid performances, with Tom placing 70th, two seconds slower was Ali in 76th place. A further 24 seconds back was Ben, placing 163rd and in at 210th was Ned, with a time of 3 minutes dead. The race with 220 competi-

tors was won in 1min 31secs. All the riders enjoyed the event, which has the best atmosphere of almost any race in the UK.

Sunday saw the cross-country riders line up at the start, the XC Sport in the morning and then the crowning event of the weekend, the XC Champs in the afternoon. The XC Sport saw seven Leeds riders take part, with three laps of the muddy Eastridge course each measuring about four miles.

John Richardson took seventh place, followed by Alex Williams in eighth and Steve Ads' head crossing the finish line in tenth position. These brilliant positions meant the Leeds team finished second place in the Sports race. Chris Dyson placed 13th, Dan McNally and Dafydd Chandler were 18th and 19th respectively while David Horn in his first ever race finished a fantastic 48th, out of 105 riders in total.

The Champs race kicked off at 1pm and with a muddy course of four laps, there was a lot of potential for things to go wrong. Seeded first for Leeds was last year's silver medallist Will Simmons, tipped to be the rider to

watch and he didn't fail to perform. Also lined up in the Champs team were Tim Burnett, Matt Clinton, and Tony Salmon - a formidable team to see the least.

Unfortunately disaster struck when both Tony and Matt got punctures halfway round an extremely fast first lap. Despite losing about seven minutes, Matt was chasing again. Could things get worse? Yes, once more for Tony when he got another puncture. Once sorted, however, he was back and riding solidly until the end.

At the head of the race Will was showing again why he's one of the top student cyclists in the UK. Leading for the whole race, at one point Will even had a 45 second gap from second place. Tim, knowing both Tony and Matt had punctured, rode fantastically to make up the time that the punctures had lost and though crashing he still maintained a brilliant position.

Will won the race in a time of 1 hour 43 minutes, lapping up to 24th place. Tim came in 14 minutes later, placing 7th and Matt in 10th was another 8 minutes down. Due to his punctures, Tony was lapped, placing 35th. Leeds were the only team to have three riders complete all four laps, retaining last year's Gold medal and the third event in which Leeds has won the team competition for two consecutive years!

This weekend Will travels over to Belgium to compete in the World University Games in the Cyclo-Cross event - hopefully, like last weekend, he won't fail to perform.

Thanks again to the club's sponsors, Torq Fitness and Stif Bikes in Headingley who without a doubt have contributed to the team's success. Thanks also to the four-man support crew that came along and had a thoroughly enjoyable weekend.

For more info on the Cycling Club, visit www.leeds-uni-cycling.org.uk.



The cycling squad celebrate at Eastridge
Right: one rider in action



Got a story or an opinion? Send us your sporting views to: sport@lsweb.org.uk