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# The Leeds Student Newspaper

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## Union blocks pole position

- Students vote yes, activities assembly says no
- LUU raises concerns over pole dancing society

Virginia Newman

The controversial proposal for a pole dancing society to be run at LUU has been rejected.

Proposals for the society were rejected by the Leeds University Union (LUU) Activities Assembly this week by one deciding vote. One member of the assembly also branded the committee "inappropriate role models for running a society".

The decision was made even after the society received overwhelming support in a previous straw poll. The straw poll, which took place on the Monday of Freshers' week, is estimated to have produced a result of approximately 600 yes votes to 50 no votes.

Barry McGuire, Activities Assembly Chair who made the casting vote, commented: "I chose to vote against the formation as the committee seem to be inappropriate role models for running a society, especially of this nature."

"The other option would be to invite the committee to explain their actions then return the formation request to the Activities Assembly, who would likely vote 'No' due to a previous breach of trust, which would be a waste of time."

Of the other ten members present at the meeting, one voted for the society, four voted against it and the remainder voted for the option of further discussion before making a decision.

Emma Hooson, President of the

proposed society, said: "I'm really disappointed about the result. I feel as if the poll was pointless if they didn't take into account the demand for the society, which there obviously is."

The straw poll event, designed by LUU Activities Officer Jess Parker, aimed to raise awareness of the role of the Activities Assembly and to help the potential society raise their profile and challenge students' perceptions of pole dancing.

But there has been dispute over the society's use of club promoter T-shirts, which Parker believes added to the doubts decision-makers already had on the issue.

She added: "The fact that an external company were being pushed out to students using a poll that was intended to be a 'not for profit' political debate confined to LUU was also a matter of contention for some of the Activities Executive."

The society also handed out 'Leeds' Finest' calendars, in which the proposed president of the society featured, at the vote. Jess added that the calendars had not helped: "The content of these calendars rather reinforced the link between pole dancing and the exploitation of women's bodies" she said.

However, Emma Hooson responded: "We had the calendars because of something completely different. We weren't exactly 'handing them out' at the poll. We are all hard working, upstanding members of the University and local community, yet it seems as though they don't think we are fit to be committee members of a society."

LUU Equality and Diversity Officer Maryam Ahmad feels that a pole dancing society would be cause for concern, exacerbating the potential links with the sex industry and the therefore possible safety of LUU students. She said: "The potential dangers that could be presented to students in a city like Leeds, which has one of the highest number of pole and lap dancing clubs in the UK and a growing sex-trafficking problem, suggest that a membership organisation like LUU should not have a pole dancing society. We have a duty of care and it is a priority to ensure the safety of our students."

But the proposing committee planned to write conditions in to the society's constitution stating that they would not condone participation in the sex industry and other misuses of the pole dancing training.

Emma Hooson explained: "We are thinking about doing competitions with other universities rather than doing performances. It would be strictly for exercise and we'll keep it in a safe environment."

Emma and her committee are appealing the Activities Assembly's decision. But the debate is set to continue as another rival dancing group 'Pole Fitness',

have a proposition in the pipeline.

Jess Parker said: "Some members of the Activities Executive thought that the No vote, although extremely small, still

demonstrated that there were students who questioned the idea of a pole dancing society and that their views needed to be seriously considered in the final decision."

Yes - 90%



## Campus crimes

Natasha Evans  
Adam Richardson

During the summer break the Union has been exposed to a series of different thefts with thousands of pounds worth of equipment being stolen.

The incidents occurred whilst the majority of the student populace were away from the city and have ranged from the attempted snatching of the Union reception's laptop to the robbery of essential equipment from LS:TV.

The latest break occurred at the new LS:TV office on Thursday September 11 before the majority of students arrived on campus. The incident was discovered on Monday September 15 when station staff returned to the resource lounge to find an empty storage cage.

All the station's cameras and accompanying accessories, such as microphones and batteries were stolen. This included three older cameras and several new industrial standard shoulder cameras which were given to the station by the Institute of Communication Studies (ICS).

The estimated value of this equipment if bought as new is over £20,000. However, an estimate of the items stolen was around £7000.

In a bid to keep LS:TV functioning, financial support has been awarded by the Activities Resource Centre (ARC) in the Union. A sum of £7000 has been provided, enabling the society to continue to operate.

Station manager Ali Dixon remains positive about the society despite this set back: "Although this is an awful thing to happen, we are trying to turn it around. It took





## Union Boy

Lord, isn't it good to have the students back? Seems like years since someone thrust a flyer into my hand. But back they are, trudging single file into the Union for the cheapest sandwich they can find (plenty more mayo this year, thanks to your democratic Union). What greets them there? A horde of societies waiting to snatch a fiver or so off them. What do they get in return? A little card telling them that the societies they've joined probably shouldn't bully them. Now there's some credit crunching value. Let the initiation ceremonies commence!

Anyone who does manage to get off

the main strip and find their way upstairs should pop their head around the door of the Exec Office. Bombsite? A bomb that went off years ago maybe; it looks like the rubbish from last year's team is slowly beginning to fossilise underneath.

Despite this 'creative untidiness' (I'm sure this publication shouldn't be throwing stones in that particular glass house), thieves have still managed to sift through the crap to find a few gems worth nicking. Solution? Probably lock a few doors, that usually does the trick.

Makes you wonder if what these kids need is a bit more discipline. The type you'd get from the Army, perhaps. Not the kind of career anyone in this Union would discourage, no? Particularly seeing as they were at the Freshers Fair and all.

I'm all for massive displays of dedication, but I'm a bit deflated by this one. Some bright spark decided that the best way to demonstrate the University's commitment to world issues would be to roll a £1,000 inflatable globe down the road to the

Civic Hall (sorry, I haven't a clue either). If only we could all demonstrate our feelings in this way, I'd be releasing 1000 white doves every time I yawned and explaining why I was late for work in a Beijing Opening Ceremony-style interpretive dance.

Thankfully, whoever was on Idiot Watch that night pulled the plug, and helium balloons were settled upon. Turns out national media organisations don't like broken promises though, and all the hype who'd promised to attend let the organisers down. Much like the balloons, which were useless. And what do you get when you've ordered thousands of balloons? A hell of a lot of unused helium. Which they could have used to make the Social Forum fees debate speech a lot more interesting, had the main speaker not thought the event was so important that he forgot to turn up. Oh well Union. If I were you, I'd pump it all through the air con system. A few weeks of Smurf/Joe Pasquale impressions should see you right again.

## Summer break-ins (continued from front page)

place during the move in to our new offices, which have been provided by the Union. During this time work was still being done on the premises. We have been given help by the ARC, and hopefully we can make this the most successful year of LSTV ever."

Andy Winter, Head of Activities for LUU said: "The investigation into the theft of equipment from LS:TV is currently in the hands of the police. When the robbery was discovered CCTV footage was examined and the police were immediately called. We tried to identify how the assailants had gained entry to the space and it appears that they entered through the LS:TV media space. At the time of the robbery, there was a barricade in place to secure the area, due to building work taking place. They managed to find gaps in the barricade and climbed over."

An earlier security breach involved a daylight walk-in at the Union Music Library. It is alleged that when the assailant was caught carrying out boxes of records and was challenged, they replied that they were the relative of a former LUU President, collecting belongings that they had previously donated.

Winter added: "Someone external had a copy of the key to access the music library. It is possible that it was an ex-student or an ex-member of staff, but it is impossible to know for sure. It is clear that there was no break in, as the key was used to leave again."

"A member of reception staff saw them leaving with an armful of stuff. This led to the music library discovering the theft, at which point the locks where obviously changed."

In response to the recent spate of Union robberies, Alan Hill, LUU Head of Facilities, commented: "There is 24/7 security for the building, with movement cameras throughout. Nobody is sat watching it all the time like Big Brother. It is a digital system though which means there are no loose tapes."

"It is an open building. This means that is not just necessarily staff and members that are in the Union at any given time. You do get other people frequenting the building from time to time and they are not all there to use the facilities. This is the same around the entire University when doors are left open."

"The only way to solve it fully would be to baton down access, which we do not want to do. It would require the use of entry cards, which is just not feasible due to the amount of people."

When asked for comment Lesley Dixon, Chief Executive of the Union, said: "We strive to ensure that the Union building is welcoming to all. However this does mean that it is an open building and we have around 17,000 people per day coming through the doors. For this reason we have to be security conscious and would urge all users of the building to bear this in mind"

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Should Leeds University Union  
have a Pole Dancing Society?



**The poll for the pole dancing society**

(continued from front page)

### Leeds Student Newspaper

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# Cycle tracks clear away the carbon footprint

Jessica Ware  
Kate Whatmough

The city of Leeds is now a pioneer in green travel thanks to a million pound bicycle rental scheme.

The scheme, courtesy of UTravelActive, is the first of its kind in the UK and so, for a £100 deposit and a fee of £35 a year, students at both Leeds and Leeds Metropolitan University can now hire a hybrid bicycle, which is a cross between a road bike and a mountain bike.

The project, based on the successful Velocampus scheme in Nantes, France, aims not only to raise the health and wellbeing of Leeds students but to also reduce the increasing carbon footprint.

The two universities have each received 100 of the 21 speed bikes, which are then loaned on a 'first come first served' basis. The project has experienced early success with over 100 bikes from the University and Metropolitan already rented.

Following the success of the pilot year, organisers are hoping to increase the level of funding and therefore the number of bicycles to 300 over the coming years. This will give more

students access to bikes, at what equates to a tenth of the price of an annual bus pass.

The funding will not only be used to buy the bikes, but also to launch free maintenance workshops and self help clinics which, for the coming year, can be found in the new School of Environment building. Bicycle awareness training for bus and taxi drivers in Leeds will also be subsidised by funding thus making the roads safer for unsure cyclists.

UTravelActive is funded by the BIG lottery fund, Leeds City council, Leeds Primary Care Trust and has had equal investment of £300,000 each from both universities. It is also supported by Sustrans, the UK's foremost sustainable transport charity.

Lisa Brannan, UTravelActive project manager said "Everyone knows that cycling is a healthy and environmentally friendly way of getting about - cycling to university is one of the easiest ways for students to achieve the daily recommended 30 minutes of activity to benefit their health. But it can also be much quicker than driving and journey times don't vary with traffic."

As a result of the project's success, other universities may follow suit and

develop similar projects on campuses around the UK. UTravelActive has already received enquiries from other universities interested in the scheme including Glasgow and Swansea, who will monitor the project's popularity in the coming months.

Velocampus is the latest in a series of ventures set up through Leeds University Union to encourage students to become more environmentally aware. Dr Keith Pitcher, Environmental officer for the University stated: "This is a great opportunity for students to reduce their carbon footprint, to get fit and get healthy. It is a way of achieving a new and different kind of lifestyle."

It follows in the footsteps of projects such as Green Streets, a summer project run through Action that encourages students who are moving out to donate unwanted clothes, books and furniture rather than disposing of it.

The scheme is open to all students in Leeds, whether novice or experienced cyclists and anyone interested is advised to apply quickly as bikes are limited. More information can be found at [www.leeds.ac.uk/velocampus](http://www.leeds.ac.uk/velocampus).



Photo: John Puddephatt

## Rough deal for freshers A night out with only girls allowed

Billy Risbridger  
Jane Salmon

Promotion companies are posing as official university groups on Facebook to attract freshers.

Many promoters use the social networking site to attract students to nights out in the city.

But now club marketers are using the names of first year halls on their pages, acting as 'official' residence sites to attract newcomers.

Several hundred Leeds students are already members of the 'official' groups, run by administrator Craig Kleinman.

The University has reported these groups to Facebook for the fraudulent use of its name.

Wardens at Devonshire Halls have already alerted their residents, sending out a warning to the members of the Devonshire Hall page.

Warden Jo Drugan confirmed: "this group has nothing to do with the Hall".

Dev student Rob Winstanley was alerted by Drugan's warning. He said: "His [Kleinman's] actions are out of order."

"As a new face in a new city you would expect people to be welcoming, but this is cheeky and underhanded, and I

imagine that there are people who still don't know."

Other students told us that they also receive advertisements from the promoter.

LUUs' Rose Hampton is an administrator for the official university groups on Facebook. She was not surprised by the case and believes that there are other groups posing as members of the University to advertise their clubs.

She said: "It is not university policy to endorse outside clubs."

Hampton also offered advice on how to spot a fake:

"Often on these sites, there will be lists of the facilities and the numbers of rooms available at the residence."

"We don't include these things on the official sites."

Students across the university are advised to use caution when joining such groups and should contact a warden if they believe the material to be untrustworthy.

Kate Bielawska  
Samantha Wright

Leeds first lesbian club night, 'Strap It On', is being launched by a Leeds University Student this week.

'Strap It On', which launches on Wednesday October 8 at Religion night club, promises to change the face of the Leeds gay scene, filling a gap in the clubbing market and rivaling cities such as London and Manchester.

It is the latest event to be started by Liam Keogh, a 3rd year English Literature student. Keogh also started Blasphemy, a gay night which runs at Religion.

This new event will for the first time lesbian clubbers are offered a night tailored personally for them.

A spokesperson for 'Strap It On' said: "Until now, the queer girls of Leeds have had to tag along to gay nights made for the boys. Strap It On will change this; everything we do will have our female clubbers in mind."

LGBT, a social and support group for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans students at the University, fully supports the night. Caroline Swanson, Secretary, said: "We need more diversity...hopefully this night will help Leeds stand up to cities like Manchester."

Events Officer for LGBT Matt Edwards agrees, adding: "This night will hopefully encourage more clubs to

put on lesbian nights and create some healthy competition."

A spokesperson for the night added: "Strap It On will be a night of

steadfast fun. With wicked tunes to dance to, hot girls to get off with, on-the-night entertainment and filthy cheap drinks."





# Scholarships reach new levels of cool

Marcus Chippindale  
Matthew Power

Following a successful pilot scheme in 2007/08, the University of Leeds Entrepreneurship Scholarship Program will offer more places and increased financial assistance this year.

The Enterprise team are very proud to be the first university to offer a scholarship of this type.

A spokesperson for the scheme said: "Although scholarships have existed for many years in areas such as sport, prior to this scheme there were no equivalent schemes to support students interested in developing their enterprise skills".

Two former students of the University are backing this innovative programme. Martin Penny, who graduated from the University in 1976, founded and is Managing Director of Jemella and owner of the internationally phenomenally popular brand Good Hair Day (GHD).

Dr. Ray Stanbridge graduated in 1967 and is now Managing Director of Stanbridge Associates Ltd, a firm

specialising in the accounting and tax requirements of UK medical consultants.

Last year three scholarships were awarded, including one joint award, and this year there will be substantially more. Claire Smith, Marketing Manager for the scheme, said: "The scheme is open to all, we want to help students from all disciplines to develop entrepreneurial ideas."

Undergraduate scholars who are successful in their application for the Entrepreneurship Scholarship Program will receive an award of up to £3500. This will include a £1000 scholarship, up to £1500 towards travel and training and £1000 to invest in the marketing and development of their idea. This is offered alongside the expertise of their mentors and workspace available in the Enterprise Zone at the University.

The Scholarships programme is managed by the Enterprise and Innovation Office, and involves staff throughout the University. To find out more or to apply for a scholarship check out [www.enterprise-scholarships.com](http://www.enterprise-scholarships.com) or email [enterprise@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:enterprise@leeds.ac.uk).



Emily Cummins developed a solar powered fridge during her time on the programme. Her development of the product has continued as she has taken it out to Africa.

## News In Brief

### Black History Month

Last Wednesday Black History Month was launched for another year. The vast array of scheduled events, which continue throughout October, are set to only to celebrate black history and also to highlight current political debates and issues.

Maryam Ahmad, LUU Equality and Diversity Officer and organiser of BHM, said: "It's not only a series of events that commemorate the past but also enables society to look at practices that are occurring today in our own communities and around the world and to see how these compare with the horrific abuses suffered by black people and the ideological justification provided for this treatment."

Highlights will include notable speaker and famous scholar, Khalid Yasin, who will be giving a speech on Malcolm X and a talk by former Guantanamo Bay detainee Moazzam Begg.

For more information visit: [www.luuonline/bhm](http://www.luuonline/bhm)

### L - Factor

The Leeds University Union Music Society (LUUMS) has announced plans for an X Factor style competition, to be staged at the Leeds University Union's Riley Smith Hall. The competition beginning on November 28, has been organised to help raise funds for the financially troubled society. It will feature a preliminary audition round held in front of an unconfirmed panel of LUUMS judges.

President of LUUMS, Nick Westerman said: "We are very optimistic, we have already received interest from other societies (within the Union); this should bring a high standard to the competition."

### Nominated Leeds Journalists

Four Leeds Students have been shortlisted for the Guardian Student Media Awards.

Juliette Gerstein, Jenny Lee and Hani Mer-Si from Leeds Student newspaper are among only five people to have been nominated for Student Diversity Writer of the Year and Nick Miller from LS:TV has been shortlisted for Student Broadcaster of the Year.

Hani Mer-Si, who graduated in English Literature last year, said: "I'm quite shocked but glad that writers of the kind of caliber of the guardian think that my writing is good. I'm very, very giddy!"

The awards have been running for the last 30 years and are designed to reward the best student writers, designers, broadcasters, editors and photographers. The Student Diversity Writer of the Year Award will be given to a journalist whose articles have cast new light on and explored the issues of race, religion, gender, sexuality or disability.

First prize is £650 and a week's work experience at the Guardian and the runner-up will receive £400. Award winners will be announced at a ceremony on November 26.

## Bills cause unforeseen misery in student homes

Simona Gavrilova

A recent survey has revealed that student money issues extend beyond the concerns of individual bank balances.

A survey of 1000 students carried by TV licensing has revealed that four out of ten students have lived with people who regularly needed to be chased

# 40%

Of students surveyed find friends who never buy a round of drinks irritating

dodgers make the worst housemates.

Student disorganisation is thought to be a cause of late payment for bills, with over 40 per cent of students replying that the reason for late payments was that they simply forgot. Money worries for students are not just a result of disorganisation or contained within the household, with 40 per cent of students finding friends who never buy a round of drinks irritating.

Laurence Gold, money advisor on BBC's Bank of Mum and Dad commented that "Budgeting is very much common sense - if you have any problems regarding money and budgeting there are places to get help and advice - please don't bury your head in the sand!"

Students who have money issues can visit the student advice centre for information or the Student Counselling Service for support.

# 50%

Of students surveyed have lent money to friends who never paid it back

for their share of bills.

38 per cent of students admit that they have ended up paying more than their share, to cover what is left over as a result of bill dodging housemates. A further 50 per cent of students have lent money to people who haven't paid them back.

Alongside this, 37 per cent of students across the Yorkshire and Humberside area have had arguments over bills, with 52 per cent of respondents saying that bill

## Racism scandal shocks NUS summer meeting

Geoffrey Archer

An NUS Officer has been permanently excluded from NUS events after his racist remarks were reported to officials.

University of Nottingham Education Officer Craig Cox was alleged to have held up a sign reading 'Bring Back Slavery' in order to antagonise others attending the training course at York University in August.

Mr. Cox, 20, was found to have been in "serious breach of the NUS' Equal Opportunities Policy" and has since been permanently excluded from all non-democratic NUS events.

Bellavia Ribeiro-Addy of the Black Student Officers Union said: "It is unacceptable that black students should have to put up with racist stereotypes at NUS events. It is unacceptable that slavery can be treated as a joke". Mr. Cox denied any wrong-doing. He said: "The real story here is that the NUS wants to run a show trial that would make Stalin blush...these witch hunts have got to stop."

Another NUS Student Officer has been cleared of racist allegations made against him. President of King's College

London Student Union Chris Mullan, is alleged to have used racist stereotypes during a training session on the same course. The allegations were dropped after investigations by the NUS and North Yorkshire Police.

Mr. Mullan, 23, was suspended from the session and a week later the NUS released a statement confirming that: "A process has been underway to investigate the formal complaints received and NUS is now able to report on the results of the two investigations that ensued."

The NUS found that there had been a breach of the NUS' Equal Opportunities Policy by Mr. Mullan and ruled that he should now have to attend training on the 'Widening Participation Agenda' in order to fully understand its aims.

Mr. Mullan said: "The allegations relate to a role playing exercise at an NUS event which was aimed at helping young student officers think about society and education."

Aaron Porter, Vice President of the NUS released this statement: "NUS is resolutely opposed to racism and we do not tolerate it in any form. We have a rigorous investigation process relating to accusations of racism."



# Academy's opening threatens Refectory's reputation

Marcus Chippindale  
Matthew Power

Concerns are mounting for Leeds University's Refectory as this season's line-up is already

showing the effects of the impending arrival of the Leeds Carling Academy.

Since its entrance into the music scene in the late 1960s, the Leeds University Refectory has been one of the most popular

venues for students to see top quality bands up close. However, as the new Academy's event list begins to take shape it seems bands are now moving away from the traditional university location.

Having played host to bands

such as The Rolling Stones and Led Zeppelin, The Refectory is most renowned for The Who's live recording there in February 1970. The album 'Live at Leeds' was the band's first live record.

In recent years, chart acts including the Kaiser Chiefs, Bloc Party and The Killers have performed at The Refectory.

Ed Kitts, a second year history student, said: "The Refec has so much history and is a staple diet of the hardcore Union goer."

However, with the Academy Music Group (AMG) opening their 19th venue in the UK later this month, the long-term reputation of The Refectory looks set to suffer, with top bands now seeming more likely to play at the newer venue.

Mercury Prize winners Elbow and platinum selling band Feeder are just some of the big names appearing at the new Carling Academy in 2008. In comparison, The Vengaboys and The Automatic are the most familiar names booked to play The Refec this year.

The contrast between the two venues is already a worry for some

Leeds University students. Louisa, a first year Geography student said: "At first I was really excited to hear about the Carling Academy opening, but thinking about it I'd much rather bands played at our Union. Plus, the ticket prices at the Academy are really expensive."

Steve Keeble, LUU Venues Manager, said: "We'd like more of the high profile shows, however, we saw this coming from a long way off."

"We knew it would have a detrimental effect. The Carling Academy has a bigger capacity and is therefore able to sell more tickets and pay more for bands."

Recently refurbished at a cost of around £4.5million, the Refectory is not specifically designed to just stage high profile concerts, also catering for several hundred student meals per day.

While it is too early to write off the Refectory and other university venues, it does appear the trend of bands playing at Academies is now spreading nationwide and more and more artists may choose to ditch the university circuit in favour of playing to larger crowds at AMG venues.



Photo: Ali Hung

## Fury as Union Society is fined for flyering in front of Parkinson steps

Emma Black  
Vicky Littler

Two members of Leeds University Union Music Society (LUUMS) have been fined by Leeds City Council for flyering outside University property.

Sarah Bennett and Anna Stone were fined £75 each on Tuesday morning by the enforcement division of the City services Department after they were caught handing out leaflets outside University property.

They were in violation of the "Clean Neighbourhoods and

Environment Act" (2002) which prohibits flyering in public areas for all non-religious, political or charitable causes.

A spokesperson for Leeds City Council, stated that the fine was awarded because the girls were flyering outside what was deemed to be University property. They were handing out flyers just outside the Parkinson Steps and were therefore off campus.

The president of LUUMS, Nick Westerman, said: "It is a disgrace that we were fined on, what is basically, University property. I thought that it was unfair to make the individuals pay

**£150**  
On the spot charges incurred by members of LUUMS when caught flyering.

the fines themselves so LUUMS will be funding the cost."

LUUMS are already struggling financially this year due to a lack of funding, and have organised a fundraising event known as "The L Factor" which will take place in the Riley Smith Hall on 28th November.

**£2500**  
Maximum possible fine when caught flyering without an appropriate licence

Anyone who wishes to join the society or wants to find out more information about LUUMS can from the Activity Resource Centre in the Union.



Photo: Ali Hung

## Students encouraged to walk safely

Stephanie Negal  
Emma Daglish

West Yorkshire Police's Walk Safe initiative aims to reach all first year students this year.

The programme, which started in 1999, sees the area's police work in partnership with University Security Staff and aims to improve student safety.

The latest police figures show that during the Walk Safe patrols a massive 5,500 students were given advice and 6,800 items of property were security marked.

The organisers have reported a significant reduction on crime this year compared to previous years, but say that there is obviously always room for improvement.

Boyd Watson, Leeds University Crime Team Manager, said: "We are here to help students. We want to provide an environment in which

students can feel safe, but at the same time the students need to help us too. We will give all the recommendations that we can about how to look after yourselves and how to get into a mind set where you're safety conscious."

Maintaining a strong, open relationship between university security, West Yorkshire police and students is key to preventing crime.

Paul Starbuck, Police Community Support Officer, urged an open dialogue: "If people see something that is suspicious, that sends alarm bells suggesting that something or someone doesn't feel right or look right then phone up and we will go and speak to them."

For further information see [www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com), [www.knowledge-leeds.co.uk](http://www.knowledge-leeds.co.uk) and [www.leeds.ac.uk/security](http://www.leeds.ac.uk/security)

The police advise students to report anything suspicious to the Police on 0845 6060606 or 999 in the case of an emergency.



Photo: Ali Hung



## Leeds Student

### Student security matters

The summer has seen the Union exposed as thousands of pounds of equipment from LS:TV and the Music Library have been stolen.

One of the responses to the thefts has been to debate how to increase security within the Union. However, given the size of the building and the vast number of people – around 17,000 – that enter everyday, the issue of increased security is not only a methodological one but also a logistical one. For once it is not an issue of student security, but instead one concerning items within the Union.

One of the ideas talked about has been to introduce ID cards which students would need to present upon entry into the Union.

To introduce ID cards would not only mean huge queues to

enter the building, but would also re-open the nationwide debate concerning the use of this type of card, an issue that the Leeds student populace voted against in last year's referendum.

On the issue of security, there is perhaps no right answer. To do nothing would seem to be ignoring the issue, whereas to vastly increase security would seem a knee-jerk reaction.

Such a sudden reaction could potentially damage the Union and the quality of student life on campus.

The union has a difficult decision to make, but one which could define not only the current academic year, but could also affect accessibility to the Union for years to come. Inevitably changing student freedom and experience in the future.

### Moral issues are poles apart

Amidst the fresher free-for-all and the many questions that a new term and year inevitably brings, the student population has already been called upon to make what has fast become a moral judgement.

There is much to ponder about the concept of a pole dancing society, such as the boundaries of an activity in regards to safe involvement.

However, first and foremost this incident is an interesting illustration of the workings of the Union. It calls for consideration of what the democratically elected representatives of the student body have the right to decide, on behalf of the majority.

Rightly or wrongly the straw poll that saw a majority in favour of the creation of the pole dancing society was considered,

but ultimately overruled by a committee decision. Whilst this in itself may frustrate some voters at their limited capacity to seemingly effect change, it worries others further still.

These other students are concerned as to when and how the Union's democratic representatives extend their right of decision to the right to make a moral judgement for everyone. In an argument that can come full-circle, this is again an issue of establishing boundaries.

Whilst the elected representatives concern themselves with the boundaries of a pole dancing society, the rest of the student population are beginning to question the boundaries of the representatives' own decision making.

### Timely traditions challenged

The new Carling Academy brings up the contentious issue of change. The timely concept of the old making way for the new seems to be at the forefront of this addition to the Leeds music scene.

The Refectory has a prestigious history, as its recent £4.5 million refurbishment proudly boasts and is seen by many as a landmark venue.

With a new nationwide brand opening its doors in Leeds it seems inevitable that The Refectory's prominent role will have to change. The issue that remains uncertain is whether the student populace will also

change accordingly.

Although many fear that students will be forced to follow their favourite big-name bands over to the Academy, staunch student principles may yet give The Refectory reason to hope. The untimely issue that never changes is students and their relationship with money. The venue is indeed larger and the acts are undoubtedly bigger, but the student budget is neither of these things.

Time can only tell if The Refectory will hold on to the students and if the students will fight to hold on to their traditions.

## Leeds launches life skills initiative

Leeds University is launching an initiative aimed at helping undergraduates channel the skills gained during their University career into a more recognisable format for employers.

The project, titled Leeds for Life, is being spearheaded by Vivien Jones, the University's Pro-Vice-Chancellor for learning and teaching. Leeds Student sat down with the woman charged with ensuring that excellence in scholarship translates into excellent learning opportunities for students in a bid to get to grips with the initiative.

So, what is it?

"It's a resource for all students. Leeds students are very desirable to high quality employers. But it's still the case that some Leeds students aren't as good as they deserve to be about articulating what they've got from their Leeds experience. And also I think that while they're here some don't make the most of the opportunities available. The project aims to bring together all the opportunities available to students so they can start thinking in a structured way about what kind of pathways they want to take. Either because they know what kind of career they want to get into or they don't and they want to be confident about the kind of generic skills attractive to any kind of employer."

What are the tangible aspects that students will be able to interact with?

"Leeds for Life is, at the moment, primarily the website and we hope that students will explore that as fully as they can because there's a lot on their already. This is just phase one though and there'll be a lot more on there this time next year. One of things we've got on there is a lot of case studies, both written and talking heads, given

by students who've gone through Leeds focussing on their time here as well as a little bit about their careers. Hopefully students can get a sense of what's possible through people they can identify with."

"But what we really want is that the students use the website as a means of focussing conversations they should be having with their personal tutors. Students' tutors will help them think through this kind of developmental process that they might be going through over the course of their degree. The personal tutorial sometimes isn't as successful as it should be; students don't always see the point of it. Through Leeds for Life we want to address this. And, if the personal tutor hasn't already raised this, it's up to the student to do so, the more students that know about it the better.

What differentiates Leeds for Life from anything else being done at other universities?

"Well one thing is that it's for everybody. Manchester has a leadership programme but it's competitive and there aren't many students able to take part in it. Also, institutions – and students perhaps –

think that employability is just about what you get from your co-curricular activity as apposed to what you do on your course. We want to make Leeds for Life a much more holistic thing, ensuring students have a sense of a career at Leeds."

What's been the feedback from tutors about Leeds for Life? Are they prepared to give their time to it and are the resources sufficient?

"Most people that have looked at it have been very positive. We are going to have to do some thinking regarding particular areas of the University about making sure that the resources are there but that's something we are addressing."

Can students who are already two thirds through their degree take advantage of Leeds for Life?

"We hope students will engage with Leeds for Life from the very beginning of their University course. It's important that people start thinking about what they want to do after the course from its commencement. It should be of immediate benefit to people later on in their degree too."



## WANT TO BE A PART OF THE TEAM?

Leeds Student needs:  
Writers, photographers, designers,  
proof readers... the lot. Come to our  
meetings at 5pm in the office.

Get Involved.



# In the Union this week... The Social Forum in pictures



## What's coming in and around campus this week

This coming week...

**Friday 3rd:**  
The LUU Social Forum is running events all day in the Welcome Tent and Peanut Gallery (opposite Vision Opticians in the Union). They're all free to attend, so stop by and check it out. Events during the day include speakers about Iraq and asylum seekers, showing of films, and creative campaigning tips.

**Tired of throwing shapes? Why not throw your body instead? Try breakdancing for £1.50 starting at 6PM in the Riley Smith Hall. No previous experience is assumed.**

**Monday 6th:**  
If you've got nothing to do with your Monday nights, why not come and see how the Union's run? Everyone's welcome at the Union Council Meeting in the Conference Hall in the ARC (upstairs in the Union) from 6-

9PM.

**Tuesday 7th:**  
The University Fair Trade Steering Group have organised a Fair Trade Fair in Parkinson Court starting at 10.30AM, running til 4.30PM. There will be student societies, campaign groups, clothes and craft stands where you will be able to find out more information. There will also be a stick, dip and lick chocolate fountain.

**There's a free Chlamydia testing session on in Meeting Room 2 in the ARC at 12-3PM. Drop in and have test done, samples taken by pee in a pot or vaginal swab (students choice). If tests come back positive, antibiotics are administered. A £1 LUU voucher, sweets and condoms offered in return samples.**

**Lishi Kung Fu or Feng Shou**  
'Hand of the Wind' is an ancient Daoist art that originated in China.

The dynamic, exhilarating movements are based on the use of qi energy being soft and fluid but also very powerful when used for self defence. Interested? There's a Give It A Go session from 3-4PM in the Conference Hall in the ARC. Book tickets in advance at the ARC reception.

The International Affairs Forum are hosting Tim Allen of LSE. Coming to Leeds University to talk about the problems of implementing ICC warrants in developing countries, Tim will be discussing the recent indictment of Omar Al-Bashir and the continuing problems with the LRA leadership in Uganda. 5.30PM at a venue to be posted on [iaforum.org.uk](http://iaforum.org.uk)

**Wednesday 8th:**  
Been diving before? Never been diving before? Come along to one of our try dive sessions to see what you think for yourself. Sub

Aqua Club are running the Give It A Go session from 7-9PM for £5. Email [info@luusac.co.uk](mailto:info@luusac.co.uk) or visit [www.luusac.co.uk](http://www.luusac.co.uk) to book.

LUU Pentagram Society are hosting a talk/workshop designed to teach the basics of magic, on the technique of building and charging charmbags, with the chance to make one for yourself and charge it. £1 for non-members, from 7PM, at a venue to be confirmed. Email [luupentagram@googlemail.com](mailto:luupentagram@googlemail.com) for more information.

**Thursday 9th:**  
The International Affairs Forum host Wai Hnin, Burmese political activist. At five months old her father was arrested and sentenced to prison for his involvement in the nationwide student uprising. She will talk about Burmese Political Prisoners. Venue and time to be announced on [www.iaforum.org.uk](http://www.iaforum.org.uk)

If you want to feature in this space send details of your event to

[events@leedsstudent.org](mailto:events@leedsstudent.org)



# the big debate:

## Pole Dancing in LUU?

This week saw Activities Assembly reject the motion to have a Pole Dancing Society in LUU by a vote of 5 to 4. So would this society have been a harmless bit of fun, or something more serious? This weeks debate asks:

Should Leeds University Union have a Pole Dancing Society?

### For the Pole Dancing Society

Fiona Lamont  
jh08fl@leeds.ac.uk



The 'all knowing' and always factually correct Wikipedia describes pole dancing as a 'form of dancing and gymnastics.' If this is the case then why shouldn't Leeds have a pole dancing society? It is perhaps to do with the sentence that follows from Wikipedia, 'it is often used in strip clubs.' This statement practically knocks out any previous notion of an artistic or tasteful dance. Herein lies the problem that faces the powers that be at LUU: is pole dancing a fun way to get into shape or a seedy and demeaning sexual display? There are of course strong connotations that come with the term pole dancing; an image of a seedy man leering at a half naked woman, but there is also the fun side that many forget. Pole dancing is steadily moving away from its previous sordid image and is becoming a mainstream branch of exercise and dance. Classes are now sold as fun, novelty gifts on sites such as lastminute.com, demonstrating its move into popular culture.

One thing Leeds University prides itself on is diversity and equality. We have a diverse range of students and societies and treat everyone equally. The Pole Dancing Society would just be another branch of the ever-diverse LUU. Surely we should treat those who wish to partake in the society as kindly as those who do ballet or other traditional forms of dance. Walking around Fresher's Fair, it was clear to me that LUU really does provide something for everyone. There is both a Christian Union and an Atheist society. While these two groups may not share the same beliefs, they can accept one another's existence. Surely as long as a society does not set out to personally attack someone's race, gender, belief or sexuality, it should be allowed. In the same way a Christian would not join the Atheist society, I may not be join the Pole Dancing Society, but I certainly have no issue with those who would. The LUU intro video encouraged students to let the University mould to you and not the other way round. University is a chance

to truly explore who you are and therefore there should be no restrictions on societies.

One of the main arguments against the Pole Dancing Society is the idea that it would lower the integrity and morals of LUU. However, rules can be put into place regarding sponsorship and clothing for public shows, perhaps a little more than a bra and thong. It would certainly be wrong to have the local strip clubs sponsor the society, as this would suggest that this is not being seen as exercise but indeed a seedy and dirty dance.

It must be remembered that we also have a belly dancing society, a very similar type of sexual dance involving little clothing but minus the pole. So it must be asked; does the pole really make the difference when it comes to dirty dancing? Does the pole push it over the edge into a sordid and immoral act? Clearly many other universities don't think so. Surprisingly Leeds University are not the first to have this debate. The University of Warwick already have a pole dancing society and the University of Birmingham have gone one step further by introducing a fetish society. At this point a little bit of pole dancing never seemed so normal!

In a world where magazines and celebrity culture force young girls to scrutinise their bodies, Leeds students who are comfortable and happy in their own skin should be able to show this in a way that they see fit. It is clear simply by the fact that the students of Leeds want this society that pole dancing is most certainly much more than a sexual display. If LUU wants to keep up with the times and in with the students then a Pole Dancing Society may be the only way forward.

Want to have  
your say?  
Vote Online!

If you have an opinion about this weeks debate you can vote online and make your voice count. Poll results and readers 'top comments' will be published next week, so get online and get voting!

Visit:  
[www.leedsstudent.org](http://www.leedsstudent.org)

### Against the Pole Dancing Society

Gemma Wilson  
en08gcw@leeds.ac.uk



Most of you will have noticed some scantily clad girls lately wondering around the Freshers' Fair handing out free calendars. In these calendars, the "Best of Leeds" as they have been dubbed, are posing in bikinis against various backdrops, either with looks of 'come hither' or 'get me out of here'. Some also look undecided... As some of you may not know, these calendars are being handed round to raise awareness for the new society that has joined the ranks akin to LUUM and LSTV (and of course our own newspaper). This society is the Pole Dancing Society. People have greeted this as either a blatant flaunt of the stereotypical sexy woman that men dream about, and so it is derogatory and should be stopped, while others have greeted it as "you know that this is what Kate Moss uses to keep fit? I am SO joining!" The reality possibly lies somewhere between the both, but which side are you on?

The first issue comes with the link to the university. Anyone is allowed to pole dance. There are no rules or laws stating that pole dancing may only be taken on by persons with fake assets, blonde hair, and an IQ of 29, but the fact that these females may also be linked to a degree at the University of Leeds is quite another matter. For one it would (hopefully) rule out the IQ of 29, and for another, if this girl does anything... untoward shall we say, Leeds University's name will be dragged through the mud as well. The University could also be in trouble for another reason. For anyone who frequented boarding school you

will have heard of "loco parentis". This applies for students under 18 yrs old and it means that the institution is in the role of the parent. Now, of course Leeds is a university not a school, and yes we are all over 18 and perfectly capable of looking after ourselves, but an air of responsibility is attached to any institution housing young adults, and so the blame will still lie with Leeds should anything go wrong.

"What could go wrong?" I imagine many of you saying while you read this article. Well, although the society was initially introduced to the society panel as an exercise group, along the lines of 'Ultimate Frisbee' or 'Tiddlywinks for beginners' (if we don't have Tiddlywinks we should immediately start it...), these don't have people coming up and giving sponsorship to dancers that show promise, in return for perhaps a job in one of the pole dancing clubs in Leeds. Number 1; parents do not pay for their children to be picked to become Pole Dancers. Number 2; Leeds University students are hopefully meant to go on to become more than half naked gyrating girls with large poles between their legs (pun not intended), and Number 3, no one, no matter how intelligent you are, will see anything other than a pair of great tits. So much for feminism hey?

All in all, if the Pole Dancing Society had stuck to the sporty aspect of it, which it was pushing for in the beginning, there probably wouldn't be a problem. I am aware also that I have stereotyped Pole Dancers as blonde bimbos with little else to offer, but this is a prejudice I am sure most people carry. One does not take out a loan of £6000 a year to become a Pole Dancer. But at the same time, I am sure some parents would be thrilled their little darlings have taken such steps to get a job and start paying off that loan early. Eventually, I think that its people's own decision to do as they like, but maybe the society shouldn't have been linked with the university, but should perhaps stay at the local gym, where Pole scouts are not invited.



Illustration by Joe Jerome Newman



# LS Extra



Seeking sustainable  
development **10**

A Leeds student gives a personal account of enduring homophobia at home.

## A year of service

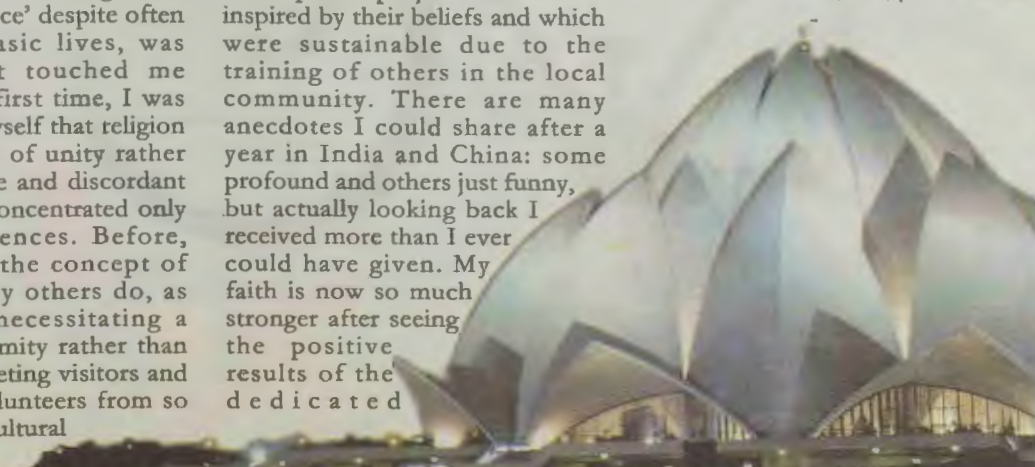
The Bahá'í faith has around six million followers around the world, and its teachings emphasise the underlying unity of the major world religions. Spending a year serving a community in Delhi proved to be a life changing experience for one Leeds student.

It was beautiful to observe the old man's face that looked so humble, and bowed to me as I opened the door to the prayer hall at the Lotus Temple in New Delhi India. Walking into a House of Worship where you see people from every religion in a prayer like state, their faces show nothing but contentment and utter devotion to God. Having always recognised the need for religion in my life, my gap year was intended to be a year of service to a community as a member of the Bahá'í Faith. It was by no means easy living in Delhi with its depravation and poverty, however seeing thousands of visitors from all races, classes, Indian castes and religions flow through the Temple gates in the early morning, all wanting some 'spiritual experience' despite often leading very basic lives, was something that touched me deeply. For the first time, I was able to see for myself that religion could be a force of unity rather than a destructive and discordant mass of people concentrated only on their differences. Before, perhaps, I saw the concept of 'unity' like many others do, as idealistic and necessitating a degree of uniformity rather than diversity. Yet meeting visitors and working with volunteers from so many different cultural

backgrounds was deeply rewarding. Sharing a room with a girl whose luggage amounted to the size of a Somerfield bag in comparison to my two suitcases soon did not matter because when it came down to it we were both there for the same purpose: "service". We could put our differences aside and learn from each other. Religion for me is only productive when what is being preached is also being practised. The individuals I met in the Bahá'í community of Delhi and later in China where I worked as a teacher were doing exactly . They were down to earth human beings reaching out to both the spiritual and physical needs of the community. They were putting in place socio-economic development projects which were inspired by their beliefs and which were sustainable due to the training of others in the local community. There are many anecdotes I could share after a year in India and China: some profound and others just funny, but actually looking back I received more than I ever could have given. My faith is now so much stronger after seeing the positive results of the dedicated

service of my friends, and having being given the chance to assist in an equal capacity I have realised that I cannot just say I follow my religion, but I also have to aspire to lead the life and see service to humanity as an integral part of my daily life. When we imagine a fabulous Gap Year abroad, we might think of exotic travels in Asia, beach parties in Thailand or perhaps trekking through the Himalayas. However, a gap year spent working can be equally rewarding. So I would encourage people to find work abroad and spend their time in a more meaningful way, immersing themselves in the culture and providing dedicated service to the communities they live in, whether they be religious or not.

words/ lara owen





# Sustainable devel

Last year the door to an environmental approach was unlocked. LUU achieved Gold environmental practice. 'Leave Leeds Tidy'; put in place solar panels; segregated & re staff and students are aiming high, with the belief that the university can become a le

## Want to get involved? Here's how.

### So What is Sustainable Development (SD)?

SD can have many definitions, but most agree that it is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. It includes environmental, economical and social factors.

### Green Hall Reps

Last year students were recruited from flats and halls of residences to promote sustainable living in student accommodation. It involves working together to encourage recycling, energy saving schemes, low carbon transport and anything else you can think of!

The Leeds team worked towards increasing recycling rates and promoting 'Green Streets'. Their hard work was rewarded with the title of 'Greenest Residence', along with a £200 prize towards the Hall Committee fund.

This year it's going to be bigger and better, with full training and a representative sitting on the Hall Committee. So if you have a passion for the environment and want to make your halls greener, get involved! Look out for info in halls and the union or contact Rose Hampton at [r.j.hampton@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:r.j.hampton@leeds.ac.uk)

### Velocampus Leeds

Velocampus started in France, offering students the opportunity to hire bikes at low cost for a year.

At Leeds, as part of the UTravelActive programme, it is available to both new and existing students, costing just £35 for a year with a £100 deposit. Compared to a FirstAllTerm Student bus pass, which costs over £300, hiring a bike will save more than just pennies. Velocampus Leeds, already a huge success in Intro Week, offers a healthier, environmentally-friendly way of getting about. So beat the traffic and GET ON YER BIKE! To hire a bike visit <http://www.leeds.ac.uk/velocampus/>, contact Lisa Brannan at [l.brannan@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:l.brannan@leeds.ac.uk), or join the UTravelActive Facebook group.

### Energy (and money!) saving tips

It's so simple it almost shouldn't need saying – **TURN THE LIGHTS OFF!** If you haven't already got them, ask your landlord to fit energy-saving light bulbs

Set the timer for your heating to come on at specific times. Like when you get up in the morning or during the evening. By turning down the thermostat a few degrees you'll also save energy

Turn off appliances at the wall – systems on standby still use energy

Using a microwave oven uses less energy than conventional methods. Finally... an excuse to eat ready meals!

Boiling water in an electric kettle is 50% more efficient than using the stove – don't forget to only use the amount of water you need

Use a cold wash for your clothes and make sure you have a full load – ask your housemates if they need anything washing

Dry your clothes on a line outside (weather permitting) or hang them up near a window – they'll smell fresher and last less worn than if you use a dryer

### Recycling

The Cleaning and Waste Management team along with the Environment Officer have launched a pioneering scheme to increase recycling on campus from 40% to 70% by 2010. You will now be able to recycle food waste in the 700 new compost bins across campus (including on-campus accommodation).

Teabags, fruit, half-eaten sandwiches and paper hand towels can all go in the compost bins, instead of general waste. By removing food from the general waste bins, this also allows the material in them to be recycled.

### For More Information

These are just a few ways that you can get involved in sustainable development at Leeds Uni. To find out more visit [www.luuonline.com/studentactivities](http://www.luuonline.com/studentactivities)

Alternatively, pop into the Volunteering and Community office (upstairs in the union) for more information on some of these projects.

More useful contacts:  
Keith Pitcher, Leeds University Environment Officer – [k.f.pitcher@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:k.f.pitcher@leeds.ac.uk)  
Isabel Swift, LUUs Volunteering Development Coordinator – [i.swift@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:i.swift@leeds.ac.uk)



MUSIC LOW DOWN THE LIST  
 BOOKS CLUBS THE LIST  
 ARTS FASHION OBSERVATIONS  
 THE LIST



# TS2

third/october  
 /twothousandandeight



28 PAGES  
 OF...  
 FUN?



# LS 2

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# The LOW DOWN

with Alicia and Kazim



## The Lowdown. No.1

I think I want to be a lesbian. That's right, I just said it I want to be a lesbian. I realise I am a boy but, Lesbianism and I have a lot in common. Obviously we both fancy women, but there is more to it than that. Recently during a conversation I had with a Disco colleague of mine, she declared she was a 'gay man in a women's body, that they both loved disco and fancied men'. Its true, they do. It is also true in certain very underground circles, homosexuality is the new Ketamin. That is to those that Ketamin was the new black. Of course, if you like I think Ketamin is for horses then maybe homosexuality is to you; the new Nintendo Wii. For arguments sake, if I was a fickle and shallow person which I am obviously not, lesbianism could be good for my street-cred. There are very few social taboo's which are in fact socially acceptable yet there are many which aren't and as every one knows it is 'cool' to be a taboo isn't it?  
Kazim Rashid

I'm no Germaine Greer, but to refer to lesbianism as a taboo when it emerged in the 18th century is mildly ridiculous. In your efforts to gain cultural capital, in your ketamin induced haze you have managed to overlook the fact that it is a lifestyle choice and not a fashion accessory. I think if you reconsider your comments and discount your

This next month  
will be about  
getting used to  
the strangely  
acrid smell in the  
Bragg Cluster and  
eventually  
beginning to like  
it

female sexual encounters, you will in fact find that you are more adequately gay. To contradict myself entirely and let stereotype rear its ugly head, you are the most effeminate male friend I have, and one whom constantly thrives off the constant critique of peer's couture, and whose favourite film is mean girls. In this you have effectively earned yourself this 'taboo' status. A Gay Asian, a Gaysian. Like Prince, just you and Prince.  
Alicia Michael

What I was trying to say before you rudely interrupted me and I got somewhat distracted by fantasies of lesbianism was, there are few things that are left sacred in the today's culture of mass appeal and infiltration, homosexuality and lesbianism are still somewhat sacred. For some folk being different is something important. A right to express themselves and their individuality without the restrictions of social conventions. The problem is though, for example, even the most forward thinking, underground, debaucharous clubs are now being name-checked in Lifestyle magazines and Broadsheet Sunday supplements. My point is, today's media culture strips every individual of its individuality and before we know we know it we all look, act and talk the same. So what's a guy to do... become a lesbian, that's what I say, there wont be too many people jumping on that bandwagon.  
Kazim Rashid

## Leeds Student Newspaper

We are always on the look out for new members.  
Just come along to our meetings, every Friday at 5pm.  
Follow the signs to the Leeds Student Newspaper office located around the Union.  
See you there!

### Brand New Website!

Leeds Student will be launching its re-vamped website this week featuring up to the minute news, extended and exclusive content, videos and soundbites.  
www.leedsstudent.org coming soon.

We need writers,  
proof readers,  
designers,  
photographers  
and most of all  
enthusiasm!



# 9 THINGS TO DO BEFORE YOU GRADUATE

Old folk always warn us about how university is the best time of our lives, and that after graduation all that's left is a slow and boring bus ride through mortgages, booster seats, and receding hairlines ending abruptly at the station of death. How dare these people ruin our fun by encouraging realistic thoughts about the future! If you're ever scared into wondering whether you're making the most of your student years just read this list of must-have university experiences and make sure you've had at least some of them before the time comes to don the cape of maturity and brandish the scroll of real-life...

## 1. Skinny dip in the Roger Stevens lake

Litter, leaves, possibly cholera: a small sample of the delights just waiting to be discovered beneath the surface of this pointless landmark. Try and remember not to dive in head-first, because any sober person's depth-perception will tell you that despite its enigmatic and seductive qualities, the water is really no more than a few inches deep.

## 2. Steal a traffic cone

God forbid anyone to question the reasoning behind a student's rabid desire to own temporary road markings. Traffic cones tend to be the easiest to smuggle inside and can provide a certain amount of usefulness as a hat stand or door stopper, and if you think yourself above breaking the law then they actually sell novelty traffic cones in shops. The most sought-after sign however is the warning about humps in the road, probably because it looks vaguely like a pair of breasts.

## 3. Eat cold baked-beans out of the tin

Far from symbolizing a student's inherent laziness, this is irrefutably considered the ultimate two finger gesture to The Establishment. Yes, I do own a bowl, and yes, I even know how to work a microwave, but under no circumstances are you or The Man going to take away my right to sit here and quietly eat my beans cold. Extra spit on the ground to those who use a fork instead of a spoon, and a crown of thorns to any deigning to use their fingers.

## 4. Pull an all-nighter

It can be hard to make the most of being at university when you're being asked to work all the time. Professors don't always seem to understand this, and can be quite sensitive about students not handing essays in on time, even if you do your best to explain that you have more important things to worry about like practising your armpit solo or buying a packet of crisps. An all-nighter the day before a deadline is therefore sometimes the only way to appease these slave-workers. Brew a pot of coffee, sit on an uncomfortable chair and pop some pro-plus before you get going to produce the optimum environment for the creation of a third-class masterpiece.

## 5. Walk of Shame in fancy dress

It's a fairly common sight: 8am in the morning and a pretty young nurse is making her way to work on foot. But hold on just a minute, why is she staggering about and only wearing one shoe? Why has she neglected to brush her hair and why is there lipstick all over her face? One more thing: why is her uniform made from PVC? What we actually have here is a classic case of the fancy dress pub crawl morning-after tragedy. There is every possibility that the girl may have innocently slept on her friend's sofa after sharing a taxi, but if anyone is spied skulking home in a costume during the early hours of the morning they are immediately assumed to be returning from a wild night of rampant sex with a stranger. If you ever master the art of the inconspicuous and dignified walk of shame, you are probably a slut.





6.

## Watching the Hollyoaks omnibus even though you already watched it every day that week

Any student who says they don't watch Hollyoaks is a liar or an impostor. What's not to like? A few hot men; women named after cars; innovative storylines that address relevant social stereotypes and concerns in a sensible and realistic manner...

7.

## Scrounge

Students are expected to be poor, and therefore no one minds if they cut costs and scrounge a little. Student discount is probably the thing you miss most when you graduate, so take the opportunity to ask every merchant you come across if they accept it. Nag your parents for money, give sub-standard birthday gifts, and steal sachets of tomato ketchup from pubs because once you start to live on a wage this kind of behaviour is sometimes classed as borderline anti-social.

8.

## Iron clothes with a pair of straighteners

No self-respecting student uses or even owns an iron, except perhaps as an "iron"ic ornament. Though this may be the case, occasionally one might want to dress to impress, and a certain garment may need a little de-creasing. No need to panic, just flick the switch and get straightening. This obviously only works for small pieces of clothing like ties or, well, I suppose it only really works for ties actually. Other student household shortcuts include using chewing gum for blue tack, or a tower of beer cans for a Christmas tree.

9.

## Develop a crush on one of your lecturers

Not a serious one where you sit on the front row and try to hypnotize them into loving you, just a harmless affection that'll help wile the hours away more smoothly. University is probably the last time in your life that you will be attracted by another person's wisdom and knowledge; from graduation onwards the snares of money and youth take precedence over the old heart-strings.



Brum brum:  
She drives you  
wild she does



We've all  
bean there.  
[Sorry.]

Lest we forget, the real reason people go to university is to earn a degree. Any regrets that may form after graduation will be secondary to the regret of failing, so bear this in mind as you're floating on your back outside Roger Stevens, eating a can of beans and fantasizing about Professor Fit face. For all we know, full time adults could actually be lying about how bad their lives are, and mortgages might be a brand of really soft toilet roll, the existence of which our parents are just keeping as a surprise for the day after our graduation celebration curry.

words/clare pidsley

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Leeds University  
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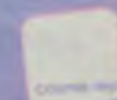
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Leeds University Union.



## NEW YOUNG PONY CLUB

After a two hour wait, *LS2* slips through a fire escape to interview *New Young Pony Club*. In the dark.

The story goes that New Young Pony Club got their name because lead singer Tahita, as a young girl living in England, like most others girls, always wanted a pony but never quite got one. This unfulfilled desire, coupled with watching far too much late night fetish T.V, gave birth to Pony Club. Believe what you will, but the New Young Pony Club came onto the scene in 2005 with their massive hit 'Ice Cream' which literally stole the show at every indie-electro show across the country. Of course there isn't really an indie-electro show, but there are countless fashionable nights and clubs which 'Ice Cream' along with their follow up 'The Bomb' quickly became dance floor bombs. Excuse the pun. Their first album 'Fantastic Playroom' also quickly became every 'cool kids', 'have you heard' album of choice. You know the kind I mean, the kids who wear the skinny jeans and neon like no other, the ones who go that extra mile. Fantastic Playroom became the album to impress your girlfriend with and before we knew it even Hollyoaks was onto it. I caught up with New Young Pony Club to talk shop. We got along pretty well if I do say so myself, in fact we got on so well I had to bat the lead singer Tahita off with a stick at one point, she was all over me like a rash, in front of Andy, the production genius behind the band. Of course I'm joking, but she did fancy me, I'm sure of it. It was very much playground tactics from Tahita, she was doing the whole, 'I fancy you so I'm going to be rude to you' thing, you know

how girls act when they're 15.

With their own admission the NYPC haven't been up to all that much since their last album. I get the impression they have just been living off the royalties from adverts and T.V. shows like Hollyoaks and such like. However rumour has it there is another one on the way soon. "We've been busy making a new one which is pretty much finished now." A new album is due to be released in the New Year apparently, but the Pony Club have limited the amount of outside help on this one. "Yeah us! We've produced the whole album ourselves and have banned remixes," states Andy the producer, whilst Tahita agrees. "We've heard too many bad remixes so we're banning them. Plus anyone who's worth doing is so fucking expensive now!" I disagree, I don't think all producers who can do the job well and interestingly are too expensive, I suggest Maurice Fulton, perhaps the ultimate remixer. Surprisingly Andy and Tahita both agree, "Yeah definitely. Definitely. Maybe that's where we went wrong. I'll go with that!"

I get the impression the NYPC don't quite know how to deal with me. Their attitude in this interview has fluctuated somewhat. At first they were very, 'We're too cool to answer your questions properly' and eventually I enticed them out of this indie-cool mood and they were all laughing and joking. We were like mates again. Of course Tahita was just playing mind games with me, but Andy and I were cool, no?

The summer is always a busy time of year for any band and NYPC are no exception. What have they been up to? Andy politely answers, "Just hanging out, doing a few festivals." As ever Tahita goes one step further, "Buying full size dolls of ourselves. You have to have them made, but now we don't have to tour next time, we can just send the dolls out, just stand there and do nothing." I assure them that their fans would probably really appreciate them turning up and doing nothing on stage. I feel like the interview is getting a bit out of control, I need to rescue this so I suggest every interviewer's 'get out of jail free card', The Game. You know the kind, you get two options and you have to choose one.

**Stevie or Marvin?**

**A: Marvin**

**T: Stevie, but noone would be shagging with out Marvin.**

**Debbie or Aretha?**

**A+T: Debbie**

**T: With Debbie, you'd want to take her home where as Aretha would flatten you.**

Some people are into that, that's all I'm saying. They love The Game, and when I decided to move on to some real questions Andy and Tahita want to keep playing. As I'm out of suitable questions I suggest they ask me some.

**T: Ok. Leeds or Sheffield?**

Of course I answer Manchester - which self respecting Mancunian wouldn't? The only problem is, I quite like being the one being interviewed, I want to play more.

**A: Iggy or Dave?**

Dave, all day long. Iggy hasn't got a patch on Ashes to Ashes.

**A: Prince or Michael?**

Whoa, whoa, wo. I had that one down, I wasn't going to ask you that, you cant ask it me, I'm the interviewer and that's my question. In fact I've got a better question, who's a better dancer, MJ or JB (James Brown)? Andy reckons he knows the answer, "Michael. James only had a few killer moves, whereas Michael had it all." I used to be like you. All I'm saying is youtube 'James Brown' and you'll see. My interview is drawing to a close and I just have one last thing I need to clear up. Not that I'm complaining guys, but I have been waiting for two hours, where have you been? Andy has a pretty good excuse, "I went to see my brother who lives in Leeds, he's just had a baby." whereas Tahita just doesn't: "I was asleep."

Rock 'n' Roll! Thanks for interview guys, and good luck with the new album whenever it comes out.

words/ kazim rashid  
photo/ john puddephatt





## ONES TO WATCH



**Delphic/**  
www.myspace.com/Delphic

Record of the Day, online, industry, in-the-know magazine touted Delphic as the country's number one unsigned buzz band for four weeks before they were finally wooed by Polydor, Universal Publishing and Coalition management (The Streets, Phoenix, Bloc Party). With the whole of London grasping after the biggest, and best sound to come out of Manchester for what seems like forever it's not difficult to see why these boys felt they could take their pick of producers; which is why they will record their first single with none other than the Chemical Brother. With a clear view of their sparkling future Delphic seem laid back about working with the dance legends: "we're optimistic,



obviously, but even if it doesn't work out, I'm sure we'll get a remix out of it". Releasing their first single, 'Counterpoint', with none other than R&S Records this coming January, if you don't watch this space, everyone else will.

**thecocknbulldid**  
www.myspace.com/thecocknbulldid

Anita Blay aka thecocknbulldid was born in Hackney, East London, to Ghanaian parents, and has been a busy young woman, it would appear, ever since, creating a brand of accessible pop that excites all who alight on her myspace. Her wide ranging taste in music and ability to nod to almost all genres has enabled her to mash together some outstanding, albeit darkly lit tunes. Tracks like 'No Cure' will be massive, that is a fact. Unsigned as yet, but coming from the trendy, trendy, trendy Shoreditch clan this rising star will... rise.

words/ helena goodwyn



**The All New Adventures of Us/**  
www.myspace.com/tanaoumusic

This folk/pop/undefined seven-piece are one for fans of Saddle Creek and abstract but well enunciated lyrics. Currently touring with The Spinto Band (but frustratingly bypassing Leeds), the outfit is something of an intimidatingly multi-instrumental force, but their singer, Jaime Macefield, is also responsible for some excellent acoustic material and shows as The Remarkable Rocket (in particular, check out the rather lovely 'Spaceships', which appeared on a Big Scary Monsters compilation a few years ago, bearing in mind that his lyrical output is often a good deal more biting). The band's debut long-player *Best Loved Goodnight Tales* was self-released on double LP in March, with a CD release through One Little Indian to come soon. With a handful of limited edition singles under their belt, it can't be terribly long before they explode into a media status through which they can reach as many people as their brand of intellectual, emotionally



diverse indie pop deserves to.  
**Gallery 47/**  
www.myspace.com/gallery47

If, on the other hand, you are looking to have your heart ripped to shreds and stamped on without the hassle of leaving the house, look no further than Nottingham-based singer/songwriter Jack Peachey. Residing not so much in a genre as in the small hours of the morning, the Gallery 47 output is capable of invoking both sheer, beautiful, lunatic desperation – as on last year's limited edition seven-minute single 'Himalaya' – and the kind of heady, fragile elation that seems by necessity to pepper the intersection between heartbreak and art. Whether he's screaming whiskey-drenched bitterness so frantically the tapes saturate (see the gorgeous yet disturbing 'Harmonic') or sounding like Christmas (c.f. 'Petticoat', the B side of this year's Pumpkins-esque 'Logic 3 Starfighter' single, with its layers of synth strings and e-bow), Peachey walks a mind-boggling line between early Bright Eyes, Jeff Buckley, Dntel and (perhaps) Doves – all the while giving the terrifying impression, at nineteen years old, that he might actually be capable of something superior to all of them. (Best enjoyed alone, inebriated, at wits' end, loudly, and in poor lighting.)

words/ ramzy alwakeel



**Micoland/**  
www.myspace.com/micoland

Micoland is the brainchild of DJ and producer Mick Schofield – a prominent member of the Gonzo collective (which has ties to Room 237) and an excellent craftsman of a dub-come-glitch style of dance music. His work flits between raw and grimy, and atmospheric and clinical, always bringing to mind any number of artists from the Warp and Planet Mu rosters. Let's just say that, if Autechre had dub leanings, this is what would happen. Micoland has several collaborative releases out on Dirtyload (the Gonzo label) as well as his solo debut LP, *My Cold Land*, from May of this year – certainly worth a dance to.



**Glaciers/**  
www.myspace.com/  
eventhemouseandtheglaciers

Nicolas Burrows is a currently Leeds-based artist (visual as well as musical) with distinctive and intense songwriting ability. His locating verse and obscure hooks are evocative and personal as they are transmitted over lo-fi guitar and keyboards – conveying a mindset comparable to anti-folk artists such as Jeffrey Lewis or Diane Cluck. The recorded material has contributions from members of Mechanical Owl, Vest for Tyosso and Sky Larkin, whilst Burrows himself has played in other bands such as Crayon and Mrs Dice Feet, which are equally worth your time. Live, he has a solemnly clumsy presence and sports a perfected, earnest vocal style, reminiscent of Phil Elvrum (The Microphones/Mt. Berie), which will seldom fail to tweak the heartstrings of a politely quiet audience.

words/ michael waters

The *LS2* Music team keeps you in-touch, up-to-date, down-to-earth, left-of-centre, and south-of-the-border with the **super cool bands** to see this year! Woop.



## RECORDINGS/

## singles

**Tinie Tempah**  
**'Tears'**  
(DL)

The first mainstream single by underground grime MC Tinie Tempah is a defiant tale of relationship break-up and the attempt at hiding the emotions that comes with it. Tinie's excellent storytelling ability will appeal to fans of Dizzee Rascal and Wiley, and Cleo's superb vocals on the chorus will attract fans of R&B and soul. Despite being a cliché subject choice, this song could potentially bring Tinie Tempah towards the forefront of British grime and garage. (8)

**Weezer**  
**'Troublemaker'**  
(DGC)

The suffering asthmatics are back with punchy new single 'Troublemaker', packed with references to celebrity culture and angsty lyrics from grown-up teenager Rivers Cuomo. The second single from Weezer's sixth album is not as infectuous or sarcastic as the recent 'Pork and Beans' but worth a listen if only for the tenuous rhyming of 'biatch' with 'ki-ads'. (6)

**Hot Chip**  
**'Hold On' /**  
**'Touch Too Much'**  
remixes  
(DFA)

This latest release sees 'Hold On' and 'Touch Too Much' reconstructed into genre-bending mixes of disco and electro; this does not make for easy listening. The remixes often feel too long and will only appeal to the most hardcore of fans, as it lacks the mainstream appeal of earlier singles. (6)

**Jonas Brothers**  
**'Burnin' Up'**  
(Hollywood)

It is a truth universally acknowledged that good looking boys in possession of a decent voice must be in want of fame and fortune; but could they not try a little harder? Think Hanson with less lyrical aptitude. Think High School Musical yet (miraculously) more repetitive. Bingo. These boys are gallantly spurring on the death of the single. (3) [for the sheer percussive beauty of the cowbell]

**A Silent Film**  
**The City That**  
**Sleeps**  
(Xtra Mile)

*The City That Sleeps* is a solid debut from alternative four-piece A Silent Film. This is an album that offers a wealth of rich, colourful songs that are melancholic, yet driving; intricate, yet catchy; as the highly capable and hugely varied vocals of Robert Stevenson (not to be confused with the inventor of the steam train) combine with soaring melodies and memorable choruses to pack a significant punch.

The band's influences are clear - in particular, that of Radiohead, as Stevenson manages to implement a brooding thoughtfulness into the songs with his voice and melodic piano playing, whilst the rhythm section and guitar lend an urgency that transforms quieter moments into walls of sound as drums and guitar alike seem to



explode from nowhere. This is certainly the case with the single 'You Will Leave a Mark', on which a few piano chords are transformed into an epic and resounding soundscape.

A potential criticism is that, at times, *The City That Sleeps* can sound a little repetitive, with songs blurring into each other somewhat. Perhaps this is because the band really have gone for a big sound; one comparable (and at times all

too similar) to the likes of Keane and Coldplay. What's more is that having such a big sound, which uses layers of guitars and copious amounts of vocal echo, may mean that there isn't much scope for change later on in the band's career, as has been the case for many bands before them.

Nonetheless, A Silent Film sound extremely passionate about the music they make - something that is particularly evident in Stevenson's voice as he sings about both personal and societal issues. As musicians, these guys are extremely talented; guitarist Lewis Jones has some solos that can only be described as explosive (perhaps most notably on the song 'Highest Regard') and produces sounds with his guitar that sound like something from Doctor Who; drummer Spencer Walker exhibits ample skill in his complex rhythmic work, adding another dimension to the sound.

This is likely a band we will be hearing a lot from in the very near future. Whilst not the most original thing around, their sound is nevertheless memorable, and definitely worth a listen. (8)

words/ douglas rollé

## more albums

**Dorp**  
**Humans Being**  
(Caned and Able)

Dorp, like many other bands, tout themselves as 'unique' and 'defying categorisation'. The problem is that to cultivate a truly unique, innovative or new style in pop music is not just to ignore all existing styles, but to identify the elements that define a style and invent your own elements in their place.

The elements that define, say, reggae - the backbeats, the heavy bass riffs, the weighty lyrical themes - are strong, recognisable pillars. You can't take such buttresses away and replace them with chipboard. Dorp's pillars are things like distorted synths and punchy drum beats, which are, at best, the kinds of things that add colour. There are no bold moves regarding the basic elements at all. Dorp's musical house is all roof tiles and attractive door handles, with no walls.

The LP's lead single 'Cops and Robbers', for example, begins with a muddy, incredibly four-square intro - a crunchy but barely audible guitar playing quavers on one power chord while the drums and bass chug along with it. This is later draped with 'genre-bending' nonsense like computer noises and mildly anguished vocals - but it is the foundations, not the interior design, that make a genre.

This isn't to say *Humans Being* is rubbish. The songcraft isn't nearly as infantile as most modern indie writing; the sounds they've concocted with all those broken saw leads are at times very brawny and appropriate. Just as often, however, due to the lack of strong musical roots, the whole effort falls in on itself like a limp soufflé, the various noises all melting into a greyish mess at the bottom of the oven. A well meaning but wholly off target attempt. (3)

words/ george reece

**The Maybes?**  
**Promise**  
(Xtra Mile)

Having gained a cult following in their hometown of Liverpool over the last six years, thanks in no small part to graffiti bearing their name being spread by band members and followers alike across the city, The Maybes? release their debut to much anticipation, hoping to find favour on a nationwide scale.

The band have often found themselves compared with The Beach Boys. Instrumentally, the reference may be an obscure one, but the harmonious nature of much of this record justifies it. However, the voice of singer Nick Ellis perhaps best echoes that of fellow Scouser Lee Mavers, frontman of legendary group The La's. That band's influence is perhaps most prevalent on album opener 'Turn Me Over' and 'Modern Love', neither of which would have been out of place on the solitary, seminal La's album.

*Promise* manages to span several genres, from the pure pop of 'Summer Time' to the heavily ska-influenced 'Full Moon'. 'The Come Around' is reminiscent of 80s R.E.M., while the highlight is perhaps the sorrowful 'Trick of the Light', which gives the LP emotional depth.

The album is not without its weaknesses, however. 'Boys' is bland and forgettable, while 'Disappear' quickly becomes grating due to its repetitive lyrics. The title track is a twelve-and-a-half minute instrumental that, whilst very good, seems wholly out of place.

Still, it's refreshing to see a UK guitar band avoiding the usual indie-by-numbers path. *Promise* may not quite rank alongside *Definitely Maybe* and *The Stone Roses*, but it's a satisfying debut that suggests that there may be more to come from The Maybes?. (7)

words/ joe armstrong

**Bryn**  
**Christopher**  
**My World**  
(Polydor)

Although his previous stint as Prince Charming on stage in Staffordshire would suggest otherwise, the 22-year-old's debut LP is actually quite sophisticated. Having spent the last few months on the road, appearing at festivals such as Glastonbury and V, he returns to album chart success and many complimentary reviews.

The album is split into two distinct halves. The first of the two is an eclectic mix of gospel, funk and Bond theme tunes. Laced with Motown beats and purring guitar riffs, whilst the trumpet toots away in the background, one might expect Vince Vega to listen to some of this whilst debating 'the royal with cheese'.

The other half is a lot more modern. It's R&B-influenced, with soft beats and gentler melodies. It's a little average. Although Christopher's voice adapts to these two different styles perfectly - he has a very listenable voice, no doubt - some of the lyrics are questionable. 'Something's going on in my brain/ I'm finding it hard to explain', for example, shows little creative 'pizazz', and a lack of originality.

Strangely enough, despite the division, the record all seems a little samey. After a few plays, honestly, it all merges into one big blob of fast food and floaty American hospital dramas. Also, the album's opener 'Help Me' sounds a little like the first oompa-loompa song in the remade *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. Maybe not the best first impression of an attempted soul album. One thing you can't deny, however, is that the guy can sing. He could potentially fit nicely into the gap between Amy Winehouse, James Morrison and Usher. It's just a bit of a shame that I don't think the gap is there to fill. (5)

words/ lizzie edmonds



# RECORDINGS

featured

## Scars on Broadway Scars on Broadway (Interscope)

Anybody listening to Scars on Broadway's self titled debut for the first time might expect something similar to Daron Malakian's and John Dolmayan's hugely successful System of a Down: he or she would be mistaken. This album is a vibrant paradox of musical styles; from the melodic metal opening track, 'Serious', which one can't help but bang one's head to, to the anthemic 'Enemy', in which Malakian's and Dolmayan's harmonised vocals fall in perfectly with the guitar melodies. Scars on Broadway seem to have experimented more with colourful harmonies and synth sounds, laying them delicately over

their trademark distorted metal undertones, and then throwing in a bit of Sex Pistols for good measure. The lyrics themselves range from angry satire, perhaps aimed at certain administrations, to bizarrely comic usages, such as 'Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious'. It's poetry, of course - yet, to hear Malakian actually step out from behind the shadow of Serj Tankian's powerful voice is surprisingly refreshing. Another great thing about this album is the dynamics within every song, changing effortlessly from one style to another, as on 'Babylon', which starts slowly and - dare we say - peacefully, building up very gradually into an epic chorus.

Whilst it's entertaining to listen to, there are very few memorable moments across the fifteen energetic tracks, all of which border around the three-minute mark, leaving the listener questioning his or her patience. There are positive and negative sides to only having two musicians in this band; the former is that they show just how tight they really are as a duo. The latter, however, is that it seems Malakian and Dolmayan got a little giddy during the recording process, deciding to fill out their songs with as many instruments and effects as possible. While this is



complementary in some places, it does detract from the core essence of several of the songs. It seems a great shame that an obviously talented duo have lost their thread somewhere. Perhaps if they had decided to shy away from their previous style to a greater extent, much more variety could have been added to the music itself. (5)

words/ jack mcgregor

## more albums

### The Streets Everything is Borrowed (Sixsevenine)



Mike Skinner claims he sees The Streets as lasting only as long as his five album deal. He also told the NME recently that he envisages the five albums as a sort of 'box-set'; box-set or a particularly close game of football? We cast our minds back to Skinner's blinding debut with a fondness that was rewarded by an equally impressive second album. Unfortunately that is where the memory sours and we lament the disappointing *The Hardest Way...* So what to make of the fourth release in this quintuple that could seemingly go either way? Will it be 2-2 or 3-1? Continuing with this loose and ill-conceived analogy, it would seem The Streets have conceded another one. Self-produced, self-indulgent, and self-deluding at times, *Everything is Borrowed* is a colossal disappointment.

Track four 'The Way of the Dodo' sounds like several instruments struggling to go the way of said Dodo whilst Skinner increases their chances with his 'singing'. If you listen carefully it actually sounds like a duck-like creature is breathing its last breaths in the background. There are some high points though few and far between. The muffled drums that feature throughout the album grow on you, mysteriously and inexplicably, whilst Skinner's true talent shines through in the shape of a synth. Singing, however, is not something Mike Skinner should be encouraged to do. 'Strongest person I Know' features what can only be described as the Rugrats theme tune and singing - bad singing - really bad singing. Let's hope that album number five will be a return to form, otherwise it would seem The Streets have indeed, gone the way of the clumsy, flightless, bird. (3)

words/helena goodwyn



### David Holmes The Holy Pictures (Cercury)

David Holmes offers up an album full of emotion and atmospheric landscapes on his 4th studio album *The Holy Pictures*. The overall tone however is a rather sinister one which is furthered by whispering vocals on a selection of tracks including the promising album opener and single 'I Heard Wonders'. Holmes describes the album as being inspired by his life, 'friends, loss, love and starting a family'. Holmes' ominous vocals juxtapose interestingly with the emotion he is conveying.

The initial promise sadly doesn't continue throughout the album with many songs starting well but losing impact as they continue. Tracks such as 'Theme/I.M.C.' have beautiful intros, nonetheless it doesn't always work. 'The Story of the Ink' is repetitive at best. The use of a hurdy gurdy makes things a bit different but even this can't enhance a track enough for it to be entertaining. Holmes' lyrics can be inaccessible. On title track 'Holy Pictures' he proclaims 'I carry you inside of me, this will never disappear...I've seen your soul climb, watch myself climb into the sun' and on 'Kill Her with Kindness' (itself a rather alarming track name) there is so much echo the lyrics are inaudible. Irritatingly, consecutive tracks repeat the same strange 'ahh' sound supplied by female vocalist Tanya Mellotte. This comes across as somehow lacking ideas, which is odd considering Holmes spent 5 years making the album.

For all its faults and it's sometimes lack of ideas the finale is magnificent. With a track so enjoyable it is frustrating the rest of the album is as disappointing as it is. (4)

words/ nick todd



### The Jonas Brothers The Holy Pictures (Hollywood records)

Purity ring-wearing, Disney pop-rockers The Jonas Brothers have taken the inevitable step to indoctrinating UK's tween population with their debut album. It seems that Nick, Kevin and Joe are enjoying success similar to the likes of Hannah Montana/Miley Cyrus and the cast of High School Musical.

The sound itself is nothing new. Props to the boys for writing their own material and playing their own instruments, but it is unlikely that anyone outside of their target audience will pay much attention. Immediate comparisons that spring to mind are Busted, of course, especially in their cover of 'Year 3000'. Tracks such as 'Inseparable' and 'Games' are presumably attempts at a slightly more serious, heavier genre. However, they crumple like a man on the wrong side of Chuck Norris. Several tracks are well structured and catchy, but lack some real punch, something to really grab you by, perhaps it's because they have yet to locate their balls.

In fairness, all three brothers are decent singers; the second track, 'Hold On', features a poignant three-way vocal harmony. For a band quite heavily endorsed by guitar giants Gibson, the fret-work is nothing special. A few guitar solos are thrown in to try and spice things up but only one stands out as above average. This leads on to the issue of the other band members; that's right, the Jonas brothers aren't the only ones in The Jonas Brothers. An additional four musicians step in to help on drums, keyboards etc, the album is also very well produced by John Fields (Pink, Jimmy Eat World) taking duty.

This is by no means a dreadful album but neither is it anything new or exciting. (4)  
words/ richard blenkinsop

## singles

### Black Kids 'Look At Me (When I Rock Wichoo') (Label)



Packed from start to finish with the bubbly energy which the Black Kids are well known for, this single doesn't let them down. Apart from an irritating synth sound they insist on using throughout, the Black Kids impress with some staggering male vocals and an addictive chant-like chorus which hook you in more with every listen. (7)

### We Are Scientists 'Impatience' (Label)



hile hardly passing as original or lyrically creative, 'Impatience' is an uplifting, feel-good tune from We Are Scientists' third album, *Brain Thrust Mastery*. Upbeat and simple, with some funky bass guitar and three-part harmonies, it's worth at least a listen - and a sing along. (7)

### Nephu huzzband 'Should Have Used an Abacus' (Label)



This quirkily titled single lends itself to a more alternative fan base - imagine Franz Ferdinand meets Klaxons. The catchy guitar riffs make it easy listening although it doesn't stray from the mainstream indie/pop mould. An overall reasonable song, but with vocals you wouldn't write home about. (6)

### Forever the Sickest Kids 'Whoa oh! (Me vs Everyone)' (Label)



After a poor first impression, this single does become less tedious. With a toxic mix boasting a Lost Prophets-esque chorus, Freefaller cheesiness, and Brendon Urie vocals, 'Whoa Oh! (Me vs Everyone)' is as good as it gets for a "whoa whoa" in what feels like every other line. With an undeniably more-ish hook but enough band-members to dodge the mainstream, this offering is cringe worthy, but a generally sound tune. (6)

words/ luke raisin, serena peddle, nick balmforth, sophie milnes, sophie burfitt, vicky rodgers, helen bhandari, fionnuala crean-murphy



## THE LONDON ISSUE

This issue we're all about London Fashion Week, here's our guide...

London Fashion Week is a creative hub with fresh designers emerging every season. Each Fashion Week, designers unveil their latest collections to a professional and critical audience of press and buyers who visit London not only from around the UK but all over the world. These collections, as with recent years, were housed at the specially constructed marquees at the Natural History Museum and various other creative venues across London. London Fashion Week has earned a reputation as one of London's leading events, attracting a target audience of key fashion leaders, retailers and press who attend this bi-annual showcase.

This year sees Paul Costelloe opening the week of catwalk shows with his "rich, gothic, exotic" designs. With an impressive history at London Fashion Week, this will be his 15th year exhibiting, and his 6th season as the opening act of the showcase. His collection oozed a gothic elegance with the focus on dark browns, reds and purples alongside the staple black. His puff ball, open-chested collars gave a slightly Victorian theme to the collection. These, combined with flattering high-waisted skirts, led to the production of a dramatic and theatrical collection.

Vivienne Westwood was one of the most talked about and lusted after designers to show her collection. With Westwood's awards beginning to mount, having won the Outstanding Achievement in Fashion at the British Fashion Awards in London in 2007, she decided that, after a nine year break, it was time for her to return to London Fashion Week. So, after the success of showing her second line Red Label in February she returns for the second time in nearly ten years. With a surprise appearance from Kate Moss on Westwood's catwalk in February it seems unsurprising that girls of the moment Alexa Chung and Daisy Lowe graced the catwalk in her honour this September. Vivienne Westwood's Red Label was as stylish as ever, whilst continuing to

incorporate her ever present over-the-top, theatrical style. With a heavy emphasis on safari-esque clothing, arrows seemed dominant, being printed across dresses, scarves, blouses. Vivienne Westwood claims that her clothes can "make you incredibly strong" if you choose them, "allowing you to project your personality".

The inevitable end of this September's London Fashion Week came in the shape of designer 'Man'. As the name suggests the designer is in fact one for men and although the collection this September began with some undisputedly strange, translucent plastic outfits, the showcase continued to finish strongly with beautifully fitted grey suits and combinations of jumpers with shorts, displaying bold colours with obvious angular lines cutting up the combinations of reds, greens and greys. This September saw 'Man's 7th year at Fashion Week and 'Man' has single handedly ensured that new menswear talent is firmly on radar. Creating awareness of menswear during London Fashion Week, 'Man' has supported emerging talented candidates for the past three years.

words/ hannah vasdekys

## THIS WEEK WE LOVE: VIVIENNE WESTWOOD

She's still a punk, she's still sticking two fingers up to the establishment, and now she's fighting against global warming and propaganda. Is there anything this woman can't do? Apparently not. After her return to the catwalk last year, following over a decade away, we had to show our appreciation for the British Fashion Icon this week. You can check out her latest collection (modelled by Daisy Lowe and Alexa Chung, amongst others) online at [www.vogue.co.uk](http://www.vogue.co.uk) or [www.viviennewestwood.com](http://www.viviennewestwood.com).



## FASHION WEEK SAVED!

On September 16th a meeting took place between the world's fashion capitals, and agreement was reached to secure London Fashion Week's slot on the global fashion calendar. Representatives from New York, London and Milan gathered in London for the discussion and were joined via telephone link by Paris. After this September's Fashion Week there was much uncertainty as to the length of the next Fashion Week to come. Attempts to compact London Fashion Week into just four days were stifled and the influence of London's creativity on each of the fashion capitals was acknowledged by all parties. The plan allows New York to postpone its slot slightly, satisfying the needs of its designers whilst ensuring a full five day slot for London from September 2009 onwards.



## WISH LIST

It's a new season, a new semester and we're two new fashion editors, so out with the old and in with the new! Here's our list of the hottest new trends and items you need in your wardrobe this Autumn/Winter:

### TREND ALERT! - THREE TRENDS THAT CAUGHT OUR EYE ON THE CATWALKS

#### BAD GIRL / NEW GOTHIC

Ditch the Mary Janes and get some black stiletto's that make you three feet taller, line your eyes with the darkest kohl and vamp your look up with everything black, pussy bow blouses, skin tight skinnies and black nail polish. The bad girl is back.

Celebrities sporting the trend: Daisy Lowe, Jaime Winstone, Peaches Geldof

#### COLOUR

If you're not embracing the Bad Girl (who obviously must wear black) fear not, colour has made it's comeback this season, ditch the grey trench coat and buy a fuchsia pink one. We've gotta have something to brighten up the months of dreary weather.

Celebrities sporting the trend: Lily Allen, Agyness Deyn

#### ENGLISH HERITAGE

The catwalks were inundated with tweed, riding boots and crisp white shirts this season, so dig out some of your Grandma's old clothes and a trilby hat, the cheapest and most authentic way to get on board with this trend.

Celebrities sporting the look: Alexa Chung, Keira Knightley, Kate Moss

### FIVE THINGS YOU NEED IN YOUR WARDROBE THIS SEASON

#### The LBD

Black is back, and what better way to embrace it than with the LBD, never fails.

#### Tartan

Henry Holland has made his mark on London and this season it's all about the famous Scottish pattern adorning every inch of us. Get out your mini kilts and buy a cropped jacket to match, or invest in tartan tights or a huge winter scarf, however you embrace it you'll be on trend for this season.

#### Over knee socks

Follow in the footsteps of Daisy Lowe and invest (only a few pounds from that life saver Primark) in a pair of black knee high socks, wear with cute dresses and a leather jacket and you're ready for anywhere.

#### White Tights

Patterned tights are making a comeback, we warn you now, but white tights with retro dresses and heels are even hotter.

#### Platforms

Ok, so we know they've been around for a few seasons now, but the Prada platforms were so high in Paris this week that two models fell over on the catwalk, so perhaps don't purchase a pair of Pradas (as if we could afford it) but hit the high street and get on the case ASAP.

By Alex Haddow

### AND THE BEST OF THE REST....

#### PARIS

Dame Westwood again wowed the crowds with her Red Label collection in the most fashionable city in the world (minus our very own London of course), Prada gave us the highest shoes since Naomi's famous fall, and Gareth Pugh did us Brits proud with his incredibly weird yet beautiful designs (one of which graces the cover of this issue of Dazed and Confused) As usual, Paris provided new inspiration and amazing fashion.

#### BERLIN

Berlin fashion week? I hear you say, surely not? Indeed the German capital played host to a fabulous display of slightly alternative labels and new names, watch out for Sisi Wasabi and Lac Et Mel amongst others. We're hotly tipping Berlin as the place to be seen on the front row in years to come so if you love being the first in the know, keep your eye on this hotbed of new talent.



# NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH ON THE BOX

Fly-on-the-walls  
drop dead from boredom  
as new series documents  
normal family life

Interest in Big Brother has finally started to wear thin, with the opening episode of series nine attracting a million less viewers than the previous series, so fly-on-the-wall documentaries are now cutting back on their interactive elements in favour of the strictly observational concept of a reality show.

Currently on Channel 4, an eight part documentary series 'The Family' is based on a trend started in the 70s for documenting the life of an ordinary family going about their daily business. Although the concept may sound uninteresting to anyone with enough going on in their own lives to care about the mundane activities of complete strangers, the seemingly inherent desire for society to spy on and relate to other people's private lives means that great interest is generated by this kind of programming.

The flaw with documentaries of this sort is their claim to objectivity and fair representation of reality. The subject of 'The Family', the Hugheses, were asked to temporarily vacate their home whilst 21 cameras and 16 microphones were fitted, before moving back in again and acting as if nothing had happened, even though for the next four months a crew of editors would be sat next door in a TV gallery watching their every move. Although the family were granted a certain amount of privacy, there were no cameras in the bathrooms for example, and equipment was switched off during certain times at night, the unusual situation of being filmed in their own home can hardly be expected to result in normal behaviour by the participants of the programme.

Although it would be highly unethical to deceive the Hughes family by planting cameras surreptitiously and making sure they were completely unaware of being viewed, this is the only way to prevent the subjects playing up for the camera, consciously or subconsciously acting a certain way in order to present themselves as they would like to be seen. With this in mind, no argument or reconciliation between mother Jane and daughter Emily can be viewed without the nagging suspicion that they acted this way in order to convey the predictable and clichéd message that yes, they have their troubles, but after everything they are a loveable family much like any other.

The editing of the programme also adds to this lack of credibility, as it's hard to believe that in four months the Hughes family successfully refrained from looking into the cameras or discussing how they would come

“

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across to their viewing public. Presumably the family are getting paid a significant amount of money for their part in this series and yet even in their interviews online, when asked what made them agree to having cameras fitted in their home their responses were vague and unconvincingly immaterial: father Simon's cheesy answer was to refer to the series as "the ultimate home movie".

Perhaps a better approach would have been to take inspiration from a family documentary made in 1969 called 'The Married Couple', which records the waning relationship between Canadian's Billy and Antoinette Edwards. Instead of editing the footage in order to give the impression that his subjects were not aware of the cameras, director Allan King allows implicit reference to himself and the film crew to appear in the final edit, forcing viewers to bear in mind the effect of the cameras on the reality of the footage. The making of the documentary is actually seen to contribute to the breakdown of the Edwards's marriage as they often argue about how to spend the money they are getting for the show. King's film raises questions about the nature of documentary-making itself and asks how far it is possible to ever have an accurate representation of reality in film. This makes for a much more interesting programme than 'The Family', which appeals only to narcissistic viewers who ache to see their own lives reflected in those on TV.

Failing to draw attention to the cameras' effect on the family, this series risks aligning itself with American programme 'The Hills', a supposed reality show following the life of beautiful Californian blonde Lauren Conrad, which has been criticized by rumours that certain scenes are deliberately set-up for filming. Such techniques start to blur the line between documentaries and mockumentaries, such as Ricky Gervais' 'The Office', where a scripted scene is made to appear real and off-the-cuff. The other end of the scale would be to create something like in the film 'The Truman Show', where Jim Carey's character is living in the set of a documentary about himself that he knows nothing about, although this is obviously an extremely inhumane and unethical set up. Perhaps instead of television's incessant attempt to capture reality and normal people on screen they should just give up and create more imaginative shows like 'The Royle Family', which are much more entertaining anyway.

words/clare pidsley





# GREEN PAPER FOR GHOST TOWNS

Those around the Hyde Park/Headingley area throughout the summer may have found themselves overwhelmed by the whirlwind weekend of returning students. As LS2 investigates, however, such movements may soon be a thing of the past.

Leeds is one of several cities bookmarked by policy-makers as a student 'ghost town' and plans are now underway to disperse the communal dwelling crowds in order to resurrect parts of the city from seasonal ruin.

A new government policy affecting shared student housing will be put to parliament later this year. It follows a report by the Housing and Planning Minister, Caroline Flint, which explores the problems faced by residents of university towns through the unplanned build-up of student-let accommodation. Flint has announced future policy plans that would tackle this issue of clustering within university towns.

At present, the concern is that the overconcentration of student houses in any one area results in it being left as a virtual 'ghost town' during university holidays. The report proposes making planning laws stricter and, according to Flint, "has identified a series of proven steps councils and universities can take to reduce the dramatic effects of 'studentification'."

Flint hopes to minimise the decline faced by student-dominated areas when abandoned by students during the holidays, especially in the summer. Her intention is to blend student populations into mixed neighbourhoods in order to avoid empty streets during these months. The planning law would mainly affect landlords seeking to convert houses for letting to more than three non-related cohabiters. Council permission for such a venture would be much more difficult to gain. Indeed, the Chief Executive of Unipol, Martin Blakey, has commented that, "in the Headingley area of Leeds this would almost certainly then be refused by the Local Authority."

Yet how will this affect Leeds students in particular? Headingley and Hyde Park are substantial student enclaves, with most streets being populated by a student majority. Such measures would restrict the supply of available shared housing, thus pushing up the cost of rent, especially as demand increases with the ever-growing student population. Students unable to afford this extra cost would then be forced to live in cheaper areas where supply is allowed, likely farther from the university and popular student areas. The BBC comments that, "in Leeds there have been

suggestions to provide purpose-built student accommodation", which sounds unquestionably like second- and third-year halls, such as the various high-rise flats springing up over the city.

Given that university often provides

There's a buzz about this area that I didn't want to leave behind.

important life experience in the form of first-time house-hunting and private-sector rental, it is unfortunate that student opinions have seemingly been neglected. Leeds University students living in Hyde Park confirm that one of the attractions of the area is the predominantly student population. Carrie-Ann, a third year Psychology student, says, "the atmosphere of living in Hyde Park is very relaxed and comfortable. You know there are like-minded students living all around you." A current second year English student, Alice, responds unenthusiastically to the news saying, "me and my housemates enjoy living in a house together which for us feels like a close family home. Living in halls was fun but I wouldn't want to be forced to rent in a high-rise for my second and third years."

A more dispersed student population would also restrict the purchasing-power we currently hold. The local shops and pubs are triggered to make food and drinks deals with the promise of a great amount of demand in the area. Without this level of demand they may be forced to increase

their prices. The National Union of Students has previously opposed the use of planning law to disrupt the natural congregation of student-rented properties in university towns. The new law would also affect young professionals, who could fall under the same category if sharing a house with two or more friends. Indeed students leaving university with large debts are unlikely to be in a position to buy a property and may continue to rent with friends as they had before.

Staying in a student dominated town such as Headingley may prove too costly, forcing them to move back home. Callum, a Leeds University graduate, decided to continue renting a house in Headingley with friends. When questioned on his motivation to stay in the area he said, "There's a buzz about this area that I didn't want to leave behind." Asked whether he'd still stay if rent costs jumped up, he replied, "I'd hate to leave but financial pressures could become too much."

However, the views of local communities must also be considered. The Guardian reports that the UK's near 2.5 million students has "led to residents finding themselves priced out of the low-cost housing market," while the BBC comments that empty summer streets can look neglected, leading to an increase of petty crime and vandalism. Richard, a local Headingley resident and barman, points out that although business is slower during student holidays, it does not suffer greatly because local residents are more inclined to visit the pubs in the absence of students. While the pubs make

huge profits during term-time he considers a better blended society to be a good thing.

In a similar vein, local shop owner Raki, of Mistry's Superette, would welcome greater restrictions on the growing student housing. He says that Christmas time in particular creates a veritable 'ghost town' effect and his business suffers because of the low number of local residents now living in the area. Furthermore, student expenditure, often based on loans or grants, is variable and less reliable than the fixed incomes of local professionals. However, neither denies nor wishes away the huge economic benefits students bring to the area.

Flint is putting her housing Green Paper to parliament and it is due for publication later on in the year. Although legislation is not guaranteed, Unipol warns, "The proposals would result in higher rents for available houses and some enforced dispersal over time." Quite whether the effects will be felt by those of us who will begin house-hunting in the near-future remains to be seen. Watch this space.

words/adam cooper





# SQUABBLING OVER SMALL FRY



Think that moving into your own digs will give you a never before known sense of freedom? **LS2** explains that it's not all plain-sailing when trying to keep afloat of house finances.

**B**ILLS, BILLS, BILLS. The Tension and Terror of Moving from House to Halls. So you've found your house, moved in, and managed to cram all of your pots and pans into the inevitably spatially-challenged cupboards. Now the politics of living in a student house begin. Moving into a house for the first time differs from most students' experience of first-year accommodation in halls, and these differences can sometimes be the root of conflict and tension. Given that some students start house hunting as early as January, a lot can change by the time July, and move-in day, arrives. Unlike accommodation as a fresher when you have no choice over your flatmates, the decision of who to live with is now up to you, and in some cases the friends we make in our first semester aren't necessarily the ones we're going to want to live with by the end of our second year. How are we meant to know so early on that one of our future housemates blow-dries his hair four times a day, or that one of them likes to listen to the calming sound of drum and bass as they fall asleep? All of this means that, at best, teething problems are likely, and at worst, that serious conflicts will arise. One major difference between living in halls and houses that tends to lead to situations in the latter category is bills. According to research from TV Licensing, over a third of students studying in Yorkshire and Humberside have had at least one

argument with housemates over the responsibility of bill payment. It's quite a contrast to come from a living environment where bills are often included in the rent, or paid as a lump sum at the beginning of the year, to one where the responsibility of regular bill paying falls on the residents. Tension can arise when one housemate is seen to use more of any one utility than everyone else, and more commonly when it comes to actually paying the bills. In fact, nearly 40 percent of students said they had at some point paid more than their fair share of the bills in order to make up for others not paying. Whilst it can be a considerable change moving from halls to a house, it is possible to reduce the risk of arguments and tensions in your new home. Lawrence Gold, an expert from a finance-related BBC programme, makes a number of suggestions: he says that the responsibility for bill payment should be shared, that a rota of bill payment should be stuck on the fridge, and that everyone signs up for direct debits. Of course, even if you manage to

successfully navigate the possible pitfalls of problems with your housemates, it's not too uncommon for issues to arise with neighbours, particularly if they are of the non-student variety. Noise complaints are one of the obvious ways in which animosity can build up between students and their neighbours and whilst we're encouraged to try and befriend them from the beginning this prospect is commonly sidelined in favour of re-immersing ourselves in Leeds life.

Having said all of this, the years spent living in a house will almost certainly turn out to contain some of the best

moments of our university lives, and the inevitable downsides just add to the fun.

words/emillie ruston

A third of students in Yorkshire have had at least one argument with housemates over bill payment.





# S. CO-HABITING IN A PIG STY

Lager-loaded layabouts and lazy days... **LS2** investigates what it's like to live in a testosterone-fuelled temple.

Nine boys, 1000 bottles of beer, sub standard levels of hygiene. Welcome to my house. I arrived back in Leeds after summer filled with excitement at the prospect of my new home, but also filled with trepidation. What had I let myself in for? Yes, they were all good mates, but they were also complete morons. How would we survive without burning down the house, starving to death or catching some horrific disease from whatever was lurking at the bottom of the sink? My scepticism was well placed. I was the first back, and so my entrance was more like visiting Pete Doherty's crack den than moving into my new home. Not only had someone wiped their arse with the colossal pile of post that had been blocking the door, but the living room was coated in a thick white dust that I later discovered had once been the contents of our fire extinguishers. I wiled away the first solitary week pretending I was Indiana Jones spring cleaning the Temple of Doom. However, now that the rest of the animals have arrived at the zoo, I must admit that the positives of living in a nine bedroom house far outweigh the negatives, as long as you keep in mind a few basic rules.

## Top six tips on how to lose friends and alienate people:

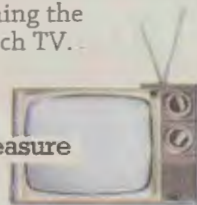
1. On entering your room after a night out, remember to first check for lasagne boxes full of urine and any other hazards that considerate neighbours may have left out for you.



2.

If you discover that one of your housemates has OCD, exploit their condition to the full. Get them bleaching the kitchen floor at two in the morning or cleaning the windows while you watch TV.

Other's pain: Your pleasure



3.

Make sure at least one of your housemates is camped outside the Landlord's/estate agents for the first few weeks as you iron out the small print such as damp, blocked drains, and the family of Georgian refugees holed up in the basement.

It's okay, roaches make better company than your friends anyways.



4.

Never wash up unless there are witnesses. Make as much noise as possible and sigh loudly with the odd obscenity hissed under your breath. This way all your housemates will know the level of your sacrifice and the depth of your suffering.



Cleaning: HELLZ NAW

5.

If by some miracle you have cooked yourself a square meal that contains fresh vegetables with no pasta and sauce in sight, it is obligatory to subtly advertise this fact to the poor hung-over wretches in your living room. Any leftovers MUST be placed in the fridge and NOT shared with ANYONE else.

No sharing allowed. Let them wallow in a puddle of their own tears and Pot Noodle.



6.

On arriving home after a weekend away, keep calm when informed that your room was used as a youth hostel/ brothel/cricket pitch/nuclear testing site. Just close your door, change the sheets and wait till they're away before exacting your revenge. As in the wild, student houses follow a strict hierarchy, so keeping the balance of power is extremely important. If you follow all these rules, congratulations. You are the king of the jungle, the puppet master pulling all the strings, the envy of all your peers...or just a complete dick. Good luck.

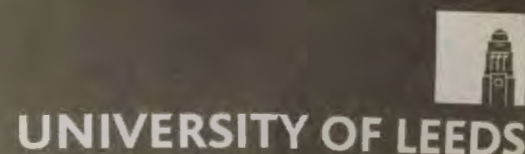
words/paul gold

Hierarchy: Young bucks compete to be the alpha male





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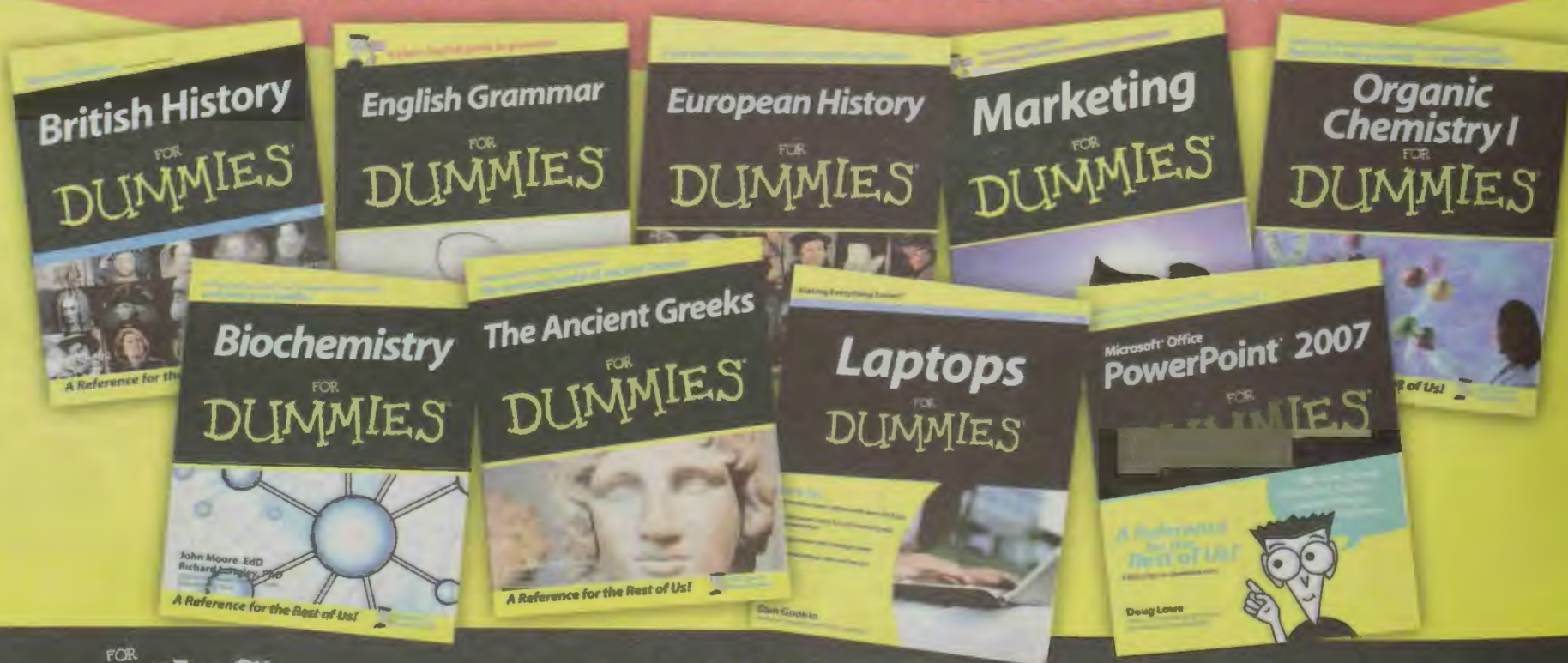
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- We run lots of employer events every year. You can come along and meet a wide variety of employers, with all kinds of opportunities on offer.
- Enterprising? We have a business start-up team to help you spin out your ideas.

To find out more go to: [www.careerweb.leeds.ac.uk](http://www.careerweb.leeds.ac.uk) or call in to the Careers Centre at 5-7 Cromer Terrace no appointment necessary.



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# SOCIETIES/

Each week LS2 will spend time getting to know one of the 200 student societies at LUU and find out what it's really like to be a member. If you want your society to be next week's feature then email us at [features@leedsstudent.org](mailto:features@leedsstudent.org) and get in touch. This week LS2 meets Leeds **Student**....

Joining the Leeds Student takes guts. There are so many people pushing their way in to get printed that it's easy to get overwhelmed by all the jockeying for articles and walk away at your first try. The key is to keep coming back for more and don't be put off if your first article isn't printed. The best tip for getting involved is to read the Leeds Student. An obvious thing to say but the paper is split into news, features, fashion, television, comment, (the list goes on) and it's really useful to know which section you'd like to write for. Some of the sections have a specific way of writing that can be quite tricky to get your head round, and little things like if you've written in first person can stop an article from being printed. Also it can be a good starting point to go for smaller articles, such as the reviews in the television section, as it gives you good practice for when you want to go for the bigger ones. It also gets you past the first step of seeing your writing in

print. That way you'll get more of an idea of what we're looking for and it will be more likely that you'll do better when you come to the bigger articles.

Being part of the sub-editors is a whole other experience. We never stop, as by the time we've commissioned all articles and laid them out on the page we'll be searching for the topics for the next issue. We stay till late in the evening struggling with stupid Mac computers and tricky software that only a handful of the team ever truly master. We have to



make the call whether an article is suitable and get the flack if we can't print something that someone has spent many long hours writing for us. We also have to pick up the pieces when someone 'forgets' to send a piece in on time, and have to make up some article on 'the

political situation in Tibet' last minute while we are already busy trying to layout all the other pages. Why do we do

all this, just for a crummy free paper? Well most of us love doing it, there's great banter and 'camaraderie' in the team and many of us find long lasting friendships (and loves) in the office. Socials are the best, particularly Thursday night pub quizzes in the Old Bar after a stressful day 'putting the paper to bed', as Leeds Student is sent to the printers on this night.

Leeds Student meets every Friday at 5pm at the paper office, upstairs in the union.

words/ maddy mcgarrie

## ACTION HEROES

WHAT KIND OF HERO ARE YOU?



Still not sure which Action project is for you? Log on to [www.leedsaction.co.uk](http://www.leedsaction.co.uk) and take the Action Hero quiz!

Answer some simple questions about your preferences and the quiz will tell you the best project suited to your skills!

Log on today and find out what kind of hero you are!

Add the Action Hero Facebook Application! Search for "Leeds Action Heroes" and show the world what kind of hero you are!

facebook



# 18 CLUBS/

WELCOME TO CLUBS, YOUR ONE  
STOP SHOP FOR ALL THE GOINGS  
ON IN THE LAND OF LEEDS  
NIGHTLIFE! WORD.

**WAX:ON**  
**27th Sept**  
**2008**  
**Stylus.**  
**Leeds**  
**University**  
**Union**

**I**t may come as a surprise to any newcomers to Leeds that somewhere deep in the bowels of the Student Union building there in fact exists one of the city's finest music venues. Whenever Wax:On comes to town, this place transforms from a tame daytime hangout to a veritable electro haven.

This time round was no exception. With a cracking line up of firm Wax:On favourites (Simian Mobile Disco, X-Press 2, People Get Real, Filthy Dukes) this night really set the tone for the quality of night that will undoubtedly grace Leeds again and again this year.

People Get Real did a fine job of warming up the eager crowd; in fact by the time X-Press 2 took over, almost the whole dancefloor was packed out. Darlings of the electro scene Simian Mobile Disco were of course the highly anticipated headliners, but I must admit was slightly skeptical of the DJ set instead of a live act. Five minutes into their set, my preconceptions had disappeared and been replaced with utter rapture - damn these guys know what they're doing! And

someone please tell me, has the soundsystem in Stylus always been that good? Crystal clear and beautifully digital, these sounds shook my musical inner core and left my ears ringing 'til the morning (maybe a sign I should start wearing earplugs?)

SMD played the crowd like puppets, we were entirely at their mercy. We jumped, we danced, we begged for more. They dropped dancefloor favourite 'Kids' by MGMT mid-set, eliciting a collective groan of euphoria from us all; we were putty in their hands and they bloody well knew it. We all stayed until the bitter end.

This night reaffirmed my love for electro. Get yourself down to Wax:On on October 25th, where we will see Plump DJs [Finger Lickin], Shadow Dancer [Boys Noize Records] and London's east London party starters Disco Bloodbath. See you at the front!

words and photo/ jessica ferrow

## Claude Von Stroke @ back2basics (MyHouse)

**S**o you're the kind of student who already knows that there is a lot more to the Leeds clubbing scene than 'the gauntlet' running from Yates' wine lodge down to Tiger Tiger, but where do you go to experience the best of the other side of Leeds? Well, if in your younger days you were a fan of dance music or if you're already searching for some punchy, rhythmic techno then 'back2basics' at My House has to be of serious consideration for you this year. Having played an immensely popular 4 hour set back at the club in February, MyHouse launched it's freshers' week with the return of Claude Von Stroke.

One reason to enjoy 'back2basics' this year is the quality of the residents and their particular brand of swinging techno. Still a resident but no longer a regular, Paul Woolford has arguably become the most famous son of the basics residency, appearing at 'We Love Space' in Ibiza and regularly featuring at the summer's top dance festivals. Ralph Lawson and Buckley are not too far behind and have been two of the key cogs keeping the well-oiled MyHouse machine at the forefront of the Leeds clubbing scene, with their unique selection of tech-house, clicks,

knocks and Herculean drops.

Once again, basics was buzzing with a crowd who were literally jumping for joy, attempting to grab the cargo netting above as Buckley and Ralph Lawson built them up superbly with their distinctive sound. Then at 3 a.m., fresh from playing at Circus in Liverpool Claude Von Stroke (or a Chris Moyles look-a-like) hit the basics clientele with an eruption of base-fuelled techno as the middle hours of the night reached a fever pitch of smiling, bouncing and dancing. The man from San Francisco was bopping away as always behind the decks, allowing the last half of his set to become a little more melodic and playing some of his more famous wonky house tracks such as 'The Whistler' and 'Whose Afraid of Detroit?' to round off his 3 hour set at 6 a.m. In another great night for 'back2basics', the name somehow manages to further grow in stature and should definitely be a clubbing date at some point for all looking to escape the gauntlet and the Mezz monopoly this year. There is a reason why this is the UK's longest running weekly club night.

words/ jake ryan





## Valve @ Stylus, Pulse and Mine

Unlike all freshers events offered so far, you can tell that this one is 100% about music. With names such as Andy C, N-Type, Dillinga and Alix Perez on the bill, coupled with the enormous Valve soundsystem, this was always going to be massive - and it didn't disappoint.

In the Dubstep room N-Type served up a trademark set of the newest and most exclusive tunes, all mixed to perfection. As always, this south London Dj pulled everyone from the bar to the nearest speaker stack as he dropped a collection of deep, dark riddims from the hottest producers around. Tunes such as Chase & Status' massive 'Eastern Jam' and the Caspa's absolutely stomping 'Where's my Money remix' saw a collection of people from around the country all dancing to the beat of one very loud, very deep 2-step drum.

Upstairs in Pulse, we were treated to a monster, 3-hour set from Alix Perez and this guy can mix! Somehow he seemed to push the system even harder than anyone else tonight, unleashing monstrous sub basslines that physically rattled my chest. His flawless blending of liquid D'n'B made sure that the crowd never stopped, and the room had enough space to move and even to get service at the bar.

In the main room, Andy C showed just why he is such a Drum 'n' Bass legend. Playing to a completely packed out room of ravers he played a mix of tunes that make Pendulum sound like a lullaby. Though at times his set was a little predictable, mixing in too many commercial tunes for my liking, I have to say that there is possibly no-one else on the D'n'B scene who can work a crowd like he can. Though the music isn't really my cuppa tea, the reaction of the majority of people there was of pure energy and joy. After all, isn't that why we go clubbing in the first place?

All in all this was a top, top night and if Valve does come back to Leeds then if you like your basslines heavy, and your kick drums to kick you, then be there.

words/ ryan finbar and sam donnison



## Preview!

Fresh from the Valve Soundsystem blowing peoples faces off (and resulting in a trip to the ear doctor for me!), Metropolis is back for another bass fuelled belter. Yes, on the 10th of October, Metropolis returns to Leeds Victoria Works for its 6th Birthday Party. Diversifying away from just being a drum and bass night, further DJs on the night will represent breaks and dubstep. Starting the nights entertainment and 'Keeping it Unreal' all night in The Engine Room, will be none other than the master of musical marathon sets, Mr Scruff. The Body Shop sees The Freestylers playing their mix of breakbeat, dubstep bigboys, Skream and Benga B2B and DJ Marky

playing a set of south American flavoured drum and bass. Perhaps the real highlight of the evening will be Chase and Status performing live along with Plan B and guest MCs, before scene dominators Pendulum finally tear the warehouse to its foundations.

With such a musical selection and not a weak name on the bill, it'll feel like your birthday as well. Happy 6th Birthday Metropolis!! Make sure you don't forget to visit Mr Scruff's Tea Stall!

Tickets: £15 + b/f\* - Available from [www.ticketweb.co.uk](http://www.ticketweb.co.uk), Crash, Jumbo, and Tribe Records.

words/ sam donnison



## COMPETITION!

LS2 Clubs is extremely privileged and has two pairs of tickets for the night. To be in with a chance of winning complete this sentence...

'I want to rave at Metropolis' 6th Birthday because.....'. The best two entries will win a pair of tickets, it's that simple! Send replies to [clubs@leedsstudent.org](mailto:clubs@leedsstudent.org)





## How To Lose Friends and Alienate People

Starring/ Simon Pegg, Kirsten Dunst, Megan Fox, Jeff Bridges  
Director/ Robert Weide

*How To Lose Friends and Alienate People* – after such an auspicious film title, it's impossible to predict how Sidney Young (Simon Pegg) will end up. Set in New York for much of the proceedings, the film charts the inexplicable rise of Sidney to the top of *Harpers' Bazaar* take-off, Sharps magazine. If it's your average British loser-drama, steeped in English irony and unhappy endings, presumably that would be alone, infected with a killer virus on the unfamiliar streets of Manhattan, drooling in a pool of sludge-coloured rainwater, whilst a tramp pisses on him.

A sarcastic edge of English cynicism this is not, however (not to spoil the ending in ANY way...). A more light-hearted element is offered to the upturned faces in the audience, making *How To Lose Friends and Alienate People* enjoyable rather than a stinging critique of the world of journalism. It's not exactly a heartening ride through the upper echelons of magazine politics, so don't watch with an eye to increase your potential job chances (third-year English students, take note).

Megan Fox offers a supreme comic performance as the pouting, posing pricking-teasing actress Sophie Maes, seductively sliding into swimming pools and Pegg's character's mind alike with practised ease. Kirsten Dunst is the invisible love interest Alison – invisible to Sidney that is – but in the wonderful tradition of screen and stage, we, the audience, are aware of it all along. Magic! She's a cutesy character, without much to love or loathe, but we can

suitably appreciate her earnest outlook in contrast to the vapid vortex that Sharps magazine comes to represent.

Honestly, the adverts don't do this film credit, taking key scenes out of context and leaving them foundering in forced laughter; in the aisles though, the majority of moments generate genuine comedy. Pegg treads the fine line between idiocy and intelligence, leaving Sidney an appealingly odd rebel, rather than skin-tingling, repulsive pervert. Whilst it is a little tiring to see Pegg constantly placed as stereotypical English idiot against a slick US collection of groomed "celebs" (I doubt any Brit would find the lager lout behaviour of Sidney at a posh party particularly amusing), the cross-Atlantic banter certainly has its charm. And when have the Brits ever had a problem with poking fun at the Yanks? It's almost (but not quite) giving us our dues.

words/ vicky ellis

## Wicked Words feat. Kate Fox

@ SEVEN Arts Centre  
01/10/08

Wicked Words is an open mic poetry night. For those of you about to move on, hastily turning the page, desperate not to be seen as 'pretentious' (for all you arts students) or 'arty' (for everyone else) please lay aside your prejudices for 300 words. And then you can pretend you were reading something else.

Wicked Words, hosted by the completely charming Brendan McPartlin, is not arty, or pretentious, or intimidating. It is about people from their early twenties to early seventies writing and performing poetry, and despite the friendly non-critical atmosphere, the standard is incredibly high.

Held in the soothing environs of the Seven Arts centre in Chapel Town, Wicked Words has got to be the most stimulating and charismatic alternative to the mind-numbing, spirit-crushing repeated returns to 'Tiger Tiger' et al. that are prevalent in Leeds. Subjects range from feeling inadequate whilst standing next to incredibly stylish gay men, to evil birds who force twitchers to fall down gorges with their nest placement.

The highlight of the night had to be headlining act Kate Fox. "But I'm five foot seven with size eight feet" she lamented in her



poem 'Small Girlfriend,' where she pondered why men go for smaller women and her conclusion seemed very logical, in that they make 'his willy look really long'.

This kind of laugh-out-loud humour, which can be heard on Radio 4's Saturday Live, meshed a medley of comedy, poetry and performance and meant that Fox gave a show which was unrivalled by few others.

With her beloved pink ukulele as sidekick, Kate Fox sparked a visual and aural explosion for the eyes and the ears and her fast paced poetry ranged from why she will not spit, but swallows, to the poignant piece about receiving her late father's hat as an heirloom.

All the poems were short, snappy, witty and engaging, with Fox's unique brand of feminism stamped on them, in a way that men with potentially small penises were still left chuckling to Fox's dulcet Northern tones.

words/ nali sivathan and emily barran

## Finding Sculpture in the Decorative Arts

@ Henry Moore Institute  
01/10/08 - 04/01/09

The newly opened "Taking Shape" exhibition deals fundamentally in pushing the boundaries of what constitutes sculpture. Long gone are the clean-lined, abstract shapes so emblematic of modern sculpture; instead, as the gallery doors opened, I found myself entering into an almost gaudy exposition of seventeenth and eighteenth century decorative art. Presented on neon pink pedestals stood the kind of statues and furniture one would immediately associate with a stately home. Yet stripped of their context and the weight of heavy curtained, dimly lit surroundings they felt utterly new, revived and improved.

I have to confess that the chance of attending an exhibition exclusively devoted to sculpture was one I did not totally jump at. I have always preferred paintings, which seemed less imposing. However this exhibition's combination of functionality and sculptural eloquence introduced a new perspective. Suffice to say the presentation of two sugar shakers as a piece of sculpture obliterated any conception I might have had of sculpture's boundaries.

Ultimately the exhibition is as much an interior design show as a sculptural exhibition but the refreshing isolation of each ornate work

makes it unique. The Henry Moore Institute claims that the pieces are 'holding functionality hostage to their own magnificence'. And with this I would agree. The sculptures no longer feel antiquated and garish, but standing against the blank canvas of the exhibition's spacious white walls, they appear timeless and worthy of the title 'sculpture'.

The exhibits undoubtedly highlight the sheer excess and opulence of the seventeenth and eighteenth century. Almost every piece is drenched in a gold polish and most are made of marble or bronze. There is a constant consciousness that these pieces originate from the era of Louis XIV and are the kind of demonstrations of wealth that drove France to revolution.

The exhibition consists of just three rooms and is modest in its range of works, displaying statues, tables, candle stands and much more. However, the intricacy and detail of each work will fill any visitor's time satisfactorily. Each room assumes a loose theme: room one



GOOD AS GOLD:  
Coming to an  
IKEA near you

considering objects in pairs and the space they command in-between them, room two the functionality of these sculptures, and room three the illustrations that inspired the sculptures, the 'graphic fantasy'. Particular highlights of the exhibition are: number 5, Boreas Abducting Orithyia (after a model by Gaspard Marsy); number 17, Clock Movement (by Jean-Jacques Fiéffé); and finally number 21, Torchère (by Pieter de Swart).

words/ natasha lloyd-owen

### LOOK OUT FOR:

>>>> PolarBear (featured on Radio 1) is displaying his lyrical genius at Sticks and Stones open mic night 7.30pm on Tues 7th Oct at Strawberryfields. Also being interviewed on LSRfm next week  
>>>> Burlesque extravaganza Fundraiser 7pm-12am Sun 5th Oct in the Victoria Quarter  
>>>> AUDITIONS for Playhouse Creatures by April de Angelis 5-7pm Mon 6th Oct in Workshop Theatre



FACE THE MUSIC:  
Piano stools have  
always had  
sodomitical appeal

## Comedy Sessions @ Hifi 27/09/08

You know a show is going to be good when Hi-Fi's friendly bouncer rushes you in then encourages your mates to go buy a round whilst you collect the tickets, pre-ordered at £10.00 each.



It's this fun, efficient approach to hosting that makes Hi-Fi a great venue for a comedy night. With a large crowd of over 200 people, the simplistic yet stylish décor of the club gave a sophisticated atmosphere, whilst the £10.95 buckets of Tuborg and Savannah Cider catered to the more basic needs of the under 30's dominated audience. The only gripe would be the lack of seating, covering only a quarter of the floor space.

The night's fun began with Dominic Woodward, acting as presenter rather than an act in his own right. His small set engaged the audience with comments on several heckling groups as well as designating Zoe from Huddersfield as his cheerleader for the night.

Tom Wigglesworth won over the audience immediately with his spot-on confession to looking like 'a cross between

Peter Crouch and Postman Pat'. He followed this with 45 minutes of fast paced material, ranging from the terror of breaking through airport security to avoid soiling himself in Bangkok, to the annoyance of his printer's annual rebellion. Winner of Channel 4's 2003, 'So You Think You're Funny?', previously won by the likes of Dylan Moran and Peter Kay, Tom will be a name to look out for in bigger shows.

After a short interval Steve Hughes took the headline slot of the night. An ex-heavy metal drummer from Sydney, Steve has made a name for himself across television stand up. Steve abandoned audience interaction in favour of topical comments on ridiculously unnecessary health and safety, leading into a set surrounding politically focused comedy. Whilst topical subjects went down well, more obscure tangents along the lines of global conspiracies alienated some of the audience. However, highlights included extreme Australian manliness, calling upon 'Straight being the new gay' and how X-Factor is the perfect cure to the Credit Crunch.

Whilst the same acts appeared at the Library pub only a week earlier for a mere £6.00, Hi-Fi's ticket price also includes entry to the Boogaloo club night after the comedy has finished. Nevertheless, Hi-Fi's comedy never failed to create a laugh, drew a fun outgoing audience and held the intimacy that only small comedy venues can carry.

Catch the Comedy Sessions @ Hifi every Saturday night.

words/ nick mckenzie



## The Wackness

Starring/ Josh Peck, Ben Kingsley, Olivia Trilby, Mary-Kate Olsen

Sex, drugs and Notorious B.I.G... are what really makes Luke (Josh Peck) tick. He's a dopey dealer from the Upper Eastside of Manhattan with arguing parents and no friends, who turns to his eccentric therapist Dr Squires (Ben Kingsley) for advice.

Luke's big problem is that he isn't getting 'laid', and neither is Squires, so this odd pair embark on a "beaver hunt" with comic consequences. This may sound a little trashy but The Wackness is a far cry from the usual teen 'sex pact' drama. Instead of experimenting with apple pie and band geeks, Luke ends up sleeping with Squires' daughter, the beautiful and bored Stephanie (Olivia Trilby).

This film delicately balances real, gritty

adolescent issues of sex, drugs and loneliness with a subtle comedy that really makes you laugh out loud. There are no cheap gross-out gags but instead a depth that engages with issues such as love and happiness. At some points the film feels slow moving, but soon you'll realise this is just the pace of Luke's fuzzy, stoned existence.

The script is quick and comic, and it is wonderfully delivered by the cast, especially Ben Kingsley, who will have you questioning your life as well as cringing. The Wackness could be seen as a mixture of Donnie Darko and The O.C., - it's the melodrama of teen life with a pinch of reality, narcotics and self-hatred. Even though the story centrally addresses divorce, heartbreak and suicide, you'll leave the cinema feeling uplifted, as the film has a strange lightness and innocence.

words/ anna denholm



Hello Hello. Welcome to the arts page. The one and ONLY place to find the sexiest damn selection of arts coverage in THE WORLD. Or at least Leeds.

As co-editor of the page, my aim is to open up this shiny, glistening, inestimably appetising realm of creative indulgence to each and every one of you... Like some sort of fairy godmother who OD'd on pink lemonade. But without the compromising drug habit.

Poetry nights are my current most covetable snack, so if you know of any new 'uns, please let me know. If not, go to ALL of the ones we feature here, they are all SCRUMPTIOUS, DELECTABLE.

And as such, you could probably last for a week on poem consumption alone. Supplemented with the odd Amaretto and Cranberry, of course. For the sceptics out there, just try it.

We are so lucky to have such an insanely vibrant city in Leeds, the range of opera, music, drama, dance, poetry (wool!), art and general cultural clutter to make any art lover an OCD freak.

See ye next week!  
Love from Miss Ellis xxx

## Jack of Hearts

ELLO sausages, gang-a-lang-a-lang, I'm Jack the taller and cooler arts editor here at LS. Vicky does the thinking, I do the kicking. Vicky is well-cultured, accessible and good for you like a Yakult, where as I am obscure and vanquished like a retired sailor sitting in a 1950s deckchair in your garden wrapped in a silver shock blanket wearing last season's Moschino sunglasses.

But enough about me, and more about the Leeds arts scene. There is a maelstrom of primary-coloured creativity going on over the next few days. Look out for the Playhouse Creatures auditions on Monday, as well as some other grand-slam productions currently in embryonic stages like A Streetcar Named Desire.

The vintage fashion fair is on Sunday, and so is the farmers market. What better way to spend the pending sabbath than splashing out on piles of fresh broccoli and flash bangles.

Right. Unfortunately I've just raced into the office and we go to print in twenty minutes, so this week's column is subsequently a bit of a bad egg, but I hope you are enjoying this week's LS, I find the newspaper goes best with brie and a glass of cheap wine.

T'rah pals. JC x

words/ lottie kirk

email jack and miss ellis, arts@leedsstudent.org



# 22 BOOKS/

## You're Bookered

Tom Knowles takes a look at the 2008 Booker shortlist

One is about the opium wars in 19th century India. Another goes into deep detail on Sheffield during Thatcherism. Then there's the story of a 100 year old Irish woman locked up in a mental hospital recalling her life during the Troubles. The other three are based in Australia, India and 1970s London. So - not really looking into the here and now for the current Booker prize shortlist then.

But as the critics have been saying these novels show how the past affects the present. Perhaps in our current fear of the world destroying itself through the meltdown of the economy or global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions it is only natural to turn to the past for guidance and nostalgia.

Well maybe, but what else have the Booker judges been searching for in their selection of the final six? The chairman, Conservative MP Michael Portillo, said they were looking for stories that were 'immensely readable' and 'page-turning'. This is fortunate as *The Northern Clemency* by Philip Hensher and *Sea of Poppies* by Amitav Ghosh both look like a year should be put aside to get through them, whilst 700-page long *A Fraction of the Whole* by Australian writer Steve Toltz at first seems better used for a doorstep than actual reading material.

Another good aspect of these books being page-turners is some of the past winners have been intimidatingly difficult to get through or just incredibly boring. Salman Rushdie's *Midnight's Children*, the winner of the Booker of the Bookers prize, is known to have many - including publishers and critics - put the book aside 100 pages or so in. As for 1985's winner *The Bone People* by Keri Hulme... Well, let's just say maybe the judges should have paid greater attention to the 200 publishing houses that originally turned the author down.

This year's shortlist has stunned literary critics with its notable exception. Most were sure Salman Rushdie's *The Enchantress of Florence* would emerge as one of the final six, including former Booker judge John Sutherland who promised he would eat the novel if it were not nominated. Let's hope books taste good in a curry for Mr Sutherland then as Rushdie's novel was rejected early on. Broadcaster Hardeep Singh Kohli, one of the judges, described Rushdie's writing as 'patchy'.

The winner of the Booker is awarded £50 000 and widespread press support but does it help bring public attention to novels they might otherwise have ignored? Ian Oldfield, at Waterstone's Leeds, is unsure: 'It all depends on the book. If it's something that people haven't seen the likes of before, such as Vernon God Little, then it will reach out to a much larger audience than otherwise, but if it's say, another Salman Rushdie book, then that will only be bought by those who would have read him anyway.'

So, who will it be? The bookies have *Sea of Poppies* as the most likely with current odds being placed at 2-1. Whoever wins will undoubtedly have the champagne flowing and others fuming. Yet in the end it seems it is up to us, the readers and buyers, to decide whether we will deem this a new classic or just a useful doorstep.



AMITAV GHOSH: bookies' favourite

## The Miracle of Grace

Kate Kerrigan



Now I love a good girly novel as much as the next girl, but I'm afraid to say that this left me wanting just a little bit more. Like many books out there at the minute Kerrigan looks at the tricky relationship between a mother and daughter. It

begins with Grace finding on a to-do list written by her mother, below many household chores, 'Tell G I have Ovarian Cancer, probably terminal'. Grace is understandably shocked by the news and through her anger at being told in such a way we begin to see the cracks in the pair's relationship.

How they deal with the news forms the basis of the story and Kerrigan

interestingly uses the voices of both characters in alternating chapters so you really get a feel for why each woman acts the way they do.

Grace mostly discusses her present, whereas Eileen, her mother, reflects on how she has spent her life up until this point. This sets the book apart from others in its genre as the little snippets from Eileen's past give the story a historical twist.

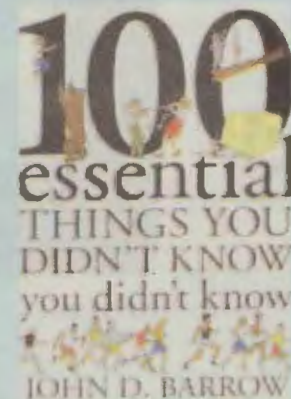
However, what does disappoint slightly is the fact that neither character is particularly sympathetic, so as the book develops you struggle to feel as strongly for the characters as you know you should.

Having said this, this book is perfect if, like me, you enjoy passing a quiet Sunday afternoon curled up on the sofa with a cuppa and a sweet read. If you persevere through the slightly, dare I say, tiresome few chapters in the middle I promise you will be rewarded. The ending, though sad, is strangely uplifting as both characters begin to find peace with each other.

words/ lauren kane

## 100 Essential Things You Didn't Know You Didn't Know

John Barrow



There is a problem about books that attempt to explain science and mathematical concepts to readers who have no knowledge of them. Maths is a difficult subject, and there are reasons why it is taught in a classroom; it requires concentration, practice and a certain level of intellect - so *100 Things* wasn't exactly a light read.

John Barrow's book, which sets out to provide examples of mathematical solutions to real-world problems, therefore falls down at the first hurdle. The structure doesn't help either. With one-hundred small chapters each explaining a new idea, there is simply not enough attention paid to each one, and the overall effect becomes rather patchy. Taking a mere three pages to quantify gravitational perturbation, a process affecting planetary orbits, was not just ambitious, but to be quite frank, a bit pointless.

However, pockets of this book were very amusing. The collection of quotes that marks the beginning of each chapter provided witty introductions to Barrow's topics. For example 'Statistics are like a bikini. What they reveal is suggestive, but what they conceal is vital', was one of many little phrases that added to the quirky appeal of *100 Things*.

It would also be wrong to say that there is nothing to take from the book. Chapter 15 - Racing Certainties - is particularly interesting, where Barrow outlines the mathematical approach to successful betting, as is Chapter 42 - Secret Codes In Your Pocket - which explains how credit cards are protected from online fraud.

John Barrow is an established Maths Professor at Cambridge University, and was the recipient of the world's biggest academic cash award, the annual \$1.4 million Templeton Prize, set up to encourage more dialogue between Science and Religion. As highly regarded as he is in the intellectual world, a more polished execution of this work would undoubtedly raise Barrow's profile in the literary world. But he has one foot through the door.

Published 16th October

words/ joseph riach

## Midnight's Daughter

Karen Chance



*Midnight's Daughter* is not just another vampire fantasy. The fast paced-action, vivid characters and sexual tension (I wouldn't recommend this book for children!) make it a novel to enthrall any reader with a taste for escapist entertainment.

This book is the first in a new urban fantasy series by the New York Times bestselling author Karen Chance, fresh from her popular *Cassandra Palmer* series. It follows Dorina Basarab, a half human, half vampire hybrid known as a dhampir, who has survived for 500 years whilst trying to subdue the mad, uncontrollable rages that ensure most dhampirs live very short lives.

These rages only intensify when Dorina's best friend and healer, Claire, goes missing and in her search for her, Dorina must first help her father imprison the only thing that truly scares her; the oldest and most notoriously evil vampire around - her Uncle Dracula.

Even worse, Dorina's father demands that she work with the very gorgeous but very arrogant master swordsman Louis-Cesare, a French vampire who hates Dhampirs but nonetheless creates a lot of unwanted chemistry for our poor heroine.

Add to this plenty of magic, gore, trolls and strange beasts, set against the grimy backdrop of present-day urban USA, and you have the makings of an exciting page-turner. While this book may not have the lush classical descriptions of Anne Rice, it delivers a consistent pace of action and fighting, as well as drawing you in to make you care about the characters and their fates.

Dhampirs (made popular in Balkan folklore and vampire fiction) are outcasts to both humans and vampires, and *Midnight's Daughter* makes good use of these conflicts. However, this book takes place firmly in the present, and it is refreshing to read a vampire novel as heavy on action as it is on history and politics. Whilst I would not say this book is an absolute classic of its genre, I certainly enjoyed the ride, and for anyone curious, I'd say it's worth a good, hard bite.

Published 2nd October

words/ liz phillips

## Literature Heads up North

The annual Ilkley Literature Festival sees some of the biggest names in publishing descend upon our rainy little corner of West Yorkshire for two weeks of readings, workshops, performances and exhibitions. This year's festival opens today and runs until the 19th. Tickets are still available for over 100 events, many of which are free. Reserve online at [www.ilkleyliteraturefestival.org.uk](http://www.ilkleyliteraturefestival.org.uk)



## How's this for a novel idea?

Evie Prysor-Jones asks: 'Are TV adaptations keeping the classics alive, or are we losing the essence of the book?'

Emma, Persuasion, Mansfield Park and, of course, my favourite, Pride and Prejudice. Everyone's heard of these classics, but why? It is because their author Jane Austen, wrote so beautifully about women and love in such a timeless way that they still move us today.

I am a prime example of someone whose imagination has been invaded however, by TV adaptations. Though my love for Mr Darcy sprang from the book at an early age it is Colin Firth (in Darcy dress) who takes pride of place on my wall. If someone says "Elizabeth Bennett" is it shameful to immediately think of Jennifer Ehle or, as much as I truly regret, Keira Knightley?

I always watch the adaptations, even if it bothers me that the actress playing Jane looks like a Womble. I can watch them because I know the stories anyway, so minor mistakes in characters and plot can be overlooked. But what about non-Austen addicts who watch the television versions first before reading the books? No matter the skill of the producer, the TV adaptation will never be as detailed as the book, and no matter the skill of the author, books generally need some tinkering for the medium of television.

Adaptations by their nature rely

on individual interpretation but quite how much do we lose from the author's imagination? For example, the famous wet shirt scene in Pride and Prejudice; Darcy dives, whilst wearing a conveniently see-through white shirt, into a trout pond and then walks, glistening wet, through his beautiful grounds of Pemberley. In Austen's book Darcy would never dive into a trout pond. However, in the TV adaptation this scene is very important because it points out with a large neon sign Darcy's sex appeal. In the book Darcy is constantly oozing with sex appeal but it's subtle and polite which adds hugely to the charm of the story. In TV, we lose that. It's an amazing scene, which I feel my life would have been lesser without, but should it have been done?

The new TV programme, Lost in Austen

written by Guy Andrews, takes adaptations one step further; we actually merge into the Austen world. The story is based around a portal that forms in the 2008 bathroom of

Amanda Price. The portal joins this world with that of the Bennett family. Elizabeth comes out,

and Amanda goes in. Suddenly we see Pride and



Prejudice in 3D. Everything in the story starts falling apart in Elizabeth's absence and poor Amanda is left trying to sort it out while being completely out of place in a world she loves.

As a true Austen fan I thought it would be a disaster, messing around too much with the fictional world and I was terrified I would lose the naïve ideal I have of the characters. But... I loved it. Following this fellow-Austen fan into the Austen world the characters became less perfect but so much more real. I found it hilariously funny being forced to see how someone like me would actually act in a world to which I love to escape.

What would Jane Austen think of the playing around with her masterpieces? I feel inclined to think that while she may be protective over her work, she herself was also a force for change. The very fact that she wrote these stories changed her life and the perception of female writers in general, and I think, importantly, she changed the perception of love. I am still unsure how far we should push the boundaries of TV adaptations of our most-loved stories, whether that be Austen's, Hardy's or Dickens'. But if they can do something completely different and make us love it, maybe new interpretations are just keeping the love alive.

## SOAP WATCH

We preview the next week's soap action.. so you can do something better with your time

### Hollyoaks

Frankie will break the news to Newt that Jack is in fact still alive. Calvin and Carmel arrive back to the village from their honeymoon. Niall has talks with a cutely concerned Tom about his relationship with Steph. Meanwhile an interfering Mandy tries to take Dom's mind off of Tina and baby Max's parentage. Mercedes should find out the results of her HIV test now Malachy has informed her she may be at risk.

### Eastenders

Tony is growing anxious that Whitney may tell Bianca about their relationship as she refuses to come out of her room, and the fact he has Peter Beale is starting to make things look a bit more obvious. Callum and Stacey grow closer now she has cooled things off with

Bradley. Jase's funeral also takes place this week which Dawn and Billy struggle with.

### Coronation Street

Tony, Carla, Liam and Maria arrive at the hotel for their weekend away. Maria is naively content but Carla and Liam remain suspicious of Tony's motives. When Tony announces that he has booked the girls into the spa while he takes Liam on a tour of the local caves, Liam's unease starts to grow.

## The Argument

Are we singing X Factor's praises or Strictly Dancing over to BBC1?

### X Factor

Cheryl Cole. Need we say more? It's pretty obvious that she has more style and dancing ability than any of the Strictly judges (Arlene Phillips anyone?) But seriously this programme does indeed have the X factor, from the beginning we can see the delusional 'talented' hopefuls humiliated by Simon Cowell for our viewing pleasure as he sifts out all the freaks in an attempt to find some real singing capability. Those successful at the auditions were then moved on last week to boot camp and even more dreams were dashed and fake sob stories were made up. But the best is yet to come as this week we get to see inside the judge's homes, and I can't wait to see what Cheryl's is like. Obviously Danni Minogue's frozen face and lack of any discernable talent herself does not work in the programme's favour but I think the live shows over the next coming weeks will more than make up for that.

### Strictly Come Dancing

Ok so the X factor judges may have the edge over the Strictly lot, but unlike them the celebrities in this show are the ones making fools of themselves on the dance floor. Last week saw poor Gillian Telford have to bear the humiliation of being the first woman to be thrown out, although 6ft 1in Jodie Kidd was also in the dance off. Also whilst X factor may be climaxing in the live shows, Strictly has amazing costumes all the way through and who doesn't love a bit of sparkle? Then there's BBC1's secret ingredient which is the legend that is Brucie, who'd have guessed at 80 he'd still be dancing onto our screens on a Saturday night?! Well I for one am pleased that he is, and accompanied by the lovely Tess Daly they make great presenters. Strictly is good fun to watch while you're getting ready to go out, just remember in the immortal words of Brucie; wherever you are ...keep dancing!

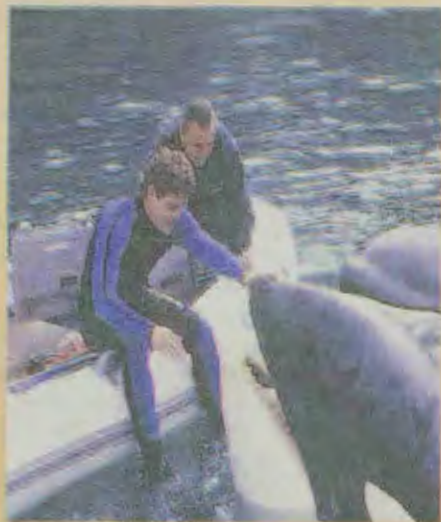
words/Hatti Cawley



# 24 Terrestrial Picks

## Film of the week

### Free Willy 3: The Rescue



**Sunday 05 October**  
11:55am ITV1

If you're after something that artfully combines the classic Hollywood staples of obstacle-enduring friendship and aqua marine wildlife, then look no further than this week's film pick. The intense emotional connection between child and sea life centre attraction pervaded big screens in the nineties with Flipper, Andre and Free Willy finally occupying the gaping hole in our lives for dolphin, seal and whale orientated love stories. Cashing in on the public's endless yearning for anthropomorphic sentimentality, the makers of Free Willy went on to make not just one but eventually two sequels to this classic hit. Although the title of the first film practically begs for a cheap porn adaptation, Free Willy 3: the Rescue is arguably as innocent and as heart wrenching as its predecessors, and will most likely have you punching the air above your head in a wave of "I've just freed a friendly whale!"-style excitement.

Words/Clare Pidsley

**Friday 3rd October**

Little Britain USA  
BBC1 9.30pm

Considering the epochal shift in American finance and world status currently taking place, one would think the last things the Yanks needed were two smarmy Brits descending upon their shores armed with silly voices and fat suits, ready to sink to the very lowest of common denominators to extract a laugh from viewers. But nevertheless Little Britain USA is with us for a whole rib-tickling, stomach-churning, sense-of-common-decency-offending series. In all fairness, Walliams and Lucas do have a knack for comic staging and the occasional moment of truly clever satire. We can only hope the new series has more of this and less of the bad taste for bad tastes sake of their more mean-spirited send-ups.

Words/ Charles Cooper



**Saturday 4th October**

Never Mind the Buzzcocks  
BBC2 10.00pm

It may be a repeat, but the first time you watched it you were probably laughing too hard to hear half the scalpel-pointedly intelligent put-downs and come-backs that Simon Amstell keeps up his skinny pin-striped sleeve, so why not watch it again. Among the guests laying their egos on the line this week are Harry Judd from McFly and Mark 'Look I flicked a switch and made this Smiths song sound a bit different and now I got loadsa money and Lily Allen comes round for tea' Ronson. Unfortunately no Bill Bailey this week but it should be rather good nonetheless. Remember when Mark Lamarr used to present it? Really? No-one? Not even a bit?

Words/Charles Cooper

**Sunday 5th October**

The Secret Policeman's Ball 2008  
Channel 4 9:00pm

Following on the success of the comeback show in 2006, The Secret Policeman's Ball is back again. For those of you who missed it last time, it's a massive night when every comedian you can think of gathers for a good cause, in this case Amnesty International. Last year's success, with the likes of Russell Brand and the Mighty Boosh to Eddie Izzard, Dylan Moran and Sarah Silverman, guarantees laughs a minute as the best of the business get together. There are rumours of a John Cleese appearance buzzing around as well; making this one night that is worth staying in for.

Words/Serena Peddle



**Monday 6th October**

Dispatches: The Hidden World of Lap Dancing  
Channel 4 9:00pm

The Dispatches team are hitting the streets yet again investigating topical issues and opening our eyes to a world operating alongside us that we never even knew existed. This week they are studying whether the laws that decree lap-dancing clubs as 'public' entertainment as opposed to 'erotic' are encouraging prostitution in a growing sexual entertainment industry. This is a matter particularly close the LUU's heart at the moment due to the Pole Dancing Society controversy, as strong fears that respectable students will be targeted for employment by the less respectable night-time Leeds establishments. Worth a look if you are curious, or a perv.

Words/Serena Peddle

**Tuesday 7th October**

The Sex Education Show  
Channel 4 8pm

As anyone who has attended school will know, sex education classes in Britain today are not really up to scratch, mostly involving a video from the 80's and an embarrassed biology teacher. This series aims to break down the taboo's we have talking about sex. Last week saw a variety of diseased genitals being shown to horrified school children so it's not for the fainthearted or one to watch with a potential boy/girlfriend. You may just learn a thing or two though and if you thought you were bad, there's a teenage girl on today's show who has had 60 sexual partners.

Words/Hatti Cawley

**Wednesday 8th October**

The Family  
Channel 4 9pm

For those that have seen the adverts this may come across as a light-hearted comedy about a typical British family perhaps involving some facts about families as a whole in Britain today. I was fooled and naively watched the first episode; the only fact I gathered was that this programme is a waste of time. The family involved are The Hughes and they agreed to take part in a 24hr observational programme for an eight part TV series, there is little to no reason why they have done this as I have never met a family with so little charisma; even the arguments are boring. Seriously you'll probably get more laughs watching Silent Witness on BBC1.

Words/Hatti Cawley

**Thursday 9th October**

Hollyoaks  
Channel 4 6:30pm

In this episode Calvin is becoming increasingly distracted and worried that the police are going to find out about Nige. Russ and Tina are trying their hardest to get along with each other for the sake of Max, but they can't seem to find any common ground and Louise is delighted that her and Warren have everything back on track and asks Mandy to assist her in her wedding plans. Still a popular soap after 14 years, in my opinion it attempts to tackle big issues in a sensible way but generally doesn't handle them any better than most soaps.

Words/Noni Garrett



# Freeview Picks

LS2 25  
inside

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www.leedsstudent.org

## Friday 3rd October

Agatha Christie's Poirot  
ITV3 2.55pm

If you need to exercise your little gray cells this is the thing to watch. The wonderfully charming and polite little round Belgian is on the man hunt once again. This time the sleuth is solving the puzzle of the stolen jewels, belonging to a new opening play's leading lady. It may not be the gruesome murder he is used to. But we wouldn't want our detective getting bored now would we? As usual we have colourful characters which all come with their own suspicious backgrounds to keep us guessing. Poirot's holiday is not quite as calm as he had hoped but secretly, we know that moustache is twitching for a mystery.

Words/ Evie Pryor-Jones

## Saturday 4th October

UFO-The Best Evidence Ever  
Caught On Tape  
ITV4 5.35pm

After a recent trip to Roswell USA I myself am slightly intrigued with America's obsession with Aliens. The museum in Roswell boasts over its "proof" of being a specialised area of strange encounters. In this programme Jonathan Frates. Also known as Commander William T. Riker from Star Trek, takes us through an hour of home made videotapes, witnesses and experts sharing with us their involvement with the little green men. This is not however, simply a compilation of alien propaganda. This programme tries to explain the weird and wonderful and ends satisfactorily by encouraging the viewers to come to their own conclusions. My conclusion...the truth is still out there.

Words/ Evie Pryor-Jones



## Film of the week

# Closer

Mon 6th October, 9pm  
Fiver

With a cast list including Julia Roberts and Jude Law, you could be forgiven for dismissing this as yet another clichéd romcom buried deep in the depths of Freeview, but this is in fact well worth a watch. Adapted from the successful stage version, the story centres on two couples and their ensuing partner swapping, with Natalie Portman and Clive Owen completing the cast. Unusually for Hollywood the characters are distinctly unlikeable in their acts of naked aggression and remorseless efforts to cause hurt. The sleazy Owen is outstanding as the unashamed sex-addict and the cutting one-liners add humour to this brutal look at relationships; it could be enough to make anyone reconsider the joys of singledom. And if all that sounds a bit too heavy-going after a hard day of lectures, just enjoy the sight of some of Hollywood's finest faces united on one screen.

Words/ Naomi Wells



## Sunday 5th October

Xtra Factor  
ITV2 7.10pm

If you haven't had your fix of X factor after the ITV1 show then Holly Willoughby and Dermot O'Leary are here to entertain you with more backstage gossip. Today we see the contestants ringing their parents to break the good news that they will be moving into the X factor house. Holly and Dermot have good chemistry and the show normally raises a few laughs, good to watch if you are already an X factor fan!

Words/Hatti Cawley

## Monday 6th October

The Full Monty  
E4 9pm

The unlikely heroes of this amazing film are a group of unemployed, unglamorous Sheffield steelworkers. Robert Carlyle puts in a brilliant performance as a divorced father trying to maintain joint custody of his son. He comes across his money making idea when he sees poster for the Chippendales. He puts together a group of lads each with their own disappointments behind them and decides to sell tickets for their strip show. Although there are definite undertones of sadness to this film, it is cleverly interwoven with poignancy and genuine warmth.

Words/Hatti Cawley

## Tuesday 7th October

Friends: 'The one with the Stripper'  
E4 5pm

In this episode of the funny favourite, we see Monica try and make up for Chandler not having a stripper at his bachelor party. Unbeknown to Monica, she hires her husband a hooker, leading to a hilarious scene involving 2 grown men squabbling over who tells the hooker to leave. Also in the Continuing dramas of Ross and Rachael, Rachael must tell her father she is pregnant with Ross's baby. Awkward assumptions and lies follow, leading to Rachael's father confronting Ross while he is in the company of his new girlfriend, Mona who did not know about the baby. A light-hearted episode, however it is not crucial viewing for any of the ongoing storylines.

Words/Amanda Pascoe

## Wednesday 8th October

Sex and the City,  
Fiver, 9pm

Every self respecting girl, and secretive boy around campus will have seen the odd episode of Sex and the City, so you know the deal. This is a particularly good episode however as it occurs when Carrie is going out with Aidan but after her affair with Mr Big. The phone rings while Carrie and Aidan are in bed together and Big's voice speaks out over the answer machine, this causes Aidan to become very distant, and he is caught flirting with other women. In happier times Samantha shares a cab with a man with predictable and yet hilarious results.

Words/Hatti Cawley

## Thursday 9th October

Dawson's Creek  
Fiver, 5pm

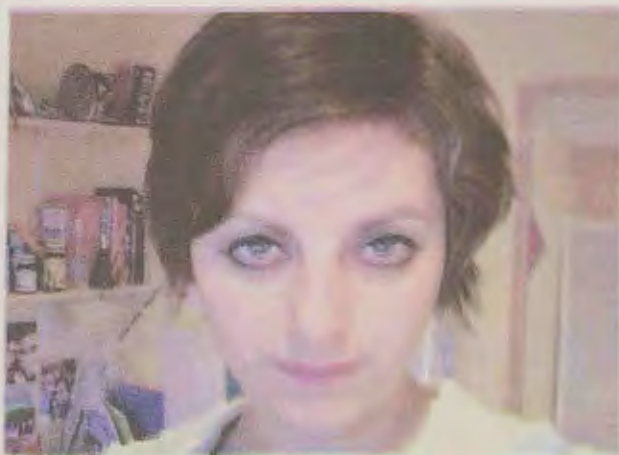
This is the penultimate episode of the final season of Dawson's Creek. We find the gang five years into the future. Dawson is a famous TV director, Joey a thriving book editor, Jen mother to a 2-year-old girl, Jack a Capeside High School teacher and Pacey owning the Icehouse in Capeside. All the characters seem to have what they want, what they have spoken about for the entire series but, something is missing for all of them. With one episode left the question that has been going on for six years is still burning, will Joey pick Pacey or Dawson? For die-hard Dawson's fans this episode will leave you screaming for the final episode.

Words/ Noni Garrett





# 27 OBSERVATIONS/



## It Really Isn't That Bad

It's that time of year again; the streets are once again filling with students, many of them newly independent with the student loan burning a hole in their pocket. So what does that mean? Yep, you got it: cheap nights out. And what does that mean? Be it pound-a-pint nights or karaoke, there are bound to be at least 10 flyers thrust into your hands on a trip around campus. And don't we all hate them? Aren't we all glad that it isn't our job to stand there in the cold, at 10am, trying to persuade students that they want to get really, really drunk, and should only do it in a certain bar? Well, that was my way of thinking, until about three weeks ago, when my manager informed me that I was to be doing some 'marketing'. Quite where leaflet distribution fitted into my job description of 'sandwich artist' at a popular sandwich store, I did not know, but a job is a job, and one must do as one's told.

So off I went, dressed in an oversized t-shirt and armed with about a million vouchers to give away. I figured my job was slightly easier, since people might actually want these vouchers, and indeed I was right to a certain extent. Until I had done it for three days on the trot, and people were telling me they already had them; it was then that I had to employ real tactics. Cue fake smile. I'm not a naturally very smiley person, regardless of my mood, but I just don't go around

10 flyers are thrust into your hands. And don't we all hate them?

smiling, so this was rather strange to me. I smiled. I grinned. Huge, wide cheesy grins flashing my (not quite so) sparkling teeth. And it worked! People were much more willing to take vouchers from me. And once I had sussed where I could stand to get the maximum amount of passersby I was sorted (until the lady from the council fined me for not having the right license – but that's a different story).

So my point is; spare a thought for hapless leaflet distributors. It's a job at the end of the day, not a career, and it is a fairly easy way of making money, so next time you pass someone by, take a leaflet, because the sooner they go, the sooner that poor person can go home!

words/ caroline spalding



## Hate Freshers? How About Your Mother?

After the long and blissful four month summer, the economy was in a state of disaster, the Russians had invaded Georgia and we were all getting ready to return to Leeds for another year. The traffic queues stretched long into the surrounding countryside as many thousands of new students attempted to enter this Holy City and get Freshers' Week underway. It has to be said that, especially if you are a student, Freshers' Week is unavoidable; it is everywhere you look and it can't be missed. It was like this that my friends and I began our second year in Leeds, and amongst the socials and free spatulas of the Freshers' Fair, I was amazed by the anti-Freshers feeling emanating from

Especially if you are a student, Freshers' Week is unavoidable

many of those who just a few short months ago were themselves firmly in the clutches of fresher-hood.

So why is it that there is this negative feeling towards new students from those who just a year ago were skipping through the exact same social situation, m probably whilst listening to 'Vengaboys' (their Ipod after hearing them at that awesom intro party (by the way, if anyone knows w they play every year, I'd really like to know) Sigmund Freud were alive today, he may h been inclined to speak bout the phenomn Reaction Formation; namely, the idea that a person who is secretly gay may appear more homophobic than many of his heterosexual peers, to give just one example. This may seem like common sense now, but 100 years ago, these ideas were revolutionary. Is it possible that the Fresher-bashing occurs as a result of desire to rediscover the social freedom afforded to new university students? Or perhaps a desire to acquire distance from Freshers' culture in the knowledge that you were there at some now astoundingly distant point in time? Perhaps it has something to do with your mother? (Ok, so not all of Freud's theories were quite so believable).

Admittedly, the idea of a group of students not long out of the short-trousered variety of education attending a 'School Disco' party is a funny one, but give them a break – we've all been there.



words/ andrew rogers



## Halls Antics and Frolicking Freshers

Unmissable and integral to the student experience, living in halls is one of the biggest lifestyle changes on coming to study at university. The quirks and escapades which take place add flavour and spark to life, in a way which no other experience could achieve. Where else would you find yourself living with such a wide spectrum of people, ranging from the nocturnal foreign exchange student, to the guy who wears a silk Ralph Lauren jumper in bed?

In no other environment would you reluctantly agree with your mother that yes, it really is nicer to wash up, rather than to allow leftover plates of takeaway to sprout alien growths. Suddenly you find yourself capable of cooking and hoovering and, in your attempt at becoming a domestic deity, you hear yourself commanding your fellow housemates to please take out their rubbish. Have they not seen the rat traps situated at the main doors?

Never before have you consumed so many units of alcohol in such a fleeting period. As the drinks clock up, an uncomfortable feeling of dishonesty descends, as you vaguely remember significantly downplaying your alcohol consumption when filling out the application for Leeds Student Medical Practice. Then there are the drinking games, which almost always conclude with the notorious "have you ever"? The result? Your new friends know everything about you a lot quicker than you intended. That's possibly not what the advice gurus were advocating when they recommended not holding back during Freshers' Week.

When you actually bother to venture out, the streets around the University resemble the main strip in Malia, as scantily clad girls defy the temperature in skimpy tutus, and flyers are thrust at you from all sides. The choice of clubs and bars is endless, and as a Southerner, one does feel slightly comical wearing a coat and a scarf on a night out, whilst the locals bare all, with not a goose bump in sight. When it comes to entering the clubs, Halo invokes ethical twinges, Oceana boasts more rooms than you have had hangovers, and Tiger Tiger is definitely not advantageous to your attempt to economise, unless it's student night.

Yet, however the night pans out, it always (one would hope) ends back where it started, namely halls. It is at this point that the unique nature of the experience is fully realised. You no longer have to tip toe to your bed in the hope of not waking your parents, and if you want to leave pizza boxes and curry trays scattered around the kitchen no one will stop you. Bear in mind, however, that this will hinder your transformation from student slob to domestic deity. When your head finally hits the pillow, there will be no one to drag you out of bed prematurely. In fact, if you would prefer it, you need not emerge till the next evening's shenanigans. Do go to your lectures though, if only to retain your university place, and with it, the unique and incomparable experiences it encompasses.

words/ antonia molloy



# 1 in 10 students have Chlamydia...

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Condoms

Your next  
FREE TEST  
7th OCT  
upstairs in LUU  
in the ARC

12 - 3pm  
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Many people do not know that they have Chlamydia because although they are infected, they may not have any symptoms... Get yourself tested and put your mind at rest. Visit: [www.luuonline.com/help](http://www.luuonline.com/help) for more information.



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Leeds University Union



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Monday 13th October 2008 at 6:30pm

Riley Smith Hall, Leeds University Union, Leeds LS2 9JT

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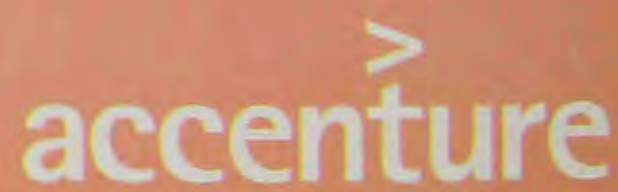
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# opment for all

in the Sound Impact Awards, putting it in the top 3 UK unions with the best recycled waste and campaigned to pass the 'Paper Not Plastic' bags motion. This year, leader in sustainable development.

## Recycle Your Old Mobile for Cash!

Exactly what it says on the tin. This year the Volunteering and Community office has teamed up with Enviros to offer you the chance to earn money for your old mobile phone. Simply visit <http://www.leedsuniversityunion.envirostudents.com/default.aspx>, enter your phone details in and you'll receive a quote. Once you've accepted this they'll send you a freepost envelope so you can post your phone to them. Not only do you get some extra cash, but for every mobile that they receive, £1 is donated to environmental volunteering projects at Leeds University Union.

## Green Streets

Part of Action volunteering group, Green Streets is a project which works to spread the message, "reduce, reuse and recycle". They need your help throughout the year to inform people about how they can improve their impact on the environment by campaigning and lobbying relevant bodies. You can also help co-ordinate with all the student halls to take unwanted goods to shelters, hostels and charity shops. Visit <http://www.threechords.org/dev/projects/greestreeets> to find out more.

## Green Fingers

Also part of Action, this project works with children to promote and create an interest in healthy eating, exercise and environmental awareness. Activities such as gardening, carpentry and construction are coupled with BBQs and days of activities. To find out more visit <http://www.leedsaction.co.uk/projects/greenfingers> or email [greenfingers@leedsaction.co.uk](mailto:greenfingers@leedsaction.co.uk).

Ethical and Environmental Assembly

One of 15 assemblies in the Union, this assembly allows you to express your views on ethical and environmental issues within the Union. In the past it has been key to such changes as the 'Paper not Plastic' motion, as well as the continuation of the Nestle boycott. All students are welcome and all opinions will be appreciated! Visit <http://www.luuonline.com/assemblies/index.php#ethicalandenvironmental> to find out more.

## Green Action Society

Green Action run a food co-operative in the union selling cost-price organic, vegan and Fairtrade food, as well as household essentials (find them by the Old Bar). They also have 2 allotments and hold regular 'Big Dig' days where students can help out and even steward their own patch. For more info email: [unigreen@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:unigreen@leeds.ac.uk)

## Conservation Volunteers (LUUCV)

LUUCV carry out conservation tasks with local authorities in and around Leeds. This involves the management of several important areas, such as Golden Acre Park, Otley Chevin and Woodhouse Ridge. They also have yearly weekend trips to the Lake District to help the Forestry Commission restore native woodland by removing spruce tree saplings and planting heather seed in recently felled areas. It is a fun and rewarding way to enjoy the countryside in the Leeds metropolitan area, so if you're interested, email [prc4jc@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:prc4jc@leeds.ac.uk) to find out more!

## Sustainable Action Group (SAG)

SAG is based in the School of Earth and Environment (but open to outside members) and includes both staff and

# GREEN STREETS

# LS

## DON'T BE A TOSSER



students with an active interest in watching films with a social, ethical or environmental interest and discussing environmental and sustainable issues. They take part in responding to consultations and working with the University to achieve sustainability on campus.

Visit [www.see.leeds.ac.uk/sag](http://www.see.leeds.ac.uk/sag) to find out more.

## The Green Guide

Written by students for students this guide is literally the bible on how to live sustainably in Leeds. From ethical shopping to recycling points in Leeds, the Green Guide covers everything you'll need to know. If you haven't received one in your accommodation packs or if you're interested in getting involved, email [unigreen@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:unigreen@leeds.ac.uk)

## People and Planet

This organisation consists of universities, schools and colleges all over Britain that campaign to end world poverty, defend human rights and protect the environment.

This involves debates, demonstrations, boycotts and more. Last year the Leeds Uni People and Planet raised over £900 through a Garbage Fashion Show, sponsorship and festival collection tins.

To find out more visit <http://peopleandplanet.org/>

## The Peanut Gallery Social Centre

The Peanut Gallery is a social centre managed by students as a space to discuss ideas, plan strategic action and nurture grassroots campaigns that promote alternative ways of living. The gallery includes an alternative library, free shop, internet access, campaigns resources, DIY tea and coffee facilities, a cinema and sofas to relax on and meet like-minded people. To get involved or if you want to put an event on, email [peanutcentre@googlemail.com](mailto:peanutcentre@googlemail.com) or pop in for a cuppa! (Downstairs in the Union opposite the opticians)

# AMPIUS LEEDS



# Spoonful of Negativity

With the Beijing games over will British pessimism overshadow London 2012?



Tom Large  
First-year English student  
[en08tdl@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:en08tdl@leeds.ac.uk)

I moved to Leeds last week to begin at University. Before starting any work, I noticed I was genuinely excited about the prospect of a graduation prior to London 2012, despite gloom-mongering from general media sources. This is one of the best times to be a student regardless of course or interest. Having seen first hand how Olympic games can truly invigorate a nation, I want to discuss what this should mean to students at Leeds.

First though, to briefly touch on Beijing 2008. Following the success of UK athletes,

(some at Leeds University itself) classic British self-consciousness seems to have dulled national excitement about the Olympic and Paralympic party coming to our shores. Largely, I believe this is down to red-tinted coverage that we have received about Beijing. Fairly, it gained the praise of the world and won the 'best games ever' tag it craved but we, as the next hosts, seem to have given up hope in matching Beijing's spectacle.

Beijing would never have failed though. Their games were a £22 billion PR campaign for, as 'Rough Guide to Beijing' described it, 'China's coming out party.' When, though, is letting a pretty little girl lip-sync over an ugly girl with a beautiful voice, ever in the spirit or interest of anyone's but China? It hardly promotes the supposed equality that the Olympic movement was founded on. How about fireworks then? Surely it would be okay to pre-record the amazing shots of Beijing being lit up by amazing pyrotechnic footprints?

I found listening to the BBC's basic reporting on the games frustrating when the likes of Gabby Logan would praise, to paraphrase, 'such wonderful volunteers.' I have no major human right stance over China, their political issues are much more complicated than we perceive. I have though, seen for myself in Beijing, a month before the opening ceremony, medical examinations being given to volunteers

to check their 'suitability' to volunteer. I found it hard to agree or see the necessity for some of their dubious methods as they strived for perfection. We would never accept this in the UK; our games are about our values, not the nation's. Beijing's Olympiad was spectacular and a

The Olympics is now as much an artistic, cultural exchange as a sporting event

major inspiration but it was not the perfect egg portrayed to us and when London 2012 begins in just under four years time, we will all be part of the best celebration yet.

London 2012 is an opportunity for the whole of the UK to do something completely different and I am glad to see that Leeds University aims to be a part of it. The Olympics is now such that without the glossy opening ceremony setting the tone for the next month or

the army of volunteers the impact of the actual sporting event is somehow devalued. The media have missed out the fact that in London over 300 languages are spoken by students and schoolchildren, let alone those studying to degree standard in other cities, including Leeds, earmarked for hosting training camps or events. The Olympics is now as much an artistic, cultural exchange as a sporting event: consider the Cultural Olympia which was recently launched, a four-year long national arts festival, which the press have nigh-on ignored. This is a prime opportunity for student artists, thespians and the like to showcase their skills on the world stage.

I read with interest the Leeds University mini-site covering athletes profiles, volunteering opportunities as well as the statement that Leeds has an 'ambitious target to become truly world class and we believe that the development and successful implementation of an Olympic programme can support this transformation.' Regardless of what the University would like to aim for, it is clear that the development of this will have to come from the student body and be led by its Union. Before taking the boring British attitude of condemning ourselves to failure like the rest of the country, Leeds students must back these games, their athletes and take our chance to play a part at the centre of London 2012.

# Prohibition: The War Without End

Will revising governmental drug policies lead to a decline in related crime?



Levent Akbulut  
Director of Students for Sensible Drug Policy in the UK  
[ssdp@ssdp.org.uk](mailto:ssdp@ssdp.org.uk)

The US imposed policy of prohibition, the war on some people who use certain drugs, i.e. the War on Drugs has in my view not just been a catastrophic failure but a complete disaster for society.

Nations are being torn to shreds by policies which license the growth of essentially wild plants containing psychoactive compounds to one group of individuals to be sold to pharmaceutical companies, whilst systematically destroying the same crops being grown by other farmers under the false pretext of maintaining social order in consumption countries. The reality of the situation is of course that production nations are often consumers themselves and that exactly the same compounds found in coca leaves, opium

poppies and cannabis buds, including many of the derivatives and analogues produced from the naturally occurring compounds are sold and licensed as medicines in the UK.

Coca, Opium and Cannabis are highly versatile plants with not only pharmacological

It is as if alcohol, tobacco and the various tranquillisers prescribed like sweets by doctors are not drugs

properties but are highly valuable food sources. To put this into context, flavourings from Coca are still put in Coca Cola, poppy seeds are scattered over buns and cannabis (hemp) seed is seeing a revival as a more environmentally friendly and nutritious alternative to Soy.

In 1998 the UN's ten year drug strategy officially committed 150 nations (including the UK) to eradicating all coca, opium and cannabis from the planet by 2008.

What we are seeing all over the world is the establishment of an incredibly untenable bureaucracy where some of the most dangerous drugs are aggressively marketed as social lubricants or as stress management tools. It is as if they, alcohol, tobacco and the various tranquillisers prescribed like sweets by doctors are not drugs!

This is not a criticism of the activities of individuals making a personal choice which affects no one but themselves. But rather a cry out for a collective wakeup call to put things into perspective with regards to drug policy.

Drug policy should not be based upon populist sound bites but rather sound scientific evidence, something we are watching the government ignore over and over again.

So while we are poisoning and burning these fields of what are essentially weeds growing in South America, the Caribbean and Afghanistan - without due consideration to the environment, the individuals working on these farms and neighbouring communities, what are we actually achieving?

By creating a very lucrative market for some of the most dangerous substances on the planet without any regulation or controls, while the government claims these are controlled substances, we have gifted the supply and production of certain drugs to criminal syndicates. These gangs do not just exist in Columbia or Afghanistan, but involve an intricate network of individuals from the farmer to the smuggler to the street dealer to the user and within these unregulated structure

we are witnessing the rapid growth of anarcho-capitalist communities. Whenever we remove a street gang several more dangerous gangs move in to fill the gap in the market. The government can not control a problem it has allowed to exist by going in all guns blazing, we have successfully reduced the number of smokers and drinkers through widespread public health campaigns but we are failing to get the message across with regards to illegal drugs. After all the activity the user is partaking in is illegal, would locking up an alcoholic really work? This is despite years and years of lobbying by the alcohol and tobacco industries.

Part of this so-called public health message is a Dob-in-a-Dealer campaign being tried out in Leeds at the moment, a separate campaign suggests that passing a joint to a friend for free counts as dealing. This only leads to building mistrust between individuals in a community. Drugs may be illegal but discussing a reform of drug policy should not be. In order to go back to the basic principles of the intention of drugs policy which has always been reducing the harm of drugs to society and to the user, we must subsequently abandon this irrational obsession of a 'drug-free' world and end our biblical preoccupation with prohibiting certain lifestyle choices.

With the world economy in turmoil and many individuals struggling financially we have to genuinely start reconsidering if prohibition is actually working and move towards an evidence based sensible drug policy.



# Crunching up Apathy

The looming economic collapse means political indifference is no longer acceptable



Charles Cooper  
Second-year English Student  
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In a month that has seen the biggest global economic collapse since the Great Depression, the usual thrill and excitement of being back at University has been tempered slightly. Only slightly, mind you. Not even the credit crunch got in the way of Freshers Week.

But all of a sudden the old presumptions about the sort of world we will be inheriting after finishing our degrees have been cast into doubt, as the wealth and prosperity we have long taken for granted has proved insupportable. It is perhaps ironic that in a year in which the BBC has been running retrospectives on TV and radio marking forty years since the world-shaking events of

Russia revealed with its occupation of Georgia the impotence of the US and Europe

1968, contemporary events have proven even more significant and marked an even more fundamental turning point in world history than that semi-mythical year. Whether or not now, as then, young people will stand up and be counted in the world that emerges from the upheaval is for us to decide.

There is no doubting the global scale of what will be remembered as the 2008 watershed both in economics and in politics: Russia is an authoritarian great power again, and has resumed its role as counterweight to Western power in Europe, revealing with its occupation of Georgia the impotence of the US and Europe to influence events as it was once believed they could; totalitarian China has emphatically declared its strength with the most spectacular Olympic Games ever staged, backed up by seemingly boundless financial capacity and human resources; but most importantly, unbridled free market economics - the foundation of the world

order that America built - has brought about a financial collapse that will be felt by millions of ordinary people throughout the world. To cap a frightening and extraordinary year, the US will elect a new President in November. If it is to be Barack Obama the event will be epochal in itself, an emphatic affirmation of America's founding creed of equality, but whichever candidate wins, his reaction to the new world order during his term in office will be of fundamental historic importance.

said last week that 'nobody takes pleasure from people making money out of the misery of others but that is a function of capitalist markets'. It is this willingness to uphold a clearly failed status-quo that underlines why a Conservative government would be disastrous for Britain in the current financial climate. There is almost unanimity amongst economists about what is needed to ease the current crisis. The fundamentalist faith in unbridled free markets that has led Western governments

ordinary people. The Tories may have been able to jump on the populist environmental bandwagon, but in the case of regulating the markets, a policy that is rightly popular will not be adopted because unlike environmentalism, it runs counter to the inherent selfishness and injustice of the Conservative creed. We must have

What is certain is that the stakes are now too high for political apathy

memories longer than our lifespan and keep in mind the damage the Thatcher government did to British society in an earlier time of economic hardship, before allowing ourselves to be seduced by a rebranding of Conservatism that last week proved superficial.

The Labour government have rightly enacted tighter restrictions on speculation and short-selling in the markets, and Gordon Brown has spoken of a 'new settlement' for what he believes is a new in world economics and politics, hinting at closer government control over markets. But Labour are yet to follow this rhetorical shift to the Left with concrete policies and only time will tell if they can indeed be the 'rock of stability' in an unstable world that Brown claims they can be, or whether the strikingly right-wing thinking that led to the scrapping of the 10p tax rate might resurface.

As for the Liberal Democrats, the best they can hope for in the next election is to be a large enough block in Parliament that Labour may wish to enter into a coalition. It is an unlikely prospect, but to have Lib Dem Treasury spokesman Vince Cable, the soundest economic mind in Westminster, closer to government would be reassuring to say the least.

What is certain is that the stakes are now too high for political apathy. In the run up to the General Election, be it next year or in 2010, young people everywhere must keep their ear to the ground politically, for as the dust settles after this tumultuous year 2008, old assumptions will count for very little, and a fresh assessment of what sort of government we need will be required. It must be the government which can best provide for a fairer Britain, able to withstand economic hardship without allowing the most vulnerable to suffer. It must be a government awake to the caution required in a new and volatile international situation, as US influence wanes and old certainties collapse. As first time voters we are the best placed people in the country to react in a new way to a new politics, both at home and in the wider world, and we must not waste this opportunity by political apathy.



Yet even with change and upheaval on such a massive scale, the University bubble is a hard one to penetrate. Just as fragile prosperity distracted our generation from the wider movements of the world that have brought about the current state of things, so the sheltering illusion of self-sufficient student existence can still lull us into feeling that all these great matters have little to do with us - nor indeed that we can have any influence on them.

But with a General Election looming not too far on the horizon, we cannot afford to ignore the changes sweeping the country and the wider world. After all, it is we who will pay the price once we leave University, if by apathy we allow a government to be elected that will not address the need for a new approach in a new world order.

It has been very interesting in the past few weeks to see the Conservative leadership react to the economic crisis. Like a wolf backed up against a wall and shedding its sheep's clothing in desperation, we have heard less about David Cameron's 'compassionate Conservatism' and more about defending the rights of the very wealthy to look after themselves, no matter how much the less fortunate suffer.

Shadow Chancellor George Osborne

to sleep-walk into this crisis, and that Cameron and Osborne have stubbornly defended this week, must be relinquished as a mistake of the past. But no matter how loud the calls for such action the

Like a wolf backed up against a wall, we have heard less about David Cameron's compassionate Conservatism

Conservatives are inherently incapable of carrying it out, for they are bank rolled by many of those same big city bankers who are rolling in dirty money they made speculating and gambling with the savings of millions of



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# Welcome to the season, we've got fun and games

## The week in numbers

4

Number of Varsity streakers required at Headingley to top last year's total.



46

Amount of conversations in which Steven Gerrard plans to "let his feet do the talking" this week.



2

Eyebrows raised at this month's publication of the Sanctuary.

**G**ravy, Tetley's and chants of "Your dad works for my dad." It may be a far cry from the classic Oxford v Cambridge confrontations but the Leeds Varsity is already a sporting rivalry steeped in history.

The very first Varsity match was played in February 1872 at the Parks in Oxford, and has seen players such as Rob Andrew and Gavin Hastings battle for Oxbridge bragging rights. The tradition has since grown throughout the country, with the Leeds feud being a particularly feisty

highlight.

A traditionally strong sporting university, the Met have the superior record in the annual event, finishing last year with an overall victory of 18-5 in all sports. From golf to volleyball, Varsity is a diverse affair, though its crowning glory is the rugby union match.

Last season's union showpiece was disappointingly one-sided, the Met winning 23-0, yet University supporters consoled themselves with cries of "If you can't get into Uni, go to Met." There are sporting reasons to be cheerful too. The men's hockey teams' impressive record against the Met should see them record a win or two, whilst football and golf sides are looking for successive victories.

As well as being a chance to dent Met pride, Varsity contests offer an explosive start for a new season of sport at the University. Last season's Busa (now Bucs) competitions saw the men's rugby union and football first teams crowned champions of their leagues, whilst the women's tennis and basketball sides recorded second place finishes. There was success for squash, hockey and fencing as well.

For freshers in search of live



sport, University talent will be paraded on Wednesday afternoons, with most teams playing their home matches at Weetwood, particularly convenient for those at Bodington Hall. These hallowed grounds will also be hosting the majority of Varsity matches, with the blue-ribbon event, the rugby union match, played at Headingley Stadium.

Headingley has been home to teams with contrasting fortunes recently. Leeds Rhinos are the reigning rugby league world

champions, yet their union counterparts, Leeds Carnegie, suffered a demoralising relegation. The omens are good for the University. Clearly hampered by the addition of Carnegie to their name, the union side have fared miserably, while the Carnegie-free Rhinos continue to soar. The University team can therefore hope their Metropolitan Carnegie opposition are similarly dogged by the c-word.

words/that postman!



## Cromer switch for gym

Fitness equipment will be moved to Cromer Terrace, as construction work begins on the pool and fitness complex. Sources say the building is a month behind schedule due to delays in the demolition work of the current fitness suite.

The University is confident that the location is big enough to allow the transfer of almost all equipment from the current location. Although only temporary, the studio space at Cromer Terrace has undergone extensive improvement work. As well as air-conditioned rooms, the studios will be installed with TVs and Sky.

As construction is in progress, squash courts and the climbing wall at the Sports Centre will be closed.

Squash courts will be provided at the new £2m Sports Centre next to the business centre. Climbers are advised to use local walls provided by Leeds City Council and the Leeds Wall.

**£11.5m:**  
Cost of the new pool and fitness complex.

## It's all change as BUSA era comes to an end



June 13 marked the start of a new era for University sport as former governing body BUSA, the British Universities Sports Association, merged with UCS, University and College Sport.

A new organisation, British Universities and College Sport – BUCS – will be responsible will now be responsible for all post-sixteen sport in education. In total, BUCS and its members will be responsible for a staggering £20bn worth of sporting facilities.

The iconic BUSA logo has graced the pages of *Leeds Student* for the last time



The only noticeable change to affect Leeds' sports teams will arguably be the changes to the way Universities compete against each other. End of season knock-outs will be no more, and the Wednesday afternoon league format will also change.

From September, regional cups

will replace the current system, and whilst the league system will remain in some form, final standings will no longer dictate which knock-out contest a team qualifies for.

The changes should ensure a lengthening to the league season and bring an end to the problem of the season ending in mid-January for some winter sports teams.

words/Leeds Student

In total, BUCS and its members will be responsible for a staggering £20bn worth of sporting facilities



# Taking care of business

Over the summer *Leeds Student* sat down with Derby County Chief Executive Tom Glick, to talk about his career, business, and the state of football

## Interview Owen Bradley

8th September  
Pride Park Stadium, Derby

After the season that they have just experienced, it would be easy to understand a somewhat less-than-warm welcome from the Derby County Chief Executive and President.

The fact that a man who controls the business fortunes of one of the Championship's biggest teams would take time out of his schedule to speak to Leeds Student is surprising in itself, but both this and the warm welcome we receive reflect the character of Tom Glick, who has

been in place at the club since January.

Whilst the name may not be renowned this side of the Atlantic, Glick has an impressive resume in the States, where he is known and admired for his business acumen.

Glick spent two years as a senior member of staff at the NBA, before moving to the New Jersey Nets



His career in the serious side of sport began in 1987 at Cornell University in New York, as part of the media team at the Cornell Athletics Sports Information

department. His rise through the business ranks was though by no means his career aim from the start.

"I started as a mechanical engineering student, which is ironically what my eldest son is starting this year." Glick will readily admit that he doesn't share the passion for the course that his son possesses, abandoning engineering to instead earn a degree in Government.

"Through some soul searching and some help from my parents and some other people that I had relationships with who I didn't realise worked in sports, my eyes were opened to the idea of a career in sports".

What followed was a swift

I got in for the wrong reasons, which is that I love sports. I quickly found out that it won't allow you to be successful

advancement through the business side of the sporting world, including periods as General Manager at three Minor League Baseball teams and a year at the Peoria Rivermen in the International Hockey League.

The success that Glick has brought to his various employers is done so with a clear aim from the start, in keeping with the man himself; an office adorned less with the sporting memorabilia one may expect from a man with his track record, instead the walls sport paintings from his children. A coffee table peppered with business journals and magazines betrays the fact that financial success is always at the forefront of his mind.

"I got in for the wrong reasons, which is that I love sports. I quickly found out that that's a good reason to be around it but that it won't allow you to be successful. It's about how can you understand that there's a business there that has to be looked after. It's about sales, it's about customer services, it's about marketing, and I found that I got excited about that".

That excitement has led to Glick becoming both record breaking and award winning. During his time with the Lansing Lugnuts the team smashed all National-A attendance records, drawing crowds of over 500,000 per season and leading the country in licensed merchandise sales.

The success in his final year with the Lugnuts earned him the first of his two Street & Smith's Sports Business Journal's Forty Under 40 Awards, a highly prestigious business accolade recognising the top performers in the world of sport. His second came a year later while at the Triple-A baseball league Sacramento River Cats, who led all Minor League Baseball teams in attendance during his five seasons as General Manager.

"I've still got a couple of years of eligibility left, so we'll keep our fingers crossed."

The climb up the sporting ladder across the pond culminated in 2004 when Glick was named Vice President for Team Marketing & Business Development of the National Basketball Association, and

later as a Senior Vice President at the New Jersey Nets.

Glick's involvement with General Sports and Entertainment, the company who acquired Derby County back in January, is well documented. Considering the current climate surrounding the state of football in this country, it is interesting to listen to the views of an individual whose background is away from the sport.

"This is a big team with big ambitions", says Glick, who maintains that he is not fazed by the recent and continued influx of cash to English football, including the Abu Dhabi Group's buyout of Manchester City.

"Our business plan remains the same. We have a business plan that is geared towards building what we would hope to be recognised as the best-run football club. The one who builds smartest and spends smartest. It is our aim to be in the Premier League and to be top ten in the Premier League. But what is going on with Man City doesn't affect us at all."

Glick also takes an opposing view to many commentators who believe that football is well on the way to imploding.

"I think football is in great shape despite a lot of the concerns which I think come from having so much money running through the game. Ultimately it's a great sport; in five years it'll continue to be a great sport the most popular in the world with England continuing to be at the centre of that, continuing to have the best players wanting to play here. I see the game trucking right along and if anything just getting bigger and bigger".

Glick then it appears will apply the same basic principles of good practise to Derby County that he has done elsewhere throughout his career. With the influx of unsustainable investment in the game Rams fans will hope, as may others who fear for the future of the game, that a sensible business approach will still be able to bring success.

Ultimately it's a great sport. I see the game trucking right along and if anything just getting bigger and bigger

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# the big debate:

## Has football lost its soul?

Manchester City are sold to an Arabian consortium, then go out and pay £32.5 million pounds in cash for Robinho, Newcastle are offered around by Mike Ashley like an old Ford Cortina, and QPR fans protest to their own club about outrageous hikes in ticket prices, LS Sport takes up the argument; What has happened to our game?

### There is no hope

Joe Hibbert

Football's soul has always been its loyal fans, but over the last decade the moneymen have emerged from the shadows of the boardroom into the limelight, stealing the game from the people in the stands. The new generation of billionaire tinkermen in the Premier League are turning the game into a commercial circus, pricing out loyal fans and perpetuating the managerial merry-go-round.

Roman Abramovich's acquisition of Chelsea in 2003 changed the face of football forever. His arrival at Stamford Bridge signalled a new dawn in the Premier League where the men with the power no longer sit in the dug out. Abramovich forced the greatest manager of his generation, Jose Mourinho, out of his job with his constant puppeteering of the Chelsea squad. The Blues lost their defence of the Premier League title in the 2006-07 season, in part, due to Abramovich's purchase of close friend Andrei Shevchenko and Michael Ballack without the permission of Mourinho. Neither of the superstars fitted into Jose's plans and the league was lost. This created a new climate in which billionaire owners believe that because they have the dollar they also have the know how to manage a football club.

Enter the Mike Ashley soap opera. On September 4 2008 Keegan resigned from Newcastle United after 232 days in charge, stating he was unable to continue as manager if he was not in control of who was bought by the club. Cue scenes of protesting Geordies waving 'Cockney Mafia Out' banners. Ashley claimed that one of the reasons he bought the club was so that he could take his kids to the game - surely it would have made more sense for him to buy a season ticket.

At the other end of the ownership cycle, Abou Dhabi swooped into Manchester City with Robinho, and his record-breaking price tag, in tow. As always is the case with new money coming into a club the fans are

jubilant. Whilst the Toon Army took to the car park at St James's, City fans danced in the streets of Manchester with tea towels wrapped around their heads. However, fans should be wary of being swept away by the moneymen, because in reality, the last thing that City need is an out of touch dictator who believes in January he'll have no problem signing Ronaldo, Torres, Fabregas and Tevez. It's only a matter of time before Dhabhi gets bored with his new subuteo set, leaving City in a mountain of debt.

The working class fan can no longer afford to take his family, as season ticket prices rise season on season throughout the country. Countless statistics make this glaringly apparent. According to a poll in 'The Sun' an astounding 43,000 West Ham fans will boycott their beloved team this season due to the ticket price hike. The wages paid to their Premier League

superstars are hardly helping to heal the fan's disillusionment with the game. How can the average fan relate to the likes of Ronaldo who earns £1,809.36 per Premier League minute?

The English game is hurtling towards show business and leaving its soul behind. It's vital that we remember this while we dance in the streets with tea towels tied to our heads one week and protest in the car park the next.

### Still our beautiful game

Owen Bradley

Once again the four horsemen of the apocalypse are galloping over the hills and valleys of This England to burn and pillage every club, manager and supporter in sight, resulting in the dragging of football into the burning depths of Hades.

Or so the various commentators, analysts and bitter ex-managers will tell you.

There is, of course, a lot wrong with football at the moment. The wages paid to players are astronomical - Derby Chief Executive Tom Glick leading the calls that player salaries are the biggest threat to the stability of the game.

The huge hikes in ticket prices too are not the way our game should be heading. Some do try to buck the

trend, but the credit crunch affects football teams too, and there needs to be a balance between getting fans through the turnstiles at a reasonable price and clubs earning their crust too.

The examples of football 'going to the dogs' are endless but this is not the first time that the fat lady has gargled inappropriately from the wings.

Remember when Robert Maxwell was buying, ruining and leaving clubs in the 1980s? What about when the horrific events at Heysel and more notably, Hillsborough, led to the closing of the terraces? Did the campaign to abolish the wage cap system

not lead to the end of football as we know it?

These events, the death of the terraces in particular, was greeted with howls and moans from many who said that the game

It doesn't matter. Football's soul is its supporters, and those 29.8 million haven't lost the faith just yet.

would never be the same again.

Yet here we are. Football has gone from strength to strength. Football is the richest game in the world. Football is the most popular game in the world.

Does the sport still have a soul though? Of course it does.

43,000 West Ham fans will boycott their club? That 43,000 people would care so passionately about their clubs plight they are willing to go without the most important thing in their lives; their club.

As long as the fans back the game, the spirit of football will never die. All the complaining, moaning and pleas for change underline the fact that people care about this little game of ours.

If no one was calling for things to change then things would be different, maybe football would have lost its soul. But it hasn't and furthermore, it never will.

Manchester United fans will set up a new league team in protest to the Glazers, the Toon Army will call for the Cockney Mafia to leave, and QPR fans will boycott their own home matches. What do they have in common? They all care.

It would be ridiculous to try and claim that there is nothing wrong with the state of the game. To try and claim that the horsemen are already breathing down the neck of the FA is equally ridiculous.

29.8 million people watched League football in England last season, across four divisions.

It doesn't matter how many far-Eastern businessmen own clubs, or whether the money behind Chelsea comes from Russian oil.

Football's soul is its supporters, and those 29.8 million haven't lost the faith just yet.

43,000 West Ham fans will boycott their beloved team this season due to the ticket price hike

This week, we asked: "Has money ruined football?"

I think that the takeover at Manchester City is a positive development. Hopefully this can make the Premier League more open.

- Niall Gallagher, 19, Business

As ticket prices rise constantly, I feel priced out and disillusioned with the game.

- Matt Gidman, 20, Music

394: Number of Manchester City season tickets required to be sold to pay for one week of Robinho's services.

£3,333,333: Price of each of the nine Premier League goals mustered by Andrei Shevchenko during his time at Chelsea.

Despite the enormous sums of money, I don't think football is in danger. Results like Hull's win at Arsenal prove that the sport is in rude health.

- Tony Rudd, 18, Physics

I won't start worrying until I see 'Added Time Multi-Ball' introduced to the Conference South.

- Moe Hibbert, 20, Broadcast Journalism



# The rivalry is resumed

## Union's Crooked Captains reveal their hopes for the Varsity

### Interview

#### Dafydd Pritchard

Ollie Mellotte  
Leeds Uni Rugby Union club Captain

Shaking hands with club captain Ollie Mellotte, it is difficult to decide which causes him most pain; the physical hurt of a dislocated shoulder, or the psychological scarring of last season's Varsity defeat.

Even on a humdrum Monday afternoon, there seems to be a rumble of anticipation at the mere sound of the University rugby union side readying themselves for this year's showpiece event.

Having not played against the Met since that fateful evening, Uni players could be forgiven for considering their counterparts to be somewhat unknown quantities. However, the captain is fully aware of the challenge ahead, and is confident of succeeding. "They are a very strong side but there's no reason why we can't turn them over."

There is ample reason for the bullish warning, as the first team look forward to a season in the BUCS Premier Division after last term's promotion. As well as facing the likes

of Loughborough and Durham, the University can also look forward to facing the Met twice. With this in mind, the Varsity match represents a greater significance for Mellotte.

"Our performance will be a very good gauge for how we will fare this season."

As is the transient nature of a university team's personnel, only five or so players remain from last season's loss. Eager to move on from that disappointment, Mellotte sees an influx of new faces as a positive change.

"We weren't really in the game last year so this is a fresh start." And, after winning both warm-up matches against Sheffield and Manchester, the squad seem to be in similarly buoyant mood.

Although Mellotte is clearly excited about the derby, he is wary of the occasion's side effects.

"We'd rather win the league and lose the Varsity match than vice versa. It can be seen as a bit of a distraction because it is hyped up so much."

In stark contrast to the usual twenty or so spectators at Weetwood, a crowd of 5,000 at Headingley can sometimes hinder as much as inspire those

involved. Mellotte points to such heightened exposure as a factor behind the disappointing result.

"A few players, especially the young

### A few players, especially the young ones, got shell shocked.

ones, got shell shocked last year." Mellotte and his fellow third-year team mates, who know what it feels like to beat the arch enemy, will hope to instil the belief required to emulate the 2006 triumph.

As the Hyde Park Pub simmers to a hush, I ask Mellotte about the relationship between the teams away from the pitch.

Apparently post-match mingling was scarce last year. Diplomatic enough not to incite any animosity,

though, the captain affords himself a wry smile and reminds me, "There's always a bit of rivalry!"



### Interview

#### Joe Hilbert

Ben Hooper  
Leeds Met Rugby Union Captain

Outside Leeds Metropolitan's Union, rugby captain Ben Hooper poses for our photographer.

It's clear that he's someone who doesn't take himself too seriously, as he's happy to assume each ridiculous pose that we throw at him.

In a relaxed mood he talks of his confidence ahead of the Varsity match next week.

"We're very confident, we've been training for about two and a half months. We've just got our own conditioning coach who is working with the guys and we've got more access to our physios and a coach from Leeds Carnegie coaching our forwards. We feel more prepared than we ever have before this year."

We think this is going to be a good year for us."

The atmosphere at Headingley Stadium last year was electrifying and is something that Hooper sees as a positive for his team.

"It's (the atmosphere) a big boost. It is such a massive thing. When you jog out on the pitch in front of 6,000 people all screaming and shouting and making loads of noise, and you know that most of them are your

### There is a big rivalry but every year after Varsity there's a mutual respect.

friends and people you know, it's a great feeling. It lifts everybody."

After making his Varsity debut last season Hooper will have to suffer the heartache of sitting out through injury this year, though he still asserts that the Varsity is the most important part of his team's season.

"Varsity is bragging rights for the

year. Even if it means losing our league meetings with the University, we just want to win Varsity!"

When pressed to reveal Met's game plan he is reluctant to give too much away although he treats us to a brief insight.

"Tactically, as long as this doesn't get published too far away from the game...we've got a good forward pack so we'll look to get stuck in and hit them hard and fast." In order to execute this strategy the Met have adopted an aggressive recruitment policy.

"There are a few academy guys joining us this week from Leeds Carnegie."

Whatever the result on Wednesday night Hooper is certain that each team's honour will remain intact.

"There is a big rivalry but every year after Varsity when we're all out there's a mutual respect between us. We'll have a few beers and a quick chat afterwards."

Before leaving, there is time for a stinging reminder of last season,

"Look out because twenty-three nil last year was a bit generous."



Leeds Uni 6 – 12 Leeds Met  
Reporter: Guy Fowles  
Wednesday 12 October 2005

"The Met exerted early pressure resulting in a simple penalty which Number 10 Richard Vasey converted. The Met dominated early parts of the second half. With Leeds Uni desperate to score they were twice camped out in their own 22 with no way out, and as the final whistle went the Met had added another scalp to their Varsity success."

Leeds Uni 26 – 22 Leeds Met  
Reporter: Graham Clarke  
Wednesday 18 October 2006

"With the clock running down and the Met running out of ideas, tempers began to fray and a fight broke out, much to the delight of the crowd. As the final whistle blew chants of 'Uni, Uni, Uni' shook the ground as the South Stand greeted the team like heroes."

Leeds Uni 0 – 23 Leeds Met  
Reporter: Dafydd Pritchard  
Wednesday 10 October 2007

"The University's pride kept their rivals at bay in the second half, but the same pride will have taken a huge dent with the demoralising defeat. Uni captain Gareth Williams: 'A few stupid errors in the first half let them in to score a lot of points, but the fact that they only scored three points in the second half proves that we do have the quality there.'"

### As the finals whistle blew chants of 'Uni, Uni, Uni' shook the ground.



# Varsity 2008: Previews and Fixtures

## LS Sport sizes up Uni's chances at Varsity

SPORT	TEAM	VENUE	START TIME	SCORE
Men's Rugby Union	First	Headingley Stadium	7pm	
Women's Rugby Union	First	Weetwood	1pm	
Men's Football	First	Weetwood	3pm	
Men's Football	Second	Weetwood	1pm	
Women's Football	First	Weetwood	1pm	
Women's Football	Second	Weetwood	3pm	
Men's Hockey	First	Weetwood	12pm	
Men's Hockey	Second	Weetwood	1:30pm	
Women's Hockey	First	Weetwood	3pm	
Women's Hockey	Second	Weetwood	12pm	
Golf	First	Moortown GC	TBC	
Athletics - Field	First	Carneigie Athletics	12pm	
Athletics - Track	First	Carneigie Athletics	2pm	
Netball	First	Sports Centre	4:30pm	
Men's Tennis	First	Met Tennis Centre	1pm	
Women's Tennis	First	Met Tennis Centre	1pm	

### Interview Ifor Duncan

Chris Emery  
Leeds Uni Men's Hockey Captain

Chris Emery is also a new captain, making the move from thirds captain last season.

He was pleased with the high turnout at this year's trials, with 70 students in all attempting to join the hockey club. Chris ran a three week pre-season training camp, which included a number of freshers.

One of these is former Welsh under 21 player Dave Bond, who in Chris' opinion is "the find of the trials".

Unfortunately, only the first and second sides will pit themselves against the other university at Varsity. The first team have never lost to the Met in the Varsity game. The seconds, according to Chris, are very strong and if both teams play "sensibly" they should both win.

However, Chris seems disappointed that the third and fourth sides will not play since Met have removed their sides from the competition. Emery's attitude suggests that he sees this as a cowardly act, viewing both games as dead-certainties.

Emery revealed to me that the new BUCS premier league may have three teams relegated from a possible seven,

and while the first team are seen from outside the university as one of the weaker sides in the division, he is confident they will be among the surviving four. If they are to stay up, Chris is of the opinion that it will be at home that this will be decided, since they drew with Loughborough at Weetwood last season.

From his upbeat mood Chris seems very positive about the new season and this very strong club.



### The first team have never lost at Varsity

### Interview Ifor Duncan

Sarah Boulton  
Leeds Uni Netball Captain

For Netball Captain Sarah Boulton, this year's netball trials have proved a great example of how well participated sport is at Leeds, with over four hundred students, more than double last year, trying out.

This was more than they could cope with - a lot of girls could not attend trials and have been directed to the recreational development squad. It seems there is a very high standard of recruits for this new season.

When I spoke to Sarah she seemed relieved that all four sides had been sorted for the commencement of the new season.

On the subject of Varsity, Sarah is confident that on the back of a positive pre-season, led by a new coach with new training and fitness regimes, the first and second squads are in good shape for their fixtures.

Like Chris, Sarah thought that all four of her squads would be playing but, while she conceded Met have a strong first team, Leeds' strength in depth has led Carnegie to pull out of the third and fourth ties, to her

### Interview Ifor Duncan

Michael Classen  
Leeds Uni Men's Football Captain

The new men's football captain, Michael Classen, enters his job with the added pressure of leading one of the most successful sports teams in the University.

However, the club is well established with some 230 students trialling in the last week. When I spoke to Michael he still had one trial to



New men's Football  
Captain, Chris  
Classen

oversee before he could reveal the number of freshers making the grade, although he does think three or four have the potential to join the first team.

One thing he is sure about is that, with the likes of Welsh fullback Alun Griffiths, returning striker Louis Minnett and new Jamaica manager John Barnes' son Jordan Barnes, the first team squad are in good health for the new season.

With Varsity just around the corner Classen revealed that the club as a whole is growing in confidence, with all four teams playing against bitter rivals Met Carnegie.

All teams have been in pre-season training since the second of September in preparation for Varsity.

Classen hopes for the same result as last season when the first team beat Met 2-1. He also believes that all four sides can win in this hotly contested derby

dismay.

She feels both sides have "got the ability" and will give Met a "run for their money" and all involved hope that we will be victorious in one if not both ties. Let us all lend our support to all our sports sides

It seems that  
there is a very  
high standards  
of recruits for  
this new  
season.

Check out our website  
[www.leedsstudent.org](http://www.leedsstudent.org) for  
comprehensive coverage of  
next week's Varsity.



# LS Sport

**Big debate:**  
Has football  
lost its soul?

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**LS Comment:**  
The demise of  
BUSA

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Friday October 3, 2008

[sports.leedsstudent.org](http://sports.leedsstudent.org)



# The time is now

## Varsity 2008 Preview

Owen Bradley

A week is a long time in sport. A year is even longer.

It has been a year since Leeds Metropolitan University capped a magnificent day for their institution - and once again cemented their place

as one of the premier sports universities in the country - by defeating Leeds University 23-0 at Headingley Stadium.

Unfortunately for the University teams, the overall result was confirmed well before the evening extravaganza began in front of over 5,000 spectators.

Only men's football and hockey, women's volleyball and squash, and the combined golf team achieved victories on a day where the Met dominated to romp home for an 18-5 victory.

Competitors and fans alike will hope for a more robust showing from the Uni this year, where the

men's football and hockey teams, along with the netball outfit, will be looking to provide a spark for the University.

Competing on home turf after being embarrassed at the Met's Beckett Park campus last year, the Uni will also hope that an extended schedule will reveal a strength in

depth that will see the Met fall short in the final total.

Varsity 2008 will come to a climax at Headingley Stadium next Wednesday, 8th October.

Last year it was 'Pride, Passion and Glory' the Met stole. For the Uni, it is time to take them back.

The time is now.



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