

LEEDS STUDENT

INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

STUDENT REMAINS AT UNIVERSITY DESPITE KNIFE ATTACK AT POLY BOP

STABBING SENTENCE CAUSES OUTRAGE

The University of Leeds has been criticised for failing to take disciplinary action against a student who attacked a member of union security with a meat cleaver.

Leeds Green Court heard on Monday how Trevor Matsumai, 22, armed himself with four knives after he was thrown out of the Poly Bop last June and returned "intent on causing grievous bodily harm" to members of the Polytechnic (now LCU) security staff.

But this week LCU staff were outraged that the judge had not awarded a custodial sentence but instead ordered Matsumai to pay £524 and do 180 hours of community service.

Staff also expressed surprise and anger when it was revealed that Leeds University had taken no disciplinary action against him.

The court heard how Matsumai, a second year science student at the University of Leeds, was out with his friends celebrating the completion of his first year exams when security staff refused him entry into the students union bar, at what was then the polytechnic, because he was in breach of rules by attempting to take in a glass containing beer.

Matsumai, of Lydden Terrace, Woodhouse, threatened the security staff before returning some time later armed with four knives, including a meat cleaver

By Helen Croosedy

with a seven inch blade.

The member of security who was attacked, Nicholas Dodgson, a second year Quantity Surveying student, told Leeds Starline he was outraged at the light sentencing.

"The prosecution promised me he would be put away. Leeds University has tried to hush this up. I'm disgusted that he has been allowed to complete his degree. I am very sad that justice has not been done" he said.

The court heard how Dodgson, 20, and another student who was a member of security, were dealing with a violent man on 16 June last year when

Matsumai returned from being thrown out and joined in - with the meat cleaver. He raised the cleaver above his head and tried to stab Dodgson's colleague.

Dodgson put his arm around his colleague and pulled him out of the way but Dodgson received a cut on the hand.

Having heard character references from university staff, describing Matsumai as a quiet and reserved person who behaved responsibly, Deputy Circuit Judge Harry Bennett took what he admitted was an unusual step and imposed a non-custodial community service sentence.

The judge said that he had no doubt the drink that Matsumai had taken that night had elevated

his "habitual reserve and restraint". A custodial sentence would have resulted in the student, a South African, losing his university place and being deported.

LCU Head of Security, Gavin Hair, said: "I am appalled that Leeds University have done nothing about the fact that one of their students attacked one of my staff so viciously. It was obviously premeditated. The sentence was far to lenient with no thought given to the victim."

Leeds University was not available for comment but Leeds Student understands that no disciplinary action has been taken and Matsumai has been allowed to remain on his course.



Tea, bingo and dancing at Action bash

The average age of diners at the University Refectory rocketed on Wednesday afternoon as elderly people from Leeds enjoyed the annual bazaar, organised by LCU Action.

The event, a mock version of which was held for the benefit of the Duchess of Kent on her visit to the university as Chancellor last month, was organised by Action volunteers, many of whom had been preparing food and decorations since Jan.

Claire Chaffin, Action Coordinator, said: "There were well over a hundred elderly people and

By Marina Pearson

they all seemed to be having an excellent time. It's great to see Action members integrate so well with the older people in our community."

The elderly people enjoyed tea, sandwiches, biscuits and even dancing with Action members.

Bingo was the highlight of the bazaar and winners received Matward day treats and chocolates. Gladys Wright, one winner, said: "I am looking forward

to travelling to Hilary or Roundhay Park when the weather gets nice."

A raffle at the end had prizes of sherry, chocolates, tinware and city street tickets. Alfred Spencer, who attended the party for the third year running said: "I just give better and better every year!"

According to Claire Chaffin the tea party was more successful than ever before, because "so many of the elderly people kept in take their cushions when they left".

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FEATURES

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"Who cares about
student apathy?"

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In Brief

Beer bribe for AGM

Following the failure to achieve quorum at the last AGM, Leeds Metropolitan University Students Union will make another attempt next week.

The meeting will be held at Beckford Park campus on Thursday 18 March at 1pm.

According to Warwick Taylor, VP Administration, it is essential that they achieve quorum this time. In an attempt to do this they are offering the Club or Society that gets the most students to attend, a couple of free crates of beer.

Wimmin's week

Leeds University Union has this week played its part in International Women's week with a series of displays and talks, with the highlight being the celebrity debate between Judge Picken and Jane Mills, writes Jane Gallagher.

Fiona McFie, LLU Women's Officer, said the Union-funded displays aimed to raise awareness on issues such as rape, paternity and women's safety. But she was disappointed that women had to go out of their way to be recognised and taken seriously.

"It is a bit sad that we have to have a special week set aside at all," she said.

A pathetic OGM

Student apathy was again illustrated this week as only 95 students turned up to the Leeds University OGM, writes Philip Baker and Charlotte Lomas.

The record low frequency means that it was impossible to pass union policy on the defence of vital LCU services such as the welfare office, women's centres, sports clubs, and societies.

Students had hoped to discuss plans for the defence of the National Union of Students, which is under attack from government proposals for voluntary membership and plans to ban Lloyd's and Midlands Press advertising at the union and funding for a Third World Film education Campaign.

Plans to merge safety buses

By Helen Crossley

Plans were revealed this week to merge the three women's minibuses currently operating in Leeds.

LLU Women's Officer, Fiona McFie, LLM Vice President Communications, Elaine Ratcliffe, and Kirsty Robinson, co-ordinator of the council-run Nightlink, will meet next week to discuss merger.

LLU, LLM and Nightlink all

offer safe transport schemes for women and although each has slightly different aims and target audiences, there is some overlap of service.

Fiona McFie said: "A co-ordination of the three separate schemes would produce a more effective and comprehensive

service. We could offer minibuses more guarantee of being in a certain place at a certain time."

Elaine Ratcliffe agreed that it sounds a logical idea but warned: "It will be very difficult to work out the logistics of it all. Problems could occur about financing between the unions."

● The campaign for women's safety took another step forward

on Tuesday when the OGM voted its support for a fourth Women's Minibus. The introduction of modularisation next year will put pressure on the existing University of Leeds Minibus service and the introduction of a fourth bus could be vital to women's safety. Support was also expressed for any initiatives to help serve the Nightlink bus service.

Gas scare after deaths

By David Limerick

Worries about the safety of gas appliances in student housing intensified this week after the death of two Liverpool students last Friday night.

The second year girls, who had only recently moved into rented accommodation, are thought to have been killed by Carbon Monoxide poisoning caused by a gas-leaking fire.

British Gas are currently in the middle of a safety campaign, aimed at students, to warn them of the potential risks of poorly maintained gas appliances.

Leaflets have been distributed in order to inform people of measures they can take to minimise the danger.

Andrew Nutter, a spokesman for British Gas, said:

"It's diabolical that such a tragedy should occur because landlords are more interested in rent cheques than in the lives of their tenants."

He encouraged students to have their gas equipment checked if they are at all unsure of their safety.

Come on, stub it out



Anti-smoker hint, smoking is bad for your health

Picture: Richard Heath

Both Leeds Metropolitan University and Leeds University seek to educate their students this week about the dangers of smoking.

At Leeds Metropolitan University smokers were encouraged to give up with the offer of free nicotine and a competition.

Students were also encouraged to throw into a little black box of wishes, which increased the level of carbon monoxide.

By Kelvin McKenzie

At Leeds University stickers and leaflets were given out.

But Andy Wild, a smoker studying at LLM, said: "I hate smoking day. You can't even have a flag in peace without some disgusting jumping down your throat telling you to give it up. I always deliberately smoke more fags."

MP 'Battles' against poverty

By Imogen Ridgway, Sarah Blunnie & Claire Bridgman

A Leeds MP is backing a Leeds University campaign to highlight the issue of student poverty.

This follows the publication of new figures that show that students are under greater financial pressures than ever.

Amendra Berkeville, LLU Welfare Secretary, presented John Battle, MP for Leeds West, with 758 postcards written by students at last term's free soap kitchen.

Mr Battle plans to raise the issue in the House of Commons as soon as possible.

Pete Metcalfe, a member of LLU Union Council, felt that the presentation had been a success

and was pleased that students were to be represented in Westminster.

"Anything that raises Government awareness of this issue has got to be good news," he said.

Ed Mason, LLU General Secretary, said the figures showed that the Union's short-term loan facility would become even more essential in raising the financial pressures faced by students.

"Because of the high rents and ineligibility for social

security, students in dire financial trouble are finding the loan service increasingly vital," he said.

"The total amount given by Leeds University Union has increased threefold over the past year, and so it's becoming a more and more valuable service," he added.

The renewed focus for student welfare has led the LLU Welfare Office to carry out a survey on student hardship early next term.

Amendra Berkeville said: "The results of the survey will hopefully give LLU a sound, accurate record of how exactly students are managing to survive on such a low income."

LUU dashes student hopes

By Fran Littlewood

The hopes of thousands of Leeds students were dashed this week after exec members voted unanimously against a ban on leafleting on the union steps, the haunt of helpful politicians and nightclub promoters.

Angry complaints were lodged to the union exec by students who said that they strongly objected to the relentless harassment by pamphleteers who attract students frequenting the union building.

Third year Classics student Sam Grundy told Leeds Student: "It's like fighting your way through a battlefield. After the fifth leaflet being thrust in your face it all gets a bit messy."

Administration Secretary, Mark Digson, said that the congestion of the steps caused by the leafletters can be annoying and may even constitute a fire hazard.

But he pointed out that the steps are where the majority of publicity goes on. "It is an important union facility."

But Law student Louise Carter said: "It's just a bloody nuisance."

Graduate unemployment

By Jon Woodman

Graduates are more likely to be out of work than people with vocational qualifications, according to a study released this week.

While graduate unemployment among under-25s is at 17.9 per cent, students with City and Guilds or Royal Society of Arts qualifications have a 14.2 per cent chance of finding themselves on the dole.

Those with BTEC Higher have less than a one in 10 chance of failing to find a job.

Experts expect graduate unemployment to hit 11 per cent later this year.

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Police baffled by mystery billboard saboteurs

Mystery groups of billboard saboteurs have got Leeds police baffled.

The student groups have been facing posters all over Leeds, replacing advertising slogans with gory or snarky messages.

Recently a Switch billboard advertisement at Hyde Park Corner was altered from "It's Snarky's Choice. It's time to Switch" to "It's Snarky's Choice. It's time to Stal".

By Matthew Roper

Other companies to fall victim include Vauxhall, Nestle and Whiskas.

Nigel Turner, a spokesman for Switch, said: "It's very disappointing that these people think that Switch is a rip-off. Clearly they have no understanding of the product."

Dave Johnson, the university's

community constable, said: "It could literally be anyone, although obviously it's a young person's thing. Some people seem to gain enjoyment or gratification out of it."

However, in an interview with Leeds *Student* one of the people involved explained the motives behind their actions: "We're pissed off with the way consumerism is destroying the planet. Those billboards are placed in our area

without our consent. What they are saying is a pack of lies and our aim is to make the advertisements a bit more honest."

The incidents in Leeds are not centrally organised, being the work of separate groups, but they claim to be part of a wider international movement including networks as far afield as the USA.

The campaign is expected to continue.

Circus protestors turn out en masse

By Ross France

Aprotest of Leeds students have organised a campaign to protest against Gandy's Circus, which this week arrived at Woodhouse Moor.

Groups of up to fifty students have been distributing leaflets outside the circus, in an attempt to persuade people not to go in. A spokesman from the circus said: "They're just a bunch of scruffy long-haired layabouts who know nothing about animals - they haven't even seen the show."

He claimed that the animals in the circus would be looked after, saying: "We have to be checked by the RSPCA before we can even enter Leeds."

Circus-going families appeared unmoved by the students' protest. One circus fan, Edding Apsan, said: "Well, it's just fun for the kids."

But grammarian Ellie Clement said that there were other long-term aims in the protest. "Obviously it's hard for parents with children to suddenly dropped the child by not going but maybe they'll think again next time," she said.

The group also hopes that their protest will succeed in making Gandy's less inclined to return next year.

Phone box robbery

By Sam Greenhill

Police are searching for two men who robbed a student at a telephone in a phonebox in Chapeltown last Sunday night.

The plucky 20-year-old, who wishes to remain nameless, was making a phone call when the door suddenly opened and two men produced a knife and demanded cash.

The student was told to put up his hands while he was searched and had his wallet and other possessions stolen.

But once the two had fled, the victim took chase and followed them to Woodhouse Moor, where the robbers suddenly turned and chased him back. After a further chase, and counter-chase the student was forced to escape, unhurt.

The pair are both Afro-Caribbean males. One is 20-30 years old, 5ft 8in, with a thin face, a grey beard and hair down to below his shoulders. The second was medium build, wearing a black woody hat and dark clothing.

Witnesses should contact Chapeltown CID on 435553.

Hair today and gone tomorrow



Big bad hair: Simon Green poses to consider the wisdom of his hairstyle decision.

Photo: Richard Black

Leeds University Rag's comic look-off affair got off to a hairy start this week with Gel the Barber from Goli's Place trimming locks for charity.

Said Gel: "I've shared nearly 20 hairs today and raised £250."

By Patrick Jenkins

Another attraction is the Postal Auction which gives you the chance to win videos, signed footballs, signed phones and two tickets for an

Evening home game.

Sealed postal votes should be sent to Leeds Rag, LRU (PO Box 157, Leeds LS1 1UH).

If you haven't yet got your bid ready for tonight's celebrations, they are available in LRU's foyer.

Big doberman objects to fun

By Sam Greenhill

Few students escaped a strange doberman by inches as they were chased out of a school playground after a candidate set his dog on them.

Jillie Reed, Kate Lee, Andrew Rowe and Jessica King, all second year students at the University of Leeds, defied a sign saying something about trespassers and proceeded and chased out a well-mannered primary school playground after an evening of drinking in the Royal Park.

"We were just musing around," said Reed. "We went in for a quick game of hopscotch and we had been playing for a couple of minutes when suddenly there was a faint alarm behind us. We spun round and a huge doberman started barking at us. We ran for the wall and just made it over its fence."

The caretaker called the dog back over the wall and had made it to safety, but, said Reed, "I wouldn't advise anyone to venture there at night."

Climbers head for dizzy heights with Himalayan expedition

Three adventures Leeds students are leading a British expedition to be the first ever to reach the summit of Mount Sasi, in the Himalayas.

University of Leeds students Simon Grayson and Keron Coel will accompany Leeds Metropolitan University undergraduate Barney Wainwright on an arduous journey which will take them to an altitude of 5345 metres.

The three Leeds climbers are all

experienced mountaineers who have climbed together before in Scotland and the Alps.

However, the entire expedition will be under threat unless the students can raise a further £1,200, according to Grayson.

Anyone who can help with raising funds is asked to contact Simon on 747223.

Video phones to help the death

By Julia Oldham

A system to enable deaf people to use the phones at Leeds University Union will soon be installed. The Minkom system operates at the switchboard where the words of the call would appear on a screen.

Users will need to possess a special receptor to make use of the new service though, according to Amanda Berkowitz, LRU Welfare Secretary, many deaf people already have one and are already accustomed to using it.

"The new phone system will

be of enormous benefit to deaf members of Leeds University Union," she said.

Fiona McGee at LRU said the phones should go ahead even if there aren't many deaf people: "The point is that even if only one deaf person at the university has the receptor, we should have it."

Introducing Minkom will cost about £120 and it should be installed by the end of this term.

Off Campus

By Jula Oldham

A shaggy dog story

A dog-loving couple who took their 'pup' to the vet, worried about its vicious tendencies, were told that the cuddly white creature was in fact a polar bear.

They had bought the pup at a market in Hungary, unaware of its £30,000 black-market value.

Hitting the bottle

Children of nine are becoming regular drinkers. Close to a third of the children interviewed for a survey had drunk alcohol in the previous month.

Perhaps Leeds should hold its breath for its next generation of students.

What a load of rubbish

A toddler nicknamed 'Rubbish' played 180 feet from a town clock in a rubbish chute, crawling into a double, with only a mouse cut on the head to show for it.

Any old bras

A catering union in Norway wants people to send old bras to the government in protest at low welfare system subsidies in bars.

As the Bishop said to the monk...

The Bishop of Gloucester resigned this week after admitting gross indecency against a monk.

The Bishop quit following a police investigation. He said that he engaged with great sadness.

The day of judgement

Judge James Pickles, the only judge who admits to driving a Corvette at 96mph when he's feeling naughty, came to Leeds University Union on Wednesday to discuss rape and whether "no means no". Lisa McWilliam spoke to him afterwards

He has clashed with the Lord Chancellor, visited a brothel, called for the legalisation of cannabis and sentenced a woman for seven days imprisonment after she refused to give evidence against a man charged with assaulting her.

The one thing Judge James Pickles hasn't done is stay out of the public limelight.

As part of Women's Week, Judge Pickles took part in a debate entitled 'Does No Always Mean No?' in the King's Smith Hall at Leeds University Union and over 600 students turned up to hear him.

The other guest speaker was Jane Mills, a lecturer from Sheffield and herself a rape victim, who spoke eloquently and sensitively on a range of issues concerning rape.

Pickles, 48, lived up to his reputation for misogyny with comments throughout his speech like: "If a woman is dressed like a tart, then perhaps she should be treated like one."

At a time when the judicial system is under the microscope he remains as outspoken as ever about the state of England's judiciary system, particularly as it deals with young offenders.

"The tendency of Parliament is to say that people under 18 years of age shouldn't normally be sent away has been taken too far. I think that we've got to be prepared to lock people up, including young people. If they abuse liberty, then we have to take away their liberty," he said.

He has also strayed into the limelight with his radical views on cannabis, which he believes should be legalised. "We've got to live up to the fact that if an adult, and I strongly stress adult, wants to abuse his body, whether it be with alcohol, tobacco or cannabis, then it is a very personal matter and completely up to the individual. The law shouldn't intervene. Cannabis is probably as much harmful than coffee."

His liberal views on drugs also apply to prostitution.

"If a man and a woman want to have a commercial transaction based on sex then it's up to them, providing that they don't harm other people," Pickles said. "I've been to a brothel. It was a very well run place in Leeds and the lady there objects to paying income tax, whilst at the same time being threatened with imprisonment."

Since his retirement as a Judge in 1991, Pickles has turned some attention to writing. His first novel, entitled 'Off The Record', is the tale of, incidentally, a rather naughty judge who clashes with the Lord Chancellor.

Less surprisingly, James Pickles is writing to see which publishing company will offer him the best deal and on a semi-expensive basis, like his 5.7 litre sports car and next week's holiday in Grand Cayman, this may take some time. After all, he only charged £500 for Wednesday's performance.

Other activities that Pickles has indulged in are writing for the



Ex-Judge James Pickles converts the masses

By S.R. Greenhead

Sea and now for the Daily Sport, and he has been spotted driving his white Chevrolet Corvette at great speeds, a car he has described as a 'poodle' extension.

Pickles left the debate at Leeds University a seething mass. At Manchester he was cheered

with beer and abuse but here he was greeted with relative apathy. The worst incident when a male student stood up in his hall and shouted: "If I ask you if I can beat the shit out of you and you say 'no' does that mean I can happily lay into you?"

No Solution for Third World

By John Revell

Michael Meacher, the Shadow Overseas Development Secretary, was at Leeds University last week to address a meeting during Third World First's One World Week.

Meacher said he was impressed by the Third World First week but added: "It is unlikely that anything can be done about the debt problem at the moment because it is extremely difficult to get a parliamentary debate."

Meacher added: "I am not very optimistic for the future. Americans like to be saved so that people can shake the government in the something about it."

He said that the debt had a "demonising effect" on the

developed world and affected the whole planet. For example, countries crippled by debt were forced to cut down the rain forests.

He added that the ability to pay off the debt rests in the West. "The case of Poland and Egypt being in self shows that debt can be abolished if the political will exists," he said.

According to Meacher: "It's in our interests to solve this problem."

Julia Horne, spokeswoman for Third World First said: "The week has been a huge success. The world have been busy and people have asked a lot of questions. Awareness has definitely been raised."

Changes behind schedule

By Imogen Kidgway

Leeds University is running seriously behind schedule with the process of modularisation, which will affect all current first years from next October.

Modularisation will provide a wider choice of courses, but the central timetable, vital in determining the available course combinations, is still being drafted.

However, with many courses being rewritten to conform to the new system and as increased reliance on coursework, there may actually be less exams.

It is hoped that the process will be made easier by a joint University-LUU exploratory

leaflet. Departments should also be able to offer advice.

Jan Jacobs, LRU Education Secretary, said that the true test of the effectiveness of Modularisation would come in September, as new students arrived. "There are a lot of people working very hard inside the University to get it done," he said.

"I think they could have spent more time preparing but with a change this big there bound to be a mad rush at the last minute to get everything finished."



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LUU Elections

Action Co-ordinator

Name: Emma Roberts
Department: Co-ordinated Studies
Post: Action Co-ordinator
Proposer: Vicky Gibbons
Secunder: Aimee Montgomery

Action is going from strength to strength and I feel I am capable of continuing this. For a committed, enthusiastic and friendly Action Co-ordinator.

VOTE EMMA ROBERTS



Leeds Student Editor

Name: Richard Fletcher
Department: Economics
Post: Leeds Student Editor
Proposer: A. Phillips
Secunder: S. Elmer

-Investigative campaigning newspaper serving all the students in Leeds
-A high quality well designed exciting paper
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-Sophisticated analysis of major student issues



Social Services Sec

Name: Tim Goodall
Department: Biology
Post: Social Services Secretary
Proposer: Fiona McVie
Secunder: Jessica Berkowitz

Anti-Bullying campaigns with more emphasis on race, ability, sexual preference and religion as well as sexual harassment.
Helping to sort out student housing issues and problems in halls of residence, especially for overseas, mature and disabled students.
Helping as much as I can to sort out problems with parents and home



**Voting will be held on
Monday 15 & Tuesday 16 March, 1993
in the union foyer**

LEEDS STUDENT

INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Leave leaflets alone

What are LCU execs playing at? The mass of students who pass through the doors of LCU could not cope without the presence of those ubiquitous flyers stuffed into reluctant palms by would-be politicans, hard-core hacks, dedicated thugs and desperate nightish promoters.

Collecting in our bags like sticky fingers, these leaflets are the most useful accessories a student can own.

How many times have letters rolled here scribbled onto a back matfesto in our A4 paper-pads slumber comfortably at home?

Who will deny the relief of finding a valuable scrap of paper in a pocket when photo-nombers will be exchanged at the Poly Shop?

And there is a real psychological value in having your

very own photo of execs to masticate at leisure. Even that annoying lump of dog-dirt collected on route in tutorials can be deftly removed with a collage of expensive nightish publicity.

After four hours of lectures, and repeated kickings off for not handing in work on time, these execs again are the perfect scapegoat for our feelings of insignificance. It would be impossible to measure the self-satisfaction gained by deliberately choosing to ignore those desperate attention-seekers.

Even the most depressed and miserable student can take pleasure from the fact that they are not bad enough to stand before LCU's eminence at the expense of their lunch.

Our psychological resources are scarce enough without removing these lifelines from our grasp.

Comic Relief: make a donation!



LEEDS STUDENT INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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News from: Union Monday meetings, at 10am

Photographs from: 1pm Monday at 10am office

Arts, Books and Comment: 1pm 1pm Tuesday at 10am office

Music: 1pm Tuesday at 10am office

Debutants:

Advertising: 1pm Tuesday before publication

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Who

Has the thrill gone out of student politics in a decade when mass student demonstrations seem to be non-existent? Kate Connolly and Helen Sage ask whether students nationally are more down to earth than they were in the sixties, or is it a myth that they ever were political?

"Students think that politics is just putting a cross in a box, says a story four years," said a disinterested student, leaving last week's inaugural Leeds University Union AGM.

Ed Mason, LCU General Secretary said that the inadequate turnout was not surprising, because "AGMs have a boring image—they don't do anything for me."

But is there a real concern about student politics? Whether or not there is an increasing wave of student apathy is difficult to assess because it can't be measured statistically. Many feel, however, that the inaugural AGM is only one manifestation of student political apathy.

In a recent Leeds Student interview, Paddy Ashdown expressed his concern at the attitude of some students. "I cannot but be a little depressed about the fact that, at a time when the thoughts and imaginations of young people are so important in any future success and to the energy of our politics, there is a certain

apathy." He stressed that during the recession, when students are worried about their prospects, it is important "to try and re-ignite student politics."

The vast increase in student numbers over the last few years has caused a breakdown in communication between unions and students. John

Rose, recently elected General Secretary for 1993/94, says that students aren't as aware of the issues affecting them as they once were.

"It becomes harder and harder to motivate people. I get really cross always being handed leaflets," he says.

"If someone talks to me I listen. Promoting student politics is all about going out and talking to people."

This more personal approach would perhaps be a positive move. "People didn't turn up to the AGM because they just

didn't want to change the status quo," says Ed Mason, "perhaps publicity wasn't good enough." The General Secretary can't put finger on the problem, what can he do the present unless he encourages students to become more involved in union affairs?

Tom Linton, second year History student feels strongly "there is too much leaflet politics and this makes people feel alienated and harassed."

Manchester University Student Union has resorted to using jugglers and acrobats in order to capture people's imagination. In doing, they're successfully drawing attention to important issues.

Was it too much to expect a few more students to turn up? The Union is like a footpath - unless you use it, it'll be closed."

Student Union says he persuaded officers to talk to students in bars, various halls, speak to them in letters. "I have to make students believe you really are doing something there."

This week's, concerning the issue of union membership of the NUJ, indicates that when students made to realise how certain do affect them, they turn up in large numbers. Last year's the fund meeting and the Wednesday afternoon met attracted crowds.

Memberships of political societies at both L and Metropolitan University are University of Leeds have been generally over the last few years.

LCU's Labour Club is strong position with about 100 members. Nevertheless, LCU believes this reflects the low student involvement in politics that as time has gone by students have been increasingly by hardship and poverty they become more involved."

But being amongst a of strongly motivated students Penn have a slightly elevated of the real picture? It is not the case that a small proportion of students has become more involved. Penn asserts that political amongst students is a "students dislike back politics these people do it because



sis

res?



Student demonstrations: a thing of the past?

ely care about student

Speaking in Leeds Student Union, people, although they were of the benefits of the union opportunities to join its ities, did not seem to stand the way it works.

The NUS stresses the of encouraging students and for official positions, in posts should be marketed effectively," says an NUS spokesman, "with pointers to the various positions options such as 'You can do it - so who don't you?'

This year at LLS 62% of Leeds University population for the candidates standing official positions. In stark at Cambridge and other Universities, and the School of Economics, the

majority of AGMs were quorate. Since the 1980s they have almost all been inadequately attended and there has been a downward slide ever since.

A lecturer in politics at Leeds University was at LSE in the mid seventies. "The student union was a very active place with some very politically active students," he says.

"We were forever going on demos, marches and pickets. Once we occupied the director Ralph Dahrendorf's office, protesting about overseas undergraduates' fees." The campaigns, he says, energised people.

One very emotive student issue which has struck at the heart of union politics across the country is the rent strike, which despite strong campaigning by LLSU's Labour club failed to get off the ground at Leeds University. "Apolly came into it," says Jessica Pines, "students felt that they had no leadership from executive whose positions were threatened, so they didn't act like they might have done."

A recent similar situation at Cambridge was successful in bringing rent level increases down from 12 to 9%. The college gave in when more than 90% of students withheld their rent.

There was much national press coverage last year when Lancaster University students, despite holding a sit-in and rent strike in large numbers, failed to get a result. The union was left to pick up the pieces and raise the mark of apathetic students as a result.

"We were faced with the challenge of having completely to change our approach," says Rob Kieren. "There is no such thing as student apathy, just apathetic union strategies. It doesn't work to expect tonnes to come from the grass roots level. There should be authority exerted from the top."

There have been suggestions that a general student malaise has evolved as a result of Thatcherism and thirteen years of Conservative government. John Rose believes that "more and more this government is becoming very anti-student, and Thatcherism has caused people to say 'me, me, me,' then it's more difficult for student unions to do their jobs."

The politics lecturer thinks that being in opposition to Thatcherism would have politicised students more than it has. "Most students have spent two thirds of their lives living under the shadow of it."

Some political theories suggest that apathy is not a bad thing because too great involvement could be destabilising. "It would be interesting to get just half the students involved to see what the political complexion would be like - and it could be something for those who have made their political career on the back of low level participation."

The sixties was the age of the militant student. Some 2000 marched through Leeds and the University had a sit-in, as Simon Page discovers.

Just as cars were made here 25 years ago, students too seem to have been more politically active in the late sixties.

In 1967 students took to the streets to demonstrate against an increase in fees for overseas students. Some 4000 marched to Westminster to lobby MPs. One of their targets, Mr Wain Strathmore, MP for Wokingham supported them, "his is British youth up in arms in a responsible and determined way."

Meanwhile, the Radical Students Alliance was set up as an attempt to take the political initiative away from the National Union of Students. Dave Wilgley from the Royal Free Hospital spoke in the Riley Smith hall "Ideas put forward by students are ignored by the Government. I'm fed up to the back teeth with Tio-Pape diplomacy... the student voice is hoarse with diplomatic talk."

A fortnight later, 2000

"Ideas put forward by students are ignored by the Government. The student voice is hoarse with diplomatic talk."

who should do some work for a change. "I hope it doesn't have an effect," said one, "we shouldn't have coloured people at our meetings."

In the following month, students at the London School of Economics were involved in a four day dispute with the university. Some went on a lie and others decided to stay singing.

It was Leeds University's turn to be faced with a strike the following year. Students occupied the Parkin Court in a dispute with the University's security office. The Vice-Chancellor's office was put out of bounds, but the dispute ended after four days, having

achieved "absolutely nothing".

In 1959 Leeds University Union's treasurer was arrested at a demo in Manchester. Demonstrators tried to break a police cordon, and another 130 were taken to the local police station.

The Union executive (parliamentary elections) saw a record number of candidates in 1970, with 10 eager politicians standing for President. The rest of the student population were not keen on Union politics, however. Two of 1970 AGMs were inquorate. One member Mike Redwood blamed a "strong anti-party" towards meetings.

The Thatcher report hit the Union at the end of the year, changing union funding and, on Leeds Student Union, spelling the death of student unions. An official day of action was called, closing all the union's facilities.

More than 5000 students marched through Leeds in the biggest demo the city had seen. Conservation

workers busy on the new Meriton Centre shouted to the demonstrators to get back to work, while one lady declared that she would become a student if she would get paid for teaching.

In 1972, however students were beginning to lose interest in union politics. Leeds Polytechnic's AGM was inquorate, many blamed the Leeds Union versus Liverpool match being played that afternoon. Union President John Knapples said he was disgusted at the turnout. "It makes me look stupid," he said. "One one found we held a meeting to protest about lockouts and being cancelled, then when everyone was free we could not even raise 200 people. I would not be surprised if we were a laughing stock as far as the Director is concerned."

Viewpoints

Eddie Taylor, 2nd year History, LU

"I really don't care about student politics. It's full of petty small-minded social climbers who use it to boost their own already inflated egos. It's badly organised and ineffective."

Jon Giblin, 2nd year French LU

"Students practice the politics of apathy. They are all so busy with their own lives and not genuinely interested in changing things."

Katie Corbridge, 3rd year chemistry, LBU

"The 28 and I've never voted in a general election. I don't think my vote would make any difference. As for union politics, I'm here to study and I don't really know what union politics is all about."

Sharon Ramez, 2nd year maths and management, LU

"I don't think the Union represents me but if nobody votes it never will, so it's a vicious circle of student apathy and political ineffectiveness."

Sue Camper, 5th year Civil engineering, LU

"Student politics is not juicy enough. We need a bit more sex, violence and trench."

**MOTHERS
DAY
21TH MARCH
BOXED
CHOCS
FROM THE
STATIONERY
SHOP**

STUDENTS' UNION GROUND FLOOR

**MOTHERS
DAY
21TH MARCH
CARDS
&
GIFTS
FROM
C.A.T.S_{HOP}**

STUDENTS' UNION BASEMENT

**Election for
Leeds Student Editor:

Vote Richard Fletcher**



Experience, Enthusiasm and Energy

Voting next week at LUU & LMUSU



Sport

11

Canoe Corner

Cross Country

By Michelle Birdall

Canoeing

By Gill Lang

BSSA Whitewater Championships

and weekend Leeds Metropolitan University Canoe Club competed in possibly the last BSSA Whitewater race in Wales.

Due to the lack of water there was a change of venue to a less attractive river with the race becoming more strenuous and the time taking for the competition almost doubling. The six rivers and two dead runs provided the only entertainment for the canoeists, since very little whitewater was seen.

On the first day it was a team event, three members in each team. Leeds entered three men's and three women's teams. One of the women's teams and one of the men's both came seventh.

Winners: Jack Hume, Carla Smith, Nicholas Robinson (Men's -



Andy Smith, Andrew Magill, David Blatch gaining valuable points.

The second day saw the individual event. Jack Hume achieved fourth place in freewaters with a time of just 40

minutes. Andy Smith was the fastest in the men's with a time of 42.28, just outside the top ten.

Competition was stiff, other universities had larger numbers of experienced paddlers and this directly affected the

overall results.

LMUCC was pleased to achieve fourth place overall at the end of the weekend, behind Plymouth, Hertfordshire, Portsmouth. This was quite an achievement.

A beautiful Spring day and the cross country club made a trip to Durham with Manchester's Club to run Durham Cathedral relays last Saturday.

The sunny weather obviously spurred our runners on around the undulating 2 mile course. Our past members were: A team came first with Mark Corpus and Greg Hill running very fast legs of 9:54 and 9:49 respectively. Paul Davis, Martin Rawson, Nick Beitham and Nick Mansfield were all 30 seconds slower at most.

The past men's B team also ran very well, coming in 12th position overall. Will Ransbottom 18.15 mins, Jason Newell 11.32, Chris Maxwell 18.50, Rafael Sutton 11.08, Joe Walsh 30.51, Duncan Sutcliffe 10.41.

Our ladies' team didn't perform quite as well, but Ellie Chadwick had a great run in a time of 13:57 for the A team. The other team members being Jane White on 2nd leg and Michelle Birdall on 3rd leg. The team came 16th overall. The B team ran much slower, unfortunately coming last out of all the ladies' teams.

Rugby Union

By Martin Birdall

Last week LUI faced the Lancashire county of Lancaster. Leeds began confidently with Vyryan continuing his scoring spree for the opening try. Griffin obtained his growing reputation as a clinical finisher, scoring after a strong driving run. Sparks added two penalties to conclude the first half scoring for Leeds, before Lancaster responded with two tries.

Half time saw Leeds only 18 - 12 ahead, so captain Greenleed urged his men for extra effort. Impassioned debate, feelings responded by scoring after some solidified scrapping at the base of the scrum. Try machine Vyryan added another, before the backs moved on opening for full-back Sparks to join his way into the corner. Greenleed added the conversion, to cap a comfortable win on which Leeds can launch their Christmas Cup defence.

The 2nd XV obviously not 'worned up' and thinking about the game, got off to a renewed start. Eventually a dramatical kick by Lancaster, followed by Langley effecting a fortunate 'Waste Kicker' led to the first try. This was soon followed by Tiplie dragging off numerous tackles and scoring in his usual blistered fashion. Sense dominant forward play, lead by Edwards, saw Gay capitulate with one pushing a try, then managed to avoid sliding on his knees to

score a hat-trick. Yet the last try came from second-man Dan David, the only resistance coming from partner Edwards attempting to stall the ball, and the glory.

Final score 31 - 0

Women's Football

By Rosalind Hornby

Last Weekend, Leeds university Ladies Women's Football Club took part in the UAL 5-a-side championships in H.R. Leeds 2nd year got booked out in the qualifying rounds but the first team (Jane Hendry, Sharon Swales, Jackie Ireland, Karen Hobson, Cath Tomlin, Alison Brown and Rachel Light) beat Bangor and Exeter and drew against Liverpool to win their group.

Leeds beat Lancaster by 1-0 in the next round and then met Northern rivals Sunderland. It was a close match, but Leeds gained a 1-0 victory. Manchester were the opposition in the semi-finals. After extra time the scorers were equal at 1-1. With some spectacular goal keeping from Jane Hendry, Leeds effected a 4-3 victory in the penalty shoot-out.

Leeds met last year's champions Longbrough in the final. The first goal came from Karen Robinson and then an excellent goal from Jackie Ireland made the score 2-0 to Leeds. Longbrough scored a late goal but at the final whistle the score was 2-1 to Leeds.

Golf

By Paul Nicholls

The Northern Divisional Championships witnessed the redemption of Leeds Golf as it moved itself from the sulphurous depths of despair in which all non-league golfers reside over Christmas.

Four intrepid LUI students set out to conquer ten other teams over the testing championship links of Haydon, the scene of many a British Open Championship this century.

Jim Croxall, LUI's senior man, put in a sterling performance with a good score, whilst the remaining three shot in the twenties securing places in the Northern UAL team. Mike Stewart shot 76, Paul Nicholls 78, while Steve Church won the individual title with a score of 75.

The spirit of it all was a second place finish for Leeds, a frustrating two strokes behind Lancaster - not perfect, but certainly inspiring.

Women's Hockey

By Anna Jackson

Wednesday saw the women's first XI away at Sheffield. The brightly cold afternoon prompted head nursing from both sides, with Sheffield just having the edge in

terms of pressure. Despite their constant bombardments, the Leeds defence stood firm, clearing the ball each time.

And so it continued, with tremendous play from both teams, each giving 100% commitment. Five minutes before full time, Sheffield's pressure paid off, and they scored.

Final score, Sheffield 1, Leeds 0.

Saturday was Yorkshire League day, with Leeds containing Wakefield Strangers at home. To our big game start, we won eight goals to two. Team play was excellent with timely switch manoeuvres and solid linking play. Excellent defending by all which accounted for the few opposition scores.

Immediately following this, the Leeds eleven played the "Old Girls" eleven. Final score, One apiece.

Mountaineering

By John Rashby

Monday 8th March saw the election of a new committee after a busy and varied year. The club enrolled a total of 150 members with a core of 38 - 40 on most weekend meets.

A variety of mountain activities took place. The weekend in Wales allowed the large number

of beginners to sample winter mountaineering, scrambling, and good quality rock climbing in Trawsfeld.

Christmas was spent in Threlkeld in the northern Lake District. This time the weather was not as kind with white out conditions encountered on Hovelsby and Hovelsby.

Started in February game members the chance to make several ascents, with one team climbing Trosser Ridge on Ben Nevis (13) and another two teams climbing Ben Law.

In general over the last 12 months the club has seen climbing grades increase. A first ascent at Chas Valley in July by Matthew Collins and Phil Davis, on single leads of E3/6a by John Rashby and Ron Calver and a twenty five hour route on Ben Nevis North East Buttress (grade IV/V) in March. Despite losing an ice axe and a mitten the team climbed up to grade V in the dark and mist, summiting at 11.30pm.

To conclude the ongoing committee would like to thank all the members for their enthusiasm and support over the last twelve months, the result being a productive year with no accidents but plenty of incidents.

Sports reports must be submitted by 5pm on the Monday preceding publication

SPORT STUDENT

INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Touchdown for Celtics

American Football

Northern Conference Final

The only two subversion teams in the north of Britain met on Saturday in a finale which was to be this year's Northern Champions, and came a passage to the national final. L.U.U.'s Celtics University Tigers with revenge in mind following last year's play-off exit to the same team.

The Celtics opened in devastating fashion and stormed ahead within two minutes when Karl Bourne threw for the Glasgow defence on a 41 yard touchdown run. Soon after, quarterback Gary Bourke passed the Celtics out of a deep hole near their own goal-line hitting wide receiver Rich Skiles for a 58 yard gain, and 5 plays later scored on an 8 yard touchdown run to give Leeds a 14-0 edge.

Glasgow narrowed the deficit early in the second quarter with a short touchdown run, but while their sideline was still abuzz with celebration the Celtics hit back - Bourne returned the opening kick off 51 yards to set up Bourke for a 2 yard touchdown drive over centre Dan Hill. After a short Glasgow punt, the Celtics marched



Photo by Martin Berry

48 yards in 11 plays in a drive ending in running back Bourne's second touchdown, with only one yards remaining in the first half.

Glasgow staged a mini-revival with a touchdown and overdrive to narrow the deficit to 24-14, and looked set to pull closer when Bourne again stopped through the stacked Tiger defence and upfield 46 yards for a score

that effectively killed off the Glasgow challenge. Into the fourth quarter and Leeds wrangled up the scoring with tailback Nigel Kendall's 7 yard run to leave the Celtics victors 36-14.

The offensive MVP award went to running back Karl Bourne when carried the ball 13 times for a team record 149 yards and 5 touchdowns, returned two kick-offs

for 66 yards and recovered 2 fumbles. On the defensive side, Al MacGranger dominated the line of scrimmage all day and deservedly won the defensive MVP award.

The Celtics progress in the British Student final where they face the might of Southampton University, undefeated in 21 straight games, as they strive to become British Champions.



The depressing scenes at Maine Road last weekend will have a resoundingly negative effect upon the game of football in England - yet again football violence has reared its ugly head. But this is an isolated incident and must not be allowed to obscure the real advances that English football and the fans have made in recent years.

The gains of the post-Hillsborough era are in danger of being lost. English teams may be excluded from Europe again and the fences which brightened the country's stadiums may return. The country's aim of hosting the 1996 European Championships have suffered, as have the already unrealistic plans for Manchester to host the 2002 Olympics.

All this because of the fear of hooliganism raised again by the events in Manchester.

The positive aspects of the game have been ignored by the media. What would have been a great advertisement for the English game, with world class goals by Philis and Nayim, was barely mentioned at all in the post-match reports, which concentrated on (and magnified) the worst behaviour.

Things were nowhere near as black as they have been painted. The police dealt with the situation quickly and efficiently, the Spurs fans did not react to the taunts and most Man City fans - the true supporters - were disgusted by the hooligan behaviour.

The problem has been exaggerated, with the current incident being the first for many years. The problems must remain in perspective and not be allowed to take over the game. We must not lose sight of all the very real gains made by English fans in the last few years.

John Revell

Rugby League

By Lee Hinchinson

The final of the BSSA Rugby League brought together Leeds Mets and the newcomers Don Cruse and Abagus, in their first year of Rugby League, the 'Crusader Bears'. Leeds with a strong record in this championship having won 8 times in its 11 year history started as favourites.

Opening exchanges were fierce as every promising tackle was

delivered to both sides, the game being restricted to the forward field in the centre of the park. At the end of one such exchange, Cruse kicked to Mets full back Tim Nelson. He collected the ball on the half way line and wobbled his way through Cruse's defence, setting up for opening score for Leeds centre, Sean Gilbert.

The game then loosened up a little, as both sides began to use their back decisions more and to spin the ball out wide. From a knock-on at the Cruse 29 metre line, Leeds took the resulting scrum to extend their lead to 6 points as the ball was spread

across the field to wingerman Paris Cane who stepped inside the Cruse corner to touch down in the same corner. Cruse replied with a penalty to go into the interval trailing 2-6.

From the restart, Leeds began much more positively. England prop and man of the match, Michael Smith, running not wide to attack the Cruse fringes to great effect and leave them backwards to set up for lead forward Alan Cople and half-second row Yoney.

Coach Peter Roe then made some fine tactical substitutions, scoring Stephen Gough and winger

Cane to release Neil Beard and Jim Tunnell onto the park. An injury to scrumhalf Simon forced him to leave the field to be replaced by stand off Matt Child, moving Gilbert to stand off and inserting substitute David Harry into the Cruse defence to plant the lead try, making the BSSA cup final for Leeds Mets, 24 points to 4.

Thanks go not from Leeds Mets to all players who have participated this year, to club players, Stephen Mitchell and Paula Kelsigh, and to Peter Roe for making this once again a most successful season for Leeds Metropolitan Rugby League.

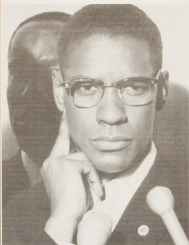


Exit's in a bad way

**turn to the centre pages for
an interview with**

St Etienne

X-C-CESS



Dorcas Washington as Malcolm X

Malcolm X
Cannon Cinema

Malcolm X is a very hard figure to come to terms with. Where can you turn to for an objective account of the man and his achievements? Not to his autobiography, which is obviously as self-justified as you can get. Certainly not to his fervent adherents, in whom X remains an unchallenged martyr and, as it turns out, not to Spike Lee's new movie either. Like John F. Kennedy, that other great figurehead of the 1960s, Malcolm X seems to be remembered more for what he was seen to represent than for any concrete achievements. Unfortunately, this latest lengthy biopic does little to shed any light upon its enigmatic subject.

The film begins promisingly enough, as the young Malcolm Little (Denzel Washington) and his sidekick Shorty (portrayed by Lee himself) career through the streets of Boston, although the former's life is overshadowed by the brutal murder of his father and his mother's subsequent slide into insanity. However, the longer the film goes on, the less it grabs the attention. X's career as a thief and a pimp is pushed to one side; it becomes increasingly obvious that Lee presents his audience with a sanitized version of X's life. Obviously we can't be trusted to jump so readily to the conclusion that Malcolm X is the saint-like figure that Lee would have us believe if everything was laid out openly and honestly on the screen.

Unfortunately, Lee does not stop here. Basing the last half of the movie on X's public addresses and appearances hardly makes for enthralling viewing. There is little doubt that X was a gifted public orator, but do we really need to

endure speech after speech after speech? The public facade is focused upon to such an extent that the private person is barely seen to exist until the climactic moments leading up to X's assassination. It is hard enough as it is to come to any free decision as to what X actually stood for, given that he changed his mind so many times, from praising his one-time allies the Black Muslims to vilifying them; and from denouncing white Americans to considering some of them as potential allies. Is this all part of X's gradual philosophical evolution, as Lee would have us believe, or is it merely the intellectual workings of a man who didn't know his own mind? Given the lack of insight into X's private life, it's hard to say with any degree of certainty which of these views is correct.

Towards the end of this evening, standing ovation, even Nelson Mandela is wheeled on to great to confront the viewer what a great guy Malcolm X really was. Like Oliver Stone's "JFK", where the wheedling, duplicitous Jim Garrison was presented as the unacknowledged pursuer of the truth, so "Malcolm X" demands that you empty your brain before you begin watching. This isn't a historical document, it's a boring piece of dialectical disbar that struts at you all the time that it only one right way (Lee's way), to look at its subject.

Don't deny your intelligence by watching this film and abjectly swallowing everything it offers; read a couple of books and make up your own mind, rather than having it made up for you.

Neil Cameron

The Crucifer of
Blood

Bradford Alhambra

Holmes' stupendous powers of deductive reasoning were, at times, breathtaking. He cut to the heart of a baffling mystery, tracing back 30 years to an Indian fort, and a dastardly jewel robbery by 1 British soldiers.

The plot pitched and rolled from one Victorian vista to the next, but Holmes (Mark Gossington) failed to take the helm and hold the shaky production together. He had the responsiveness, animation delivery and plastic appearance of a Thelwellhead puppet. Watson (Cecil Pervillo) was equally bland and unimposing, and the acting overall was patchy.

The play vacillated uncertainly between melodrama and spoof, producing such dialogue as: 'But Holmes, how could you possibly have known that?' You'd be hard to notice a one-legged man twirling with a peggy.

Sadly, the peggy failed to make even a cameo appearance. Although the play picked

up some pace towards the end, the closure of the case at 221B Baker Street was perhaps a blessing for both Holmes and the audience.

Joanna Dosselor

No Way Out

LUU Raven Theatre

Jon Paul Sartre advocates traditional images of Hell in this version of the fiery pit, in which he examines the cruelty of human relationships and the nature of true suffering. Here, Hell is other people; there are no racks or chains, but three starkly different people are put together and gradually become their own torturers. Gao is a purified desirer who cheated on his wife, lost an outspoken, perceptive lesbian with a sadistic streak and became a rich, vain loner of a French woman who killed her baby. They are shut in a room together for eternity, cannot sleep or escape and have the only occasional presence of a bellboy. Even as they try to help each other, the three only succeed in creating aggravation and torment on all sides through their frustration, jealousy and insecurities.

"No Way Out" is a play which gives life to the visual imagination of its audience in the simplicity of its set, and the scene was crafted up effectively by the strength of the actors in this performance. Well cast, they presented the character portraits convincingly, and effectively conveyed the humor, tension and disturbing implications of the play. An interesting and thought-provoking piece, "No Way Out" makes the fruits of Sartre's philosophy highly accessible and enjoyable, and the Theatre Group's production did not fail to give these qualities justice in a powerful and often gripping performance.

Anna Smith

My Fair Lady

LUU Riley Smith

As reviewing is a bit like playing mean old brooder in reverse, very occasionally you get the chance to use a really solid-boring performance, the rest of the time you just draw a blank.

I know it was just an amateur effort

with no pretensions to be otherwise, but that is still no excuse for not making use of limited resources. The minimalist backdrop of the stage looked like a DCSN art project, and flimsy dance routines were poorly placed. Wooden gestures and overworked thumping platitudes - not to mention the fluffed lines, long stage direction and comical/racy crotchets - were the debris of countless secondary school plays.

The tiny orchestra made a horrendous racket, muddling the chorals of the score, and the singing wasn't all that bad - indeed, it was pretty good at times (despite a few howling fluffs). The fact that the performers were very capable made the cardboard production seem even more of a wasted opportunity. It would have served a lot of time and effort if they had mounted a concert version instead.

A bit more imagination and better planning might have alleviated some of these faults. The show is probably worth seeing if you have a mate in the cast. Otherwise it can't be a very interesting experience.

John-Pierre Joyco

ROCK ON

Good Rockin'
Tonite
Grand Theatre

What do Cliff Richards, great rock 'n' roll and Shakespeare have in common? 'Good Rockin' Tonite', of course...

The rock 'n' roll musical to end all rock 'n' roll musicals, this is the story of Jack Good, a failed Shakespeare actor turned television producer, who became one of the most successful media men of his time. He presented the first Top of the Pops style 'youth programme' on British television, and was almost single-handedly responsible for the promotion of the British Rock scene in the late 50s. His shows made stars like Shakin' Stevens, Jimmy Saville and Cliff Richard.

The show was written and directed by Jack Good, and his story is basically the vehicle for an almost constant flow of 50s and 60s hits, often fully in situ. A small but versatile group of professional and energetic musicians and singers - here's slick guitar playing from Ronnie Tarryl - the cast of 'Good Rockin' Tonite' perform each song with as much vitality as the last.

Caron Fawcett, who plays Good's partner, unassuming wife Leilagh, finds her voice and makes a stand with a peachy repertoire of Aretha Franklin songs, all combined into one. This cutting and mixing creates a stirring stream of sound that whirrs through a decade of British and American music.

Bouncing up and down in my seat, firmly clapping in the heat I felt like I was in one of those old black and white films of Elvis gigs, sitting in a row of rascally-skinned girls with rapt expressions on their faces.

There's something slightly disoriental in feeling nostalgic about an equal never lived through, but if you've



He's a rock'n'roll animal...

enjoyed the re-run of 'Sweaty Steady Go' or the new series 'Shed Over Heels', and that's what you're into, then get on those blue suede shoes and shimmy on down to the Grand this Saturday to join the hounds

of Teddy boys and girls, and witness what is fast becoming a cult.

Juliette Garside

Return To The
Forbidden Planet
Bradford Alhambra

OK folks, all about the space-ship, the year is 2534 and we're about to embark on a visual and musical extravaganza into hyperspace! Ready? I certainly hope so because it's a pretty energetic ride.

Known as the Forbidden Planet is a loose adaptation of Shakespeare's 'The Tempest', which condenses aspects of original Shakespearean dialogue with loud and well-performed 80s/90s rock, pop and soul music, to provide an evening of light-hearted, whimsical, fairly entertainment.

Captain Tempest and his crew are carrying out a routine survey flight in the

inter-galaxy, when a freak internal storm sends them off course and they are mysteriously drawn towards the planet Trillium. Once there, the alien-like beings, Doctor Progenus, an enigmatic scientist, makes his dramatic entrance and reveals that he's a bit of a nut. At the hands of his wife, Gloria (you for a Van Morrison song), is the reason for his exile on Trillium. Five hundred years later, after a bombardment of love, laughs, mind-expanding drugs and an interesting but misplaced attempt at introducing Freudian psychology, we fly home, thoroughly exhausted and sore-pained.

True to form, this musical is deliberately overplayed, contrived and, obviously, beset with song. It is, however, consistently well-written and directed, a smooth and cohesive production, effectively and cleverly choreographed. Certain characters stand out, particularly the rela-

stating artist. And, official provider of slapstick.

The space-ship set is extremely impressive, as is the multi-talented cast, who provide all the musical accompaniment and sound effects and deliver a performance that can't be faulted.

Ultimately, 'Return to the Forbidden Planet' is a solid and entertaining musical. If you're into the genre and the music of the 50s and 60s, you're guaranteed a good night.

Kate Rowlinson

We're always on the
lookout for
new arts reviewers,
so get in touch

ALTER
EGO

In considering half-hung hounds this weekend, its 225 miles of dense motorway tell each way, fraught with the perils of carphone obsessive motorists, bloody-minded policemen with braking fetiches, busy racers in 900s who have but two weeks ago shed their L-plates and anticlockwise 26 stone lorry drivers with unrecognisable Scottish accents where watched 3 hours stuck in at many days. Is it all worth it for this phenomenally static expression of surprise that will consume motor's fair features upon opening the front door?

People pick you up for some very odd reasons. I remember a lousiered Peugeot 505 once pulling in with a valiant screech with a rusty, rusted-faced character at the wheel. The first thing I noticed was a huge crack in the windscreen, followed by considerable patches of rust in the boot. I was too desperate to turn him down. Within 5 miles he had asked me a couple of slightly worrying questions, one being whether I wanted any tickets for the cup final on Saturday, the other: 'Got any speed?' My heart flew out to the poor bloke - he had been up for 72 hours during this way and then around the country with his black market haulies. The least I could do was help him stay awake.

Then there was the fellow sitting to educate me on the indispensability of life's finer material wonders. Driving his Unicomputer, Lucius Thomas Turbo (his Testament always attracted a little too much attention, I would), help steering, first at his speedometer, which mysteriously read a mere 140, then at a custom black device situated to the left of his windscreen. Very soon it started to beep. He decreased his speed to a sluggish 80, and decided to put my carotid artery in hold. 'Police radar gun detector' he informed me smugly, and a ten minute explanatory spiel followed.

Of course hitchhiking is not always so enlightening or entertaining, and can be immensely unpleasant. The last time I made the trek, Bristol-bound, the heavens opened on a slip road outside Leeds, leaving elements that had the good grace to keep the cool and lubricated in the stifling surreal heat of the way to the door the other end. My most stimulating company on this ill-fated mile (just) was a reluctant welder from Solihull who had some very interesting observations to make about Birmingham's notorious spaghetti junction.

Come to think of it, there's that English way due before the end of term. What's more, Leech really has been transformed by the sunbake today into an authentic dandy - what dandy could possibly have presented me so favourably, polished, vibrant and agile home city to this far jewel of the north?

And of course I promised myself I'd have a big kitchen clean-up some time very soon. I owe it to my conventions housemates. And I've got my plans to write and plenty of wider reading to do for my column...

Mark Funnell

STING



Sting

Ten Summoners Tales (A&M)

Gordon Sumner (aka Sting) has travelled a long way: from the simple perfection of The Police during their most sublime moments, to his early, erratic jazz-influenced solo career. After all his good deeds in the past (you might want to forgive him for having the gall to checkle-postcard indie prints his new album "Ten Summoner's Tales"). The whole package sounds suspiciously like a crap conceptual Genesis LP from the 1970s. The album consists of less "hits" as a prologue and an epilogue in which Sting consistently explores the dark, elemental side of his nature, as if anyone's still interested. All the warning signs are present before the CD hits the deck; notably the cover design which shows a howling, winged symbolically leading a white stallion around a suitably medieval castle. You naturally expect an hour's worth of bland MOR rock.

The Police's fame were straightforward and post-punk rock songs tinged occasionally with reggae but mostly always with sincerity. Fast forward a decade later to witness Sting's transformation from Policeman to Chameleon. I'd recommend this album on CD because you'll be able to hear an array of excellent session players run through their paces. However, in another sense it doesn't matter what format you buy this album on, since I guarantee that you won't have anything resembling a memorable time.

Sting's sense of humour is still on display, nowadays you're more likely to laugh at, not with him. His slightly neurotic lyrics come across as one cliché after another. The whole album is a triumph of style over content, everything about it is contrived and obviously done. Sting may be the man in the Annual rank but take it away and you'll probably discover "mom" at C&A's.

Maybe I'm wrong, but in my mind the reincarnation of Sting as a "serious" artist, whilst it may reward him with basket loads of Brits awards is a few steps backward. If some artists like Van Morrison can age relatively gracefully and retain their musical integrity, why can't Sting? I suppose the answer is contained in the lyrics of his latest single (if I Ever Lost My Faith In You). "You could say I lost my sense of direction" - well said really.

Akin Ojumu

Duran Duran

(Parlophone)

[It's the same old story, that "difficult" ninth album. This is not the Duran Duran that gave us "Tyrin On Fire", "Rio" or "Union Of The Snek" or half of my record collection for that matter. They're grown older, more serious and definitely wiser around the waistline.

Faced with the choice of plodding on being duller than ever or taking an exciting new musical direction, DD have managed to do neither. New direction, still boring. Till just now through a few of the tracks which made this album for us.

Well, "Shogun" is basically just girls shouting "shogun" over a few beeping guitars. It's less than a minute long so it has obviously been cut slightly, it's just a shame that they didn't cut it off the album completely. I could recommend a few more for the chop actually; this should have been an EP, not an LP.

"U.M.P.", and new man Simon Le Bon gets meaningful. "I just wanna run myself in yo' body". Well said. A song that is uncondemned anything that DD could ever write is "Tennis Fatal", so why they saw fit to demolish Lou Reed's classic is beyond reasonable comprehension. Yes, stinky and like most of the album, over-produced to the point of stupidity.

The last track would be a shame if it

wasn't for Simon's sad attempt at rapping, but the chorus saves the day again. At first "Sex Of The City" may appear to be a recentral portrayal of inner-city crime and violence or perhaps the L.A. riots but I'm sure there's a deeper meaning to it all. This is Simon being brutally honest, patently rejecting all that gut generating, city funk food, all those clonchburgers and kebabs. Take note kids, Simon is a Master these days.

It's a sad thing to say but the last of the great 80s pop groups has died an awful death. Why couldn't they have just left us with our memories?

Stephen Dick

Pop Will Eat Itself

Weirds Bar and Grill (RCA)

[It's a choice that faces many groups at one time or another. Obscurity or the lure of the majors with their big fat advances and promises of world famous wealth.

When it came down in the case of Pop Will Eat Itself sold out. They made expensive records with technicolour sleeves - P.W.E.I. prepared to take over the world.

Only they didn't. Unfortunately there was one small obstacle in their way: the record buying public. Pop Will Eat Itself are a living proof that there is no justice in this sad little world in

which we live. Their almost spectacular lack of chart success has now left them in limbo, economically dropped by a record label who have instead chosen to keep The Wedding Present (and Hilary) they're good aren't they???

For over seven years now P.W.E.I. have been taking us to the sorry side of town and shoving us the right. They are no longer young men. Lead singer Clint Mansell's voice sounds strained, as if he is locked in atherosclerosis and his body is about to gland to a catastrophic halt. He urges the crowd to popo but it sounds as though he couldn't care less if they started to laze.

It's sad to think that without this group EMF or it would never have existed and yet they himself has never enjoyed the success which they deserve. If you like the Poppies buy this, if not start saving as life isn't cheap and you're obviously in desperate need of one.

Cos it's dig it!

Nick Collins

System 7

777 (Big Life)

Rather like food processors, some progressive house records work at different speeds to perform different functions for you. Don't believe me? Try it - say with Leibfisch's Release

the Pressure". Play it at the intended 125 rpm and it's a hypnotic club standard - but at 45 rpm it turns into a frenetic techno headbanger with a veritable hardcore beat and Manic Mouse or vocals.

Careful! be-lated parties may soon be a thing of the past. System 7's 45 rpm, some bit when they blasted 777 a 45 rpm. Either that or a sick sense of humour, play it that fast and the bpm will do incredible damage to his of your soul as yet unknown to medical science.

At a more sensible speed, however, this is a well-judged collection of progressive and ambient house tracks. "777 Expansion" is a moosey stomper of tumbler claps, guitar rips and a liquid melody hook. The Orb's Dr Alex collaboration on "A Cool Day Place" is a dither - it's typically Orb-esque, slightly spacierly sounds create a shimmering stratospheric chill-out. In fact, much of 777 has the usual quality of The Orb - organic, 5-dimensional music you can't use. Little sonic bubbles for up through "Lush", whilst "Apocalyptic" is simply progress, a sparkling new dance in another galaxy.

System 7 may not be sailing on uncharted waters in quite the same way as the Aphex Twin, but that's hardly a criticism; this play it at both speeds and marvel at the economy of getting twice the music for your money.

Claire Rowland

ALCOHOLICS EPONYMOUS

Gallon Drunk

From the Heart of the City (Clawfoot)

The front cover shows the bright lights of London, theaters, cinemas and movies. But scratch the surface of the album or London's glitz-kitsch high life and out come the worms, out come the freaks...

Gallon Drunk are essential Londoners, like professional Senners, South or Yorkshire Bittermen. They believe they're a unique voice to the heart of their nation, they see the glamour in the gloss and have a genuine pride in what seems, to the uninitiated, London's north of Watford, to be a doomed city populated by witless and low-benefit Artful Bangers. To an extent G.D. cash in on this stereotype. "From the Heart Of The City" is a soundtrack to a myth of ruffians and loons, where the Michells wear sharper suits, Pauline gets tight on gin every night and Michelle eventually does away with Jack. A more frightening and intriguing world than Watford, but one involved with compassion and empathy rather than schizoid brutality proffered by other urban chroniclers, most notably N.W.A., who "just tell it how it is" (no how about M.H. to like it?).

Brewing heavily (in part it's politics) from Nick Carr, miserably and serially, but retaining a distinctly English character (presumably why they've supported race theorist S.P. Morrissey), the scratchy blues and bar room laments are the perfect medium for the melodrama, the relentless poignancy becoming a grim reminder of the whidney-dog-dog and a rare-faced necessary.

Melodrama drips from songs such as "Aukland, stung at three in the beachy northodon vocals. The timely inclusion of jazz horns, illustrates their worth apart from the acid jazz genre, dragged down from more pretentious heights by dirty blues guitar and are occasionally flooded with psychobilly enthusiasm and swing. In a perfect world, the opening is a foreboding, and is our inept world, a real eeriness on the edge of our capital city.

Dan Norris



Cranberries

Everybody Else Is Doing It So Why Can't We? (Island)

There is nothing but the intoxication of a pain, happiness is a facade and people you love never love you back. Thus the recurring message of this album and if you think that "guilt, depressing" is large before your eyes, it is deliciously depressing. Delicate's youth and energy through tales of alienated love and disappointment, her beautiful warblers becoming little winged moans in "Walking Back" and "I will always." "I thought the world of you" she sings, pouring out all the emptiness of a broken heart, you understand, because we've all felt that way.

Thus when so special about this album, a leap at it the right emotional strings and the sheer driving beauty of the lyrics, that voice and the chilling guitars create an irrefutable wonderful sound. Don't, however, make any comparisons with the gift of seemingly dry bands from that desolate "guilt" period. They were mellow to the point of apathy, while just as the Cranberries begin to reach Dolores a delicate mix your attention to detail.

The Sandvays gave us "Blind" the Cranberries give us "Everybody Else Is Doing It So Why Can't We?" this long awaited debut the berries are going places and the Sandvays never stand out... In any way to

was so lyrical but this is an album for anyone who has ever sat in a corner and quietly waited to die. Bewitching.

Kate Toon

Hothouse Flowers

(London)

This is the third or fourth LP from the Hothouse Flowers? I can't remember. I got bored halfway through the first. Can I come be bothered to listen to their latest offering? Or should I just rot off some joints and hope that they're a sort of glorified Laidback who wouldn't look out of place next to Depeche or Sting in your CD collection?

Of course, being glorious as they be, Dave Stewart to write a couple of tracks for them. But, due to the once-great heavy-sounding's current form both disc - this is it (your soul) is a utterly soul-less and "an emotional time" is the word apparently used using I've heard in a while.

This is pretty much the formula around which the whole album is based and only occasionally does it succeed in its half-hearted attempts to rise above sentimentalism: "spins of the leaf" is a pretty little tune, not unlike the Pogues' "Flowers and Beauty" is a shameless cut at a U2-clone-Prime-Time song. Unfortunately both lack

conviction and fail to show enough self-belief to reach the required level of propensity and grandeur. Eventually the only challenge this album presents is whether or not you can stay awake until the end.

It is this inability to do anything worthwhile that sets "Hots" from the rest down. The whole thing is just so mediocre that I can't even find the energy to hate it as I should. It's a pity really because I suspect that Hothouse Flowers have some degree of something that's lacking inside their lyric skulls. But until they learn how to unleash this latent power they will continue to release predictable, obvious and directionless discs. In today's harsh economic climate it needs a bit more effort to put the Kids from their coats.

David Kenning

Danke Schone to

Crash Records
for supplying the
singles
dudes!

SINGLES

Reviewed by Steve Lowe

3% MINUTES

Hed Mo Dry (Island/Hillside)

MOLLY HALF-HEAD

Taste of You (Playtime)

3% Minutes and Molly Half-Head are bright new hopes which mean that their debut singles should sparkle with promise, rock of novelty and hint at hidden depths waiting to be explored. They should make you look forward to the next one and then the next one. These records are fine, okay, not bad, inoffensive. They don't make you want to turn them off but you don't feel desperate to even hear them a second time.

It's hard to dance them so soon but they really have a much chance of winning a great single as Kingsley have of producing the "Spit Paper" of the 80s. These typical indie-rock bands are happy ploughing the same muddy, over-worked field too blindfolded to ever find the road to pass over the fences and watch a glimpse of their surroundings. They perpetuate the grey and the limitation without standing above it all.

So what makes a single into a Great Single, don't I tell, for status you could pile on layer upon layer of everything you do best into a heady and quaternorial three minutes (Suede "Animal Natures", you could trial styles and postures from the past and cut through the mediocrity by something novel and the very NOW (Shaggy's "On Carolina" or Huggy Bear) or you could just come on like the wackadood to the best school disc ever (East 17 "Dogg", Chris, just do something DIFFERENT). Single music and groups who don't believe that deserve to be forgotten.

THAT PETROL EMOTION.

Dissonate My Dreams (Kangaroo)

These guys made a Great Single once. It was called "Big Dreams" and it came out in 1993, combining hip-hop elements with soul-groove pop. Whether it paved the way for the whole indie-dance agenda I wouldn't like to say but it probably influenced INXS more than the Happy Mondays. Since then they've survived on just enough of a minimal database to keep them chugging it all in. Six years is a long time to be riding water hot, after being drenched off. While for selling six records, you've got to admire their refusal to believe that their time has passed. "Dissonate My Dreams" uses there in a kind of flaked-up Mission style and it's quite a groovy thing all told. And in a week when Siff Life Flowers are playing the University they can almost meet relevance. Or at least they don't deserve to be forgotten.

Corea Prospects

Chick Corea

Leeds Town Hall

There are those who say that jazz is elevator music, that it's aural wallpaper, that it's music for middle-aged cardigan wearers who hunker for the days before rock'n'roll. Jazz, they will tell you, is old hat, boring, and simply no-shortbeat, zero-repetition, DEAD.

Don't believe a word of it. When Chick Corea hunches down behind a piano, just more than resonates. As he plays, jazz becomes dangerous, disturbing, and melodically challenging. As I listen, jazz becomes flat again.

This man played keyboards for Miles Davis. This man helped form modern ideas of jazz fusion. This man has played classical, rock, jazz and latin music, combined them together and created improvisations that go far beyond them all. This man is a very curious mixture indeed.

He sauntered onto stage with the relaxation of a seasoned pro, yet played with the screwed-up intensity of someone in pain. When chatting to the audience he was casual, funny and at ease, but when playing his frame went rigid with tension. Every note looked to be dragged out of him with muscle, his feet compulsively, and noticeably hammering out the beat onto the Town Hall's monstrous Victorian stage.

Classic jazz melodies surface just long enough for recognition, then slip down beneath the surface of his alternately scowling, alternately shocking



Chick Corea

improvisations. Even his own simple 'Children's Songs' are elaborated into superbly complex patterns as perfect as any ever committed to paper.

He played a few straight classical pieces - a bit of Bach, a touch of Scriabin -

but it is at his best when allowing his mind to range free over the keyboard, shooting off at tangents as the clock takes him, "messing around" with a uniquely fiery intellectual passion.

Ceri Thomas

Chamber Music

Recital

Bradford Cathedral

From where I sat there was a piano in full view, but I still half expected the Reverend to appear, look in hand, in some vibrant organ strains before announcing this evening's hymns and psalms. Even the audience, looking very much like church-going types, lent weight to my fears... This was Bradford Cathedral on a Friday night, not a building of exquisite and intricate parts, but a solid and firm backdrop to a fine musical display of Beethoven and Brahms, from a piano, a cello, a clarinet and their respective players, who some appeared in habitual evening wear to begin the service.

From the book of Psalms there came a handsome trio performance of a piece with surprising variety: from short cycles of upbeat exuberance and exultant cadences, to a rising solemnity that I did not anticipate. With the cello hunched from the keyboard we heard a powerful piano. Moving its accompaniment with the solo clarinet, now sounding clear and bright, also that suspense which lent atmosphere to the former trio.

We were blessed with coffee and biscuits before the cello and piano proceeded to storm through a jagged and extremely off-kilter piece, requiring more than divine precision in timing, which once or twice didn't quite come off. And so it was finally a release when all three players were reunited in a daring and moody piece, much smoother than the last, with lingering and urgent climaxes from low to high.

And thus our shepherds left the stage to much clapping of hands and ppy amongst the crowd. And though the music was perhaps not varied enough to keep interest at a constant high, word spread throughout the land of Bradford that their service was just that: Mr Collins did not stray from a faultless performance, that Mr Ogawa played with constant confidence and finesse, and that even if Mr Van Kampen's hands did slip slightly a few times, the Lord's judgement would not not heavily spare him.

Daniel Bestbrode

Rostal & Schaefer

Grand Piano

Classics

Leeds Town Hall

For two hours last Saturday, the entire audience at Leeds Town Hall was captivated by the brilliance of Peter Rostal & Paul Schaefer. From the opening piece - their arrangement of Rossini's *Barber Of Seville* Overture - in the closing Beethoven melody, and the two encores, these two pianists managed to fill an auditorium most used to playing hot to full orchestra.

The repertoire consisted of acknowledged piano giants and also included Rostal & Schaefer's own interpretations of full orchestral pieces. These arrangements for two pianos on the whole they worked remarkably well. However, some of the subtlety was lost from a couple of pieces, and others were overdone. The music of the more modern composers, such as Grieg and Scott Joplin, suffered from an excess of fills.

Much of the programme was a joy to listen to, though. The *Walter Tostara*, Liszt's

Hungarian Rhapsody No.2, the 'Elina Madigan' theme by Moray, and 'Morning & In The Hall Of The Mountain King' from Grieg's *Pearl Coast* Suite.

But it was, again, associated with an enthusiasm which quickly transferred to the audience. Rostal & Schaefer bounced around on their piano stools, leapt up and down the keyboard, and interchanged such furious flurries of arpeggios that I was left agog in the stalls, waiting for them to explode! Physically they seemed, but musically they were dynamic.

Between numbers, we were treated to some light hearted humor and to the background to some of the pieces played (for example, in *The Hall Of The Mountain King*, composed as a grotesque dance for trolls who are beating Poor Gyst for not marrying the moonstone-looking daughter of the King Of Norway). The whole scene was brought to life by the music, not least because the Town Hall's interior looks like a contender for the ball in question... For people like myself who aren't serious classical music buffs, this aspect enhanced enjoyment of the music.

Whilst there were some disappointments in the programme, such as the selection from Tchaikovsky's *Swan Lake* Ballet Suite, which didn't render to two pianos very well, these were made up for by a stunning final number. This was a medley of songs from

Leonard Bernstein's 'West Side Story', and as the duo sat, it captured the atmosphere and spirit of New York perfectly.

Overall, then, a superb night out for fans of classical music and casual listeners alike. Every piece was instantly recognisable, and Rostal & Schaefer made the two hour-long

concert fly by at a frantic pace with their flashing fingers. I'm just glad I didn't take any calls with me, or I'd have succumbed in the foyer and would be listening to a CD of mine of the same night now...

Stephen Hill



Peter Rostal and Paul Schaefer

Hammering Tongues

Swing Hammer Swing!

Jeff Torrington (Secker & Warburg)

Jeff Torrington's fictional debut, thirty years in gestation, is the most exciting novel published for years. Its honest and often brutal portrayal of Glasgow's infamous Gorbals district in the late Sixties - when the demolition men moved in to expel thousands of Glasgow's poorest to black housing estates on the city's periphery - is a bizarre mix of black comedy and biting social comment, packaged in some linguistic cloniness worthy of Nabokov and if done my words carefully the *Joyce* of *Ulysses*. Torrington's triumph is his depiction of the Gorbals which is neither merely nostalgic or self-pityful.

The narrator, Thomas Clay, is our guide through the Gorbals' disintegration. Sardonic, entertaining, and possessing a deadly sense of humor, Clay's life mediates between three chief locations. The crumbling Planet Cinema, populated by an equally disparate workforce, is comic existential metaphor mocked by Torrington's drunken cast. Clay's flat is derelict innoscent reflects the similarly fading Gorbals' community, which Torrington keenly measures in human terms. Many of those who frequent Clay's favorite pub, the Sully Inn, display a disturbing sense of emptiness usually concealed beneath grim humor, as their world slowly fades again to one memorable moment, a deaf and dumb character named Salter is rebuked by a roadie (recently of the only person who knows him to communicate with him, Salter's presence in the pub, trapped in his "sealed senses" with optained pain

avoiding the touch of his friend, is the source of much humor among the regulars, while serving to reveal an of the absurdity and futility of life. It thus comes as little surprise that references to Kafka infuse Torrington's prose. Clay and his contemporaries are often described as beetles or vermin, and Torrington makes a deliciously developed pun between Kafka's *'The Castle'* and Glasgow's Gorbals estate, where many are rehoused.

Indeed, tragedy is covered in the book. What is also placed under the hammer is the English language itself. Torrington's linguistic talent is first class. He puns additively, creating much humor while irreversibly corrupting good old middle-class BBC English. As a consequence Clay's *'Glasga patner'* is marked with mad density, undoubtedly the result of Torrington's patient craftsmanship. He writes at the limit of his ability, not content to relax into a more direct style.

Torrington has chosen to depict some of the flux of life now mostly absent from the Gorbals, rather than write a simple obituary. The novel has little in the way of conventional plot. For, in Clay's view, "plots are far graveyards." But at the end, a small glimpse of hope still remains for Clay and his family. Torrington joins James Kelman, Elizabeth Barber and Alan Watts to prove that, if the English novel is on its death bed, there from North of the border are now in the driving seat of contemporary British fiction. Read this immediately.

John McLeod



Jeff Torrington - the first great novelist of the Nineties

From the Velvets to the Voldoids

Clinton Heylin (Penguin)

Asket of flukes, detritus and casualties along the stage in this story of the underground American rock scene. Often defined by those who the author calls "sociologists in music-critic clothing" in favor of the headline-grabbing British punk band, this book seeks to embrace the balance.

It constructs a narrative that begins with the largely influential groups, from the late sixties like The Velvet Underground and the MC5, and comes to center inevitably in the mid-70s on that little corner of New York that's called CBGBs. It's in this legendary club that so many of the personalities in this book collected and congregated into one can legitimately be called a scene.

In contrast to the last-luck isolation and overblown pomp of the mainstream music of the time, these bands wanted to reconnect the wilderness and innovation of rock. Where they differ from the last British new wave bands is in their spiritual attachment to their little producers. They were used but not ingested, but that's the problem with Americans.

There's really two strands of ideology here that sometimes accidentally occupy the same space. At one end there's the arty avant-garde armed with its poetic pretensions and challenging music, while at the other is the tiny Pop school of stripped-down primal rock'n'roll. The best music that came out, like

with The Velvets or Television, combined both of these impulses in stunning effect.

The book doesn't really tickle just what this body of music means to us today. It ignores how dated and dated something like Patti Smith's supposedly seminal *Horses* album can now seem. It looks out the massive difference in the distance of the personalities by finally giving them all their own chapters. Lou Reed has managed to pick up a bit more than his fifteen minutes of fame but the New York Daily hardly even managed that. Jonathan Richman seems doomed to dwell forever in our obscurity.

It's ironic that the two most successful groups to rise from the scene, Blondie and Talking Heads were at the time considered to be lightweight second-division baggage. Many of the other stars generally implored in a frantic sense of urgency and dogged-up decadence that left behind maybe one memorable sound if they were lucky. Underachievement? Maybe. Not here, who wants to go on forever?

The approach is a highly fact-based set of interview and documentary information. It would have benefited from something more like the free-flow punk-pose of Lester Bangs or the associative analysis of Greil Marcus. It tells you exactly what happened but leaves you wondering how it felt to be there, experiencing with unexplored aspects of music. The fractured, inverse elements of the music are kept out from the style of the words when they should have been let in. This book is a comprehensive, conclusive smorgasbord through an age when people actually believed that rock music mattered.

Steve Lowe

Arcadia

Jim Crace (Picador)

Jim Crace's *Arcadia* is a remarkable achievement. For 191 pages Crace writes a beautiful, lucid, witty style which is the vehicle for an utterly satisfying story. And this is how it goes.

Victor is a grocery merchant on a very large scale, and proprietor of the 'Soap Market'. The book opens on his eighth birthday. Victor was born in the country and dreams of returning there. As this proves impossible, he decides to impose the countryside onto the heart of the city where he lives. What circumstances as a small celebration of the country becomes a bid for a large-scale take-over.

Then, a confrontational tension is established which gives the novel its focus. Crace creates a forum for battle while hiding in the novel proceeds that the city is being taken to triumph. Life in the city, and the life of the city itself - are celebrated with pleasurable plainness, leading the tale a surreal intensity.

The novel splits naturally into two halves, and revolves around these key characters. The first man is a greatly ambulatory narrative, returning to the still, constant center of Victor's office to praise for health in the midst of investigating the history of two of the main protagonists, Victor and Rook (Victor's right-hand man). Victor's life is told from behind, a life that has relied on the grocery trade within the soap market in the point of complete integration. Victor's mother

Ena, was originally a market beggar. Eventually rescued by Ena's sister, known simply as Ann, Victor is raised as a market trader (in bolded eggs from the age of 7. From such humble beginnings, he works his way to the very top with some small entrepreneurship).

His skeleton, Rook, has always worked against the grain of the city, taking advantage of what he is offered in what is actually an unusual structure. The third protagonist, Victor's personal assistant, Anna, demonstrates loyalty to both and provides the story with its icy forward thrust.

After the establishment of these three, the second half of the novel mostly develops a tale of the confrontation. Victor dreams of leaving his mark on the city by creating an indoor arcade that will be pure captured countryside - Arcadia. This section of the book also features the development of key structural metaphors - particularly soap, hinges - which enhance Victor's obsession with linking cultural elements together. These help to perpetuate the narrative's essential clarity and consistency, while maintaining as cohesion. The idea of country versus city is here on a birthday and culminates on New Year's Eve - a structure which increases the idea of tension and is integral to the exposition of life in a city as Crace sees it.

The two halves and two sides finally ratify in a pleasantly surprising conclusion, and the final triumph is one of growth, development and survival. Facing Rook's breach the prose in Crace's third novel which deserves to be widely read.

Liz Ekstein

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Barth Cracknell wigs out

photo by David Lang

THINGS

(*Etienne*; they're not French and they don't play football with Pulp - see page X) they did play the Poly last week.

on a mission from *Ex:it*, *Johnny Davis* found watching enough, but actually getting to meet them proved just a little bit more difficult

Etienne in Manchester were trading this up and there's no doubt that it: the Poly is packed with poppish 're a bit of a pop engine and no one? If only we could just ASK

extra fine backstage tonight as the fairies at the top of pop's sea. Sure, we've seen them, Sarah outrage of beautiful people was as ago. We've been promised the top hot manager ("Come back at the enough to be turned away by com"). Nervous? It's only the Lords

off Sticky Moments complete with curtains, the dream logo has been in the tacky tonalities of Pulp still it's time to dial 999 and ask for the of late time-warp-camp-pop land and where are St Etienne?

the stage not with a bang, but the expanded six given four-thing (Can Stop Is Now). Sarah of denim, bush and beautiful Ted. They and the other two are so really. They don't 'Assume' and highlights are the defiant new in *Engineers* is jolly long and jolly ok *You Are* is bold as brass.

they're off. "We don't do moments a rock band". But, That's late as they're 45 minute mini-music playing- rials for money. Madonna does not East 17 will too when they play in And Make Up? Where's 'Only

7 of waiting for the interview. a jostling pig ups were the very think up.

at a backstage they're 14 year old of Lychenage 20 stone blonde bellies of Pulp plubbering in the corner and some who'll listen for a pen so she of who all craved into a half others were. Cut have turned up. i Etienne? Well, sort of. We finally a band, Pete Wiggs, as he tries to

strange in the toilet.

Still pondering the 'pop band' self-plagiarising I mention that 'Take That' have said that if they had been worried about their longevity they wouldn't be making pop music.

"That's quite interesting. We'd like people to look back on our records in years to come. I kind of disagree, although I think I've always admired people who do things totally truly for the moment."

The 'moment' right now would seem to mean being all those horrid words, kitsch, glam and (rude) over-the-top. Although as a band they're now a few years old, do they worry that their success right now has seen them lumped into a scene that includes Dink!, Pulp and Nasty?

"Yeah. In a way; they're not bad groups. ... it's kind of dangerous, any kind of scene, when everyone gets tarred with the same brush." It would also seem pretty big to the David Bowie as an influence, but Pete has his reasons for deciding to cover 'Absolute Beginners'.

"It's the last good song he's written so we thought we'd cover it. Everyone goes on about the seventies right now but it's a classic song. It's a shame it's got to the stage where he's a comedy

"We're in Smash Hits this week ...

We've been asked what our favourite colour is (and) what toothpaste we use."

Figure. I don't like all the propensity of his act, he was a bit of a bit at the time."

Harsh words indeed, Bowie, Sade and St Etienne; if they are scarcely united it's perhaps in the 'golden-era' English soul value that says that people who make unashamed pop music are never any good (unless they're the Pet Shop Boys, but they're being ironic, right?)

"I thought we'd got MORE stick for what we're doing. Whenever we do something that's throwaway it seems to get the best reviews ... then we get slagged for doing everything else. It's wrong the opposite way, we thought we'd got slagged for doing 'Join Our Club' and 'You're In A Bad Way'."

That 'You're In A Bad Way' sounds like the Suzanne Street theme tune.

"That's good. I've always liked that. You can't beat Suzanne Street."

Pop music is traditionally brief, but from the propensity with which they fled the stage tonight it's difficult to believe St Etienne actually enjoy playing live.

"We only played clubs before and to play anywhere else



Pete Wiggs

you need a different element as well. It makes a lot of difference having a band with us ... before we had to rely on tapes. We try and make the version different. Like 'Absolute Beginners' and 'Chase Ship', we only do them live and I hope it's worth saying."

There's obviously a club music element to St Etienne. Pete mentions "new techno stuff, not easy but brutal stuff" which will effect "where we go from now on" as opposed to "the 60's stuff and a bit of disk we were listening to when we wrote the first album". He also reveals that the new single will be a different version of 'Wharf Paving', a double a-side along with 'Who Do You Think You Are'.

Being signed to an independent label has usually meant more artistic control for a band and Pete agrees that this is the case with St Etienne.

"We've been very lucky, we've been allowed to do what we like for the posters, the clothes, the press releases and adverts, that's what we want ... it's just like making a cassette for a friend, you want it to be a nice package". Independent labels may give greater control but St Etienne seem to be a band with so many influences - did it frustrate them to have been previously lumped into the 'indie scene'?

"We're on a bit indie label, so we're 'independent' or whatever, but if you say you're an indie band it makes it sound like you must have guitars and be a certain type of music, so we try not to restrict ourselves by saying that."

Wise words mate, but that's a bit of an indie haircut and you don't help matters by being the glam one in the background of the photos while Sarah Cracknell is all glam and pointing for the cameras. "When we do interviews we do them as a band", he quips ironically, seemingly unaware that Sarah Cracknell and Bob Stanley have taken one glance at the hospitality room and legged it.

"Obviously we sell music, but we tend not to get around of using her as a sex symbol though ... me and Bob write most of the songs but you do get problems in radio interviews when they say they want Sarah and one of the others. Luckily Sarah's very into this being a pop band thing."

So there we have it, St Etienne: brief, rhinoc, glittery and unashamedly that most loathed of bands: a pop band.

"We're in Smash Hits this week," he beams proudly "We've been asked what our favourite colour is (and) what toothpaste we use."

Ah, the acid test, ladies and gentlemen: if you really are a pop band, how about a St Etienne cartoon like the New Kids or Hammer ones?

"That would be good, I'm not sure how they'd draw us ... we're all big Hammer fans."

St Etienne knew no shame.

EX-111 pulp interview

smashed to a

Pulp have been inhabiting the small town of Sheffield for eight years now, their music containing the city's fine tradition as by The Human League, ABC and Heaven 17.

Until about a year ago nobody outside of South Yorkshire had heard of them. I spoke to them in their dank, dingy and quite smelly dressing room, but got so excited I was never taking part in the interview than I'd forgotten for. About three times in thirty, actually. A couple of their friends, some crew, the odd roadie, their own fanzine writers, someone shooting a video - got the picture? Deciphering the tape afterwards was not an easy task.

With their biggest support slot to date with Sade's *By Your Side*, Pulp are on display for all to see. Half of the tour has gone already so, how's it been going?

"Good, fine, and we haven't had a fight yet. It's been like a family holiday. And we're not some interesting people. The crowd have been pretty good so far; Glasgow was a wonderful place - we loved it but they didn't love us. Not the greatest show of all time."

"It was good to play with Sade in France as well; nice to support them as they'd supported us. To replace it."

Do you think you should have had a lot more press than you have? After all you had a glam image like Sade's in your head?

"When you're not a new band it's difficult for people to work up a new idea about you. Fanzinists have very fixed thoughts. Sade came along as a new band and it's just weird, like that. They may have played some crap gigs lately, but not as many crap ones as us."

"They're not done as many though."

The gig later on is a long long way from being crap. Pulp's show is a hearty cocktail of glamour. The outfits and lyrics' strange harmonies. It's mostly an outing for new songs (great titles such as *Acrylic*, *Alchemist*) and the last couple of singles, but it clearly shows that when they get round to doing an album, it could well be one of the best this year. Winning over scores of new fans with their inimitable sense of style (and by being better than Sade's) it's clear when they leave that Pulp will be the stars of tomorrow.

"We didn't want to be pop stars when we joined the group but we do now, after eight years."

"We all started off as friends; we'd probably still be the best of friends if we weren't in this band."

Now everyone is talking at once, even the strange idea of being pop stars when sold cheap in with his own words of wisdom. I've got no idea what is going on. When the chaos has died down...

"We create each other but we don't despise each other. There are so many horrible people in this band that you can take it in turns to dislike one or another. There's not one

With the upsurge in all things kitsch and glam, Pulp are now not the only ones being 'different'.

EXIT sent Stephen Dick down to spend the time of his life in LMU's luxurious dressing rooms before last week's gig to talk to the band about Suede, major labels and seedy lifestyles



person you can hate all the time."

"For the last eight years we've been hanging around Sheffield and playing them a lot, like local heroes. We've had more press lately; the world has changed and people are more seedy glamour. That's why bands like Dinosaur, Suede and Saint Etienne are in."

And you scared that when this glam thing explodes, you'll just be left back where you were in the first place?

"I don't think we'd just be back where we started. The bands that tend to fall by the wayside are those with just the image and not the music to back it up. If you've got the music you'll be OK, and we're here anyway. We're not an affliction, it's for real."

Will there be another eight years?

"There could be another eight years, we're close to this. We'll definitely see the time out."

And are you going to use you on *Top Of The Pops*?

"Oh yes, definitely, that's one of our ambitions. I'd prefer to make though - that's the pure essence of *TOP*."

Unfortunately Pulp's bid for stardom at the end of the film was brought to a sudden halt by their previous label. For releasing their album three years late and the ensuing legal battle which resulted. Since then they've put out three singles through Sheffield Warp-subsidiary Gilt Recordings; the last one, *Barman*, even making its way onto The Chart Show. However, it's undeniable that the

songs, or at least the words, have taken rather a steady nose of late...

"Seedy? It's always been there. That's my seedy identity. I'm not sharing any; there's enough of it in the words of the songs. Sheffield Sex City isn't particularly seedy is it?"

Like me, other band members clearly disagree. "Well it's not exactly healthy family entertainment is it?"

"It's just an accurate picture of love in Sheffield, or at least my experience of it anyway. You had to make your own entertainment."

The song *Sheffield Sex City* (the B-side to *Kubler*) is a definitely entertaining. This is Pulp's swansong, spanning over eight minutes of CD - possibly the greatest piece of music ever recorded. If you don't own this record, then before me, your life will never be complete. The song is a tale of, among other things, all the time in a block of time having sex at the same time in the middle of the night, the clock falling down, the tuboscience catching fire, and everyone dying of lung cancer. Perhaps they lived in a different part of Sheffield in one. One can only hope that there's more where this came from on the album...

...We're recording the album after the tour has ended, although we haven't actually signed to Island yet. We're close, courtng, approaching the harbour if you like, but the album won't be out on Gilt. If you want your records out in more than one country then you have to be on a major label."

"Yeah. The whole thing with Gilt was a bit casual. We knew the people and it was quite a convenient arrangement. It was always going to be a stop-gap; they knew that and we knew that."

Do you think it's better now that there's less snobbery about signing to a major label?

"There's nothing wrong with that. We're a pop band and we should be on a pop band kind of label. We'll definitely be signing to one of them, probably Island. That's nothing wrong with doing it like Huggy Bear. It's brilliant if you can do it like this, it's an underground way, but that's not our kind of thing."

"We've had a lot of interest from majors, we've had a lot of offers. It's just the time taken out and chatted up by someone so that you're in bed with them."

If only singer Jarvis was armed with offers to sell to about life and capitalism and capitalism, selling it like it really is. His perspective would no doubt be invaluable.

I leave the interview with my life intact, just as another bundle of hard-earned money the room, taking the number present closer to twenty. Feeling somewhat out of place, I realise that this is no longer his. I thank them, but it's time to get back to the bar and join the masses.

pulp

THE ANSWERS



And this week's winner is Joanne Ashfield, of Manor Terrace, Headingley, who will shortly receive a £10 book token.

To the right you'll find another anagram - again just for fun. Make as many words of 4 letters or more as you can out of the 5 letters in the grid (each word must contain the letter in the centre square, i.e. "I"). Only words that are in the Concise OED (8th Edition) count, but no proper nouns. Foreign words (unless in common English usage), plurals, abbreviations, or compound-made-up words are allowed.

34 words is good, 34 words is very good, and a score of 42 words is excellent (and give yourself an especial pat on the back if you manage to work out the one nine letter word).



Dear Editor

While strolling through Red Square recently, I was struck by the amazing similarity between famous producers of "Euf" TV programmes Janet Street Porter and James Robinson (comment, Sally McHard).

I wonder if by chance they are related.

Yours
Walker Wall Carpeting



EUREKA!

GORILLAS IN THE MIDST

REGENTS PARK REVIVAL

The gorilla research centre in Rwanda's Parc National des Volcans, founded in 1967 by Brian Hesse, has finally been forced to close due to civil war. Up until now, the Rwandan Patriotic Front, who are invading from over the border in Uganda, and the government forces had prevented it from moving away from the area, recognising the gorillas' scientific and economic importance. Unfortunately, this promise has now been broken.

Escalated fighting in the area caused rangers to abandon the station, and local workers had to flee as troops raided the base. The National Park is now under the control of the rebels, and fears are rising for the safety of the mountain gorillas, already an endangered species. The current circumstances could push them to extinction.

One risk is being caught in the cross-fire, but now that anti-poaching patrols from the research centre have ceased, the gorillas are in danger of being killed deliberately too. Add to this the threat from thousands of refugees who need housing and who are gathering at the borders of the park, and things begin to look pretty grim for man's evolutionary cousins. Perhaps when the fighting stops, research and protection will be restored, but if it's too late then victory will be as empty as the forests of the Volcanos National Park.

ORY FREEDOM

According to 12 years of research, involving 2718 people, women should work and not have any kids, if they want to avoid depression. The work, carried out by Catherine Ross at the University of Illinois, analysed the various levels of depression from common signs such as sleeping problems, irritability and anxiety, and due to the large sample size, any bias due to age, education, income, or number of kids was ruled out.

The findings proved that the most depressed women are mothers who work but who do not have reasonable child-care facilities, and employed women with no kids came out with the lowest depression ratings. In general, women who stayed at home with the children were more susceptible to depression than those who worked, but depression levels for working mothers with teenage children were comparable to those for women with no children.

Also significant was the role of the father - if the husband helped look after the children, and helped arrange for child-care, then the mother's depression level was relatively low. Ross says that working mothers should be provided with child-care by the state or their companies, because she estimates that the cost of this is equivalent to the cost of treating their depression.

After two years of uncertainty, autonomous dispute, no-confidence votes in the management and overly-ambitious rescue packages, London Zoo's future is finally assured. The new £20 million plan, entitled "A Zoo for Future", should see the Regents Park site into one of the leading centres in the world for conservation work.

This will include breeding programmes for many of the rare animals, and a major refurbishment of all the architecturally important buildings on the site. The money required will be raised through corporate sponsorship, with firms able to donate as little as they want. The plan should succeed because of this, and the old failure of the zoo's management team which put profits before conservation will hopefully have no further say in one of London's most important institutions.

THRILLER

"Which TV programme do you find most stimulating?" Questions like these for market research purposes may become a thing of the past thanks to a new brain-wave monitoring technique from the United States.

A cable television company recently ran an experiment with a new type of electroencephalograph, a device which measures the brain's tiny electrical impulses and hence its activity. Subjects taking part in the test were asked to watch television wearing a headband containing very responsive, low-noise receptors, which monitored activity in the frontal lobes.

Several extracts were shown to the viewers, including sports events, two quick documentaries, and part of a Michael Jackson concert. Whilst general activity levels differed, the pattern of activity was the same for all the subjects. The documentaries produced the highest response, whereas Jackson gave the lowest activity levels in all the participants.

Rae? Thelma? Hardy.

BRIDGE UNDER WATCH

And finally, Eureka received its first press release this week, appropriately from the University of Leeds. Professor Ian Conn, of Earth Sciences, has been researching the mid-Atlantic ridge, a huge line of underwater volcanoes whose eruptions are causing the ocean to widen by 3 cm each year. He has obtained some spectacular pictures using a new British sea-broom, which works by sweeping sideways 400 metres above the ocean floor, where the temperature is 2 degrees Celsius and the pressure is 300 atmospheres. The superb reliability of the technique enabled Professor Conn to map 6000 square miles of sea floor, and the results are proving extremely exciting and vital to the understanding of how the Earth's surface is formed and changes. The next step is to understand why the volcanoes erupt by chemically analysing dredgings from the sites studied. It's gone to be successful scientific research coming from Britain, and particularly from our own university.

"Eureka" is edited by Steve Hill.

Contributions and queries will be gratefully accepted and considered for publication.



These findings suggest that



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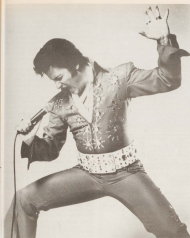
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GOOD Life

THE GUIDE TO THE WEEK AHEAD

STAGE

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Tel: 0121 212 1100

CLASH OF THE TITANS
Running to Sat 300 April - THE PLOUGH AND THE STAFF by Sean O'Casey - 7.30pm, 8pm on Sat, plus matinee. Tickets from £10.00.

COURTNEY THEATRE

Running to March 2006 - *Parade's* Studio in Somerset

Richard's HAPPY DAYS - 7.45pm, Tickets from £10.00
Also showing during the run of **HAPPY DAYS** is **WRAPPERS LAST DAYS**. For post, timing, and other info.

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ROCK & ROLL - Sat 18th March - **GOOD ROCKIN' NIGHT**, a musical. Tickets from £10.00. Also to Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 8pm & Sun 19th. Tickets from £10.00 to £15.00. Also to Sat 19th - **ELVIS, THE MUSICAL**. 7.30pm, 8pm & 9pm on Sat. Tickets from £10.00. Two 2nd to Sat 19th April - *London American Opera* Society present **BUTTER FLY** by Noel Coward - 7.30pm, tickets from £10.00.

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ALANBRIA THEATRE

Tel: 0121 212 1100

THE SCOTCHBOARDS - Sat 18th March - *Good Rockin' Night*, a musical. Tickets from £10.00. Also to Sat 19th - **ELVIS, THE MUSICAL**. 7.30pm, 8pm & 9pm on Sat. Tickets from £10.00. Two 2nd to Sat 19th April - *London American Opera* Society present **BUTTER FLY** by Noel Coward - 7.30pm, tickets from £10.00.

ST. GEORGE'S CONCERT HALL

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Don't need just to great pain.

There's a whole lot of 'shakin' goin' on at The Grand Theatre this week... Yes, just an hour after the show and you're prepared yourself for a surge of 50's and 60's music because two great West End musicals are in town!

'Good Rockin' Tonight', which features its own tonight and tomorrow, is written by Jack Good and provides a nostalgic trip back to the vintage days of Rock'n'Roll. The show features more than 14 classic hits by Cliff Richard, Tommy Steele, Gene Vincent, and many more.

'Good Rockin' Tonight' captures the immediacy, originality and atmosphere of rock's origins on stage - LIVE! The show was a triumphant success in London throughout 1992, and was hailed as "the best Rock'n'Roll show in town" by the Daily Express. Catch it at 8pm or 9pm tonight and tomorrow.

Following hot on the heels of this, **'The Musical'** is a sensational multi-media musical described as "a celebration of Elvis Presley's genius as we know him through his music", depicted through 85 non-stop musical numbers.

'Elvis, The Musical' offers his fans a fast-packed evening of music which celebrates Elvis' contribution to modern history. The show features all of the Presley favourites, including 'Love Me

Tender', 'Hound Dog', and 'Blue Suede Shoes'.

'Elvis, The Musical' received universal critical acclaim, described by The Observer as "infectious, appealing, foot-stomping and heart-thrilling - Elvis live!". It is played by these actors, each performing the star at different stages in his sparkling career. The J Presley's are strongly complemented by four excellent singing dancing girls, four male singers/dancers, and a great live up of talented musicians.

The multi-faceted life of Elvis converges to create a powerful experience for both old and casual Elvis fans. So, for a night of music, fun and entertainment, get yourselves down to The Grand and experience the magic of the 50's and 60's live on stage. Tel. 449857 / 449878 to book tickets - there are substantial discounts with a SU card.

For trivia fans, here's a few things you may not know about The King :-

- He rarely rose before 8pm
- More than a million Elvis records have been sold worldwide

- In the last 12 months of his life, over 19,000 doses of drugs were prescribed for Elvis.

Sarah Ibbotson

WEST THUNDERBOLT THEATRE

Quarry Hill Mount, L29 5AW
Tel: 0121 212 1100

GRANVIE THEATRE

Quarry Hill Mount, L29 5AW
Tel: 0121 212 1100

HARDEN HALL

Quarry Hill Mount, L29 5AW
Tel: 0121 212 1100

MISC
INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S WEEK
Fri 12th - Sat 13th - *Anger Issues* - L29 5AW
Tel: 0121 212 1100

GOOD Life PRIVATE PARTS

EATS

Do you have a celebration? Not Wednesday, 17th March, is as you may know, St. Patrick's Day, and so Eats has dug out a recipe for Irish Stew for your delightment. Stews are excellent ways to make, because they stand about fifteen minutes of effort, and 2 hours of doing and eat, and apart from that, the recipe is really only a guideline. Basically, you can put out Irish Stew with any stuff you've got lying around the house (within reason), which'll make it cheaper, and probably even more cheerful!

But anyway, the standard mix (as served here) before your standard additions require the following...

One to one and a half pounds of

potatoes or strong and neck of lamb or chicken - don't buy the good cuts of meat, unless you're not planning to eat for the rest of the week.

2 large onions, one and a half pounds of peeled potatoes, three quarters of a pint of white stock (packet stuff will do), and seasoning.

First, cut the meat into joints. This is the worst bit, and always provokes cries of "Enough!". This is normal. Slice the onions, with kitchen a-plenty at the ready, and put these, the meat, and half the sliced potatoes into a belly-wingspan. Add the stock, and season liberally before bringing to the boil. At this point, if there's any steam floating on the top of the liquid, scoop it out, and then put the lid on, turn down the heat, and simmer gently for one and a half hours. That'll give you time to get to the Guinness or Murphy's.

After the rest of the potatoes, add them to the stew, and cook for a further 40

minutes. Re-season if desired. At the end of cooking, carefully lift the joints on to hot plates, and serve with the stock and whatever vegetables you fancy.

Any extra bits that you may wish to throw in should be added during the course of cooking at your discretion. Try not to affect your discretion by drinking too much beer before the meal is ready...

And, if you're feeling generous, who not round off the meal with an Irish Coffee. This drink should be served in glasses, and requires Irish Whiskey, strong black coffee, sugar, and thick cream.

Put the whiskey into the glasses five mins before your coffee is only instant, and then add the coffee and sugar to taste. Stir vigorously, and then pour some cream over the back of a spoon so that it forms a layer on top of the coffee. Spoon the coffee through the cream, and so end the St. Patrick's Day celebration with a white stomach and the disgusting noise of a communal slurp!

Please! What a word! As I sit here writing this, the clock of seeing the sun in a Leeds sky before the end of May has been a long time. Yes, last Saturday (16th March) was a glorious spectacle, not to mention a meteorological anomaly.

For the first time in almost three months I was able to step outside in my shirt-sleeves and breathe in a warm hunk of air or two of carbon monoxide, low-level ozone, and various assorted nitrogen oxides. Once I'd stopped coughing, the idea for this week's Private Parts bit was born.

During the last two years' column terms, I have become rather attached to a certain piece of Leeds geography, and it now holds a special place in my heart. The Hollies is an open green space, very much as just opposite Odey Hall, and it was here that, on temperate days, I crammed for my finals, evading insects with my lefty shield of notes.

Here too I mused about my skin falling off, and dropped my trends concentration looking for potential neurological blonchies during the heat more last summer. Shortly debarking on Sunday mornings established a rapport between myself and The Hollies, which was only threatened when a bush decided to pinch my hands half for its own greening.

Bushy afternoons were spent in pursuit of liberation and untwists, both achieved on my then girlfriend's 21st birthday. (GGG Casualty sobbed me up). Pickles were taken, bull-games were played, hay-fever was rampant. Happier sundays adequate days.

But back to the present, and my flame-faded hunk, which are the reason for this column. The Hollies is probably the best place within walking distance for many to get a break of air which doesn't require fibering. It has benches, arns, trees, and lots of countryside noises, and is basically a great place to mellow out or relax after the exams.

Also worthy of note are The Myrtle Pub at the top of the hill (conveniently allowing you to roll back down after a few pints), the Three Horseshoes and Bizarre's Fish & Chips, which are all within walking distance. You could spend a whole day in the country without leaving Leeds.

Now that I'm a conscientious pig-patrol, the lot, I can only argue at weekends, with the granites, toddlers and snugglers. But if the sun goes in another appearance before Easter, I'll be down there, dapping on the factor 48, emptying a bottle of Chateau Lafite, and frolicking with the best of them. Bull on the summer...

Steve Hill

CLUBS

LEEDS UNIVERSITY UNION

THE PUB UNION? - Every Thursday in the Haversham Rd. - 11pm.
Friday 12th - WOLFE - Sun Fun at Action House!
Sat 13th - LEEDS TROUSERS
Monday 15th - THE GOLF & SNOW - 4pm. Free to members in membership. My advice is, I can make.

LEEDS METROPOLITAN UNIVERSITY UNION

WEDNESDAY NIGHT - 11pm - 11 with some card. My advice is, I can make.
SATURDAY NIGHT - 11pm - 11pm - 11 with some card. My advice is, I can make.
SUNDAY NIGHT - 11pm - 11pm - 11 with some card. My advice is, I can make.

THE GALLERY

Monday 15th - THE WORLD'S END - 11pm - 11 with some card. My advice is, I can make.
Tuesday 16th - THE WORLD'S END - 11pm - 11 with some card. My advice is, I can make.
Wednesday 17th - THE WORLD'S END - 11pm - 11 with some card. My advice is, I can make.

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ECO-LOGICAL

Welcome to a new column for Good Life. Each week, Eco-Logical will take a look at a particular environmental problem, explaining the background of the issue, and more importantly, telling you how you can do it. It'll be looking at a whole range of things in coming issues, including paper recycling, aerosols, plastic waste, and even tropical hardwood avoidance. This week, though - Stamping on the Con problem. The Problem is...

Beltions use more than 13.4 billion cans every year. Though they could all be recycled, only a small percentage actually are. As many as 5.6 billion of these cans are beer and soft drinks, while 3.9 billion are used for food, 2 billion for paint and other non-foods, and a staggering further 2 billion for pet-food alone.

As a result, every year over 2 billion tonnes of valuable metal with a potential value of over £1 billion, is thrown

in to the ground at land-fill sites. Considerable energy and pollution could be saved by recycling cans rather than mining new are deposits and making new cans.

For example, the use of steel water instead of virgin one, reduces water use in steel-making by 40% as well as reducing water pollution by 74%.

What YOU can do -

- Avoid buying things in cans wherever possible.
- Don't buy canned drinks - go for draught or bottled drinks, or those in cartons.
- Buy fresh food as often as possible, or opt for frozen.

- If you do buy cans, recycle them by dropping them off at the various collection places around Leeds; either that, or the Union's 'Green Initiative' scheme will collect them from your door.

To prepare cans for recycling, separate steel & aluminium cans (they can't be labelled), wash them out, open both ends in the case of food cans, and stamp on them to squish them flat. This means more will fit in the collection point, and they're easier to process.

So, next time you're down the bar, remember to keep your limbs for recycling, or simply drink more pints. That shouldn't be too much effort!

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Tuesday 16th - 11pm - 11pm - 11 with some card. My advice is, I can make.
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THE MUSIC FACTORY

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EXTRA NOSE EVENTS

St. Patrick's Day at the West Yorkshire Playhouse looks like being an all-day celebration this year. With the three Samuel Beckett plays 'Happy Days', 'Krapp's Last Tape' and 'Not I' already running in the Courtyard Theatre, another Irish author gets a look-in this week.

The run of Sean O'Casey's 'The Plough and The Stars' started on Thursday 11th March, and continues well past St. Patrick's Day, until Sat 18th April. The play is a powerful and passionate story of political upheaval and personal sacrifice.

The title 'The Plough And The Stars' comes from the name of the flag of the Irish Citizen's Army, and the story is based on the real life events of the Easter Rising of 1916. Nora and Jack Clithero, a newly married couple, get caught in the cross-fire when their tenement community is torn apart by political differences, and we follow them and others as they are transformed into heroes and martyrs in the weeks leading up to the momentous event.

The play vividly portrays the warmth and humour of these Dubliners, as they all pull together during the difficult times, smoothing out surface disharmony with their community spirit.

Tickets for 'The Plough And The Stars' start at £4.80, and if you like the play, there is a chance to meet the cast, director, and production team on Thursday 28th at 5.45pm. You can have your questions answered by some of the actors and actresses, including Amanda Root, who made her professional debut in Leeds ten years ago, and is now a leading TV and stage star, having appeared with the BBC a number of occasions.

Before that however, the party on Weds 17th should be worth attending! There's Irish food on sale in the Playhouse's Wild Dogs restaurant, and a drinks promotion at the bar. To live up to proceedings, there will also be free entertainment from a Celtic band at luncheon and again in the evening, so if you are going to see either show, get there a little early and enjoy the atmosphere.

LIVE MUSIC

LEEDS INTERNATIONAL CONCERT SEASON AT LEEDS TOWN HALL

1st MAR 1990
1st MAR - CLM SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA (2nd) Musically & Emotionally 7.30pm. Tickets from £3.00

2nd MAR 1990
2nd MAR - CLM SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA (2nd) Musically & Emotionally 7.30pm. Tickets from £3.00

3rd MAR 1990
3rd MAR - ARKHYD DEVELOPMENT 7pm, £2.50

4th MAR 1990
4th MAR - ARKHYD DEVELOPMENT 7pm, £2.50

5th MAR 1990
5th MAR - ARKHYD DEVELOPMENT 7pm, £2.50

6th MAR 1990
6th MAR - ARKHYD DEVELOPMENT 7pm, £2.50

7th MAR 1990
7th MAR - ARKHYD DEVELOPMENT 7pm, £2.50

8th MAR 1990
8th MAR - ARKHYD DEVELOPMENT 7pm, £2.50

9th MAR 1990
9th MAR - ARKHYD DEVELOPMENT 7pm, £2.50

10th MAR 1990
10th MAR - ARKHYD DEVELOPMENT 7pm, £2.50

Which one? Today, as if you didn't know it, is Comic Relief Day, and if you're standing in the LU union building reading this, then be prepared to be pounced on by Leeds Rag!

Yes, committed collectors will be sending the Leeds University Union, selling red noses for charity, and persuading you to part with a little bit of cash. Every little donation helps, but if you're reading this in the relative safety of your own home, then don't leave in pledge your money by phone. Alternatively, you could donate by post, as Rag has a Postal Action team engaged, with plenty of splendid prizes. These include

FILM

All films advertised below are for the week commencing Fri 12th March

CANNON CINEMA
New Line, 5.5. Tickets £1.50
Tues 12.30 / 12.30 with audio cast
1. SCENT OF A WOMAN 1.30, 4.05, 6.30
2. MURDERERS 1.30, 4.05
3. INHERITANCE 1.30, 4.05, 6.30
4. Sunday only - BARRY BURTON / TWO DRIVERS double bill at 1.30

GRAND CINEMA
The Haywards, Tel 43801
Tues 12.30 / 12.30 with audio cast
1. CONFESSIONS OF A NUTCASE 1.30, 3.45, 5.50, 8.30
2. In 3d - HENRY'S BEAR 1.30, 4.05
3. LEON THE PRO-FIGHTER 1.30, 3.45, 5.50, 8.30
4. ORACLE 2.10, 3.30, 5.50
5. In 3d - THE FROM ALONE 1.30
6. HENRY'S BEAR IN 3D 1.30, 3.45, 5.50, 8.30
7. COTAGE ROUGE / THE REASONS 1.30

COTTAGE ROUGE CINEMA
Longsight Road, Fri Handley, Tel 757006
Tues 12.30 with audio cast and Music Time (C/45) at 12.45
CINEMA 2.30, 3.45, 5.50, 8.30
Fri & Sat late show - WILD AT HEART 8.45

28th March, see Times and Sunday & CLEVER publishers

ST GEORGE'S CONCERT HALL
St. George's, Tel 42000
Fri 12th - ST. GEORGE'S SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA 7.30pm. Tickets from £2.50
Sat 13th - VAN HORNEN 7.30pm. Tickets £11.00 / £7.00
Sun 14th - DEE 1.30pm. Tickets from £2.50
Mon 15th - FRANKIE VALLE & THE FOUR 8.00pm. Tickets from £11.00

THE STUDIO, BRADFORD
St. George's, Tel 42000
Wed 17th - ARKHYD DEVELOPMENT 7.30pm. Tickets from £2.50

CITY MANAGER
St. George's, Tel 42000
Sun 14th - ARKHYD DEVELOPMENT 7.30pm. Tickets from £2.50

LEEDS CITY ART GALLERY
Wed 14th - FLOW AND UNDERGROUND (audio & video) 8.00pm - 10.00pm

DEAN AT THE GALLERY
Musical Arts
Wed 14th - RAY BRYCE / ROCKY GUNSHOT 8.00pm to 10.00pm

DEBONO OF TOWN
St. George's, Tel 42000
Fri 12th - DEBONO 8.00pm

ST. GEORGE'S CONCERT HALL
St. George's, Tel 42000
Sat 13th - HENRY'S BEAR AND ROCKY GUNSHOT 8.00pm to 10.00pm

Based in your beds now in Leeds Student Charity Rag, LCU, P.O. Box 193, Leeds, LS1 1UR, and help them raise lots of cash for Comic Relief.

For a free £1000 vial you get for charity every morning tonight. 'WILD' is the Harvey Milk film, a benefit for Anti-Aids Action, and includes a staff for the campaign and a Lights Show.

'WILD' starts at 8pm and continues until 2am, all for only £2.50. Don't Get Lost! Buy 1. Non-Live, Man Mountain and DJ Scanner will be playing a wide range of music and keeping a morning party on its feet until Comic Relief Day is style.

LEEDS CINEMA
North Lane, Handley, Tel 757006
Tues 12.30 / 12.30 with audio cast and Music Time
WED 13th 12.30 / 12.30 with audio cast and Music Time

SHORTY'S CINEMA
75 Colindale Road, Leeds, Tel 439444
Tues 12.30 / 12.30 with audio cast and Music Time

MYSTIC ACES
SCENT OF A WOMAN
MURDERERS
INHERITANCE
LORD OF THE DANCE
HONEY BEEHIVE
CONFESSIONS OF A NUTCASE
ORACLE
ORACLE
LEON THE PRO-FIGHTER
COTAGE ROUGE

IN THE PARK, LEEDS
Regent Road, Leeds, Tel 757006
Rag for people

A FEW GOOD MEN 1.30
THE WALK WITH ME TWO-PAKES 4.15
Tues 12.30 / 12.30 with audio cast and Music Time
Wed 13th 12.30 / 12.30 with audio cast and Music Time
Sun 14th 12.30 / 12.30 with audio cast and Music Time

LEEDS FILM SOCIETY PRESENT...
Sun 14th - THE DEVIL'S IN THE FLESH 1.30
Mon 15th - THE DEVIL'S IN THE FLESH 1.30
Tue 16th - THE DEVIL'S IN THE FLESH 1.30
Wed 17th - THE DEVIL'S IN THE FLESH 1.30
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