

Leeds Student Guide Issue



INSIDE!

The best clubs to go to
Secret shopping spots
The Leeds music scene
Cultural adventures
Even political musings!

THE ONLY GUIDE WRITTEN BY STUDENTS FOR STUDENTS

Welcome to Leeds

From the editor



Hello everybody! To all freshers: welcome; to all returning students: simply welcome back. It's a pretty generic greeting that you'll probably hear dozens of times from various voices over the week but one that must be muttered nonetheless. Firstly congratulations! Not only have you managed to get a place at the best university in the country (as acknowledged by anyone in possession of logical thought) but – more importantly – you've also managed to get your hands on a copy of the *Leeds Student Newspaper's* illustrious *Guide* issue. Lucky you. These 32 crisply cut pages of pure student perspiration will give you more than a few clues to what life in Leeds as an academic will be like.

But that is all this special edition is: a guide. What we include is aimed to help you navigate around this fantastic campus and brilliant city. It will by no means exhaust all avenues of discovery. We have packed in a lot – the articles are stuffed tighter than knowledge in Stephen Fry's enormous brain or sexual lusting in Russell Brand's size six leather jeans – but we couldn't fit everything in. The information we omit was done so on the basis that this is either not the place to feature such pieces or on the premise that we want you to find out for yourselves, the naive process of intrepid exploration is often all part of the fun.

The theme of the issue is freshness (hopefully that makes sense); it will be exuding through every consonant and propelling out of every paragraph. We've tried to avoid the tired, the obvious, the formulaic in an effort to present Leeds in all its glory to new residents and in a fresh light to returning inhabitants. On pages 4-5 you will find a tongue-firmly-in-cheek list of elementary mistakes freshers make more often than not. In accompaniment we supply a rough guide to taxi prices with the hope that it'll avoid you getting ripped off like I did in my Freshers' Week – £8 from Halo to the bottom of North Hill Road is daylight (although it was night-time) robbery by anyone's meter!

Please devour every last drop of lexis, ingest as much insight as you can, and promptly regurgitate all of it. Ignoring advice is to a large degree what being a fresher – any student for that matter – is all about. First year is your time to do things differently – aided by the fact it's free from the element of degree work that actually counts – and this means no one perspective can ever sufficiently advise an individual on their uni experience. So read, enjoy, ignore.

The regular edition of *The Leeds Student Newspaper* will be out from Friday October 3rd and from then on every Friday in term-time. Pick it up from numerous drop-bins around campus, it's free, and therefore possesses infinite value for money! We would also love you to be a part of the newspaper in whatever capacity you'd like; be it as a writer, proof reader, designer, photographer: we need you! Sign up by visiting our stall in the Raley Smith Hall on September 23rd, the Tuesday of Intro Fair or by coming along to our specially arranged Media Day on Friday September 26th. There you'll get the chance to meet the team and chat about what goes in to producing Britain's biggest student newspaper.

Thanks for listening,

Laurie Whitwell

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The **LOW** **DOWN**

with **Kaz and Alicia**

Welcome to the Lowdown, your one stop shop for all the news on the cultural goings on in Leeds. This week we have compiled an A-Z Guide to Being a Student. Enjoy!



Apathy: Vote in referendums? No thanks. Sign up to that petition? I'm in a hurry to get somewhere. Despite cliches of studentdom being a radical hotbed of action most undergraduates don't actually care. About anything.

Buying things: Don't.



Cash: You'll mainly have none.

Dreadlocks: Dreadlock folk tend to proliferate in university as scope for individuality increases with intelligence. They can either be of the irritating preacher hybrid or a handy hashish dealer.

Eggs: Scrambled eggs, poached eggs, fried eggs, hard boiled eggs, omelette, £1.60 for innumerable avenues of taste.



Funerals: A common misconception with these events is that they are only a time for commiserating; make note also that they provide a fantastic opportunity for applying for mitigating circumstances.

Google book search: A great way to make your bibliographies meatier without having to go to the library.

House parties: This is where entrepreneurial students charge entry into small houses with hundreds of people and mediocre DJs; in my opinion the strongest pull factor to come to university.

Intro Week: Get ready for false friendships, fake laughs, bad hangover, rubbish clubs and lots of useful information and good newspaper articles.

Jeremy Kyle: A moral pillar, a modern day Atticus Finch, and a good way to entertain yourself when you can't be arsed going to lectures.

Kaleidoscope: No explanation required.

Landlords: Don't get a schiede one. Some of these 'Knock off Nigels' will take every penny they can muster. This is probably more important than the actual house you are renting.

Mums: Speed dial. The only people who can single handedly solve every problem ever. From cash flow problems to culinary trivia, your mother is the oracle.

Narcotics: Universities are hotbeds of talented chemists.

Older women: Most of you have left home for the first time, which usually means your first taste of real privacy. What better way to celebrate than an older woman?

Plagiarising: Getting a degree at the end of your three-year party marathon is all about two things. Either you learn your subject well or you learn how to plagiarise well. Don't get caught out otherwise you'll be going home early.

Quality of life: When you're close to death and you're discussing the 'quality of your life' with your death bed buddy, your first point of reference will definitely be how much fun you had at university. All we're saying is enjoy it while it lasts; it's definitely down hill after this.

Reggae: We don't know what it is, but students just



love reggae. Whether you embrace it or not, reggae will become as much a part of your student life as loans, Morrisons and alcohol. A sure fire way to impress: Peter Tosh over Bob Marley.

Sex: Rumour has it students have a lot of sex. Hint: don't get your hopes up.

Trance: We're not lying - people actually enjoy this shit. Coming to university is all about new people and new ideas. If you get the chance to meet someone who likes trance, try it, why not?



Useful websites: www.talktofrank.com, www.brook.org.uk/, www.studenthealth.co.uk

V: Who cares about V.

Waxing lyrical: About your course, music, anything contemporary: yes. About A-Levels, absent partners, how drunk you were last night: no.

Xtra funding: Top tip, Hardship Fund. Free money, all you need is a good excuse.

Year one: Our only piece of advice is: enjoy this year as much as possible. The others are fun but are hard work. This one is a riot.



Zzz: make sure you get enough kip between touching the girls/boys, hiding from your dealer in the library and partying.

I was under stress!



11

MISTAKES NOT TO MAKE AS A FRESHER

A single flutter of a butterfly's wings can cause a tidal wave in another country, and similarly every action you take during Freshers' Week could determine your entire social future at university. Here are several mistakes not to make in order to avoid a tsunami scale disaster...

1.

Shyness

Whether you're a shining socialite or a reincarnated hermit crab, you'll probably meet more people in the first weeks of university than is possible to fit in a phone book. As the year goes on it becomes less acceptable to randomly talk to people in your lectures or halls so take advantage of this time to brush off your inhibitions and speak to a really hot guy or girl that in a couple of months will be too popular to give you the time of day.

2.

Putting on the freshers fifteen

'Freshers fifteen' is the term used to describe the amount of pounds it is common for people to put on in weight during their first year of university life, mainly due to the radically increased consumption of alcohol and late night takeaways. To avoid it you could try developing a taste for vodka and orange, the alcoholic beverage with the least calories. Alternatively, rather than mayonnaise on your regular late night dinner kebab, politely insist that the proprietor of the establishment prepare you a light dressing made from fresh mint and low fat yoghurt

3.

Spending your entire student loan on drinks

You may scoff at the idea now, but I'm willing to bet my own student loan that a foolish few will do this. It's not always the big boozers, but rather the generous and eager to please who buy other people's drinks naturally expecting the favour to be returned and without knowing that rule number one of being a student is it's every man for himself when it comes to getting drunk. If you must feel the need to impress a new acquaintance with a kind gesture, just go for something cheap and cheerful like a shot of Corky's.

4.

Catching freshers flu

Another first year phenomenon, freshers flu refers to colds and other illnesses caught by sharing breathing space with new people and their unfamiliar bacteria. Unfortunately, like hidden mustard in a baguette, this is one of those unlucky occurrences that only the stars can deliver you from, therefore it's best to just ignore the risk and get stuck in. If you do come down with a bout of the flu, I recommend Lemsip and a good hanky. For a disagreeable sandwich, try a good antibacterial mouthwash.

5.

Bitching about new flat mates

Once upon a time, an earnest group of fresh faced students found themselves sharing a flat in university halls with someone a little out of the ordinary. One dark night they were getting drunk and doing offensive yet hilarious impressions of him in the kitchen when by an awful coincidence they noticed the window was open and so was this guy's bedroom window right below it. Suffice it to say he heard the whole thing and what followed was a huge fiasco that started with an angry tantrum and ended with everyone pooling together to buy him a consolatory teddy bear. The moral of the story is he turned out to be quite a decent guy and everyone regretted judging him too quickly, although in case you were wondering, my impression was the best.

6.

Leaving the window open

This actually may have been the real error of the previous story, a fact reinforced later in my first year when I left a window open and a squirrel invited himself in to pee on my flatmate's potatoes.



7.

Becoming fresh meat

If you attend any first week events at the student union keep a suspicious eye out for leery second and third years holding bets on who can score with the most freshers (they are usually the ones staring down from the balcony at the dance floor, licking their lips). By all means treat yourself to a bit of how's your father if someone takes your fancy but bear these characters in mind if you want to maintain your dignity.



8.

Sleeping with your new flat mates

At the opposite end of the spectrum to bitching, it's probably also a good idea to refrain from shacking up too hastily with your new neighbours. Not only is it an incredibly lazy way to score a date but it can also have terrible repercussions if the encounter or relationship goes sour, and a year is a long time to have to endure naked flashbacks every time you brush hands over breakfast.

9.

Sleeping with your new course mates

Similarly, if you're out one night in freshers week and all puckered up ready to pull, it doesn't hurt to have the foresight to check you're not both studying the same subject. Doing so can help to avoid those awkward moments where you walk into your first seminar on the Origins of the Cold War to discover last week's origin of your cold sore sitting bashfully at the opposite end of the table.



10.

Not getting fresh with anybody

In a completely contradictory and wholly irresponsible manner we advise at least having some sort of romantic liaison.



11.

Getting lost

Leeds isn't a huge city but if you're new to the area spend a day having a look around and figuring out the bus routes before venturing out drunk. Get the number of a good cab service in your phone and know how much your journeys should cost in order to avoid getting ripped off by your taxi driver. If you need a taxi but have no money, fret not. Amber Cars have a deal which allows you to hand in your student card rather than pay right away. When you pick it up, presumably the next day, you pay the outstanding fair.

To helpfully summarize this advice, try your hardest in the first year of university not to end up as a completely friendless, bitchy, skint, ill and overweight slag. Having said that, there's a reason why most people's first year results don't count towards their degree classification, and that's to allow room for what is known as the learning curve. It's probably best to mess up as much as you can whilst still scraping a pass in order to accumulate as many funny anecdotes as possible for when you eventually do get thrown out of university and have to make your way on the street as a stand up comedian.

FRESHEN UP



TAXIS

How much you should be paying...



Prices shown are a guide only. They are based on the Leeds City Council Tariff for weeknights.

SOCIETIES

Societies are the sexed-up all-systems-go equivalent of a school club. All societies revolve around a core interest or activity, but of course mainly it's about making like-minded friends, so that you have someone to hang out with in case your flat mates all kill each other off following a missing Kinder Egg saga.

words/ jack cullen



Surfing

Thunderous waves, fresh-faced fitties with blonde ringlets, cool clothing, barbecues on the beach - What is it about surfers that makes you burn with envy? Maybe you have some experience, or maybe you can't tell the sand from the sea. It doesn't matter, you don't need to be Cameron Diaz to be a surfer at Leeds, the society caters for everyone. They let you hire equipment cheaply so there is no need to splash out on a wetsuit or board just yet. Weekenders are organised by students to Scarborough, France - wherever the waves take them but always inexpensively. Toby, the Surfing secretary croaks "Get yourselves down to the Fav for the finest party of the Freshers season, then watch out for the Newquay sign up: it's gonna be epic". By the Fav he means their welcome party which will be at 9pm, at the Faversham on October 1st. So get your flip flops out and rock down with a sexy grin. Prizes (of some sort!) will also be given at the event if you can answer this surfing question: Which of the following would you rub on your board for traction: Sand paper, spit, wax, coconut oil, a vacant expression or epoxy resin?

Email answers to competition@leedssurf.co.uk



Séance society

This hair-raising superunnatural group is new to Leeds this year. Sparked off by the untimely and unfashionable death of last year's student newspaper editor Charlie Griffiths, her housemates could no longer bear not talking to her, especially as they needed to know the whereabouts of a Madonna CD and a missing bag of coke, and so the Charlie Griffiths Séance Soc was born, or died, whatever the term is. Talking to the dead occurs every Wednesday at Flames kebab house, opposite the Parkinson building at 10pm. Membership is £2.50 and includes two pieces of cold chicken and cold chips. This term the CG SS have branched out into new areas as well, offering a weekly exercise session, celebrity ghost botox and have also launched their own CD, a compilation of sexy R'n'B and German military marches circa 1939. For more information add Charlie Griffiths on Facebook

Disclaimer: May not be an actual society.

Change Ringers (Bells)

Well ring-a-ding-ding, who needs an expensive gym subscription when you can build your upper body strength with an ecclesiastical sonic workout? So - Freshers' Week(s) will finish, you feel like a stagnant corpse for a fortnight and never want to hear Rolex Sweep again. Perhaps the cure to this approaching grunge is an hour of oranges and lemons - become a bell-ringer! How sweet, inner peace will soon be yours and you can add years onto your life-expectancy. Leeds University Society of Change Ringers (LUSCR) meets every Monday at 7.30pm at St Matthias, Burley. Beginners are welcome and you'll be taught how to handle the bells. The more skilled members ring bells on Sundays too. There is no need to be religious and you don't need to attend the church services. Louise tells us "it all sounds complicated on paper, but once you're up the tower it makes a lot more sense". Debbie Harry used the society's bell ringers in her 1980s single Rapture too. This year the society celebrate their 50th anniversary and will be hosting some big events in coercion with other cities. You never know, you may be overcome with tinninabulation and you might just have the chime of your life!

Atomic Bell



FRESH FIELDS: SPORTS AT LEEDS

Ultimate Frisbee

Perhaps the pinnacle of student-type sport, Ultimate Frisbee - or just 'Ultimate' to its participants - is a must for any Fresher. Fast and frenetic, Ultimate is as demanding as any established sport out there, and with plenty of beginners tournaments at the start of the year is a great way to mix with players new and old. Practices are held at Lawnswood playing fields (opposite Bod) on Wednesdays and Sundays from 2pm-4pm.



Korfball

Guys, ever wanted to play netball but couldn't face the abuse from your mates? Well now you can, and all thanks to those crazy Dutch. Korfball is similar to netball and played with mixed teams, so you can guarantee plenty of interaction with members of the opposite sex. Remember though that the sexes do have to match up when it comes to one-on-one encounters (on the pitch at least).

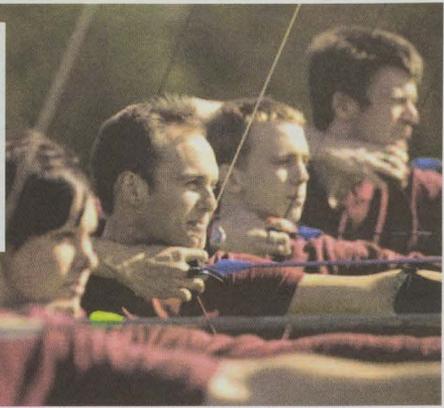


Fives

Fancy trying Squash but your student loan can't stretch to afford a decent racquet? Then why not settle for this instead. Using your bare fists (or gloved if the parents can send some cash), Fives involves propelling a ball against a special wall, usually with a partner nearby to lend a hand. With a sloping wall and 'hazards' to contend with, this sport is a must for any serious sport fans.

Archery

We all remember our toy bows and arrows with red sticky plungers, but university is a good time to try the real thing. **Archery Soc** is a fun society that can satisfy the Robin Hood and Maid Marion in all of us. For £25 you acquire membership to the British archery governing body GNAS, full insurance, full usage of the equipment, and a license to kill. Last term Leeds Uni's archers posed for a Beijing Olympics photo shoot! To add a further dimension of novelty nomenclature everyone in the club has a title, like 'the destroyer' or 'the notorious' for example. In the summer outdoor events are organised too. Pete, 'the king of the whole thing told us "Archery is a dangerous sport... not because of safety reasons, but because once you try it, you might end up utterly and hopelessly hooked on it, like I did! I started two years ago out of interest, and now I'm the bloody captain!" All freshers are invited to Have-a-go sessions in Sports Hall three from 10-12 and 2-4 on the 23rd and 24th of this month. Green tights not included.



Pole Dancing Society



Leeds Uni has always basked in controversy when it comes to societies, half of them would make the elderly faint and Emma Hooson's new idea for September 2008 is no exception: Pole Dancing! If exams don't go to well, then fear not, you can start working on Plan B - become a Pussycat Doll. This sexually confident way to keep fit is set to be a popular society for both sexes, although you may want to wear supportive underwear lads. As always, some people get a bit itchy about activities like this, one's that perhaps undermine our academic integrity, and so there is going to be a stat poll on Monday 22nd 11-3 by Essentials sandwich shop in the Union, titled 'Should LUU have a Pole Dancing Society?'. So if you're the sort of person who think they'd enjoy a bit of a boogies, go splash your loan on some Jimmy Choos and email the sassy leader of this whole pole shizzle: something_emma@hotmail.com Alternatively, I you think women should grow their armpit hair and you lose sleep at night over the thought of Katy Perry's lucrative record sales then perhaps you'll want to stick to fingers up to the shiny pole and pop along to the straw poll on the 22nd.

"When can I join?!"

During Intro Fair all three thousand, six hundred and twenty-two societies and sports teams will have stalls set up where you'll be able to chat to group members and sign up to join.

All week societies will clamour for your attention in the Riley Smith Hall and the Sports Centre.

General Interest groups such as Chess, Poker and Rock (the music kind we presume) will be positioned there on Monday 22nd; Media and Performing groups will take up the space on Tuesday (including yours truly, *Leeds Student*); Wednesday will see Political and Campaigning

Conservative Future



"If it falls to me to start a fight to cut out the cancer of bent and twisted journalism in our country with the simple sword of truth and the trusty shield of British fair play, so be it."
JONATHAN AITKEN

Every political party under the sun has a corresponding society here at Leeds University Union. **Conservative Future** is a large and very active group of political-minded students, with official links to the national party and visited regularly by Conservative politicians and speakers. The group also make trips down to London, sometimes getting involved with campaigns in Westminster and sometimes going along to debates here up north.

and Volunteering groups show up, while Thursday is Faith and Culture groups' chance to impress.

Martial Arts and Dance, Outdoor and Sports Teams will be in the Sports Centre on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Give-it-a-go sessions will run from the end of September, providing students with the chance to sample societies without signing up fully. For more information on who, when and where go to luuonline.com/gag.

You can also join all year round! Go to luuonline.com/studentactivities.

Table Tennis

Created by the English, but stolen and dominated since by the Chinese, Table Tennis is a gem of a game that has been neglected by our sporting nation. The subtle spins and lightning speed of the table are unique, and with a huge deficiency when it comes to British talent who knows, you might just be the one to break the Chinese stronghold. Just please don't call it ping-pong.



words/ owen bradley

Darts

What is there to say, except that on the opposite wall to every dart-board there is usually a bar?! The pastime of drinkers everywhere, use darts as a way to improve your co-ordination when intoxicated, and build a social circle in the process. "Of course I'm not drunk. Watch me plant this dart on the bulls eye" and so on.



UNION POLITICS

Politics is boring. Fact. But student politics? That's a little bit different. Forget dusty documents, middle-aged men in suits and solemn references to something about a... "Credit Crunch" (anyone else initially think that was a new type of breakfast cereal?). Instead we have giant papier mache heads wandering on campus, mannequins made out of ethical cola cans and red-faced radicals mooching around in home-made prison cells. For real. It's a very different kettle of political fish. Speaking of slippery characters, Leeds University Union has a few you might like to meet.

Kids on the LUU Block

"The Exec", 6 full-time elected student officers:

The Exec are here for the students so it's important that the students harass the Exec as much as possible (preferably in a manner that complies with British law). They live on the first floor of the Union in the messiest office Leeds has to offer.

Jess Parker: Activities Officer

Main responsibility: "Representing Sports Clubs and Societies."
Defining personal feature: "A sort of... affable horsey posh-ness."
Favourite thing about LUU: "Its vibrancy!"
Hometown: London



Laura McFarlane-Shopes: Communications and Internal Affairs Officer (or C.I.A. - although this abbreviation suggests that Laura works for the American government, we're fairly certain this is not the case.)

Main responsibility: "I oversee the running of LUU and act as its main spokesperson."
Defining personal feature: "I am an eco-warrior princess...fear me."
Favourite thing about LUU: "How we catch rainwater in buckets on the roof."
Hometown: Chudleigh, Devon

Rob Damiao: Community Officer

Main responsibility: "Overseeing relations between students and the wider



community."

Defining personal feature: "Mainly sarcastic, with sprinkles of well-meaning."
Favourite thing about LUU: "The never-ending choice of sandwiches!"
Hometown: Chester

Danny Adilypour: Education Officer

Main responsibility: "Providing representation for students on academic issues."
Defining personal feature: "Passionate, with a spiky hairstyle."
Favourite thing about LUU: "Cheesing it away at Fruity."
Hometown: Birmingham



Maryam Ahmad: Equality and Diversity Officer

Main responsibility: "Campaigning and lobbying for all students to be treated equally and fairly."
Defining personal feature: "I like beards...and giggling."



Favourite thing about LUU: "The ample supply of blueberries."
Hometown: Leeds

Suzy Tobias: Welfare Officer

Main responsibility: "Representing students on health and wellbeing issues and ensuring there's enough support available when it is needed."
Defining personal feature: "Small and Scottish!"
Favourite thing about LUU: "There's always a million and one things going on!"
Hometown: Glasgow



The Exec sit on Union Council; a 32 strong ultra-important decision making/ campaigning/ really quite attractive committee. They debate and agree

(or disagree) on union policy. They also keep their beady eyes on the Exec's doings...

Union Councillors 2008 to 2009...aka the LUU luvvies:

Council Speaker - Harry Aslam

Just to clarify - this doesn't mean Harry is the only one who speaks...he just has to stop other people from speaking too much.

General Student Representatives

We have eight "General Student Reps"; these guys 'generally' represent the 32,000 odd students at Leeds. That's just over 4,000 students each. Pips.

Two first year Student Reps

These positions are vacant, awaiting two fun loving Freshers to step up and take on the delights of democracy...call 0113 3801 460 or email c.hartley@luu.leeds.ac.uk to make enquiries. LUU has 15 Assemblies - Assembly chairs make up the rest of Union Council.

Like assembling? Love the Union. We have fifteen Assemblies that meet to discuss important things with important people in an important manner. It's all very important. Assemblies include Women's, Disabled Students, International, Ethical & Environmental and many, many more...tickle your fancy?

I bet they do. Call 0113 3801 461 or email union@leeds.ac.uk now and get info on the wheres, whens and what the hells.

Even if none of this high-minded political spiel appeals, we still have plenty of political and campaigning groups for you to get involved in...LUU hack is the new black.

For more info, go to luu.online or contact the Activities Resource Centre: telephone 0113 3801 413 or email uniarc@leeds.ac.uk

OLD NEWS

SEPTEMBER

The "Ginger Conman" strikes:

Former Leeds Student Homes boss Rory Aitkens, also known as the "Ginger Conman" was the focus of a campaign led by Leeds Student. Aitkens initially owed his former tenants a reported £125,000 in unreturned deposits.

The year ended with a large number of students descending upon Aitkens' place of work for one last protest.



NOVEMBER

Goodbye Bodington:

LS revealed that Bodington Hall was to be closed and sold.

The sale of the land, which was speculated to have made the university millions, was met with displeasure from students who felt it would be disappointing to lose the notorious halls. At a referendum held later in the year the Union agreed to lobby the University into reviewing its decision.



NOVEMBER

Student murder:

Leeds became the focus of national sorrow after the death of student Meredith Kercher, on November 1, in Perugia, Italy.

Fellow students were united as they gathered to pay tribute on campus, despite the constant national press interest.

The murder trial continues.



JANUARY

Gavin Terry search:

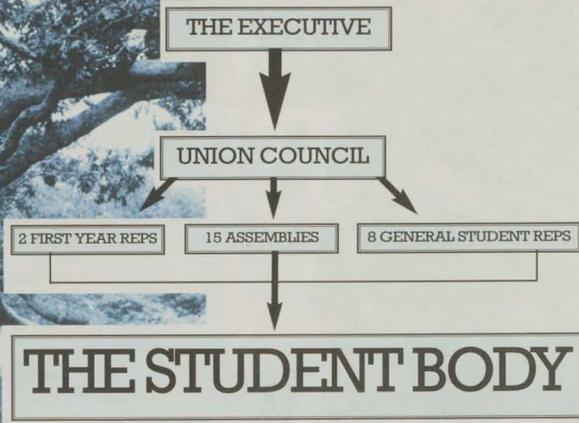
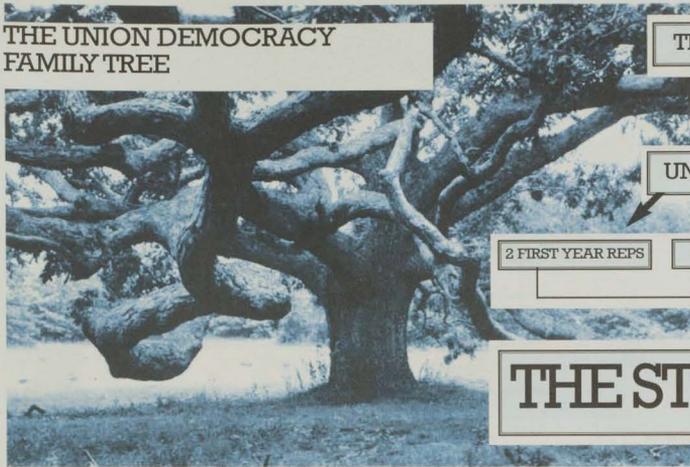
The disappearance of Leeds Metropolitan University student Gavin Terry united the city in a search for him.

LS supported the high-profile facebook campaign that was set up by friends, following the 19-year old went missing on a night out in the city centre.

His disappearance was solved over the Easter break, when his body was recovered from the River Aire.



THE UNION DEMOCRACY FAMILY TREE



words/ jess parker

What's going on this year?

Keep Your Coins, I Want Change

Despite what some members of the Conservative Party may tell you, charity donations probably won't solve all our problems. 'Keep Your Coins, I want Change' is an LUU campaign that thinks bigger than dropping the odd pound into a charity bucket. Go to the facebook group, join and say what you want to change. Entries so far include stopping airport expansion and ending genocide in Darfur. What next? Solve global poverty. Not quite. But the 'Keep Your Coins, I Want Change' movement seeks to get us engaged with the big issues, bring students together and see what small changes we can start with today as well as the greater changes we might plan for tomorrow.



Peanut Gallery

You may think this sounds like a haven for monkeys... you wouldn't be far wrong. Due to be relocated and rebuilt from September 29th (handymen/monkey assistance welcome) this space is run by students, for students. Whether you're a hardened society hack, an anarchic activist or someone who just wants to sit on a sofa and eat your egg mayo sandwich without feeling obliged to purchase a lukewarm latte, this is a place for you. It does have an overtly political edge; as our Communications and Internal Affairs Officer tells us, "It's like a breeding ground for activists." (Don't be put off... breeding isn't compulsory.) Tea and coffee is available with the chance to donate a little something, should you wish. But there's nothing to buy and nothing to sell - just plenty of breeding to be done.

The new Peanut Gallery is to be downstairs in LUU, along from Hiccup, opposite Cats. If you would like to be part of the Peanut Gallery project please contact peanutgallery@lists.riseup.net or call 0113 3801 459

Social Forum

Upcoming is the Social Forum...a week of tent based talks, workshops and interactive seshes all designed to bring students together and informed about the world around them. Matters arising will include poverty, climate change, student issues, democracy and human rights. Now we're not talking a Millennium Dome-esque 'It's educational AND fun' experience. This is fun. Pure. Guaranteed. So come gather, chat and ingest a freshly made bowl of LUU political punch. Taking place from Monday September 29th 'til Friday October 3rd in the tent opposite the Union.



SUMMER NEWS

JULY

Animal transplant breakthrough

Over the summer break a Leeds Professor lead the way in a potentially life-saving scientific discovery.

Professor John Fisher, a biological engineer, was one of the scientists involved in a revolutionary development in transplant surgery.



The research has used a process of chemical stripping to overcome the problem of rejection, enabling animal tissue to be used in human transplants.

AUGUST

Festival ticket fraud

Many of those excited to be attending the Leeds Festival in August were disappointed to find that they had been sold fake tickets for the event.

The online companies responsible then closed, leaving festival goers out of pocket.

The fraud has encouraged organisers of the event to examine their ticketing process, in the way that Glastonbury Festivals have been forced to do in recent years.

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER

Olympic champs



The University of Leeds' first ever Olympic scholar spent his summer competing in Beijing. Alistair Brownlee, 20, represented Great Britain in the men's triathlon, finishing as the highest placed Great British athlete, in twelfth place.

Brownlee said: "I got to seven kilometers on the run and there was nothing left."

Future Leeds student Claire Cashmore also competed in the Paralympic swimming, winning bronze in the S9 100 m backstroke and in the individual 200m medley. She will begin her Linguistics course this year.



FASHION

Leeds is famous for its fashion. The highstreet is lined with stylish boutiques, populated by smart shoppers. Here's our rundown of the top outlets to spend some of that (hard-earned) cash.

RYAN VINTAGE
163 Lower Briggate, 0113 244 3090

Not for the faint hearted, one must set aside a good few hours to rummage when visiting Ryan Vintage.

This is heaven for dedicated vintage fans. Once a well kept secret in Leeds, the shop was once only for those willing to brave the jumble sale within, but as the trend and demand for second hand clothing has increased, so has RV's popularity.

Boasting a massive selection of clothing and accessories, we challenge any keen shopper to enter and not be tempted by one of the oversized carpet bags, woolly hats or massive selection of Christmas jumpers. Put a belt around it?

ZARA
129-132 Briggate, 0113 380 4620

Spanish success story Zara prides itself on its ongoing resistance to the industry trend towards transferring production to low cost countries.

Normally decked out with slim fit, sleek outfits and a selection of brave prints in their younger TRF line, the current stock of oversized cardigans rivals those previewed at New York fashion week in this season's Ralph Lauren range.

Zara has matured over its teenage highstreet sisters, and is your one stop shop for an important interview or dinner with the parents.

FRENCH CONNECTION
Victoria Quarter, 55 Vicar Lane, 0113 243 5509

For those of you willing to spend a little bit more of that loan, French Connection bridges the gap

between affordable and stellar expense.

Once known for its unobtrusive print tees, FCUK can now boast of some of the most delicate, brightly colored, silk shift dresses on the high street, reminiscent of girlie favourite Chloe or the debut designs of Christopher Kane that got the fashion world talking.

The selection for the gents is a fashion staple, but steer clear of the obvious nu rave tees; they're on their way out. But that's not all, with one of the widest selections of classic shapes and designs, the dresses shown this season in French Connection ooze both elegance and Parisian style. Put it all on the Christmas list now.

URBAN OUTFITTERS
63 - 65 Albion Street, 0113-245-4766

Urban Outfitters has created a formula which easily caters to most fashion wants. A new addition to the Leeds shopping scene, the high street giant offers an eclectic mix of home furnishings, good quality clothing and accessories.

Although you should exercise some caution with the overexposed slogan tops (unless you're happy with sharing your look with the next ten people you pass in the street), you'll find a few gems here.

With an ever-changing stock of clothing it seems that getting bored of this shop is an impossible prospect. A plentiful vintage rail and high end design section keep this store fresh.

ACE
9 Duncan St, 0113 245 4555

Ace is your favourite vintage shop, free literature

FRESHERS' FASHION

With the most dominant style seen last year in Leeds being the Rah, achieving the perfect balance of spending long enough on hair in order to achieve the just-got-out-of-bed look and the teaming of Uggs boots with tracksuit bottoms, one wonders what will be the uniform in Leeds this year.



What I find myself questioning is whether the Rah is indeed a timeless style which will forever haunt Leeds. In case not, here are some popular choices to replace the look..

Highland

Tartan is a favoured look and it seems to have overlapped from previous seasons maintaining its popularity in the fashion world. Reinvented as Heritage for this season, whether its tartan kilts, scarves, shirts, coats, trousers, pumps, or hats, I simply don't seem to be able to get enough of it! The high streets are simply bursting at the seams with tartan so its just screaming to be bought. The Heritage trend witnesses the resurrection of prim and proper dressing. Alongside the tartan checks military peplum jackets are also a dominant feature. Remember the golden rule though, one piece is plenty.



Folk

The Folk look is sure to be visible on the streets of Leeds this year with students being the ideal wearers of the seventies haute hippy style. But don't think Sienna in boring hippy skirt, go for ladylike and sophisticated. The dominant Paisley prints; perfect for a neckscarf if you don't fancy the whole look, are generally seen in autumnal colours, combine with Autumn's essential leather and the look is complete. Faux fur for the brave only.



Colour

Leeds is and will continue to be a hive of colours. Nu-rave scene hit Leeds hard last season, the population of Leeds showed that even the most luminous colours could be sported on any occasion. But don't go for the same thing again; Bold tones have marked numerous catwalks in the past and will continue to make an impact for seasons to come, however, what separates this season is the way in which we are to wear the designs. The designs revolve around classic shapes, but with the utilisation of the colour, the look gains a modern edge whilst maintaining the elegance associated with that of the classics. Think black, jewel colours in rich Autumn hues. Boys go for purple, girls for a vivid blue.



And then..

London fashion week? Black, black black. Take notes from Gareth Pugh's book and make it work in shiny glamour. Goth is back, lace is great. Time to dust off the LBD.

Accessories

Accessories are massive news. Make it massive and excessive; costume jewellery cocktail rings are best. Fingerless gloves are very Lagerfeld, but make them lace to hit the Luella gothic girlie trend well. Whilst head wear has always been a popular option in the summer time due to all sorts of cases of out of control hair, frizz, or even flatness, this year I predict that regal headscarves will crown your winter outfit.

Blue Rinse



With everything including leather bombers, check shirts, cowboy boots and sundresses, it is a haven for lovers of retro clothing for boys and girls. Pop's bits and pieces have always been available in LS6 (make sure to pick up your postcode tshirt, a far superior specimen to the university hoodie) but with a shop of its own, the company's now firmly on the map.

H&M
129 Briggate, 0113 236 4740

As any fashion lover knows, this place is a god send for those weeks when we don't quite have enough cash for a brand new outfit, great pieces at low end high street prices equal happy students!

You all know the score, and the Leeds branch of H+M has just been refurbished, oh, and it's huge, happy shopping!

VIVIENNE WESTWOOD
15-17 County Arcade, 0113 245 6403

The Queen of Brit fashion has already made her home here, with a small boutique tucked away in the city centre's upmarket Victoria Quarter. Although only those with serious cash to spend will walk out with a piece of Viv's Anglomania or Gold Label memorabilia, there are plenty of trinkets underneath the counter for you to save your pennies for.

Favourites are the brightly coloured signature silk scarves and the small clasp purses in a faux crocodile, jewel coloured leather.

heaven and anonymous label discovery centre rolled into one. Situated at the bottom of Briggate (a street you will become very familiar with/ stumble down after a night on the town) this is a great shop for tailored pieces with a unique edge, some old-skool trainers, or a punk mini for a night on the tiles.

BLUE RINSE
9-11 Call Lane, 0113 245 1735

A Leeds classic. Blue Rinse is the first stop you must hit as a vintage lover. From bow ties to waistcoats and 1980's teeny tiny running shorts, you can find anything you're after in this place. Don't miss out on the boutique upstairs, where the innovative range of men's and women's vintage clothing, sewn by the staff on site, is stored. With a beautiful backdrop of heavy drapes and ancient props, you've got an authentic setting for some of the prettiest vintage dresses around.

POP

Newcomer Pop Boutique is ever expanding its small range of vintage stores, bringing quirky shop design and vintage experience from London and Manchester.



MUSIC

RECORD SHOPPING

"Can be done on the internet!" I hear you repeat, parrot-fashion. This is true. However, venture into the centre of Leeds and you will discover an excellent set of independents, many of which have extremely wide selections, loveably idiosyncratic atmospheres, helpful staff, gig tickets, listening decks, and attractive strangers. If you are looking to expand your back catalogue, then the array of second-hand shops offers a marvellous way to stumble across inexpensive classics, or, in many cases, to fill a specific gap in your collection.

Many larger cities have struggled even to keep one independent record store open against the tide of supermarkets, major chain shops, and so on. Due in no small part to the dedicated student music scene, Leeds is blessed with several. The largest of these is Jumbo Records, situated in the St John's Centre on Woodhouse Lane. With an admirable collection of indie, pop and rock CDs and vinyl, a reasonable electronic and dance contingent, and a 5% student discount on full price stock, it is a marvellous place to go both for new releases/reissues and for records that date back around half a decade. They also sell tickets, record crayer styli, T shirts, and magazines.

Crash Records, located on the Headrow, features a fantastic basement containing a wider selection of electronic, hip-hop, dance and so forth, plus decks, and helpful staff. The ground floor features, amongst other things, a large quantity of 7's - there is a slightly superior stock of punk/hardcore compared with that of Jumbo, but neither is particularly exhaustive (Out of Step, the specialists in this area, unfortunately went out of business last year). Meanwhile, Record Box and Tribe are both comprehensive dance specialists, somewhat bewildering if you don't know what you're looking for, but very friendly.

Relics (on New Briggate) and the various charity shops around the centre are good for second hand vinyl - particularly noteworthy is the Oxfam branch in Headingley, which has a separate record department, as well as some hi-fi equipment - a good place to look if you want to buy a decent turntable system without remortgaging your parents' house. The Kirkgate Market, towards the coach station, regularly has music stalls - the selection obviously varies, but a lot of intense bargains are to be had if one is lucky or patient.

words/ ramzy alwakeel

LOCAL/UNSIGNED

Leeds has several key local bands, whom you'll often find playing at the smaller local venues such as the excellent Brudenell Social Club in Hyde Park or The Packhorse, opposite the University. Whilst there are a few fun indie rock bands around, such as Wintermute, Dinosaur Pile-Up and Pulled Apart By Horses, the real bands to watch out for are those who are doing something a little different.

Those who like their music dark, epic and brooding will enjoy Her Name Is Calla, whose Godspeed-esque post-rock is arresting and massively exciting. Whilst originally from Leicester,

the band's recent move to Leeds and position on the great



Leeds label, Gizeh

Records, make them an important local act to watch out for. A date for your diary is 1st November at Leeds' Holy Trinity Church in town, where Her Name is Calla will be supporting The British Expeditionary Force and another big Leeds favourite, worriedaboutsatan. worriedaboutsatan's combination of subtle layers of ambient beauty with glitchy beats creates complex electronica with a tenderness always present at its core. The layers of bowed guitar will remind listeners of Sigur Rós, whilst the laptop-generated beats and samples will bring artists like Orbital and Autechre to mind. With a new album out in November and two EPs available via their Myspace, this duo is a very exciting part of our local music scene.

Another place to check out Leeds' acts will be the Brainwash festival, three days of music held at the Brudenell Social Club between 17th and 19th October. Curated by two local promoters, Brainwash and Forest of Sound, with profits going to charity, it is not only an excuse to spend a weekend moping around a pub, but to check out some good music too. This event features the gorgeous sounds of Ólafur Arnalds and Greg Haines alongside some big Leeds names, including the popular iForward, Russial, who will be playing their last gig for the foreseeable future on the Friday. Also playing are Glissando, who create wonderfully dark ambient music with piano and shimmering guitar. Their album, *With Our Arms Wide Open We March Towards the Burning Sea*, features the talents of several other great local musicians, including the unmistakable vocals of Dave Martin from iLiKETRAiNS. Glissando can also be found at the Packhorse on the 27th September at an event featuring seven other bands, curated by Forest of Sound and Gizeh Records.

words/ sophie green

MORE ESTABLISHED BANDS FROM LEEDS

iLiKETRAiNS

Rarely in modern pop music do you hear any band with anything approaching a distinctive harmonic language, but iLiKETRAiNS have the bare faced bravery to sound like a cross between Herbert Howells and Pink Floyd. Songs like 'The Beeching Report' and 'Victress' are enjoyable even if only as an antidote to the bland indie scene.

The band have just returned from a summer tour, but are playing in Leeds again in December.

Hadouken

On the other side of the coin lie Hadouken, who are for the beatfreaks exclusively. Like a riffier, brawnier Crystal Castles, the band use video game sounds to provide a solid backdrop for some of the whitest rap since Goldie Lookin' whatisit.

Debut album, *Music for an Accelerated Culture*, is out now, and after a Japanese tour earlier this month Hadouken are well into work on their second record. Well worth hearing if you like mechanical, witty grime.

The Music

Sounding like a Blondie/Radiohead/U2 hybrid, The Music provide powerful and melodic 21st century disco with a punky twist. They're a pleasingly earnest band who take themselves just seriously enough - a balance that can be extremely difficult to find. If you

feel in need of a dance, or a think, get along to one of their shows as soon as possible.

You can get their third album, *Strength in Numbers*, in stores now, but their forthcoming single, *Drugs*, will only be available from gigs on their autumn tour.

The Sneakpeeks

A band to avoid like the proverbial bubonic are the Sneakpeeks. Unless you like infectious, fun-filled, energetic indie rock with overtones of Fisher-Price that is, I don't.

New single, *Damn Right*, out 20th October, with gigs in Bradford and York soon after. Leggings and tennis daps at the ready.

words/ george reece

LIVE MUSIC VENUES

Live music lovers, you have come to the right city - as will become increasingly apparent whilst your funds dwindle at the hands of Leeds' renowned music scenes. The mainstream-minded amongst you need look little further than your own LUU Refectory, which has served up massive-name acts since the '60s, from The Who and Led Zeppelin to Bloc Party and Maximo Park. The famous Cockpit, close to the train station, will similarly not fail to satisfy most of your alternative rock/indie yearnings, and the uni-adjacent Faversham will be another port of call for big indie acts, local and from all over. October sees the Kaiser Chiefs open the new Leeds Academy which will bring you such commercial colossi as The Streets and Elbow in the coming autumn.

You alternative-alternative heads will doubtlessly find yourselves heading LS6-ward to the Brudenell Social Club - a must-go venue, open-minded and sporting a warm yet exhilarating live atmosphere. Local talents are often to be checked out in smaller live spaces upstairs in The Library and Packhorse pubs, and the friendly Joseph's Well proudly offers live music all week round. The marvellously grubby Subculture in the Merriem Centre basement hosts many exciting alternative live (and club) nights. The Holy Trinity Church sees some beautiful and intimate performances - oh, and some kind of racket can normally be heard walking past The Penton...

The appallingly small percentage of you now wondering where all the serious/art music is at can start with the Town Hall, Grand Theatre, and the University's own Clothworkers' Centenary Concert Hall, delivering on all manner of programmes from period to contemporary.

words/ michael waters





URINE

IF IT IS DARKER THAN
USUAL YOU MAY BE
DEHYDRATED.

DRINK WATER BETWEEN
ALCOHOLIC DRINKS.

unit. | 14
21

FRESH PERSPECTIVE

Student life can sometimes be trying and problematic but don't worry, there are places to find help. The Student Advice Centre offers support, information and aid for a wide range of difficulties and is located right here on campus, upstairs in the Union. Oh and it's free! We posed them six different real-life problems that many students may experience during their time at uni. They leant a guiding hand...

Money

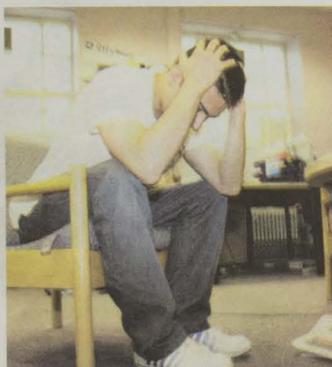
Ed's dad lost his job unexpectedly. The financial support relied on will no longer be there to help Ed in his studies, throwing his entire university life into doubt. What are the options for this now low-income family?

"We would advise Ed to contact his Local Education Authority in the first instance. If there is a sudden change in family circumstances the support a student is getting can normally be reassessed. We would also advise Ed about the Access to Learning fund, which can often help if there is a change in circumstances, or help him look for other sources of funding such as money from educational trusts. We could also help by going through his finances with him to help him work out anywhere he could make some savings."

Isolation

Sophie does not get on with her new flatmates in halls and this, coupled with the fact her boyfriend is at uni 200 miles away, is causing her distress. Is there anything she could do?

"This would depend on what Sophie wanted, which is the first thing we would find out. Sometimes it is



good to try and make a go of it when things are not feeling right, but if you are really unhappy it may be best to make the change sooner rather than later. If she wanted to stay at Leeds we could advise her how to apply to transfer to a new flat, and signpost her to services such as Student Counselling to talk about how she is feeling.

"If she did feel that Leeds was not right for her, we could advise her about how to try and find a new course, perhaps closer to her family or boyfriend. We could also advise on any financial implications of changing course."

Academic issues

Eva is not enjoying her course and wants to change but is finding the School less than helpful. Who should she talk to?

"Eva would need to talk to her School, and to the School responsible for the course she wants to change to. We could help by looking up the best person within the School for Eva to contact and making sure she knows the procedure."

“ The guidance workers here can also help with academic issues, for example we can give advice on re-sitting exams, explaining mitigating circumstances or appealing a mark. **”**

It is possible that she is not able to change, as the course may be full, or she may not have the grades they ask for. If this is the case we could give her information about other options, such as taking a year out and applying again, or looking for the course at a different Uni."

Housing

Dan, a third year student, only received his deposit back in late August and found deductions of £110 had been made, which he thought excessive. The landlord also claimed that only a £200 deposit had been made, when in fact Dan was sure it was £300. What actions could be taken?

"The first thing we would advise if for Dan to write to his Landlord stating clearly any amounts he disputed, and showing any evidence he had, such as receipts for the deposit, and photos of the property to dispute any damage. This is a simple thing that all students can do themselves, and we have information on our website to help."

If this did not work we would write to the landlord, as sometimes our involvement can spur landlords into action."

Ultimately we could advise Dan on how to make a claim in the Small Claims Court, and maybe attend court as a representative."

Of course it may be that on seeing the balance of evidence we thought that Dan's case was weak. In this case we would always give an honest assessment of what we thought his chances were."

“ As well as helping with getting deposits back the Advice Centre can give general advice on housing problems and how to avoid them and we even offer a contract checking service. **”**

As a student who works as an information assistant in the Advice Centre, Liszi is in a position to recognise more than most just how useful the services they provide can be.

“

When I came to work at the Advice Centre I was amazed at how much they actually do for students. I can't believe that I had no idea that this sort of service was available when I was a student; I really think it is important for students to be made aware of the Advice Centre. **”**

Medical matters

Louis had unprotected sex with a girl he met recently and is wondering if he should get checked out.

"We could provide Louis with information about the chlamydia testing run by CSwap that is held in LUU. We can also provide information about other local testing services. We would also make sure Louis was aware that he can pick up free condoms from the Student Advice Centre."



Crime

Samantha got mugged while walking to a friend's halls and is now scared of some of the areas around Leeds. Who could she turn to?

"We have information on loads of support services for people who have experienced crime, such as victim support or the Police Student Liaison Officer, so we could put Samantha in touch with any of these. We can also give out information on personal safety, as well as free attack alarms."

If she is anxious and this is affecting her work we can advise on how to explain her circumstances to her department."

She may also need to cancel stolen bank cards, and we can make sure she knows how to do this too."

CLUBS

words/ sam donnison and kazim rashid

Venues

Live Music

Leeds boasts a range of venues from the tiny **Brudnell Social Club** to the larger **University Refectory** (yes it's a food hall by day, concert hall by night) and newly constructed **Carling Academy** (situated within the walls formerly known as Creation it opens on October 8th). **The Brudenell** has been the host of many 'were you there?' moments and secret shows. Where else could you feel like you were stuck in Phoenix Nights yet be in the middle of a 3-day 'Cribs-mas' party hosted by the **Cribs**? **The Cockpit** hidden away beneath the train arches plays host to a number of indie, rock, punk and metal gigs whilst for jazz and soul lovers, **The Wardrobe** holds occasional (yet often exceptional) live shows in a relaxed bar setting.

The Golden Triangle

The Golden Triangle for any student in Leeds, regardless of your tastes consists of **Wire**, **Hifi Club** and **The Faversham**. **Wire** focuses more on underground club nights encompassing D&B, Techno, Electro and House. **Hifi** focuses on soul, funk and disco, Sundays being a very popular choice as its free entry. **The Faversham** bridges the gap between the two with everything from Hip Hop to Indie.

Super Clubs

Leeds is famous for its 24-hour party culture at the weekends, and where better to start than at one of its super clubs. The newly opened **Victoria Works** is a converted warehouse aimed at bringing the tribal feck back to clubbing and **Mission** with its three rooms and variety is a good bet for students. **Mint Club** has been refurbished recently and is perhaps one of the finest rave-spots in Leeds.

Other Notables

The **West Indian Centre** offers a rotating calendar of monthly nights ranging from reggae and dub to psy-trance. **Space** offers some of the best urban music nights to be found in Leeds, and one or two killer monthlies. A pool hall by day, **The Elbow Room** transforms into a club night offering some of the finest hip-hop and breaks DJs and playing host to breakdancing and music event **Freshjive**. **MyHouse** (formerly known as Stinkys!) is for serious clubbers only; do not enter otherwise.

Student Nights

Leeds has an abundance of clubs supplying cheap drinks and party vibes. So much so that you could easily fill up a fortnight of raving by visiting a different venue each evening. The new **Chilli White** (formerly Townhouse), **Queen's Court**, **Courtyard** and **Puro** offer quality nights in establishments unique to Leeds. **Nu Bar**, **Rehab**, the beach-themed **Baja**, and **Bar Risa** host commercially popular student nights throughout the week, while the chain-gang clubs of **Vodka Revolution** (two of those in Leeds), **Gatecrasher** (newly refurbished using what appears to be leftovers from Beijing's Bird Nest Stadium) and the **Mary-Poppin's**-bag-style **Oceana** are nearly always packed out. Of course the Union's very own **Stylus** plays host to the biggest, most populated student night in Leeds, every Friday, the near legendary **Fruity**.

Club nights: The Map

Wax:On

Selling out every month, **Wax:On** never fails to impress its regular crowd. **Wax:On** manages to encompass big name DJs, whilst showcasing new talents as an **Uffie** and **Featz** led stage invasion, or **Erol Alkan** tearing **Stylus** to bits. Thursday 27th September @ **Stylus**, Pulse and **Mine with Simian** Mobil

University of Leeds

Bad Sneakers

Not your average indie night, **bad sneakers** offers a healthy dose of the newest bands before turning over to their residents to give you the best in indie / electro / new wave / rock and roll / grime and whatever fits together to make the kids dance. Look out for special guest nights featuring DJs from **Ed Banger** and **Kitsune**. Saturday 27th September **Bad Sneakers** presents the **Old Romantic Killer Band** @ **Faversham** (weekly)

Asylum

Perhaps **Leeds'** most interesting underground dance club. **Asylum** plays host to some of the biggest DJ's in the world of underground music. Whatever your musical tittle, if you want something different, try **Asylum**; it is definitely where it's at. Saturday 27th September @ **Mint club** with special Guest **THEO PARRISH** (Detroit). **Don't Miss it!** Then the last Saturday of every month.

Hang the Dj! / A Mystic Brew

Starting off as 3 like minded DJs and now as a small collective, the **Hang the Dj crew** of Leeds most talked about parties. Attracting Leeds coolest yet most unpretentious disco-funk-beepie know to man, prepare to seriously break in your dancing shoes. **Asylum** and **New Bo** collaboration 'A Mystic Brew'.

Various venues

Friday 19th September **Hang the DJ!** @ **New Bohemia**, **Faversham** (and fortnightly) Saturday 11th October 'A Mystic Brew' at **Smokestack ft Trus'me.** (monthly)

Metropolis

Approaching its sixth year in the business rotation all night. Recently diversifying doesn't appear to be slowing down any more. **Metropolis** collapse (don't worry it was made of foam). Thursday 25th September **Metropolis** Freestylers, Chase and Status and more

New B

Located in the city centre, **New B** is a new club night. If you are into indie, rock and roll, funk and soul, **New B** is the place to be. Friday 15th September @ **New B**



ropolis is about drum and bass with big name heavy roller DJs on the liquid, breaks and dubstep at its nights, the appeal of the club on. No other club night in the city can claim to have caused a ceiling to

the Valve Soundsystem @ Stylus, Pulse and Mine with Andy C,

newbie ravers alike. The night hard working residents. Whether its rations, Wax:ON is here to stay, Xpress2 and more. (monthly)

ia
 versham every Friday night, New Bo is a staple in every students HipHop, Reggae, and proper R&B before people like Fiddy came to Bo is a safe bet. They have special guest Dj or live artist every for special New Bo events at other venues around the city. Member New Bohemia presents Asaviour (Album Launch) and Hang nam (weekly)



Exodus

Ocurring bi-monthly, Exodus is one of Leeds most special nights, placed alongside London's DMZ and FWD >> as one of dubsteppers' places of worship. The real draw of the night is being able to listen to the scenes freshest pressings through the devastating subs of the Iration Steppas sound system. Get ready to pull that bass face! Saturday 3rd October @ West Indian Centre with DMZ, Youngsta, Chef, Quest and Silkie and more (bi-monthly)



Room 237

A new edition to the Leeds circuit these guys are focused on bringing new and leftfield electronica, hip-hop, jungle, dubstep and techno to the ears of all you lucky folk. Keep your eyes and ears to the ground, Room 237 is at various different venues around the city and usually have a pretty special line up. Various different venues, dates and guests.



Back to Basics

This place is an institution to say the least. Whilst being England's longest running club these guys have still managed to somehow stay underground whilst being internationally recognised. Oh yeah and they probably have the best residents in the country. If you're not serious about raving, be warned: this place isn't for the faint hearted. Every Saturday @ MyHouse with a special guest every week.

en responsible for some and dropping the deepest out for their upcoming

CINEMAS

Watching films on the big screen is all part of a balanced diet. So that you can hit the ground running, we're spoon-feeding you everything you need to know about the main cinema complexes in Leeds...

Vue Cinemas

What is it?

This is your usual shiny and villainous cinema complex. It's big, it's expensive, the films are generally mainstream blockbusters and the emphasis is on food and drink. But don't worry too much, a student ticket costs £4.50, and you can use two for one Orange Wednesdays. Queues tend to be large in the evenings and you may have to book for popular movies on the first weekend. For example, last term it was difficult to see *Sex and the City* for a week unless you watched it over breakfast.

Where is it?

Along from TigerTiger and opposite Millets is The Light shopping centre. Vue is up a set of double escalators.

Jack and Vicky's top tips...

You need a ticket before you can go to the toilet, so don't even give the po-faced assistant the pleasure of asking. Maxi's Chinese all-you-can-eat buffet is hidden behind the dance machines near Vue cinemas, along a space-agey bridge. It's one of the only Chinese restaurants in Leeds that won't make you keel over and die.

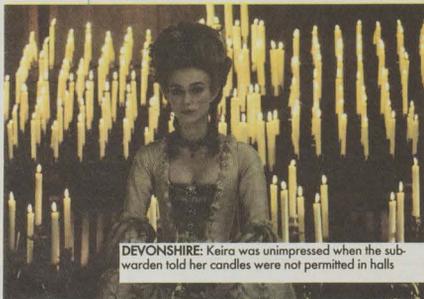
Hyde Park Picture House

What is it?

An arty independent cinema that mixes popular films with avant-garde and international flicks. The picture house is one of the jewels of the Leeds art scene. The 1914 interior is full of vibrant splendour and everything is dirt cheap. We recommend it as your cinematic weapon of choice.

Where is it?

In the middle of Hyde Park residential area, opposite the mini Sainsbury's. You can walk down Victoria Road from Hyde Park corner and then take a fourth or fifth left.



DEVONSHIRE: Keira was unimpressed when the sub-warden told her candles were not permitted in halls

Jack and Vicky's top tips...

Look out for special events like Indiana Jones nights where all the movies are shown in one night for one ticket, or the all-night Halloween special where you can take duvets and your own snacks. Also, cinema

posters are usually available for purchase at a cheap price once they're done with them.

Cottage Road Cinema

What is it?

One of the oldest cinemas in the country. Despite its arty image Cottage Road tend to show major releases. Food is cheap here and the screens are intimate and friendly. Tickets are only £4 with your student card.

Where is it?

Just off Otley Road makes it a good choice for Headingley-based students.

Jack and Vicky's top tips...

Cottage Road is a good option for romantic couples, away from the grime of the city centre, you can drink in the nearby small and atmospheric bars afterwards.

Moorish

What is it?

An arty and exotic café, decorated with sheets of foreign newspaper around the walls. There is an international movie night there once a week. So why not buy a smoothie and some samosas, or maybe a glass of wine, and spoil yourself on a bit of intellectual culture.

Where is it?

The middle of Hyde Park road, facing the grass. Three minutes down from the Hyde Park pub.

Jack and Vicky's top tips...

Take your specs for reading subtitles, and if you need cash go to the mini Sainsbury's down in Hyde Park, the only free withdrawal ATM around that area.

International Film Festival

What is it?

Leeds International Film Festival is your portal to the unseen world of cinema. With over 200 art-house and experimental films, including a separate short film festival, it is well worth taking in as many of these as you can.

Where is it?

All over Leeds from Tuesday 4th till Sunday 16th November.

Jack and Vicky's top tips...

It is possible to volunteer at the festival in exchange for free tickets too. Leeds Student newspaper will keep you updated nearer the time, but check out their festival website for more info - www.leedsfilm.com



IRRESISTIBLE: Liv Tyler packed in the US and moved back to Leeds last year. Don't expect to see her at Fruity

THEATRE/ DANCE/ OPERA/COMEDY/

The Grand Theatre and Opera House

The sort of place you loathed when you were little, with its ornate fittings and yawn-inducing grandeur, now you love it, for the taste of luxury and opulence it offers: The Grand Theatre and Opera House does what is says on the tin. Plus a little naughty extra. Look out for: Cabaret, Jimmy Carr, The Mighty Boosh and productions by Opera North as well as the Northern Ballet. www.leedsgrandtheatre.com

West Yorkshire Playhouse

Leeds' own answer to London's National Theatre, the West Yorkshire Playhouse is the place to head to for superb, world-class drama. Host to regional and West End companies, past productions have dazzled the audience in the capacious modern interior, both the larger auditorium and smaller studio set up. This semester, look out for: Mercy and Grand: The Tom Waits Project, and Peter Hall's production of *Animal Farm*. www.wyplayhouse.org.uk

The Carriageworks

The Carriageworks theatre's intimate performance studios are miniature oases for the up-close, theatrical experience. Often showcasing new and experimental writing, this has also been the venue for the odd LJU Theatre Group production too. Found in Millennium Square, it's cheap and cheeky. www.carriageworkstheatre.org.uk

City Varieties Music Hall

Hidden away just off the high street, City Varieties Music Hall is a veritable treasure trove of quirky, one-off shows along with the usual Music Hall fare. Sadly we've all missed last week's "Puppetry of the Penis", but further gems are to be found. www.tickets.cityvarieties.co.uk



ELECTRO GIRL: Aspiring student comics should check out the vintage stores around Hyde Park corner and the Lower Briggate

Various Comedy Clubs

Feeling down? A dose of comedy is bound to make you feel even worse about your social group, but laugh a little too. Check out Hifi's pricey (for a student) night on a Saturday, or the numerous small events at pubs up and down the Otley Road. Caution is recommended though; these nights sometimes cut a little too close to the bone.

POETRY

Forget what they taught you in school. In Leeds poetry moves off the page and onto the stage in bars, pubs and secret venues. Who knows, you might be this season's hottest new slam-battle pop poet. Let's get wordy...

The North Pole to London's South, Leeds has so many poetry nights and events to choose from, all of us penguins are always tempted to migrate here for good. Indeed, coincidentally PolarBear is performing at Sticks and Stones (which is always packed so arrive at Strawberryfields early for a good seat) on Tuesday 7th October, hot on the heels of his one man show at the Southbank Centre in London. And he's been on Radio 1 too... We're very excited. Look out for comic and poet Kate Fox at Wicked Words on Wednesday 1st October at Seven Arts Centre in Chapel Allerton, well worth the tiny trek (well every bus journey is nowadays, isn't?). START, a mini-festival held every month at Trash also has a couple of poetry slots thrown into the mix. We'll keep you posted on dates! Blueprint is another night to check out, at the Flux Gallery, which is tucked away in the folds of Hyde Park's residential labyrinth. If you want poetry on campus however, and we can't really blame you for your laziness, it's inherent in the student psyche don'tcha know, there's plenty of opportunity for that too, with One Collective Society's open mic events in the Union, and LUU's Scribe Magazine has a scrummy lineup of guest performers for the next semester. For more details, the (omniscient as ever) facebook has the answer.

Who is your favourite artist?
What medium of art interests you most?
Which artist best expresses your political and social views?



GIVE ME MOORE: Try stealing THIS for your flat kitchen lads

STUDENT THEATRE

Looking for a buzzing hive of theatrical activity? Then Leeds is the perfect flowerbed for you. The various musical, dance and theatre societies on campus are positively blooming with productions right, left and centre stage. The Riley Smith Hall in the Union hosts large-scale chorus work as well as smaller, intense dramatic works, particularly by Stage Musical Society (SMS), Musical Theatre Group (MT), Theatre Group (TG) and Opera Soc... which by now is probably wishing it had an appropriate initial to place in parentheses too. Completed only last year, Stage@Leeds is a hulking powerhouse for plays to be performed in, just behind the Union (yes, we mean the funny-looking, geometrical block plonked right at the rear of the Union building). Performances have also taken place in the past in the Brotherton Library too, although some say that it was really only a ghostly spectacle not meant for mortal sight. Just kidding.

Jack and Vicky's top tips...

Look out for audition posters around the union staircases and department noticeboards. If you don't succeed in your first audition then don't give up, there are endless opportunities each and term.

THE LEEDS ART SCENE

University is a good time to polish up your awareness and understanding of fine art. You need some opinions for those executive interviews and dinner parties that will very soon be upon you! You don't want to sound like an old woman who works in Greggs bitching about Tracey Emin's bed, or an uneducated ignoramus who says a child could paint like Rothko. Luckily for you though, you came to Leeds University, where there are four world-class galleries, all free, including one on campus, not to mention reels of other smaller venues.

Yorkshire Sculpture Park

Having this fantastic open-air art gallery so close by is an incredible opportunity that should be taken advantage of by all students at Leeds. With over 500 acres of 18th century parkland, including some famous works of art by Henri Moore, Turrel, Paolozzi, as well as a multitude of pioneering contemporary artists, Yorkshire Sculpture Park is an overpowering and life-affirming day out. Andy Goldworthy frequently visits the park too and creates his own temporary trade-mark art installations using nature.

www.ysp.co.uk
www.leeds.gov.uk/artgallery

Leeds Art Gallery

Situated on The Headrow smack in the middle of town, it's free and crammed with great artwork. The visiting exhibitions change every month or so and the permanent collection also shifts about so it's the sort of place worth visiting again whenever you have a bit of free time in the city centre. Leeds Art Gallery has a smart café too, perhaps a bit expensive for a regular visit, but possibly a nice place to take a friend or relative when they visit Leeds. It's near the station and you can have a quiet catch up before drowning them in the chaos on campus.

The Henri Moore Institute

Right next to the Town Hall (the big building with two stone lions). The programme there draws on artists,

writers, curators and different kinds of historians, in discussions, in writing, in research projects and in exhibitions. Again, there's no point telling you about it on paper, it's great, it's free, GO!



SPLASH: Hockney originates from Bradford where the biggest collection of his work is at Saltaire Mill. Famous for painting swimming pools - the main thing that Leeds Uni lacks

Parkinson Building Gallery

Leeds University has its own impressive art collection in the Parkinson building. A lot of the pieces on display were gifts from artists who had ties with our university in the past, including Ben Nicholson, Bridget Riley, David Hockney and Vanessa Bell. Much of the exhibition relates to history of Leeds as a city and its important role in the textiles industry. Again, free entry, so no excuses!

The Wendy House

Leeds University Union: Stylus
3rd Saturday of the month

Sep 20th, Oct 18th,
Nov 15th, Dec 20th
and every month

Floor 1:

PARTY darkly to playful
Alternative and 80's

Floor 2:

MUTATE in the Hard
Electronic music
room upstairs!

Advanced tickets
from CATS, Crash
and Jumbo

Only £5.00 on the door
9.00pm - 2.30am
Open to everyone

WWW.THEWENDYHOUSE.ORG



FRESH BOOKING

Bookshops you may well need to visit during your time at Leeds

Union Books

Leeds University Union

Nestled within your very own union building and fully stocked with all compulsory course texts, Union Books wins top marks for convenience. Offers saver accounts and a second-hand service too. To be avoided during Freshers' Week unless you really, really love queuing.

Oxfam Books

9 Otley Road, Headingley

Number one for bargain hunters and ethical types: Oxfam boasts a grand variety of second-hand textbooks and novels, plus that feel-good charity shop vibe. Get in early and scoop up last year's lightly-thumbed course books for less than the price of a round. Handy pencilled-in notes are an occasional bonus.

Waterstones

93-97 Albion Street

Huge selection sprawled over several browse-able levels, with comfy sofas and in-store coffee shop to encourage you to try before you buy. Most popular text and reference books are usually in stock; more obscure titles can be ordered in. Regularly attracts big names for signings and other events.

Borders

94-96 Briggate

Well-known purveyor of books, magazines, music, film, games, and every kind of coffee-based beverage that the Starbucks team can whip up. Perhaps the only thing missing in Borders is atmosphere. Many loan-diminishing hours can be squandered in this temple to consumerism.

Radish

128 Harrogate Road, Chapel Allerton

Had enough of the high street? Radish is known for its range of Fair Trade trinkets and support of local musicians, as well as an offbeat assortment of titles. Head here for inspiration when an Edward Boyle overload has made you forget that some books are actually supposed to be enjoyed.



Union Books



Grey's Anatomy Five

We don't think it was simply living with four medical students that started our addiction to this high drama American soap. We don't even think our love sprang from the sexy characters. We believe we were destined to love this programme as it is a complete hybrid between two of our lifetime favourite shows: Sex and the City and Casualty. The story revolves around Meredith Grey and her friends, surgical interns who entertain us not only with their romantic and sexual escapades but also by working within the blood and chaos of a busy hospital. We dare anyone to watch this and not love it; it's funny, it's gory and it's hot!

Hollyoaks Channel Four

When we asked around for addictive television programmes to watch at university, Hollyoaks came up trumps. One friend said that in spite of not being keen at first, he eventually became an addict and ended up 'really caring about the characters.' There is no doubt that it is one of the best-loved English soap operas but, due to its young characters and modern story lines, this show definitely becomes a skip-revision-for programme. If you can resist the hunks and honeys and drama-filled plot lines then you are definitely working too hard.

Hannah Montana Disney Channel

If you're not lucky enough to get the Disney channel on your laptop, you can still enjoy Hannah Montana on YouTube or even on DVD box set if you so desire. After a hard day's work or a hard night's drinking, this programme beats all others for fun-filled watching. Though Miley Cyrus is still a young teen, her performance as Miley Ray Stewart by day and singing sensation Hannah Montana by night can't help but make you want to jump around in your pyjamas and sing into a hairbrush. Even the slightly dodgy acting and bizarre plotlines become completely lovable after a couple of episodes/drinks.

Dancing on Ice ITV

Having never watched Dancing on Ice before the last series, we have our housemates to thank for introducing us to it. Although it may not be the most thought provoking series of our time, it is certainly entertaining - if only for the fabulously sparkly outfits and the seriousness in which the celebrities take themselves. Anyone who watched last year knows Chris Fountain was robbed by that usurping hussy Suzanne Shaw (don't get us started), so let's hope that there's a bit more fair play when this series starts in early next year.

Lost in Austen ITV

This Autumn sees ITV take an interesting angle to the usual Jane Austen period dramas. A modern woman (Jemima Rooper), obsessed with the romance in her Austen novels and finding her life in London a little lacklustre, becomes a gateway and ends up swapping with Elizabeth Bennet (Gemma Arterton) from Pride and Prejudice. She must adapt to the simplicity of Georgian life, but the danger is that her presence will throw the story off track. This four part drama looks set to be a creative reinvention of a classic.

words hattı cawley and evie pryor-jones

FRESH LEARNING

A university imparts knowledge like no other institution you've been in before. For many the change from an A-level method of teaching to the discussion-orientated degree style is a difficult one. In order to help bridge the jump we here provide you with an honest account of what learning life is like within the the red-brick walls of Leeds University...

Lectures

Lectures are an unavoidable fact of University life. If you are an Arts student you are likely to sit in lecture theatres and listen to tutors read off incomprehensible philosophical ideals, wondering what the hell they have to do with the book you think you are supposed to have read. As a Science student, your vision will begin to adapt to the constant glare of the PowerPoint presentation constantly put before your eyes. This display probably contains as much information in a one hour session as your previous year's A-level course covered in its entirety.

There are certain inevitabilities to which you should all become accustomed. Firstly, you shall have to tackle your nemesis, most commonly known as the Roger Stevens lecture theatre/architectural monstrosity. Without fail, during the first few weeks of term you will enter this delightful building through the ground floor entrance, climb the 8000 stairs, get lost in the labyrinth and arrive in your lecture impossibly late, out of breath and thoroughly pissed at the fact that your room always seems to be the furthest away. Eventually you will find the bridge that runs to the halfway point of the building and your exercise regime shall once more be halved and you can return to breathing easy again.

Inside your lecture theatre there are few other certainties, such as sleep. It shall overpower you at some point and, to be totally frank, there is no reason to feel guilt or shame. Let's face it, you're under extreme stress, in new surroundings and it is often warm and dimly lit. Sleep is the body's natural response to these conditions and in your first few hectic weeks lectures may be your only downtime. But don't be the guy that falls asleep within the lecturer's line of sight and becomes the target for humiliation, or the guy who jumps when you awake suddenly, sending all of your belongings flying and drawing a hell of a lot of unwanted attention to yourself.

After all of these considerations, there remains the simple fact that many of you won't go to lectures, or you will at least skip a fair few. You will rely on the sessions that get put online, or the friend with the super nice handwriting and detailed notes to get you through. Once again, this is one of the simple facts of university life, but it is only fair to encourage you (if you are crude enough to do this) to divide your £3000 tuition fee by the number of contact hours on your timetable. That is one expensive hour of extra snooze time.

Libraries

Library etiquette, or rather lack of, should also be included in a 'welcome' manual. Many avoid the libraries and their musty smells for as long as physically possible, others will find that it is the only place they can work thanks to the hellish temptations within student residences. Whatever the case, at one time or another in your brief academic careers you will enter the cavernous libraries and have to face all that they entail.

This will include the idiot with the flash laptop who sits on Facebook all day smirking at you as you stalk the computer clusters tirelessly waiting to pounce and print on the one monitor that becomes free every five hours. Then, of course, around exam time you learn that the good revision spots, with access to daylight, go fast and get reserved from as early as seven in the morning. This can be of little trouble as sleeping and eating become minor things of concern during the exam period and you too can arrive at this insane hour. Once you've found your special spot and settle in for your day of panic cramming, you may find that your whole arm begins to vibrate on the desk. Unbeknownst to you, the person opposite is about to spend the next eight hours texting. And when they get a phonecall, it's ok, they will speak in a (loud) hushed whisper. It's Sod's Law that the one time you answer your illegally buzzing device the bearded librarian pops out from behind the shelf to scold you like a four-year-old child.

If there is one important matter to discuss concerning libraries it is book-warfare. All is fair in love and war and this is apparently the same for essays and deadlines/exams. This means that in the weeks leading up to your all important hand-in dates it is perfectly natural to wonder if some kind of nuclear explosion has occurred wiping out all forms of literature, as the shelves stand empty. It may also be a time in the year to utilise the student counselling service, in an attempt to control the surges of irrational anger that overpower you as you watch a girl from your course fill her trendy book bag with 15 of the books you planned to use. No one is going to read all those books and it is likely that you will contemplate gauging her eyes out to prevent her from reading any of them at all. Breathe deep. The library staff have attempted to prevent these violent outbursts through the instillation of the life-saving High Demand Collection and online journals. Armed with these two nifty solutions you can take on any keeno- hoarder.

Despite all of this to prepare for, there is only one vital top tip for initial library sanity: pick a seat and stick to it. Use it again and again for the first few weeks. This in a fairy-tale romantic way may mean that the guy who thinks your hot when he sees you there everyday will eventually approach you and exchange numbers (ignoring the fact that you're a person who chooses to spend everyday in the library). Realistically, this is a preventative safety technique to delay the shame of having to beg the unimpressed librarian to help you find your seat, "I've been wandering around in circles for the past three-hours and still can't find where I was sat!"

Seminars and Tutorials

These intense hours are what all university 'welcome' packs should really warn you about, we all really deserve a heads-up. Sure, the lingo about an opportunity to exchange ideas, develop thoughts and connect with material is all very true, but at no point does anyone warn you about the sheer terror of it all.

Most of you will be sent preparatory work for your first session. The keen amongst you will do it and others of you will scan it, shrug and hope for the best. This is the first lesson to be learnt: within that small group, in that small room and that intense stuffy silence, it is pretty damn obvious who has a clue what they're talking about. Your rising colour, fast heartbeat and sweaty palms (as a result of your unprepared nervous energy) are also pretty apparent. The tutor may be nice enough to sit back and let those who want to do the talking lead the session or, as is so often the case, they will go around the room and pick you out one by one. Motto of the story: be prepared and certainly don't snooze in these sessions.

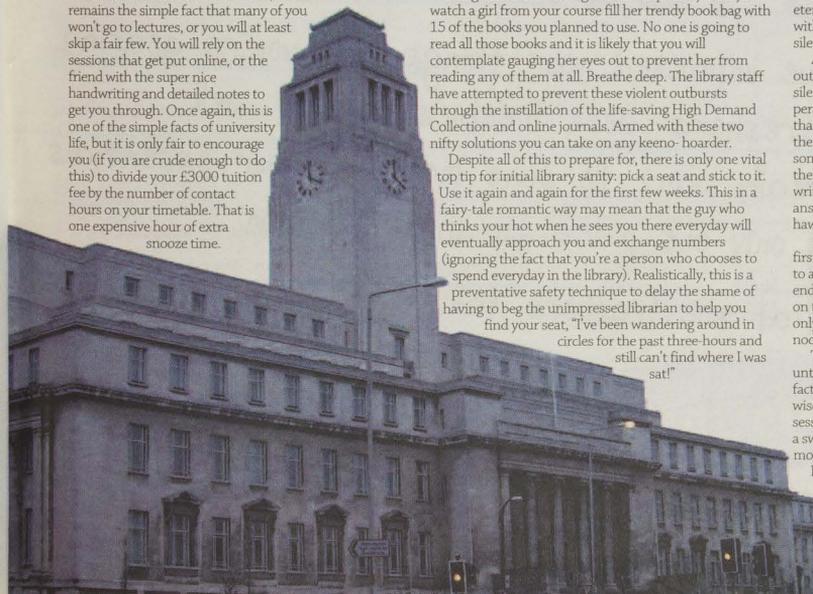
Once you grasp the bizarre new world of the university equivalent of a classroom, you shall stop worrying about what you are going to say and for the first time you will start to consider what a really weird social situation you have found yourself in. The whole class will wait outside the room in awkward silence, until one of you makes some forced joke about how hard this week's work was or how weird your professor looks. Once inside you shall sit in some forced formation, resolutely avoiding eye contact. This is when the real fun begins as you start to work out what all of your co-learners are actually like. The first stage of this is when the game of chicken begins. As the tutor throws their first question out into the silence, you all look everywhere except towards your tutor and each other. The person who breaks this awful silence first is probably one of two things; either they are eternally knowledgeable and will confound you week after week with their prolific comments, or they will turn out to be eternally annoying and shall bug you week after week with their incessant need to talk crap just to fill any silence.

Aside from these key figures there are others to look out for, including the hawk, the lazy git and the forever silent partner. The hawk is normally the most intelligent person in the group; they are hot shit. However, the fact that they are so clever has created an inbuilt fear that there may be something that they do not know or someone who knows more than them. As a result of this they turn up to your session with a page of beautifully written notes only to share none of their masterful answers, but simply to sweep around the room like a hawk picking up any juicy tidbit that you happen to drop.

The lazy git is often the party animal of the set that at first you really want to befriend and have them take you to all their really cool parties. Yet, after a few weeks, they're endearingly cheaky tendency of asking you to fill them in on the work wears thin, especially after they nab your only good point word for word and receive an approving nod off the tutor.

The forever silent partner may turn out to be the untapped gem of the group. Due to a combination of factors, such as personal preference, nervousness or a wise decision to keep schum, they don't say a word in sessions. If it is for the latter reason, they are undoubtedly a switched-on person worth a bit of extra effort, as indeed most of your companions may turn out to be.

Despite the many reasons to worry and prepare for seminars and tutorials, there is one big reason to go. It is the best opportunity you are going to have to meet mates on your course, so use the awkward silence to force at least one person to become your friend.



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FRESH PRINCE

Leeds Student sits down with the University's crown jewels, Vice Chancellor Michael Arthur



"You've come to a great university and you'll leave here with a fantastic degree."

How do most people address you?

Most people call me Mike, most people that know me well call me Michael, quite a lot of people call me Vice Chancellor.

Right, ice-breaker, what was the first thing you did when you came into the office this morning?

Had meetings and updates!

So, Vice Chancellor, what does that mean? What do you actually do?

It's two things, you are the most senior academic in the entire institution, so you're in charge of all the academic standards. There's also a business element to it, you're also the chief executive officer of the whole organisation. The financial aspect is massive; we have a turnover of £460million.



In my personal view, I think it's probable that fees will have to rise

What does the job entail on a day-to-day basis?

Just about everything you can imagine, it's so varied it's untrue. I mean just take today; this interview, I've been on the phone giving advice to Yorkshire Forward about innovation; after this I'm going to talk to new heads of

School about leadership; after that I'm meeting some international students who've been doing a summer course in English; then I'm talking to the president of an international university on whether she would wish to join Worldwide Universities Network. I also like to go out around the University a lot and I like to do the open meeting with students.

What was the process behind you being appointed to the position? Were you headhunted or did you have to apply?

It's a combination of both. You begin to think about whether or not you want a job like this, and I'd already made the decision that if the right job came up I would go for it. Then the phone went and it was the headhunters for this job. They talked to me initially and eventually suggested I make an application.

So you were picked out of the bunch...

Picked? [wry smile] They interviewed four people, I still don't know who all the other three were; it's a very secret process.

You must have done a fair few interviews in your time, this being the latest one.

That job interview was a particularly terrifying one, but I actually enjoyed it. I was delighted to get the position; it was a memorable day. Then a friend, who's already a VC, turned up with a bottle of Dom Perignon!

The only way to celebrate. What is the best aspect of the job and the biggest perk?

The best thing is that you feel you're doing a very important job, very affecting. If you get it right you're launching people out into the world with a great education. So that's the nicest feeling, that you are having

a big impact with what you do. Best perk of the job? I do get to travel a lot; on behalf of the University I've been to some fantastic places. Just this next term I'll be going to Canada, the United States, Holland and China.

So a well travelled VC? Short trips!

Do you get to see much of the places you visit? Sadly not, this will be my third trip to China and I've yet to see the Great Wall. It's pretty intensive. I quite like how the time on all these trips is used entirely effectively.

Worst part to the role?

Sometimes, inevitably, the HR [Human Resources] staff can be quite trying. Anyone that tells you they like that kind of stuff is fibbing.

How does the job change from term time to holidays?

Not a lot actually. Obviously I notice the difference on campus, I love the buzz of the students being here and how busy it is. But my job doesn't change that much. The University doesn't stop running so neither does my job. I think a lot of people think the Vice Chancellor has the same holidays as the students when it's not true!

So you don't get three months off?

[With a tone of ironic finality] Hmm, no.

Have you managed to go anywhere nice this summer? Have you had any break?

I have had a break. I am a keen sailor; I had a week on the South Coast, to Devon and Cornwall. I also had two weeks in Canada, I went to the Pacific Rim National Park, which was spectacular, truly amazing. But the weather was similar to the UK, it rained almost every day. It is a temperate rainforest though, so I shouldn't really be

surprised! But it really did feel like the wilderness. I saw a lot of wildlife; bald eagles, bears, whales. I did lots of photography. The shot I'm most proud of is of an osprey with quite a big fish in its talons coming in to land on its nest.

Quite a skilful take to get that moment.
[Long pause – deciding] Lucky.

What is your relationship like with other VCs around the country?

It's mainly friendship actually because it's like a mutual support club, tricky jobs have their moments. Useful to be able to talk to others in a similar situation. Occasionally a little bit of friendly rivalry creeps in.

Is there any bragging?

Of course! I was bragging a wee bit about our research income and how well that's doing. And of course we've done quite well in the National Student Survey this year and I was trying not to brag about that too much because I chair the national steering group for it but one or two comments do creep out.

Always nice to get acclaim from the people you're affecting. Student intake is on the rise, is this always a good thing or could the University's resources become stretched?

Yes we've over recruited slightly, from 6,700 to 7,000 students per year. We're slightly over our target but not dangerously so. We're trying to keep numbers fairly level pegging because we're trying to reduce student staff ratio and they're much lower than when I arrived. When I arrived there were 33,000 students and we're now at 30,500.

Are you looking forward to the move to the Marjorie and Arnold Ziff building?

Yeah it's looking spectacular isn't it? It's interesting how much a single building at the entrance to the campus can lift morale. I love the design – I love the big tower, and the curved shape, which was done to fit into the space while making maximum use of it. It used to be just prefabricated huts there, very underused part of campus and it was right at the front gate and created quite a bad impression I felt. But now you walk in and it's this spectacular building.

And you get a nice new office?

Well there are no breeze-blocks in the new office! The Vice Chancellor moved in here temporarily in 1967 and we're only just moving to somewhere new. We need world-class facilities for our students. When I first arrived and I saw all those places the students had to line up, out into the corridors, and all those shutters and grills, it reminded me of a police station in Soweto; it wasn't exactly welcoming. The idea is that students can get everything in one go.

Fees are back on the agenda as they were when you first arrived in 2004. What are your thoughts to the possibility of a cap lift?

Here's the serious issue, rather than answer the question directly, we want to provide a really high quality education to the students in a research intensive environment, and that isn't cheap. We are desperately keen to improve our student staff ratio, we think that will improve quality a lot. We're very very keen to make sure every student really understands the research process, the joy of it, the uncertainty of it, the difficulty of it, really understands how knowledge is created. We think you get a lot of life skills from that – teamwork, communication, ability to think critically and independent learning and so on. So, to rev that all up, we have to be well funded. It's very obvious we still haven't recovered back to the amount of money we had to teach each student in 1990. Even with the £3000 fee we're still only at about 70 per cent of the money we had back in 1990 and we need something to fill that gap, or we can't improve the quality.

Now in my personal view, and I'm happy for you to quote this, I think it's unlikely that the money will come from the taxpayer's purse. I also think it's unlikely it'll come from industry, therefore I think it's probable

“

I nearly got sent down in my first year for ruining thousands of pounds worth of cornflakes

”

that fees will have to rise. I think we need to think very carefully about the way and fee rise occurs. I don't think it was particularly helpful to have the big jump. We need to think much more about some sort of phased, over time change, rather than a big precipitate change. But you won't find a Vice Chancellor in the country that'll tell you everything's honky dory with finances, because we're all interested in providing a high, real international quality experience. I do truly believe this country now is essentially a knowledge based economy, there's global competition for that. It's in this country's interests to have a really good university centre.

Do I know what's going to happen? I haven't got a clue. I think a lot of things we were worried about last time have not come to fruition. Lot's of students still want to come to university and lots of students from lower income families are coming to university. For students from the lowest income families the deal is better than it was before because they get a lot more support and they don't have to pay up front; when it was the £1100 fee they did. We still don't know what impact it's going to have on postgraduate study, because we're only coming up to the third year aren't we. There are still some big issues out there for the Fees Review [scheduled to take place next year] to think about.

We could clearly go further into the debate on fees and maybe we will later in the year. How's your relationship with LUU?

It's been excellent all four years that I've been here. I'm absolutely staggered at the standard of the people that end up as LUU officers. I loved working with them, it's been a relationship of mutual respect, trust. I've tried to be very open with them and support them in what they're doing. I think all of the stuff they've done on democracy in the union and really trying to actively engage the student body in the affairs of the student body has been great. I always think it's going to be impossible to get a group of officers as good as the last lot but every single year we've had exactly that. And they've had to deal with some tough issues, this is a campus that throws some very active issues back at the officers, and intermittently Leeds Student does as well, I think they cope with a lot and they're very professional.

Time to lighten the tone a little if we may, we'd like to play University VC Challenged. (See what we did there?) We have a large amount of numbered questions

from University Challenge, you pick the number, we ask the correlating question.
[Laughs] Oh my God, right ok! This is always so embarrassing but do go on.

With a nod to your medical background we'd like to ask a famous question from the show. So, your starter for ten: Thuma, Towcher, Long-man, Lech-man and Little-man are Old and Middle English names for which parts of the human body?

It must be something very rude.

Answer on the show was penis and Paxman wasn't the most complimentary to the student who said it. It sends you off in that direction doesn't it. I think it would be something like... No I haven't got a clue.

Fingers.

I was a liver specialist so bones in the body: hopeless.

Which TV detective series starring Alan Davies used an arrangement of Saint-Saens' *Danse Macabre* as its signature tune?

That assumes that you watch television. I don't think I could name a single detective series on TV, isn't that shocking.

I could hum the tune if you wanted... [Embarrassingly Professor Arthur accepts and what follows can only be described as a massacre of the classical melody.]

Now you can work out how much television the Vice Chancellor watches. The only one I can think of is Taggart.

Jonathan Creek.

Never heard of it. The Vice Chancellor's working every night, what can I say?

With vestigial wings hidden within its plumage, and nostrils at the end of its long bill rather than the base, which bird belongs to the genus *Apteryx* and is related to the extinct moa?

That's a nice easy one isn't it?

You can tell how much I know about it by the appalling pronunciation.

Ostrich.

Close. It's that neck of the woods.

Erno?

It's a South Pacific Island but not Australia.

Oh is it the Kwi?

Indeed it is.

Fantastic. You catch me out every God damn time!

What's your best memory from your freshers year?

Making new friends. Fantastic. And actually quite quickly. You're always worried when you come to university about whether or not you're going to make friends, but of course everyone's in the same boat, so you do.

Worst memory?

This is a true story, and I'm so embarrassed by it, but I was nearly sent down in my first year. We'd had a few drinks in the bar, before going to listen to the Rolling Stones new album in a friend's room. After a cup of coffee, left the mugs in the sink with the tap running. So there was a big flood and the corridor was slightly tilted away from our room so we didn't know the flood was occurring. Even worse, the water went through the ceiling and ruined thousands of pounds worth of cornflakes!

And finally, what would you like to say to the students starting this year?

You've come to a great university, you've made the right choice, have a great time, avail yourself of everything that's available, and you'll leave here with a fantastic degree and a good chance for the rest of your life... Oh and study hard, the Vice Chancellor was slightly discreetly at the end.

The Leeds Student Newspaper

Media Day in the Riley Smith Hall!

Friday September 26th will see the Riley Smith Hall taken over by Leeds Student Newspaper, LSR and LS:TV. The entire editorial team will be there to chat about what each section covers and how you can get involved. It's your chance to meet us and ask any questions you like before joining our society. You'll also be able to sign up to mailing lists and receive LS's own style guides.

We will also be present in the Riley Smith Hall on Tuesday September 22nd where you have the chance to sign up.

Brand New Website!

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

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

3

Huge range on offer

State-of-the-art sports and fitness facilities provide opportunities to keep healthy and get active in a huge range of activities at Leeds. What are you waiting for?

2

Right on campus

We're just a few minutes from anywhere on campus, even less if you run, and we're open from 7.45am till 10.00pm so there's no excuse for not joining in.

1

Winning value

For less than the price of one pizza a month* you can have access to fantastic health, fitness and sports facilities.

So what's stopping you?

NO EXCUSES
GET YOUR SPORT USER CARD TODAY!

You can join using the online payments website accessible at or visit one of the Sport & Physical Activity receptions.

*Based on Standard membership compared to a Pepperoni with no extra chilli.



Leeds University has an abundance of famous, successful, downright groovy former students. So much so, we thought it'd be rude not to ask two such graduates some quick fire questions about their time here. (It just so happens that each is a former editor of Leeds' finest publication now working in the national media...)

EYE ON ALUMNI

What is your best memory from your time at Leeds?

Working for Leeds Student newspaper for four years. Exhilarating, exhausting, thrilling, sleep-sapping, fantastic fun, and I met great people who I'm still friends with 11 years later. Leeds Student was more useful than my degree for my future career, but I'm probably not supposed to tell you that.

And your worst memory?

Falling asleep in lectures and tutorials after being up all night. I'd fight valiantly to keep my eyelids open but in vain. I'd then wake with a start and see half the group looking at me with suppressed smiles.

What do you wish you had done?

Gone to the Hyde Park Picture House a lot more. It's a beautiful 100-year-old building and the city's best arthouse cinema. I only ever went once, to see Kenneth Branagh's four-hour film of Hamlet. It was so marvellous that my friend and I came out

and talked about it for ages even though we were standing in the rain.



What more do you want? A Tardis?

Do you have any advice for freshers?

Isn't being a fresher about ignoring all advice? But if you'll permit me one, I suggest going to the freshers' fair and joining a society or two. You can immediately meet some like-minded people and can put something impressive like 'Amnesty International' on your CV.

**DAVID SMITH,
THE OBSERVER
(EDITOR 1996-1997)**

What was your favourite drinking haunt?

The Dry Dock on Woodhouse Lane. It was just over the road from the old Leeds Student office, so we would head there after our end-of-week meeting to continue the post-mortem. A big boat anchored in grass in the middle of Leeds. What more do you want? A Tardis?



**DAMIAN WHITWORTH,
THE TIMES
(EDITOR 1990-1991)**

What is the best memory of your time spent at the University?

Walking across the leafy campus towards the student union on a sunny June evening after my final final, gasping for my first glug of watery Australian lager, relishing a moment of freedom that had been dreamt of for months.

What is your worst memory of the University?

Waking up the next morning

What do you wish you had done while at Leeds?

Spent more time tramping the Yorkshire Dales than staggering the Otley Run. Better pubs and beer up there and it doesn't take 45 minutes to get served.

to tell you that, of course you will.

Did you have a favourite drinking haunt?

The Red Lion at Burnsall. But spent rather more time in the Original Oak.



What advice would you give a fresher coming to Leeds in September?

The time will race by so make sure you do something other than just drink your own body weight in booze every night. There are so many opportunities and the people in your flat are not as interesting as the members of the Sarah Palin Appreciation Society. Possibly. Read more books. I know I sound like a crashing old bore, but you'll never have the time to do so again. Oh, and never pursue the same girl/boy as your best mate. I don't know why I'm bothering



Never pursue the same girl/boy as your best mate.

FRESHIQUETTE

n. essential information and behaviour for those beginning to study at a chosen institution of educative learning

Academic

n. You. Apparently.

Classics

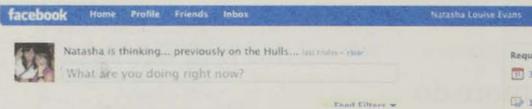
n. 1. A subject studied at university.
2. Xena Warrior Princess.

Cocksoc

n. 1. Society for cocktail aficionados.

Computer cluster

n.



Deposit

v. 1. A gesture of good will: "Will you be good and deposit £300 in my account please?" The letting agent asked the vacant student.
n. 2. A sum of money you will never see in its entirety again.

Essay

n. 1. A piece of written work studiously researched, containing a well constructed argument and an appropriate method of referencing.
2. An interruption to an otherwise nice night before a deadline.
3. A repetitive exercise, occurring intermittently, with the ability to make you blind.

Five-a-day

n. Recommend daily intake of pints of alcohol by medics (of the Worsley Building).

Friendship

n. Displayed through an act of mercy/selflessness. "Will you show your friendship by holding my hair while I vomit into this wardrobe?"

Fruity

n. Congregation of intellectuals with the common bond of cheese addiction and radioactive levels of intoxication.

Homework

n.



Hygiene

n.



Job

n. Something in a far distant reality. Mystically named 'Grown-ups' often have one.

Leeds Student

n. An exemplary and impartial newspaper that would not stoop to obvious self-advertisement in the name of an informative article.

Nutrition

n.



Recycle

v. 1. To relieve a public house of the pint-shaped glass cluttering its establishment.
2. To turn one's boxers or knickers inside out.

Roger Stevens Building

n.



Running

v. A movement of legs at rapid speed, usually partaken in an effort to attend a lecture on time.

School

n. a place you thought you'd left behind two years ago only to find it as your centre of learning for the next three.

Socials

n. pl. Bonding events with a confirmed guests to actual attendees ratio of 10:1.

Twelve 'o' clock

n. a time in the day occurring only once.

Virgin

n. Your internet, cable television and landline provider.

LIVING OFF FRESH AIR

At *Leeds Student* we feel obliged to give you some help on how to make your student loan go as far as possible. So here goes:

TRANSPORT

The cheapest option, obviously, is to walk. And the healthy option is to cycle, skate, rollerblade or skip. But if you're feeling the hangover then the more lazy and certainly more expensive option is to catch the bus. BUT if you are going to choose this option regularly then make sure you get a student bus pass to save some money.

WEBSITES

A great idea is to surf the internet for new and unusual money saving ideas. There are lots of useful websites out there and more to be found. As a start check out www.setyourrate.com, and find out how to sell your skills for a good price, whether you can teach piano or windsurfing. And then also visit www.studentbeans.com, for the low-down on the best student deals and competitions.

FRESHERS' FAIR

WARNING: do not purchase a spatula. You get loads free in fresher's week, too many even! The fresher's fair is a must attend event whether or not you are a fresher to pick up useful items. And for less practical items but free gig and event tickets in exchange for a review or two join *LeedsStudent*.

RANDOM IDEAS

Go busking and have a go at quite literally singing for your supper. But be sure to get into the city early as it gets competitive for the best spot, and you'll need to draw in the crowds to see the cash. And for something different, although we should be plugging all societies, we have a slight favouritism for French Soc. as they give out free croissants!

REFRESH

ESSENTIALS

The cheapest supermarket no doubt is ASDA, but you'll need a car or to make the trek on the bus to get there. So then the next best option is Morrisons in town, though try to avoid getting in a fight with a chav! Alternatively, if you're willing to splash the cash there's Somerfield in Headingley. But, if you're not doing a big shop then for convenience there is good old Sainsbury's - you can find one in Hyde Park and Headingley.

EATING OUT

Leeds and the surrounding area boast a vast array of places to eat out, some expensive and some less so. Sukothai, a highly popular Thai restaurant and take-away in Headingley, is definitely worth a visit. Or, for a treat then there is the highly acclaimed Italian restaurant Salvos in Headingley. On the other hand for a more chilled out dining vibe there is La Cafetiere, on Hyde Park corner where we recommended the falafal and Viva Cuba in town, which has a good deal on a Cuban lunch buffet everyday. And of course there are the places for when you're really slumming it like Gangsters where you can grab a £1.50 pizza and it's conveniently just on the doorstep of the university.

LUU SHOPS & BARS: AT A GLANCE

ESSENTIALS

Funly enough this Union store provides just that, the bare necessities. With an ever-expanding freezer section, hopes are high for even more easily accessibly culinary delights ready to buy on campus. If you don't rely on this handy outlet for your grocery shop you will soon learn to raid the shelves come lunchtime for some of the best sandwich bargains around.

MINE BAR

This is the place to grab a sophisticated lunch on campus, having table service and cutlery available. With food at a reasonable price, it is a great place to meet friends for a proper sit down and catch-up session. As darkness falls Mine becomes host to a variety of music nights, with a fair sprinkling of live bands. It's sunken dance floor and alcove seating provides for a great night out with a Cavern-esque atmosphere.

OLD BAR

The traditional pub is a Leeds legend, as are its quiz nights. The Old Bar quiz becomes fiercely competitive as the year progresses and it is actually surprisingly tricky. It doesn't help that the bar is below ground level and mobile phone reception is often impaired. This means that it is a lot harder to cheat whilst taking part in the quiz. It also means that if you get stood up waiting for someone down there you can convince yourself that they did at least try to phone.

TERRACE BAR

This spacious lounge bar offers a chance to play pool during the winter months or lounge on its namesake 'terrace' during the summer months. A hotbed for post-lecture chats, you can grab a pint or a coffee depending what tickles your fancy. The bar also proves incredibly popular during the summer exam period, when troops of students descend from the exam halls for a much-needed fag and pint.

STYLUS & PULSE

The hub of Union nightlife can be found in these two spaces. The notorious Fruity Fridays are a must at least once during your University experience. The themed Fruity nights include a Christmas party where there is fake snow galore and Santa's helpers dancing on stage. You can keep ahead of themes and nights by checking out www.fruityfridays.com.

FRESHEN UP

HALLS

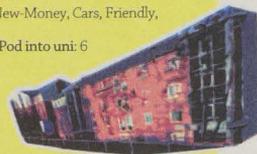
Tick tock, pop the glock, forget all the university's blarbl... it's time for a reality check. Here's a summary of the main fresher dwellings.

James Baillie Park

In 5 words: Sporty, New-Money, Cars, Friendly, Altitudinous

Time it takes on an iPod into uni: 6 songs

Personified: Nathan Morris from Boyz II Men, Leona Lewis



Devonshire

In 5 words: Ignominious, Selective-Breeding, Inapplicable, Orange, Virginal

Time it takes on an iPod into uni: iPods are

for poor people darling, we use Stella McCartney's Adidas range headphones, worn around our necks while we drag our Uggs and Havanias into art history

Personified: Peaches Gelfof, Princess Beatrice

Bodington

In 5 words: Huge, Endangered, State-school equivalent-of Hogwarts (where the non fee-paying wizards go)

Time it takes on an iPod into uni: The entire back catalogue of Brahms

Personified: Noel Gallagher, Denise Van Outen

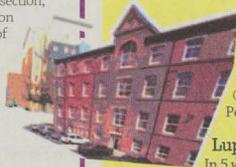


Leodis

In 5 words: Pricey, Ghetto, Bling, Good-Craic, Overrated

Time it takes on an iPod into uni: Got stolen, not sure

Personified: J-Lo, Mario from BB9



Lupton

In 5 words: Cheap, Scenic, Convenient, Inconvenient, KFC

Time it takes on an iPod into uni: 10 songs on foot, 30 songs by bus (the first bus is full, the second doesn't come, nightmare)

Personified: Jarvis Cocker, Cat Deeley

Henry Price

In 5 words: Long, Monotonous, Plebeian, Monophonic, Sarcophagus (but on campus, whoop whoop!)

Time it takes on an iPod into uni:

The intro of 50 Cent's Ayo Technology, so that's 27 seconds
Personified: Peter Crouch, Zezi Iforo



Marya Yasin

Favourite place to study:
Edward Boyle, level 13

Favourite place at night-
time: Sahara, a Moroccan
cafe in the Headrow

Best thing about Leeds Uni:
The people



Natasha Evans

Favourite place to study:
Brotherton, first floor
Favourite place at night-
time:
Mook, for the cocktails
Best thing about Leeds Uni:
The fact it caters for
everyone and everything,
many different strokes for
many different folks!



Rob Heath

Favourite place to study:
Edward Boyle, level 10

Favourite place at night-
time: The Wendy House

Best thing about Leeds Uni:
The Union, best in the
country!



Three people, three ways to experience Freshers' in Leeds

Nauseous, nervous and totally out of my depth. Okay it may not have been that bad but my Freshers' Week didn't exactly pan out to be the best week of my life.

As a Leedonian (born and bred in Leeds, don't worry it will catch on) it never occurred to me that University life was going to be any different from College. Unlike most people I decided to stay on at home to study and due to this decision I did not feel any anxiety or nervousness at starting a new chapter in my life.

So without an ounce of enthusiasm and ill preparation I journeyed to my new educational surrogate where I would spend the next three years of my life. Soon enough my initial Zen-like calm escaped me and my stomach became a breeding ground of jumping butterfies.

Freshers' Week was manic. Registration, electives fair, module codes, student cards, printer credits, argh!!! On top of that walking became near impossible. Having leaflets, coupons (and on one occasion an inflatable banana) advertising 'five vodka shots for a quid', thrown at you every five feet were an annoyance. I've never had so many invitations to an all-night bingeing session in my life.

But as a teetotaler (there are some out there) such an emphasis on alcohol-related 'fun' did nothing to help me warm to my new surroundings. I didn't hate my Freshers' Week, I just didn't think I fitted in and I was unwilling to participate in any Otley Runs.

F The most surprising thing is the people you meet.

Without trying to sound like a cliché, things did get a lot better. The initial worry and displacement of the first five days wore away and I took advantage of what the Student Union had to offer. Like others I joined different societies, made friends and settled in. The most surprising thing about the whole Freshers experience is the people you meet. I have learnt so much just by speaking to people who I would never have met if I had got a full-time job instead of studying. University is not just about achieving a 2:1 but also about embracing all aspects of student life (and you can do that without getting a banging hangover the next day).

And so dear freshers I welcome you to the next chapter of your lives.

Fresherdom is the best part of university life. You will never have a year as good as the first. You will never be this drunk again. You will never meet so many cool people again. Quite simply, you will never, ever forget it.

Enough of the big dramatic statements. The fact is that university life is pretty different for everybody and at no point will this be more apparent than during Freshers' week.

To demonstrate this I will refer back to my first year abode, a beloved flat within Halls with a suitably furnished room and a bedroom door that locked. On a day in mid-September 2006 a group of very different individuals found themselves in one very similar situation and set upon making that flat our base for the following ten months, but most importantly we tried to make it a place where we could survive 'Intro Week'. Despite being holed up in the same stinky cavity we all had a very different week.

My first flatmate took to university life with total ease, she knew everything and everyone within days. The hero of the flat, she managed to pull an absolute blinder at the Intro Party, when one of our fellow housemates lost her ticket she managed to convince Bradley from S Club to escort us in through the VIP entrance. The night flew by with us bopping along, drinking out of our plastic cups whilst waving madly at Bradley from down in the sweaty pit.

Another of my flatmates discovered one of the more addictive and troublesome parts of university life straight away. His student loan went pretty quickly and he sauntered around the flat in just his pants cockily talking about what an incredible night it had been, what a trip he'd had. We all tired quickly of his unoriginal account of a mad night and we got our own smug revenge when he was left naked outside our halls broom, dazed and completely mugged off.

My other female housemate also learnt how easy it is to go off the rails and let it all out during this introductory week. The key really is to remember it's all in the name, this is the time during which you introduce yourself to your fellow students and in a larger sense, to the world. She took this instruction to heart and let it all hang out, tried new things and committed the ultimate fresher sin, she 'fell in love'. Needless to say by the end of the week, thanks to some carefully planned wooing on the part of the older guy, she experienced a total loss of innocence. Literally.

My last housemate was the kind of flatmate I had pictured having. He was awesome. Sure, he actually caused my first fresher breakdown when I caught him kicking the kitchen utensils clean in a bid to avoid washing up. However, it was his genius that made some of my best fresher moments. He pulled us out of our midweek haze when he turned our kitchen into its own club, strobe light and disco ball included. The drink began flowing and by 5 am a group of us sat around a bottle as he started to rap and his new friend strummed Wonder Wall.

As I sat around watching all these inebriated strangers shunning their inhibitions to take a turn with the whisky mike, I realised what summed up my experience of Freshers' Week. It was the people that I had met and spent it with, the bizarre experiences we had shared and the fact that finally, it was over.

Intro week. Thousands of fresh-faced students come flocking to Leeds with the Hollyoaks-related preconceptions of engaging in the great institutions of flagrant sexual debauchery and copious alcoholism at the forefront of their minds. Tempered only by the size of their massive, throbbing loins, these randy party animals spend their way through the first week racking up a bar tab that would make Amy Winehouse wince. This was pretty much exactly what my first week was nothing like.

I timidly arrived on the Sunday, walking into a nest of day-old friendships. Never fear, my halls had organised an introductory barbecue for



Over the course of the week I went out more than I ate.

everyone to get to know each other! Not being a particularly assertive person, I summoned up all my courage and, in a moment of brilliant misfortune, introduced myself to the one person there that wasn't a student. Arse. I blended back into the crowd of faces, ate my undercooked sausage, and said no more.

That evening came the proverbial Night Out. I'd never really done the drinking thing during college. We queued for three quarters of an hour to buy a beer in the Terrace, only for me to drink half of it, pretending to enjoy it, because beer is cool, right? Giddily rocking on the chair I was sat on, I suggested that the guy next to me, my new best friend, should finish the rest because I was fuckin' bladdered mate, or thereabouts. Home early after less than one toilet trip's worth of alcohol? Check.

Over the course of the week I went out more often than I ate, including a fantastic Intro Party which was spent dancing like a pillock to live N-Trance and binge drinking like I had a vendetta against my liver - I racked up probably a good two to three pints in total that night. Yeah, I was painting the town red.

The complete change in my life led me almost to forget my own personality, as my girlfriend was often to point out. It definitely changed me from the slightly socially reclusive teetotaler I was into the compulsive socialite I'm not today.

PUB AMMO

A short blast of knowledge that can have you impressing your new best mates down at your new favourite bar.

Facts about

Leeds city

According to data, the population of Leeds is 715,404 – making it the third biggest city in the UK after London and Birmingham.

The odds are generously stacked in your favour guys, as there are a fair few more females (369,570) than males (345,834) living in Leeds.

Natives of Leeds are known as Loiners, after the lanes or loins around Briggate in the city centre.

Whilst studying in the centre of Leeds, you are only approximately 20 miles away from the picturesque Yorkshire Dales.

The Kaiser Chiefs' 'I predict a riot' refers to scenes outside Majestyk night club on Saturday nights.

A common misconception is that TV comic Avid Merrion took his name from city centre shopping paradise, the Merrion Centre. Instead, this Leeds born comedy performer confirmed on the programme Comedy Map of Britain, that he adapted a former teachers characteristics and name.

Kirkgate Market in Leeds is where Michael Marks first opened his Penny Bazaar (1884) which was to lead, ultimately, to the foundation of Marks & Spencer, in 1890.

Facts about

Leeds Uni

Students contribute £860 million a year to the local economy - students add a further £190 million through rents and living costs.

We have 15 National Teaching Fellows – more than any other university in England or Northern Ireland.

Since 2006, the University has:

- filed more than 60 patents – an average of more than one a week
- developed 23 Knowledge Transfer Partnerships with local companies
- incubated 45 companies founded by undergraduates
- spun out 13 new companies (including four public flotations) valued at over £88 million.

We have won more environmental awards than any other UK university including the 2006 Green Gown award for Waste Management and the 2007 Award for Continuous Improvement.

Jack Straw, former Home Secretary was in fact LUU President. After a Union ban in 2000, as a result of his asylum seekers policy during his time in office as Home Secretary, was lifted last year his name was re-installed on the Presidents board. An act of vandalism saw it quickly removed once more.

There are currently 33,605 people currently

registered to the University of Leeds network on Facebook. More people than are actually registered to the University.

The water feature outside of the Roger Stevens building was originally built to form part of the cooling process for an air conditioning system. It was never used for this purpose and remains purely as an external landscaping feature.

Leeds people

Former editors of Leeds Student:

Paul Dacre, Editor of the Daily Mail, English 1984.
Nicholas Witchell, BBC newsreader and royal and diplomatic correspondent, LLB in Law 1976
Jay Rayner, features writer and restaurant critic for The Observer, Political Studies 1987.

Your first exam! Match these famous names with their course and time of study at Leeds:

1. Corrinne Bailey Rae, Soul Singer.



2. Alan Bennett, playwright.



3. Mark Byford, Deputy director general, BBC.



4. Georgie Thompson, Presenter, Sky Sports News.



5. Alistair McGowan, impressionist, comedian and actor.



6. Mystic Meg, Astrologer, The Sun.



7. Jenni Falconer, Presenter, GMTV.



8. Dr Piers Sellers, NASA astronaut; undertook three space walks as crew member, Space Shuttle Atlantis, 2002.

a. , English Literature 2000

b. Broadcast Journalism, 1999

c. Spanish and Italian, 1990s, but never graduated.

d. Originates from Leeds, but did not study here.

e. English Literature, 1964

f. Law, 1979

g. PhD Biometeorology, 1981

h. English Literature, 1986



FRESHEN UP

OTLEY RUN

Famous for its sheer messy outcomes and fantastically inventive costumes, Leeds' longest pub crawl needs a little introduction...

The Otley Run is an age-old tradition belonging to members of the Leeds community, and a sacred ritual that most newcomers to the area are keen to respect and participate in. The pub crawl stretches from Headingley all the way down to the city centre and usually begins early in the afternoon in order to visit as many pubs as possible before closing time. The most popular route is as follows: Woodies, The Three Horseshoes, (The New Inn?), The Arc (or Trio?), Headingley Taps, The Skyrack, Original Oak, Hyde Park Pub, The Library, Packhorse, Eldon, Old Bar in the Union, Fenton, Strawberry Fields, Dry Dock.

Fancy dress is compulsory, and the practical benefits of this rule become apparent round about The Library where faces start to blur and a fluorescent feather-boa or pair of bunny ears doubles up as an identity marker for lost members of the group. The most successful costumes incorporate a safe place for valuables such as a sexy bum-bag or pouch, and are easy to go to the toilet in. Remembering to relieve oneself in the Original Oak is particularly important, as the distance from here to the Hyde Park pub can be lethal if seven pints are suddenly bursting to make an appearance.

The Otley run is notoriously tough, and it takes a seasoned drinker with a hardy liver to reach the Dry Dock standing up. Rumour has it that such heroes are acknowledged on arrival with a private award ceremony hosted by Bruce Forsyth and attended by the cast of High School Musical 2, however potential witness accounts are thwarted by a loss of memory which hinders recollection of any activities taking place between swearing at the bouncers and throwing up in a dustbin.

Fancy dress Ideas

1 Famous alcoholics e.g. George Best, Homer Simpson, Johnny Cash, Tosh from The Bill.

2 Leeds University buildings e.g. Roger Stevens' concrete mess or The Great Halls' magisterial beauty, your choice.

3 Food off a takeaway menu. Kebabs, cheesy chips, 18 inch pizzas: by the end of the night you'll be trying to eat yourself.

4 Trees.

words/ clare pidsley

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Media Day in the Riley Smith Hall!

Friday September 26th will see the Riley Smith Hall taken over by Leeds Student Newspaper, LSR and LS:TV. To play our part in the day, the entire team of LS section editors will be there to chat about what each section covers and how you can get involved. It's your chance to meet us and ask any questions you like before joining our society. You'll also be able to sign up to mailing lists and receive LS's own style guides.

We will also be present in the Riley Smith Hall on Tuesday September 22nd where you have the chance to sign up.

Brand New Website!

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

COME ON IN!

Our step-by-step guide to navigating the maze that is Leeds University Union and finding the Leeds Student Newspaper office.
All are welcome, so what are you waiting for?

First meeting for
writers: Friday
September 26th in the
Riley Smith Hall 5pm

We are
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