

## Election Pull Out Plus Summer Ball and Kate Nash

# LEEDS STUDENT

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# Student dies in kayak accident

• Family and friends pay tribute  
• Canoe club: 'She died doing what she loved'

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OPPOSITE PAGE: THE LEEDS STUDENT CLUB NEWS SERVICE CRAFTING SERVICE

PHOTO: GUY LAWRENCE

### Tox Krewlin

Friends and family of Leeds student Emily Parker, who died after her kayak overturned, have paid tribute, speaking of her infectious laughter and 'widespread enthusiasm for life'.

The final year Psychology student had been kayaking with friends on the River Cole in the South Highlands over the Easter holidays when she got into difficulty on Tuesday morning, April 5.

Parker, 22, completed Glasgow Mountain Rescue Team and a Royal Navy helicopter searched the River Cole after Emily's kayak overturned and rescuers later recovered her body.

Emily, originally from Doncaster, had been a passionate member of Leeds University University's Canoe Club and rescuers have revealed in an obituary on the club's website forum.

In a statement issued in Leeds, members of the club said: "Since Emily Parker joined Leeds University, she made an immediate

impact on those she met and no longer an impact was felt than on the river and off the river such as Leeds University Canoe Club. As a highly confident, relaxed and passionate kayaker, Emily shared her infectious enthusiasm in life with everyone, getting to know just about all the club who loved and respected her.

Emily had travelled in the US and Canada where she died and she also loved to read books when she was only 16 years old in the world.

But it was not just her kayaking skills that gained Emily friends across the kayaking community. The club also spoke of her "beaming smile and infectious laughter".

They continued: "How Emily dedicated herself to kayaking whenever she could and still gave quality time to her family, friends and studies is beyond the skills of most, but her life is a stark reminder that we can only live for the full, and it is a wish to make on our faces."

"It has been a very hard time for the club to come to terms with the death of Emily, but we can try to take

comfort knowing that she died doing what she loved."

Tragically, there has also been trouble at the Yorkshire Army Cadet Force where Emily was a member for five years, reaching the rank of Cadet Sergeant. The Psychology student's former Detachment Commander, Vince Murray, said: "Emily was an inspiration to all cadets and young people. The cadets salute who she helped to train will be beneficiaries of the work of her team. She made the rank of Cadet Sergeant, was a leading member of our shooting team and was selected to stay in shooting in Canada for six weeks. She will be truly missed."

In a statement, Emily's family said: "Emily had such a vibrant personality and was always full of love for life. She was in the final year of a Psychology degree at Leeds University and was looking forward to graduating in June." The family added: "Emily always had boundless energy and a big smile, often described as 'lighting up a room' when she walked in. Her tragic death has left a huge void and we cannot imagine life without her."

## Leeds Student

### Inside LS this week...

LS looks at the campaign to save Tuleys  
pg 12, news extra

LS Sport takes a look around the new sports centre  
pg 20, sport

LS interviews a celebrated business rights lawyer  
pg 16, features

LS interviews a Ghanaian journalist  
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The revertsions of the political moment have suited Sketch to the very core this week. The many schools of change are in motion once again; the people brought the ideological clash of political ideas, with the great rival factions embracing all the

dark magic of modern propaganda to sell their message. That's right, it's LDU Relevance time.

Opponents to Motion 4 spoke of a "dirty secret" behind its eagerly awaited, shamefully well planned vote of substance. Sketch, however, has sensed a parallel where elsewhere. On entering the plain new LDU entrance, Sketch witnessed an action as repetitive from the adjacent building site, that Sketch was even distracted from Justin Barber on David's (P) as the who scene of possibly beyond broader themes.

Now, Sketch has no problem with barbed wire per se. That was never an issue to equal Sketch's! However, the increasingly Marxist campaigning from these ideologues

struck a chord. That has been over backwards for that earlier this year, including further measures from your letters on the LDU office, but in fact as Sketch drew out on the newspaper's own account, this of 'not of life' off the air. It was one of the great unacknowledged campaigning against Motion 4. Sketch strongly suggests you get a grip and realize that most state-controlled media severely reduces the coverage of your claims. You fucking pigs.

Now as David's list of options comes to a close, Sketch is of electoral campaigning for the Laboratoire D'Education on general TV. Sure, episode one shows Gordon Rip Craggy into the limelight, but since then (and since Ripon and

Canon have realised that saying "Leeds as shown hickering" is a fantastic way to suggest you in the short-term) the three have come to sound almost identical. That's positively boring all three parties, and will be voting. Given this election being paid a living wage would save David just five, and means Sketch need never task employers from one of these three representative materials.

But as the bells of the elevated debates across the headlines from David calling in ex-Labour member a hope. Well, sketch had thought it's time our politicians are people too? They have options! Most would gladly be called a hope. It might even turn out to be true.

## Union body seeking representatives

As of today, consultations have opened for the Activities Executive, Activities Executive is the body of the Union which helps decide how much funding clubs and societies receive, gives the go-ahead to new groups, deals with any disciplinary issues, and helps the Activities Officer with many different activities relating to Clubs and Societies.

It is hoped that following the recent meeting of the Union Council, to formally ratify the decision, the newly elected Activity Reps will also form a key part of the 'Better Union' forum which will discuss all policy directly related to the Union.

'Better Union' is one of three new forums being proposed to replace the existing Union Council, alongside 'Better University' and 'Better Leeds' which will discuss matters concerning the University and the wider community respectively. 'Better Union' will be the meeting where all policies that affect you the Students Union will be discussed and voted upon. Members of Activities Executive will help shape that discussion.

Prospective candidates can only stand to be an Activity Rep that covers the Activity group you are part of yourself. For example only members of Performing activity groups stand as Theatre Reps, the Activity Groupings are: Dance, Departmental, Fresh & Culture, General Interest, Mental Arts, Media, Outdoor, Performance, Political, & Campaigning, Sports & Volunteering.

For more information please head to the Campaigns and Democracy Support Office opposite the Student Union. You can nominate yourself online from now until April on May 6th at [www.leedsstudentunion.org.uk](http://www.leedsstudentunion.org.uk). Voting will take place between the 10th - 12th May.

## Train station ordeal

Matthew Power

A female student who was attacked by two thieves at a Leeds train station has told how she finds walking through town "a nightmare".

Della Cain, 21, was waiting for a train inside the platform shelter of Leeds railway station, Leeds, at 8:30pm last Tuesday night when she was spun by a pair of robbers.

"It's made me unconformably confident at night," she said. "I lock one my shoulder all the time. I don't wear anyone walking near me. It makes walking through town at night unpleasant."

The student was waiting for her train in the station's shelter when the robbers surrounded her and tried to

swipe her handbag.

"The train was due five minutes after I got there and just as it was about to leave, coming out of there came two men on bikes and the other one came at me from the left. The one on my right was trying to shove me so I couldn't see over, and the one on my left tried to grab my handbag. He swung me around by my handbag and forced me to the floor," she explained.

The student managed to keep hold of her bag until the robbers then ran off when the train arrived at the station. "I think they came down on to the station purposefully to see and attack somebody. I moved from my shelter station and caught the train every week. I thought there was something odd about the one that came down on to the platform. I normally had safe," she said.

Della added: "You can't stop a train happening - just keep hold of

your handbag. If they don't get anything then they'll stop doing it eventually. I just didn't put my handbag down and kept hold of it as hard as I could. If they don't get anything from it they're going to stop eventually and go home."

She was wearing a black top and jeans with her hair tied around the collar. The other robber was of medium build, wore a white hooded top and black trouser bottoms.

Det Sgt Geraldine Sellow of Beak Transport Police said: "This was a frightening offence which suggests a vulnerable woman in her own."

"Anyone who has any information regarding the incident or the men involved, is asked to contact Beak Transport Police on 0113 956645, quoting incident 661 of 20/04/2010"

## Election analysis in this week's Leeds Student...

Comment - hung parliament, drugs and defilement.  
pg 10-11

The Big Debate - Who should you vote for?  
pg 9

Election Pull Out  
pg 23-26



# On the run for charity

By Sarah

A Leeds student will go face to face with six bulls in the course of charity this summer as he takes on the Pamplona Bull Run in Spain.

Simon Scudwick, an Indian and Spanish student, hopes the money he raises from sponsoring the Bull Run will help fund his journey to Madrid, where he will work unpaid for one year for International Cultural Youth Exchange (ICYE).

The Run consists of running in front of six bulls that have been tamed on a course of a network of streets of Pamplona's streets, and normally finishing their race halting in the centre of the city.

Mark hopes to raise £250 in total for the trip, and although there are obvious dangers in the Bull Run, he hopes this will inspire others to sponsor him.

"The fact that only one person died last year provides me with a slight comfort," said a fourth year undergraduate.

"I am hoping the year I spend playing rugby will do me in achieving this running goal. I admit that I don't feel that these particular last-

things, for me, actually have been a slight worry."

"I consider myself extremely fortunate to have been offered a professional and relatively comfortable life so far."

"By dedicating a year of my life to help people who have to deal with constant hardship, I'm hoping to experience what I must be like to live this way and see the benefits if there are any that come from this situation."

The Pamplona Bull Run is the most popular Bull Run in Spain and broadcast live over two television channels. If successful in completing it and raising the money, Mark will teach English and Sport in an orphanage in Seville, a small city in southern Spain, after graduating in July.

"The Company I will work for (ICYE) do a lot of great work, sending me volunteers to underprivileged developing nations... I'm hoping that people will realize this and realize a real amount of their own finances to help me help others," he added.

Simon is a student at Leeds who is currently studying for his BA in International Communication.



ON THE RUN Student Max Scudwick (right) is hoping to raise £250 by taking part in a Spanish bull run.

Photo: Max Scudwick (Courtesy of Simon)

# Student radio DJ up for Sony award

Blaise O'Hara

Leeds Student Radio's Max Dickins has been nominated for the 'Best New' Sony Radio Award.

The award was launched in 2006 to find the biggest radio stars of the future. It is the only people's choice award at the Sony Radio Awards. Awards ceremony and past winners include George Lamb, for his show on Mix106.

The third year Philosophy and Politics student is up against the likes of Jarvis Cocker for his late night show on Absolute Radio, and is expected to have been nominated.

"Being nominated for a Sony whilst still an undergraduate is unheard of. It has brought me to the attention of all the industry big-wigs, and in the long run that I hope it will lead to bigger and better things," he said.



Leeds' Max Dickins has been nominated for the prestigious 'Best New' Sony Radio Award.

"When asked how he rates his chances, Max responded: "Obviously, losing a world famous pop star in a popular vote is a tall order, but I've not given up hope. If you're reading this, vote for the underdog now!"

Max started his radio career on his first job at the popular Breakfast show and the afternoon Monkey Tennis, which was the most downloaded show on LSR for two years in a row. He is also busy on the stand-up circuit, and has twice reached the finals of the national Comedy Student Competition of the Year competition and performed in Edinburgh with the university sketch group Leeds Tardigrades.

LSR is now available by student radio-casters and broadcast on 24 hours a day during term time on the station's website.

To vote for Max, go to [www.sonyradioawards.co.uk](http://www.sonyradioawards.co.uk).

# LSTV sweeps up at awards

Paul Seale

Leeds Student Television (LSTV) has once again swept all before it at the National Student Television Awards (NSTV).

At a ceremony in Glasgow, held on March 27, the main prize for best comedy, making 2011 LSTV's most successful year so far.

NSTV is a student broadcasting association with 80 affiliated members and this year's award ceremony was the most competitive, with 19 university broadcasters battling it out in 20 categories.

LSTV added to its ever-expanding trophy cabinet by claiming the much-coveted honour of 'Best Breakthrough' – for the second year in succession – as well as other awards such as 'Best Female'. The latter went to the talented Alice Selfield. LSTV's success by President, who is delighted to look out for on your television screens in the future. The ceremony which was a black and white affair 'very much like the Oscars', according to LSTV's co-ordinator Andrew Chubbman, was



DEW TO SUCCESS: LSTV picked up six awards at last month's National Student Television Awards (NSTV).

Photo courtesy of LSTV

held at Oran Hall, a converted Church in Glasgow's West end. Since LSTV began broadcasting back in 2004, it has found incredibly well in NSTV, award ceremonies, picking up more prizes than any other student broadcaster.

Andrew Chubbman, LSTV News Manager, said "If you're out there with your mates enjoying it, you're going to get good TV as a by-product."

LSTV's output ranges from the crew-constructed news programmes, the Essential, to light-hearted entertainment in the Walls House. In recent years the station has also produced impressive drama series.

This year 'Conscience', a hard-hitting themed drama surrounding pregnancy, came away with an award in the Open category.

According to Chubbman there has always been "a bit of pressure"

on LSTV because of past successes. "People are looking to us to do something new... we have that here," he said.

As a final year student, Chubbman will soon be handing over the reins at LSTV. He added, "We've had so much fun along the way, so we deserve it and it's wonderful to be recognized and appreciated for what we do."

# BBQ ban inflames debate

Joan Elliott

Woodhouse Moor barbecues are being closed by the local council.

Parkswatch Patrol, which came into force on April 1, are policing the park to ensure barbecues are put out and litter is not dropped.

One of the Parkswatch Patrol officers, who drive the white golf buggies around the park, explains: "Our officers see too many people's barbecues out, picking up litter and generally making the park messy."

"The patrol has been placed in Hyde Park to attempt to prevent the amount of litter and damage to the grass that was seen last summer. The Parkswatch Patrol put out barbecues with a small box.

Local residents felt strongly enough about the damage done to the park to write to the Yorkshire Evening Post to ask for something to be done about it.

"I really seem to support the scheme", explained the writer, who preferred not to be named.

"Some people are not too happy when you put their barbecues out but we explain that it changes the park."

Hannah Greenhalgh, Leeds University Union (LJU) Community Officer, stated: "The council are obliged to enforce the bylaws that state barbecuing is illegal on Woodhouse Moor. However, a

deed seems that students were green-kilo warning about the park."

The Union had been initially informed of plans to create a purpose built barbecue area in the park by April so that the bylaws could be enforced and offering an alternative place for barbecuing.

However, the plans have been pushed back with no definite date as to when the project will get under way.

A scheme is being set up that will see students volunteering to pick up the litter on Woodhouse Moor.

"When asked students acknowledge that they are responsible for their own litter but believe that there are not enough bins provided or that they are not emptied regularly enough," Greenhalgh added.

Ben, a Chemical Engineering student said: "I think the patrol is funny. They were around on Sunday parking over the barbecues around the park and people were leaving and giving them issues."

Ben also says he has been around the park informing visitors that no barbecues or fire of any kind can be lit along with a ban on loud music being played.

The patrol has been a centre of controversy for students and young people alike with social networking groups being set up about the patrol 'Area 51'.

The Parkswatch Patrol will be in effect until the end of summer.



WATCHING Officers will patrol Woodhouse Moor and will put out any barbecues

Photo: Richard

## Stealing from students isn't always difficult...

# Students stranded by ash cloud aviation shutdown



**DEPARTURES** Some lectures were cancelled last week as the aviation shutdown left staff and students stranded.

## Matthew Power

Students caught up in travel chaos caused by the spread of ash from the Icelandic volcano eruption last week continue to make their way back to Leeds for the start of the new term.

The flight disruption forced cancellations of some lectures after staff and students struggled to make their way back to Leeds after the Easter break.

Leeds University confirmed that a number of lectures were cancelled but said they are not yet able to determine the full extent of the travel disruption. It is still unclear how many staff and students are still stranded abroad.

A University spokesman said: "It has not yet been possible to gauge precisely the disruption caused, but we do know that it did lead to the cancellation or postponement of a few lectures and tutorials."

"Schools will advise students of any alternative arrangements required for the substitution of any cancelled coursework and, where possible, for the rescheduling of any tutorial sessions."

University staff have also been told that they will not be allowed to use shops from their holiday locations if they are stranded abroad.

Last week, as announced on the University website advised that staff or students stranded abroad could be repatriated as part of arrangements made through their school or faculty.

A group of air students were left stranded in Barcelona after visiting the city on a trip.

Second year business student Luke Townsend was left stranded in Dubai after visiting friends.

"I was stuck out in Dubai but was luckily staying with friends so I didn't have to deal with Dubai's notorious heat/pollution, the sun."

"Eventually we just went to the airport to see what options there were on any airlines, and I hopefully got me and my dad on a flight home because I was normally packing about a year having enough time to wait."

Another student, Iona Semple, a second year history and politics student, was stranded in Rome after staying with her parents. She managed to get back to Leeds after being driven to Milan by her father.

"I was very worried about getting my course to start. I only had two days to get to Leeds in order to be in on time. Someone's flight was cancelled on a Saturday, I couldn't even contact the department to see what I could do and to let them know about my problem," she told Leeds Student.

The ash that spread out from the Icelandic volcano has also had a detrimental impact on Europe's airports. It caused the grounding of over 50,000 European flights.

The European Commission estimates the cost of the disruption to the European aviation could reach £1 billion.

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Go to pg 11 for comment 'Ash cloud's not convenient'

## Your questions answered

**Will I lose my attendance marks if I was stranded overseas? Right was cancelled?**

The University has said that no student will suffer academically if the flight was cancelled and couldn't get back to Leeds. Students who have missed lectures or seminars because they could not get home will be allowed an absence with good cause and will be treated in the same way as a student absent because of illness.

**I missed a week of revision due to my trip work has cancelled. Will this affect my grade?**

Students who feel that their work has suffered because they missed classes or seminars then an appeal to discuss their school in this can be taken in to

account when work is being marked.

I was stranded overseas and missed an essay deadline. What will happen?

The University says any students delayed as a result of the disruption to an air table will not be disadvantaged academically. Your school will advise you of any alternative arrangements required for the substitution of any cancelled coursework. You are also advised to keep records which prove that your missed deadline was due to cancelled or delayed international flight.

**Still in doubt about something?**

Any specific questions should be sent to your school or seminar, or to David Ward (d.ward@leeds.ac.uk)



**Angela Ma**, International student.

On arriving in Leeds from Hong Kong I had to leave overnight at the airport because the flight was cancelled. I was very worried about getting my course to start. I only had two days to get to Leeds in order to be in on time. Someone's flight was cancelled on a Saturday, I couldn't even contact the department to see what I could do and to let them know about my problem."



**Leah Townsend**, Leeds University student.

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## Poor turnout in referendum

### Shane O'Ryan

The final referendums of the year have received an even lower student turnout than usual.

Despite some controversial motions, such as a lifting of the ban on bottled water, few students participated in the Date's April referendum.

Only 1,861 students voted out of a potential 30,000. There was twice as many voters in the previous referendum held in November 2005.

Building work outside the Union building, along with exams and early pressure have been cited as contributing factors to the lower numbers of student voting. Efforts to encourage students to vote by offering them £1 off their Summer 10 bus ticket has had limited success on some campuses.

But Stephen Downson, 11th Democracy Liaison, declared the referendum a success.

"We're really happy that each of the motions had enough votes to pass, in the least it happened in previous years. It's a tribute to our Democracy Reps, who have worked very hard to promote the referendum and encourage students to vote, a difficult task especially given the problems we've faced this time around," he said.

Students opposing the voting status on the table of the referendum, commenting that student participation was the status as usual.

All motions passed, though the amount of votes needed for results to

be reached, with all but two motions going forward to be Union policy. The two that failed were one related to the student union's name and "Should ULI support international affairs," which was the most ably contested vote.

Students voted to create a ULI's executive administrative body, and also to expand the facilities of the Peace Gallery, a controversial motion given after a motion had been submitted to close the facility. Therefore, students voted almost unanimously for the Union to work to increase its estate value, while also voting to implement the new democratic review.

Results	
Motion 1 Should ULI support international affairs	1,861
Motion 2 Should ULI support international affairs	1,861
Motion 3 Should ULI support international affairs	1,861
Motion 4 Should ULI support international affairs	1,861
Motion 5 Should ULI support international affairs	1,861
Motion 6 Should ULI support international affairs	1,861
Motion 7 Should ULI support international affairs	1,861
Motion 8 Should ULI support international affairs	1,861
Motion 9 Should ULI support international affairs	1,861
Motion 10 Should ULI support international affairs	1,861

# Lectures are full of rubbish



## Kitchen litter

Attempts are being made to stop students using the floors of lecture theatres as bins following complaints about the level of waste left there.

Cans, empty bottles, crisp packets and sandwich wraps are among the mess deposited in auditoriums at Leeds University.

Aware of the problem the university has decided to take steps to encourage students to put their litter in the bin.

A University of Leeds spokesman said: "We strongly discourage students from eating food and drink into lecture theatres, and notices to that effect are displayed in many lecture theatres."

"Spilled drinks, dropped food and crumbs, together with discarded packaging and other litter, create an unpleasant environment for all of us. The lecture theatres are regularly cleaned but many spills and stains

require specialist cleaning which, in fact, requires extra resources."

"Litter bins are available either immediately outside or nearby before theatres so that people can dispose of their litter before going into a lecture or when they leave."

"All 1,000+ bins on campus are emptied on a regular basis, so it should always be possible for campus users to dispose of their unwanted litter in an appropriate place."

Lecturers and members of staff will be involved in helping to reduce the amount of litter and encouraging students not to leave their rubbish on the floor at the end of lectures.

Complaints about the level of litter have come from staff and students. Becky Dutton, a fourth year French and Spanish student stated: "It isn't cleaned up until the end of the day which is frustrating. If you have a lecture later on in the day and there is loads of rubbish in a room where you are supposed to be learning."

Dutton added: "If you see the rubbish, you want to sit somewhere

else which makes lecturers uncomfortable for students", she adds.

Students have pointed to the lack of bins in lecture halls as a cause of the problem, but not all believe that litter is a problem.

Stephanie Derron, a second year broadcast journalism student said: "I don't see that as a problem. I have seen people bringing food, but I don't really see any litter, maybe because I have class in very small lectures."

As well as asking students not to leave rubbish behind, other action such as posters to promote cleanliness in the lecture halls has been suggested.

Mike Hilderson, L111 Education Officer said: "There is a ban on food and drink but you can't really police and stop the students, so we just want to ask people to be responsible."

Hilderson added that the University and L111 hope to stimulate students "to be a bit more considerate of other students and of staff."

LECTURE ON LITTER: University staff have told students they must stop leaving lecture halls.

Photo: Paul Gammell

...sometimes it's just child's play

Watch our video at:

[www.leedsuniversityunion.org.uk/knowledge/videos/](http://www.leedsuniversityunion.org.uk/knowledge/videos/)

**KNOWLEDGE.**

# Appeal group closed

Natalie Dineen

A Facebook group set up to help find the person responsible for a sexual attack on a Leeds student has been shut down on the advice of West Yorkshire Police.

The group, set up by Katherine Parker, a second year Biology student, had originally been made to search for the attacker and to help students to register at further attacks.

But offensive comments began to be posted on the wall of the group and Police urged Miss Parker to close down the group.

Sophia James, LDU Equality and Diversity Officer commented: "Generally, there were two types of problematic posts being left on the group."

"Primarily posts which implied that the woman had somehow brought this on herself but also, there were posts written by people from the local area. Facebook users backed to friends who felt it worth to claim that they had raped her. Eventually, local news reporters were inevitably appearing."

Katherine posted a message to members of the group saying: "Hopefully the group has fulfilled its aim of providing publicity to encourage people with information about the case to contact the Police."

She continued: "I hope that female students will also be more aware that sexual assault can happen to anyone, even if they



PHOTO: AP/WIDEWORLD. Police are searching who assaulted a student in Hyde Park

think they're not 'divorced' like they're asking for it, and that they will be more vigilant when travelling across Leeds and other parts of the country."

The appeal to find the man who assaulted a student in Hyde Park on Wednesday February 10 between 1am and 4am, continues.

Detective Inspector Mark Grant said: "As you would expect, the victim of this offence is distressed by the incident. We are working with her to ensure she gets the best support possible."

"Both she and we are very keen to trace the man in the photograph to progress the enquiry. We would like him to come forward."

Police are looking for a male in his early 20s with short dark hair in a messy style. He is of a slim build with delicate features and speaks with a local Leeds accent.

If you have any other information about this incident or recognise this man please contact Operation Tapar on 0845 66 60 66 or 0800 585 5111 anonymously on Crime Stoppers.

# Man, 38, pleads guilty over Taps attack

Tom Knowles

A man who set fire to a student dressed in a sleep costume in the Headingley Tapas bar last October has pleaded guilty to arson.

Jason Whaley, 38, who caused Leeds University student Stuart Mitchell's upper body to engulf in flames, had told the incident was a "prank pranks".

Whaley, from Portsmouth, is facing a possible prison sentence after pleading guilty to arson, being reckless as to whether life was endangered.

Leeds Online reported last October how 19-year-old student Stuart Mitchell suffered serious burns at the pub, on North Lane. Greg Mitchell, MP for Leeds North West, expressed his anger over the incident at the time, saying: "People have the right to go out and enjoy themselves without fear of being attacked."

Richard Goodwin, prosecuting, told: "The crown accepts that, believe it or not, that in his (Whaley's) state of mind at the time, the defendant thought this was a joke."

Mitchell sustained burns that

required ongoing treatment for months after the event, including a major skin graft operation. Two of his hands were also injured, with minor burns.

"Witnesses at the scene reported that the fire, due to the flammable material of these costumes, rapidly went up in flames, hitting them and 'human torches'."

Another witness and Leeds student, Sarah Grimaldi stated: "It was a scene of chaos outside The Headingley Tapas. Due to the number of police cars and ambulances I presumed there had just been a serious fire, but the arrival of a fire engine made everything seem slightly more serious."

Police, fire crews and an ambulance were called to the pub around 3.30pm. Leeds had already appeared to end the student's night, staying out the flames as they rolled on the floor.

The staff were also quick to be involved, using fire extinguishers to put out the fires and were commended for their actions.

Something has been organised for three weeks for upon, Whaley was granted bail until the next hearing. No indication was given by Recorder Jackson as to what Whaley's sentence will be.

# Campus Watch

Jay Smith

## Scotland

Students in Scottish universities still worry they'll be dropped over their shoulders in the next of the UK, a study has shown.

A recent investigation carried out by the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) shows that 55 per cent of students dropped out in Scotland in the year 2008/09, compared with 54 per cent across the UK, an article, with the National Union of Students (NUS) blaming 'poverty' for the dropouts.

The research also revealed that students from state schools are less likely to get into university in Scotland.

"I'm very disappointed in our Scotland's continuing poor record on student dropouts and as a postgraduate from poorer backgrounds to study at university," said Laura Brown, NUS Scotland president, "Only 28.2 per cent of students

entering higher education in Scotland in 2008/09 were from lower socioeconomic groups.

## University College Dublin

A 23-year-old Irish student is in a critical condition in a Chicago Hospital after being attacked while returning with a friend from a night out.

Natalie McShane, a postgraduate student, is studying in the University of Illinois in Chicago as part of an exchange program.

She was assaulted on 13/04 on Friday evening with a baseball bat by the attacker, who stole their purses and fled from the scene. Ms McShane's family are travelling to Chicago to be with her in hospital.

## Portsmouth

A Portsmouth University student has been named Pharmacist of the Year after treating 400 UK students in the award.

"I am very honoured and shocked to have won this prestigious award," said Rosalind Kennedy, a third year student major in pharmacy.

"This is the first competition I have entered related to my degree and I did not expect to win. I had to participate in quizzes and express with both essays and interviews in order to win the award."

## Cambridge

Terrified street scenes in Cambridge have been forced to appeal to the Queen to have an aggressive rant, nicknamed "The Rant", removed from the River Cam.

The rant first appeared on the river last year, attacking women near Fitz Dunes but has now moved closer to the city centre and has become a racist rant again.

The President of the Cambridge Free Speech Association, Gill Kay, said: "The rant situation is

most serious and someone if going to be badly injured or worse - indeed a number of incidents have already occurred."

The rant is projected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act which states a formal request to remove it, even has had to be made in the monarch.

The rant has had to be made in the monarch.



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## Leeds Student letters@leedsstudent.org

## -Use your vote-

**A** Radin 4 times programme recently interviewed young people outside Topshop on Oxford Street.

The journalist was trying to gauge the youth's opinion on the general election. His results were not encouraging. One teenager said: "I won't vote because I don't understand it, and I'm not going to vote in something I don't understand."

It's disappointing at this point in school: "Will it be understood, you (journalist) look? But perhaps they got his opinion, the election was something. Pam posted from the Post on the day, because she was on duty, never to have a bad day, we can teach ourselves to ignore."

But, hopefully one election poll-out will demonstrate some of the confusing issues students are most interested in: tuition fees, environment and employment.

## -Anti fun park patrol-

**I**t's a sunny day, everyone's out for the fun and a group of you have headed over to the Blue Park with a small barbeque for a long day of sitting in the sun, eating cheap meat and drinking warm beer. As these students start to enjoy their day, a man in a golf buggy drives up, gets out and sees an out-of-place ad on your sign.

Yes, the Park Patrol has arrived, in force throughout the summer to stop students enjoying their holiday.

It's easy to denounce the Park Patrol. Their constant golf buggies, patrolling down lawn tracks, and "no loud music" signs mean funbush groups such as Hyde Park Anti-Park Patrol gather massive student support. But there's a reason they are there: students who interfere are ruining Blue Park.

Type "Facebook Blue" into Facebook and hundreds of photos pop-up showing the destruction

Four million people will be eligible to vote for the first time on May 6. That's a lot of power we hold.

Leeds Student does not endorse any party, but it does endorse greater understanding of something that will affect our lives for at least the next few years, if not many more. Read our supplement, take a view and get out on the polls on May 6.

The NHS care students aren't being listened to, students are saying we're not being listened to, politicians say other politicians aren't listening to students. Make us your hero.

Most of us were too young to feel a part of the 1977 landslide election, something which changed our country in ways unimagined. Now it's our turn. Come May 6, let's make history again. Let's show we're understood.

owed. The grass is potholed with large black, charred stains. The grass is so scorched across the park, children playing football in the morning start to wear second-hand football boots and abandoned sties. It smells like a sties when you apply the Daily Mail, unfortunately this one it's not.

Everyone likes a beer and relaxing, but at the park during the summer, especially after the sun, it's a relief to have a cold one. I've experienced that I've been surprised that locals have protested against us essentially making a park that is very much more fun. In fact, there's an easy way to solve all this stuff: we can take rubbish home and do nothing in most barbeques. Oh, an even easier one: teacher's day, maybe you'll remember your school.

It's our choice.

## -Sexual assault appeal-

**T**he actions of certain students in relation to such a sensitive case are worrying.

You can never dress rape up in a manner, but it seems some have tried. A Facebook group which interfered in help for a student. Police filed a report was handled by committee from women using women's toilet signs when they dress in short skirts or low-cut tops.

Women should be free to dress as they wish without fear of unwanted attention. The

perception that dress constitutes a certain attitude to sexual relations can be undermined, even if it's wrong, but to act on such impulses is beyond any justification. Yet it seems some continue to do that.

The recent incident linked the offensive comments to students and may have just been merely here. It's thought out, but they measure on a higher level to that remained on that these old-fashioned views about sexual assault still exist.

## Elections 'Meh'

The last election of Leeds Student highlighted students' concern about the impact of 'Meh' voting on the EUU executive election.

Today, I can only assume that some of the concerns raised in the article were directed at myself and the other winning candidates. It is necessary that we as people have to make the assumption that a 'Meh' got me the necessary votes, because, quite simply, that is what I did.

As a Jewish student, and therefore, quite naturally, I do not vote in the spirit of an ordinary student. However, this is not the ideology of my party. As a Jewish student, and therefore, I do not vote in the spirit of an ordinary student. However, this is not the ideology of my party. As a Jewish student, and therefore, I do not vote in the spirit of an ordinary student. However, this is not the ideology of my party.

I got help from friends. I made working at the Terrace Bar, and from being a presenter on Leeds Student Radio. I have had a number of my friends help me to get on the list of 100 or 200 Bar 'Meh's' who should be

member of the executive change my mind.

My point is that the lack of any number of students will not win you the election. In order to win you need a clever campaign, one which sends out an unambiguous message, simply putting out posters saying 'Vote for me' will not get you elected. I would like the reason of my vote to be clear, publicly, meaningful, and a strong, bold, campaign. The vote of 200 students over 2000 students, how they won they could list of a whole set of reasons. To believe it is so simple as one 'Meh' support 'Meh' sending off an email saying 'Vote' and 800 students blindly following is extremely naive.

I am sure of the political direction which the Union, and this is the position which I never got involved in. Union politics up to now. It allowed me, as it does to the majority of students. It was argued in the article that 'Meh' voting is the cause of the committee being made up of 100. I would argue that the reason most people are apathetic about voting in elections is that the issues behind (not so) are not relevant or not relevant. Please do have been brought to the

elections of Union politics in every year. None of these people have the right to express their views, but I believe it is their right to be heard. I believe it is their right to be heard. I believe it is their right to be heard. I believe it is their right to be heard.

I do think that one of the ways to win the election was by speaking to students one-on-one, and contacting people who wouldn't normally vote of the importance and relevance of student elections. If the Union was to become effective in relevant areas, then I'm convinced there will be higher turnout in the future. It will not come without, and the Union remains relevant to all its students, then it will be apparent how small and insignificant the 'Meh' really is.

Jack Chayner  
LEU Welfare Officer Emeritus

**Conventions and clarifications**  
We would like to apologise and clarify that there has been a typo in the article. The correct date is 10th May 12, not 10th May 12. The correct date is 10th May 12, not 10th May 12. The correct date is 10th May 12, not 10th May 12. The correct date is 10th May 12, not 10th May 12.

## New Union boss vows to continue fees fight

Jessica Elliott

The new President of National Union of Students (NUS), has said he will continue to oppose rising tuition fees when he comes into office.

Alan Porter was elected as the NUS President with 63 per cent of the vote. He will succeed Phil Swann who leaves office in June.

Speaking about his election victory, Porter, from NUS vice-president the Higher Education, said: "I'm honoured to be elected NUS President and looking forward to a significant year, the formation of a new government and the extension of the Erasmus scheme."

Speaking to the Labour Party or the Conservative Party have cancelled their plans for student fees. They agree that they will wait until an independent review of student finance, the Brown review, has been published. The review will not be made public until the report is published.

The Liberal Democrat party have said they will phase out student fees in six years.

Speaking about the Brown review Porter has said: "If there is a review, we will continue to support the government to stop it. The most realistic would be for the top to be cut, but I don't think that is realistic, unless it's done in a way that doesn't affect the rest of the country. That would affect the choice of course students take."

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## Lecturer's £20,000 cancer grant

Natalie Duce

A "groundbreaking" Leeds research project has landed a grant of £20,000.

Dr Martin Hawley, a lecturer in Leeds, received the University of Leeds, awarded the funding which will enable him to investigate the spread of breast cancer.

The grant is to discover the exact role of the molecule that is found on white blood cells, and its importance in the loss of diagnosis.

Dr Hawley said: "I'm very grateful that this funding from Breast Cancer Campaign will help me secure the extra £20,000 to finance the project to test my idea and its importance in disease progression."

The grant, which is part of the £5 million awarded by the Breast Cancer Campaign in 2008, allows the project to take place and increase the general understanding of the growth of breast cancer. Dr Hawley said: "I'm very grateful that this funding from Breast Cancer Campaign will help me secure the extra £20,000 to finance the project to test my idea and its importance in disease progression."



Alan Porter  
NUS President  
NUS Vice President  
NUS President  
NUS Vice President



Alan Porter  
NUS President  
NUS Vice President  
NUS President  
NUS Vice President



Alan Porter  
NUS President  
NUS Vice President  
NUS President  
NUS Vice President



# Election 2010

the  
big  
debate

ELECTION SPECIAL

Most of us will be voting for the first time in a general election on Thursday and this choice is as important as any for generations. So, with the three mainstream parties neck-and-neck in the polls, this week's Big Debate asks:

Who should you vote for in the General Election?

## Labour

Mark Swards  
Labour Students

The next 5 years will determine the direction of Britain for decades to come. It is absolutely essential that the next government make the right decisions. And because those decisions will affect everyone in this country for a long time to come it is crucial that Labour, a party of the many and not just the few, win the vote of May.



The economy will take centre stage in this election and it is only Labour's plan, a plan adopted by all the world's major economies, which will see Britain through the next crisis. Only Labour will deliver on their promise to return the economy to the growth people need and most want in their jobs, where families don't have to worry about having to deal with another recession and where businesses can operate without the constant fear of insolvency.

Yes, they will still have to be seen to public services in order to pay off the debt incurred and the economy kept afloat – but they will not be the ideologically driven ones that the Conservatives have become in recent years. Nor will they come too closely agitate as the Tories are proposing, piling

more needless loads from necessity and straggling it to bits. It is a time when all nations have come together to take the similar route in order to save our future prosperity, it would be insane to suddenly change direction and work against the plan which is what governments have advocated.

And of course this isn't just a vote for a party it's a vote for an MP. Many students studying at Leeds live in the Leeds North West constituency where the Labour candidate is none other than Judith Blake. She would be a wonderful asset to Leeds, bringing an actually working for the constituency rather than chasing ministerial posts. She's planning to stand up for students voting against our rise in tuition fees while her Lib Dem opponent has a parliamentary record of making every constituency about student that during questions about tuition fees.

And you, while the Lib Dem's are set on plans to raise university fees they do not properly explain how they will fund the extra funds either that involves proposition based on local figures. It is the same case if you don't have an MP, you still have to vote for an MP to help everyone in our country, from a North or East Sussex, so a ministerial appointment to ensure they don't go to university.

This article, due to its length, cannot give any one person to go out and cast their vote on the 6th. But, if anything, it will encourage some to take a long look at what all three parties are actually offering in terms of substance. While it's tempting for some to fall into the trap of voting without proper research to exchange for votes, especially in such a close election, anyone who maintains the Labour tradition will see that they are the only ones committed to a future for all.

## Liberal Democrats

Chris Lowell  
Lib Dem at Leeds Uni

The election that is coming is likely to be the closest and most uncertain that any of us have experienced in our lifetimes. But what is the real choice? The choice is between the old 'liberalism' parties or something new and something different.



The old really want to vote for the same old broken system, the same old political system, the same old rules, the same old revenues and the same old 'taxable' We need change, but we need change that really means something – not the empty promises of the old parties.

As the old election more that we in the people need for the Liberal Democrats, but they get less than 1 in 10 of the seats in parliament. I don't think this is fair. Over a million people marched against the Iraq war in 2003, but they were ignored by the government. I don't think this is fair. Hundreds of thousands of students marched against tuition fees but they were ignored anyway. I don't think this is fair. Millions of job-seeking people were made worse off by Labour abolishing the 1p tax rise and I don't

think this is fair either. So what's the alternative? Why not vote for the party that's different? Vote for the Liberal Democrats.

So why should people vote Lib Dem in this general election? The answer is simple, it's fairness. We want to build a society in which anyone, no matter what their start in life, can achieve their full potential. That's why you matter what you read in the press, you are still going to get a personal tax. That's why we want to take any step we can before 2010 out of the tax system altogether (paid for by closing the tax loopholes for the rich, rich and not dead). That's why we want to introduce green taxes to control pollution. That's why we want to change the voting system to stop the scandal of all sorts of seats for Lib Dem. That's why we want to develop plans of policing and health in local communities. That's why we want to scrap the costly ID card scheme. But most of all we want change. It's time to vote for the party that will give us the opportunity for vote for real change. If you don't vote because nothing ever seems to change, then vote for something different this time.

Most importantly, your vote really means something in Leeds. The Lib Dem jobs vote the closest in Leeds and we also have an MP in Leeds North West (covering parts of Hyde Park, Headingley, Roundhay, Ilkley and beyond). There are 28,000 students in Leeds North West constituency, but the Lib Dem only won in 2005 by 1,800 votes less than over Labour.

Show the old parties what you think of their old policies this time and choose the Liberal Democrats.

## Conservatives

James McFarland  
Conservative Future

In 1997, people thought that the future was bright, the "New" Labour government promised that things would only get better.



The last 12 years has seen our great country turn into the laughing stock of Europe, complexity out of money and no sense of future for the people of tomorrow. It is students who are the people of tomorrow. We want for us, for our children, for the generations to come. We want another 5 years of Gordon Brown, another five years of spiralling debt, worse and worse employment.

There is at the University of Leeds, new students will be voting in the constituency of Leeds North West. The Conservative party candidate here is Julia Malpas, a local business woman who was born and bred in the area. For nearly four years Julia has been working hard alongside with the students here and to understand what issues are important for them. To achieve this, a series of "road the candidate" days have been held around the University. These events were attended by all of the Conservative candidates for the Leeds area. The candidates had no objections on these days, which invite to higher students to vote, and to listen to the concerns of students, as the candidates recognise that the views of

students are important. A variety of student surveys and work experience programmes have also been carried out by Julia Malpas to hear what students have to say.

For many students, a major fear at the moment is how once they finish their studies, they will be no graduate jobs available. Under Labour, youth unemployment stands at nearly one million, the highest since world began. This is why the fear of jobs comes from. Labour have destroyed our economy by spending every penny, without and still in our country with 27% unemployment. It is time to give us the Lib Dem, Labour need want to improve a job market which will fill the economy and cut the thousands of jobs. The Conservatives will tackle the debt, put Britain back on the path to recovery and reverse Labour's job tax, by cutting away which makes government so inefficient and getting better value for money.

I believe this is a positive reason to vote for the Conservatives, showing that we are, for the generation party in British politics. But why vote for Julia Malpas? Julia will be an MP for all of our area, the majority of age, sex, wealth or social concerns, while the sitting Liberal Democrat MP, who has something of a questionable record on LGBT rights. During the recent LGBT march, a demon held by the Leeds University Union, after one candidate resignation – Julia Malpas was the only candidate to attend and was disappointed the debate did not go ahead. It's a scandal that neither Labour nor the Liberal Democrats could give a representative when they apparently believe it is equal.

So on May 6th, I urge you to look at Labour's record, and at the record of Liberal Democrat MP for Leeds North West, who has done little for the needs of students and will not represent the diversity of students at the University of Leeds.

The power to change the government is in your hands, vote for change, vote Conservative.

# Hanging the English parliament

The media have overlooked them, but chances of a hung parliament make Welsh and Scottish national parties more relevant than ever



**Dafydd Iwan**  
Welsh Nationalist  
Assembly  
Member  
Independent.org

If you believe David Cameron, a hung parliament is the worst case scenario for British politics. There are others, however, who will be hoping that an inconclusive outcome to the general election will produce a "balanced parliament" and stave off radical reform. The latter group includes the Scottish National Party and Plaid Cymru, who are both eager to demonstrate how a greater influence of theirs could benefit not only Scotland and Wales but the United Kingdom as a whole.

Nick Clegg has used the leaders' debate to revive the notion of three-party politics, and inspire a cult of personalism fervent enough to make even the Supreme Leader, Benazir Bhutto, turn to Scotland and Wales, the television studios have seemed suspiciously busy with only three podiums, as both the SNP and Plaid remain conspicuous by their absence in three historic debates.

Also absent, SNP leader and First Minister of Scotland, has described the election as "inherently unfair". Salmon has also mentioned that the SNP have

contemplated taking legal action against the BBC, as the network makes part of the SNP's parliamentary case for power.

"The most likely outcome of this election is a balanced parliament", Salmon says. "That's not a bad thing to assume, these islands would like to know what the SNP and Plaid, who could be very important to that issue, will want to do as the government for everyone on these islands."

Salmon's optimism has been echoed by Angus Robertson, the SNP's Westminster representative for Mersey, who has cheekily suggested that the BBC should create itself the English Broadcasting Corporation. Having long been considered as the British national media, the SNP and Plaid are now based on what could be a local through election, as a hung parliament could mean for them a louder voice in Westminster and greater law-making powers for the Scottish parliament and Welsh assembly.

And in Salmon's opinion, while both parties are presently concerned with life in Scotland and Wales, they could also have a profound influence on British politics should a balanced parliament materialise. With this in mind, the SNP and Plaid Cymru have promoted manifestos which base on their core ideology and policies relevant to populations throughout the United Kingdom.

Both plan to increase public spending,

and they intend to pressure additional funds for health and education by reforming the financial sector and scrapping Trident. In the shorter term, Salmon has also suggested that abolishing the House of Lords – which costs an estimated £100m a year – would be another way of cutting the deficit.

Plaid's manifesto has been particularly well received by the local and national press, as it clarifies and summarises policies set in tune with the deepest concerns of a population

## The SNP and Plaid remain conspicuous by their absence at the debates

disillusioned with Westminster politics. Indeed, it is a manifesto that addresses the needs of those who have been marginalised by recent governments.

While the Conservatives and Labour squabble over who is gobsmacked of seeing Britain's neglected social classes, Plaid have drawn proposals to increase a single

person's pension to over £35 to £136. The annual limiters are also extended in the manifesto, as Plaid have vowed to take troops out of Afghanistan. Indeed, Plaid proudly announce in their manifesto that they were "the only major party to oppose the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan from the very start."

As Britain drops itself out of recession, the deficit has proved to be a key issue in this election, and that is reflected by its prominence in the SNP and Plaid manifestos, which would include the introduction of "Robin Hood" taxes for "super-rich". These policies otherwise have both parties an ability of raising income charge not only for Scotland and Wales, but for many people in England.

According to a News of the World editorial earlier this month, a hung parliament "is the worst of all worlds". It is hardly surprising that a Rupert Murdoch-owned publication should want an outcome which would seriously harm the Conservatives, a political playground for the aristocracy and the media oligarchy.

What the elections will hopefully deliver next week, however, is a last clash which will generate Murdoch's dangerously ideological political influence, and give greater voice to both the SNP and Plaid Cymru in a radical, balanced parliament.

# Clegg irresponsible on defence

The Lib Dems want to scrap the UK's Trident nuclear deterrent, but they risk putting the country's security and influence under threat



**Nick Brown**  
First Year  
Justice and Politics  
Editor  
Nbrown@leeds.ac.uk

They say the election is revolutionary, new, different. I don't believe them. The truth is that it's been brewing for years, as British politics is moving from party-based voting to personality politics. The Britons of today are being influenced by character and judgement in a way that the voters of the past. Whilst some have called this a battle of style versus substance, I see it as a necessary change of emphasis. We can't know the priorities, values and temperament of our future leaders and the consequences of relevant debates is restricted to that fact.

The Americans however, being used to such short-changing, often use foreign policy as a defining factor in their choice of candidate, something we ought to do much more. It is never unreasonable that, in a world where State-sponsored terrorism are targeting nuclear weapons and where irresponsible leaders on the other side of an ocean leads to the collapse of our economies, who decides on at the polling station is first, not last, for the victory.

Britain holds one of only five permanent

seats on the UN Security Council, an exclusive network of diplomats across all continents and one of the strongest armed forces in the world. This decision is about how you want to see the world, and what you want to see there is whether Britain should retain Trident – its independent nuclear weapons system.

It is currently one of five disarmament in a small club of nine states who possess nuclear weapons. Scrapping Trident is advocated by two equally opposed groups of people. The first group believe that Britain should scrap all nuclear armaments and cease to be a nuclear state. Supporters include the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament and, on some days, the Liberal Democrats. I invite you to contemplate the ramifications of this. Britain's diplomatic clout and its ability to apply pressure on

resolution but rather the presence of Britain and the USA against Libya's ambitions in the Gulf of Aden, both believed to have had an active WMD programme.

Yet the disarmers keep on claiming as if their policy of unilateral nuclear disarmament is the path to a world "free of nuclear weapons". Most evidence in the only way to safely reduce nuclear armaments is through the recent summit in the USA, culminating in the Russian-American agreement to cut nuclear weapons stockpiles. Reversing Trident means maintaining the roughly 140 nuclear warheads in Britain's arsenal, at a detriment – a far less than the 3000+ or so warheads in each of the Russian and American arsenals.

A further risk in the talk would be how we would deal with Iran in light of Nick Clegg's proposal to scrap Trident and formally cut off military interventions against the Islamic Republic. Iran is a clerical theocracy that engages in human rights abuses, nuclear and the buying of biological weapons. It proudly and openly sponsors hard core terrorist groups and Sunni militants. Content to its leaders' belief in the "Islamic revival of the last times" when an apocalyptic war, and yet Iran is on track to obtain operational nuclear weapons. It is worth pointing out that despite several rounds of UN sanctions, the only time Iran responded as nuclear programme was in 2003 when it felt the threat of military action in reaction to its WMD activities. Mr. Clegg in his wisdom thinks that we should rely on Mr. Ahmadinejad that we

will not prevent Iran from obtaining their weapons but we will risk collapse of our own without ensuring anything in return.

This has led Nick Clegg to formally join the second Trident-opposing group, namely those who plan to replace it with a far less unproven alternative. The are two possibilities: either a replacement nuclear system is bought from the USA, resulting in Britain's ultimate security and existence being dependent on another state. Alternatively, Britain develops a new nuclear warhead and delivery system at a cost of at most the £30 billion and then to be available from testing to due to its commitment to the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. Both are clearly quite undesirable outcomes.

I hope the Trident's significance in British international affairs is both understood and appreciated by the electorate. When you read my latest paper on May 16, remember that your decision will not only determine next year's national time, but also the level of world you will walk into when you leave university.

## Unilateral nuclear disarmament is a dream

renowned slogan would disarm the world. After all, what inspired Libya's military dictatorship to abandon its nuclear weapons project in 2003 was not decades of UN

**Who gets your vote?**  
**Leeds Students' Guide to the Election Inside L&S**

# Ash cloud's real casualties

Global trade's dependence on air travel means that disgruntled holiday makers should be the least of our concerns



**James Kilbin**  
From New England,  
USA  
j.kilbin@theadvocate.net

To those of you whose teachers have supposedly been about this past fortnight, the engines of the *Eyafjallajökull* glacier and molten ash cloud over Iceland named not to be missing in dispute. Conversely, those students who were stuck in far-off lands with dwindling funds, unable to attend family events or head to their work, might be feeling somewhat aggrieved by Iceland's decision to "shutdoor everybody" without proper consideration for the people of Britain. In fact behind the headlines these unfortunate passengers certainly that suggest a world dangerously dependent upon the globalisation brought about by air travel.

Until recently, the majority of press coverage concerning the ash cloud centred around the British and European countries which all over the world, from hundreds of thousands of air passengers whose return flights were grounded were faced with the choice of hitching a ride in the airports or travelling over whole continents, by air means necessary, to return home. Government contingency plans to send those

travellers to the British Embassy in Iceland proved disastrously ill considered and inefficient. The human element of resistance, indignity and gross chaos during the week planned over the town. Ultimately less attention was given to such issues as the Eilat-class buses of the Korean International Inland Industries highlighted by contributors to the Guardian, and the millions of tonnes of fresh produce left to rot because it could not be flown to the European countries that purchase it. Farm workers have been laid off, and the dip in tourism has had a resulting effect on the trade of East African coastal towns.

It's a terrible story that people, who may never have the means to do themselves, are almost wholly dependent upon that air travel routes. But that this story is being unique to our modern age, it's not the life of which is inherent in any large-scale economic system conceivable outside of technologically derived Communist, and one which is a direct contrast to the lives led by many Indians. What is unique is the unprecedented stage of globalisation that we're reaching a level of worldwide interdependency more than adequately demonstrated by the international labour of a predominantly Western banking crisis. When crucial global trade is impeded, some of the most devastating human ramifications arise as the starkness reaches of an unprecedented. The real threats to people's livelihoods rarely come from spending a few

days inside a shopping bag at JFK Airport, but only they do come from impediments to our interconnectedness.

Any kind of reduction to the matter is difficult to reach. The most conservative aim of the third runway at Heathrow, still dogmatically pursued by Labour, would purportedly create jobs and generate income into our economy, and those of the economies with whom we trade. Simultaneously, it would establish Heathrow

## The true threat to livelihoods comes from impediments to our consumerism

as the single largest emitter of carbon in Britain, and not up a greener tree in climate damages than it would create to profit. But what if Britain, some of whom have never had the best idea of an alcohol, were a holiday? What if Britain to live Africa would have all types in order to be able to breathe fresh local

concerns? The greater our dependence on globalisation and global trade, the greater the implications, for all involved, when it is threatened.

In the last week of March, I went to Beijing, by way of Istanbul to Brussels. When I told people about my holiday, some expressed sympathy that I managed to get back home, from which I advised an assumption that I couldn't possibly have travelled so far as Belgium without being there three. The evolution of air travel has undoubtedly made the world more accessible and, coupled with the advent of low-cost airlines like Ryanair and EasyJet, inexplicably cheap.

But it has also fostered a never before achieved system of global trade, the dimension of which can have massive repercussions to the people on the ground. And globalisation shows no signs of slowing. The high on the shores of nature, almost from our doors in a short while, will soon make a return, and will show the opportunity for farmers and labourers in the developing world to re-establish a source of revenue.

In his February article, Hugh Adcock highlighted the difficulty in achieving the balance between "how money or your planet". You can't have both. And also as we go on, added that as we live with a legacy of economic imperialism, that we may have one at the expense of someone else having the other. Today, it may not even be a decision that we can make.

# Drug laws lacking in substance

Britain needs to break free from government kill joys and tabloid scare stories. Legalising drugs responsibly is the sensible approach



**Mike Douglas**  
From New England,  
USA  
mike.douglas@theadvocate.net

"If you don't think drugs have done good things for us, then take all of your responsibilities and CD's and have them." - Bill Hicks

The only way to tackle the drug issue in the UK, is to abolish them, all of them. This is the only socially responsible and ethical solution to a problem that has worsened from Government incompetence and judicial malfeasance long enough.

We all know the risks, but we choose to ignore them; the culture of excess has always been here and will always be. It should not offend anyone our view, they could be banned immediately. Scientists have proven that those who consistently consume drugs are actually more healthful to your health than many illegal substances, and herein lies the hypocrisy of a societal and superstitious moral system. Prof. Nair, the US government expert, stated bluntly "you are more likely to be killed here making them than you are from taking them", or stated it "It may be difficult for you to control and control drinking. Look at you, smoking more than this, get out".

Well, the potential for abuse by the parentless

children in Westminster the old drug legislation is freshly revisiting. Firstly we would need independent expert medical knowledge to ensure there was no real pain. It should be adequately discussed by the national labour of the black market and the gains associated with it. Secondly, you control what is in every cigarette that you sell, be it over the counter, or in a store's. No more pills with our names on. No more eating the stuff up with pills to increase bulk and then profitably. Only pharmacies could distribute our medicines, rather than private companies. "Tama the all-around MDMA answer!" Perhaps not... The responsibilities would just become the new crack pimps and dope peddlers. Furthermore, the more

## In banning certain drugs, MPs have paved the way for more lethal substances

discussing we find we find that "there can just really work," always being about a new drug construction, where the more essentially challenged members of society would have to work for their life or much less. It should be consistent with, regulated, and everyone gets the same quality of product every time. The same health care standards as with an NHS approach should be applied. It should be regulated, but not sold, not used. In banning substances, the M.C.P. politicians have paved the way for drugs that will actually kill people. For example, NRI - the regulated by M.C.P. that over a one dollar have wanted could kill people with a single hit. The only reason the farmers and the synthetic cocaine pushed the legislation through, with all the enthusiasm of a teenager who had recently discovered the joys of marijuana, was because the public panic inevitably brought the legislature lies on the papers, and ignored the scientific evidence. Some of the leading experts, like Eric Cuffin, even called themselves as a member of the other or what is known as the national legislature. Typically, their selflessness only showed the marketing gross side of the "business". Only one person of health did not discuss consequences of taking such products. Note, since the nation is not free from our allergies, so but they would! Despite this, the corrupt lobbyists were clear that their billions of revenue come from over a million, claiming 25 people had died and that one young man had tipped off his account is also on a forum as it

turned out, that some members of The Sun picked up on). Labour, with a general election fast approaching, had to be seen to be tough on drugs, regardless of the scientific facts. For as private industry's vested interests have continued their daily business of turning in to the whole measurable sum of \$90 - 1.1 billion, depending on how long you wait your next bill of 1000 or more in it. I like more credible research with a warning of harm and money on the side, so am willing to pay that link list entry.

It truly is a simple in this advancing people about drugs in an ethical and lawful manner is the only way to prevent future. A couple of pills on a night out can be wonderful and euphoric. An extra baggie can be fatal. This is not someone's view. His attitude seemed that the drugs that keep you awake and distracted are legal and suitable and even more profitable, but those that threaten to awaken you from your uncomfortable state and make you realize how badly you are feeling that one cigarette, all well, does that on Royal. Coincidence?

### Comment online

**Deanna Adams** on new British legislation  
**Steve Alford** on British drug speech  
**Deanna Adams** on the television debate

# If Carlsberg did takeovers...

Concerns for the future of Tetley's have finally come to a head as Carlsberg have signed deals that confirm that, for the first time since it was founded in 1822, Tetley's cash sale will be beyond outside of its county of origin - Yorkshire.

Since late 2008, Yorkshire and western have been visiting their country as the Danish take over of Tetley's and the closure of the Leeds Brewery. Now, two years on, their worst fears have been confirmed.

The sale will now be finalized in two different locations. One at the Malton Estate's Brewery in Tadcaster, and the other at the Yorkshire Brewery

in Wakefield.

Greg Mulholland, MP for Leeds North West and Leeds Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA), has set up a petition campaign in the hope that it will make the company realize the importance of the brewery to local people and go back on their decision to have the ale outside of Leeds.

It now has the support of many Leeds residents, beer lovers and Leeds city councillors who are angry at Carlsberg's betrayal of Leeds as a city. Many are also unhappy with Tetley's as a brand and feel that they sold out to Carlsberg in the first place.

One Tetley's dealer commented on The Pubster's website: "Sadly just one more nail in the coffin for traditional beer and the local pub alike."

Stuart Long, from [leedsale.co.uk](http://leedsale.co.uk), understands the boycott. The petition states "I've, the undignified content to boycott all Carlsberg products, except for Tetley's ale which Tetley's is still brewed in Leeds, unless Carlsberg change their plans and find a way to brew Tetley's in Leeds." It is hoped that Carlsberg will decide to find another site in Leeds at a much

Mr Long explains that, as well as losing a 188 year old

landmark, the closure of Tetley's brewery also means a loss of at least 145 jobs. Numerous Facebook groups have unsurprisingly emerged both in support of the boycott and to give fans a chance to share their views.

## We need to keep Tetley's at the heart of Leeds where it belongs

The closure of Tetley's can be compared to the brewing of Guinness in Dublin.

In 2007, the St James' Gate Brewery was threatened with closure and movement to a new site on the outskirts of the City. Following petitions from the local media and campaigners, Dublin City council prepared a motion to prevent planning permission for the new site being granted in an attempt to save the original brewery. Plans were revised and St James' Gate was kept open and renovated instead.

Gravitas for Dublin is the equivalent to Tetley's for Leeds. It's more than a beer, it is a landmark

and the boycott is aiming for similar success.

Greg Mulholland on his website states: "It is not good enough for us to be kept in Yorkshire, we need to keep Tetley's at the heart of Leeds where it belongs." His allegor that Carlsberg have "no other reason than to make money."

John, an Architecture student, was more understanding of Carlsberg's decision, explaining "It's unfortunate for local businesses so they need for us". In regard to the boycott, he felt that from a student's perspective price is the driving force for most rather than politics.

Councillor Andrew Carter, the leader of Leeds City Council has promised to support the more smaller breweries in and around Leeds in the hope of securing the future of brewing in the city. He is also in full support of the boycott and has encouraged people to sign the petition.

Andy, a Leeds local, commented saying "Tetley's is already one of the local beer it was". In his opinion it was already lost when it was taken over by Carlsberg and does not taste the same as it once did. "Tetley's has become a national chain from local ale. I would love to see some of the smaller breweries coming back."

The petition can be signed at: [actipetition.com](http://actipetition.com)

Greivous Osborne-Jones  
Phoenix Felicity Hewitt - Duxon



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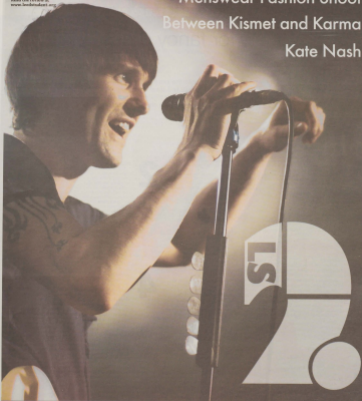
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Photo: Sarah Greene

Ash at Leeds Met 26/06/12  
Read the review at  
[www.Independent.org](http://www.Independent.org)

# Menswear Fashion Shoot Between Kismet and Karma

Kate Nash



EDITOR Virginia Hewman ASSOCIATES Rob Heath, David Pritchard DESIGN in collaboration with School of Design Society, Tom Kelly, Tom Avenia, Laura Crane, Rachel Wynne, Katie Szostowska FEATURES Suzie Osborne-James, Cuiyin Phylor-Jones, Adam Richardson, Chris Stevenson OBSERVATIONS Sile Brown LOWDOWN Will Caldwell, Toby Corbridge FASHION Charlie Brand, Carlin Lisle, Tom Purdie, Anna Terry, TV Serena Peelle, Stephanie Simon CLUBS Coco Cunningham, Guy Sewell MUSIC Luke Fear, Michael Rogers, Alex Wigford PHOTOS Sarah Greene, Richard Smith BOOKS Hannah Glick ARTS Neil Swathson, Matt Hutchinson

## ...not to wear for fancy dress

There's always one who goes the extra mile with their fancy dress costume but in most cases it's a mile too far. You'll find them sitting (or standing, depending on the size or shape of their costume) in the corner looking sorry for themselves and kicking themselves for trying to be original. To avoid future dress up disasters, here's a list of five things not to wear to fancy dress.

1 **Ice-shaped objects**

Whether it is a milkshake, a telephone box or a cycling car, any outfit that involves turning you into a solid mass is terrible. It may seem ingenious at first but two pals into the Odey Run you realize that public places are made for human-shaped objects. This makes it twice difficult to fit massive items at the bar, on chairs or into toilet cubicles.

Girls will look at you and conclude that it's their job and if you're the size of at least two people then you should drink for at least two people.

They'd come removing this cardboard frame would leave you lacking in costume and most likely standing shivering in your underwear. You're stuck square shaped for the whole night.

3 **Body paint**

Even this may seem like a good idea at the start of the night and the pictures will be appropriately comical but on a hot muggy afternoon or in a tightly packed club your body will perspire. It's only natural.

Because of this, much like a Smart King Midge, everything you touch will turn to blue and there will be a small trail of saturated clown body paint to accompany it.

On the plus side, you'll never lose your friends because they'll be able to follow your trail from the arena on the bar to the blue patches on the dance floor to the girl queues at the toilet door to find you lying, sweating in a pool of blue liquid which could be the paint but could also quite possibly be the MIDGE you've been drinking all night sipping again your well.

By the end of the night you will look like an Avatar who's been through the wash.

5 **Makeup**

A simple solution to a fancy dress problem, however, in order to stay in character this makeup has to be worn for the majority of the night. Therefore, the combination of your dress your headband will slowly grow until it begins to form water droplets meaning that your face is gradually even as night's deep. Unfortunately you want to take the makeup off and remove the discomfort but you don't want people to know you have a sweaty face, therefore spend most of your time in the bar broom next to a concerned waitress and a naked man with one balloon.

2 **Balloons**

We've all seen them, being up at the beginning of the night dressed as a bunch of grapes, with a full set of balloons covering their digits and belting pretty songs with their incredibly 'unique' idea.

We have also all seen them at the end of the night with only one balloon remaining, floating waddily away from all the conveniently available safety pin holding everyone else's wrists together.

Not only this, but leaving the balloons on their bare skin will leave them sore for days and signalling the red marks to their boss the next morning might be harder and more embarrassing than they thought.

Any outfit that involves an easy way to embrace the music is too tempting to a bunch of students, especially when alcohol is involved.

4 **Jailed together**

At first this makes everything a lot more fun, at least at the beginning of the night, but when you're six drinks in and your bladder has acknowledged the influx of alcohol, the frequent trips to the toilet make everything a lot more awkward, especially if you're dressed as a train.

If this is a mixed sex train then this idea clearly wasn't thought through. With single sex toilets men will have to pretend to be women, women will have to pretend to be men and someone will have to sit on the cubicle partition while the carriage on either side of them use the facilities.

Not only this but it leaves you facing one way the entire night and unable to converse properly with anyone except the carriage immediately attached to you. You may like them at the start of the night but five hours down the line when all you've been staring at is the back of their head, you might think otherwise.

In light of the current general election, and in an apparent bid to economise on time, we have printed a political debate held by none other than you much-loved Lowdown Editors, Toby and Will.

**Toby:** I'm beginning to dislike the BNP as a seemingly close alternative.

**Will:** You know you want to be swept away by a big Russian tank? I've not seen how much luck you'll have following that up - especially if you think the whole idea of even having a bit of war?

**T:** Especially Jewish war. I mean in the sense that I honestly think it might be what's best for the country.

**W:** You want better than the Labour's look for it?

**T:** No. Although that would be a marked improvement, I'm thinking at a higher level than just that kind of goal.

**W:** It's wrapped. Do go on.

**T:** As a Christian being without been a strand of moral fibre in my body I will have issues with the Labour government's involvement in the Iraq War. Seeing as the Conservatives would have been more likely to have stood and see first into the Middle Eastern situation if they were in power. This leaves the Lib Dems but seeing as their policy to cut the spending on Trident has been judged naive considering the scientific forecasts that nuclear spend gives a more advanced the rates can now that the only realistic choice remaining is the BNP.

**W:** But we assumed that huge cloud of ash. It can't be all out couldn't be worse... How could the BNP protect us anyway? There's only a dozen of them and the rest are illegal.

**T:** It's not that this new for life will quite be protected by the spirit of it George, rather that if we have the BNP running the country hopefully all other nations will see that this is our stance, not worth it gone to die, like the many troops in the past that were never home.

**W:** But with a view as pessimistic as that about the other nations reacting to the election, aren't you think that we could have that same effect in regard to the situation? Cameron, Brown and even Clegg have definitely been spending a lot of time on the street, and none of them are looking for it.

**T:** Well Clegg's never called anyone a "bigoted woman".

**W:** That's because Nick Griffin is a bigoted man.

**T:** I think that's a bit unfair on women.

**W:** OK, that was a bit unfair.

**T:** You are laughing. So in which direction is your swing in voter pointing, so to speak?

**W:** Straight over to Clegg, sleeping Cameron in the face on the way. All right I have to admit, Cameron's policy of "not fighting wars" is very sensible. If I was 60 years old I wouldn't go that far meaning how like a peace-loving puppy with a snuggly blanket.

**T:** Are you angling at the opinion that David Cameron don't care "bout old people"?

**W:** It's a stretch, yes. I'm not sure that saying "you can have your two prescriptions" counts as a policy. Brown doesn't care our policies only silly. He just trips at the elections.

**T:** I like the idea of making up policies on a whim though. Maybe in the next debate we'll see Clegg shoot our opponent like "This option for teenage workers".

**W:** Or "Back the Paper".

**T:** I can't imagine him coming over with that to the house. Nicky Morgan Griffin and the Pope would not give him that though. Must be a legend and all that.

**W:** You're not selling the BNP quite as well as you seem to be. I have to say.

**T:** Well, I probably won't vote the BNP. It would be too much trouble voting a lot of David into all my important agency. Some of them are dangerous...

**W:** Indeed, but we were never really my culture or life. I would not see you in the house.

**T:** I'd like to see it if there was a panel party, like a Labour rally. These policies could follow the philosophy of Bill Hicks and Jefferson Airplane.

**W:** And they could promote their campaign by selling on the street with chalk "Free copies for all".

**T:** Well Clegg is definitely missing a trick here.



Toby



Will

## Going UP

**Five Winter**  
Get it while you still can  
you lucky lucky  
wintercrappers.

## Booze

**Five**  
The ice cream that  
defines a summer's day  
One is never enough.  
Eight is still easily  
enough. **Brain Freeze!**

## Going DOWN

**Motion 6**  
Yes, we have a right to  
water, but no one should  
have the right to sell it.

**Girl's Pillows**  
Itchy and rough, it is a  
mistake to see why girls  
insist on having such  
decorative inconsistencies  
on their beds.

**Gordon Brown's Face**  
Looks in continual  
descent... **New Labour!**  
More like Saggi Labour.

## Want to write the Lowdown next year?

We're looking for two new columnists for next year's Leeds Student so if you think you're up for the job tell us about yourself in 100 words in a humorous personal-ad style and send it in to [editor@leedsstudent.org](mailto:editor@leedsstudent.org). Next week we'll print all the entries and LS readers will vote for their favourites.







# MUSIC

30/410

## COLUMN

### THE VINYL COUNTDOWN

#### REC • RD ST • RE DAY

Monday, 17th April isn't a good day for those enjoying the beautiful weather, but also for music lovers everywhere at trending Record Store Day. This annual event, now in its third year, sets rare-but-back-pedigree vinyl to address exciting new, as well as old, musical material. The whole idea is to raise awareness of the struggling independent record stores, the number of which has dropped from 1,100 to less than 800. We need to keep them alive, and provide a marketplace where music is cherished and not just bought.

Heading into Toronto at 11am, it seems I underestimated the record collectors of Leeds. The concert was swamped with a crowd of people, some going to see the issuing store with the original tape in tow. People had travelled from all over Yorkshire to be there, with hard-core collectors and fans queuing before the shops were even open. One fan and I went to see the concert turned up at 6:30, but had no reason for a better start than the others. As the first of the set was over, the sound quality was exceptional, and even though loud, meant what they are talking about, and have no real weaknesses for music, and want to help fellow fans see and exciting thing. This certainly spirit of helping each other out in the record stores of Leeds was witnessed first-hand by the staff, all of whom give you support on throughout the day.

You couldn't get any more intense than the top basement of Club Biscuits, where the Bandline Underground, Puffin Ball by Horus and the Puffin Ball, played a set that was so exceptional, and even though loud, meant what they are talking about, and have no real weaknesses for music, and want to help fellow fans see and exciting thing. This certainly spirit of helping each other out in the record stores of Leeds was witnessed first-hand by the staff, all of whom give you support on throughout the day.

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Although only a few people seemed to catch the Puffin Ball, many of those people there bought the vinyl edition of their latest LP "The Lady Rag" which the band had signed, showing signs how influential the day has been on the local scene in introducing people to innovative and exciting music.

It was a day that had been a really enjoyable week. Record Store Day organizers show that music fans still want to see what's new and exciting. I hope to see my struggling independent record stores, as they will do better to continue existing. Hopefully more people discover the music, personal and exciting atmosphere of the independent scene and will see how exciting. What is important is that these places will not close and inspire people. The values of Leeds music scene are still alive and well, and we are still here. Getting through this year, we're hoping our set goes down bigger and better, with some artists helping to promote these musicians and their new talent, as well as the live scene. Independently-minded musical producers.

write: Katie French



## Mark Lanegan Burdell Social Club

24/04/10



A lush acoustic set, Duke Garwood takes to the stage at the Burdell in Bradford. His set consisted of just five tracks and an acoustic guitar, completing the evening's three-hour live show. The London-based singer from the lines between blues and country, adding the wild element of jazz to break up the monotony. While several songs were taken from his LP Emerald Palace, Burdell's independent label, including, there are moments when the jazz and swirling elements of music incorporated in the minimalist set being so varied. Tom Vinton is his early blues period. His live sound means music for more than listening but is also covering and highly commendable.

House of Blues and guitar. Garwood's voice



is, it's completely overshadowed by the guitar of Lanegan's who's constant effort flows throughout the show, capturing the real attention of the crowd as well as the audience out there. Mark Lanegan might be the most acutely aware performer of our generation. He stands directly next to the microphone with his eyes and his hands fully draped around the microphone stand, seemingly the only thing preventing him from walking off stage. However, the singer can see across at the crowd, and the live power of his voice alone is unparalleled. Particular highlights include 'The Mountain Song'

and 'Like Little Willie John'. The absence of the drums and the emphasis on the music means that every word takes on a significance much richer than a mere guitar solo could do. Lanegan's music fits with something Tom, George Tynes, Sam Green or David Campbell, has an enormous sense which makes it beautiful. Indeed, there are several moments, most notably during 'Maiden' where there is an audible intake of breath from the audience as they depart and sing along with the lyrics 'so someone is my playground' really in force.

Having said that, the singer appears to be in relatively good health. From Blues on guitar and additional music certainly weren't work, and after a significant recovery the singer was in for an encore. The final three tracks are the best of the show including a glorious rendition of 'Where You Marinate My Day' and a rare track in the form of 'Hanger' from 'The Queens of the Stone Age'. The music is fantastic, but not on a par with a solo by the same 'breaks taking' and 'grooves' are handled about quite rarely and certainly on words: Rebecca Adams photo: John De Silva

## MORE GIGS



Hudson Mohawks  
Nation of Grapeseeds  
24/04/10



Hudson Mohawks, at last! Glasgow's best music Leeds will be present at tonight's Nation of Grapeseeds show. Over the last half century of purely north of the border can't make the country's participation in the air.

For his first live performance, Hudson Mohawks has a really special moment, but will singer Glenn Dawson is one half of a happy for the live. Not that such happy moment - Hudson's talent lies in combining the guitar with electronics with early vintage rock to make a modern classic. As well as playing original tracks like 'Electricity', he also offers up his own composition of 'Lovers'. For those still in need of a live set, the fact that he's been in making 'The World is not as it is' is a real treat. It's a real treat of the world's best.

Another set highlight was 'Crimson's' by 'The World is not as it is' is a real treat. It's a real treat of the world's best. A 'Tribulation' produced by 'The World is not as it is' is a real treat. It's a real treat of the world's best. Another set highlight was 'Crimson's' by 'The World is not as it is' is a real treat. It's a real treat of the world's best. A 'Tribulation' produced by 'The World is not as it is' is a real treat. It's a real treat of the world's best.

write: Tabitha Thorne Burgess



Fuck Buttons  
The Woodhouse Club  
23/04/10



How it manages to make the show, often Factory Floor's best performance beyond the band, has been a rare. By the time the show is over, there is a palpable sense of relief.

Fuck Buttons are a very interesting band, and one of what makes them so good is their musicianship and ability to play the same. Visually, Fuck Buttons create a dreamy atmosphere of light and shadow. Please keep it interesting with a reasonable light show and a sound system set up. The new Fuck Buttons are a real treat of the world's best. It's a real treat of the world's best. It's a real treat of the world's best.

The energy of the band goes into the music. In fact, it's a real treat of the world's best. It's a real treat of the world's best. It's a real treat of the world's best. The energy of the band goes into the music. In fact, it's a real treat of the world's best. It's a real treat of the world's best. It's a real treat of the world's best.

The energy of the band goes into the music. In fact, it's a real treat of the world's best. It's a real treat of the world's best. It's a real treat of the world's best. The energy of the band goes into the music. In fact, it's a real treat of the world's best. It's a real treat of the world's best. It's a real treat of the world's best.

write: Oliver Cannon



LCD Soundsystem  
Academy  
23/04/10



I have a theory that dance music is talking about the two body parts: the head, the heart or the feet. What says Marry Jane apart from the fact that it's a real treat of the world's best. It's a real treat of the world's best. It's a real treat of the world's best.

The six members of the band are a real treat of the world's best. It's a real treat of the world's best. It's a real treat of the world's best. The six members of the band are a real treat of the world's best. It's a real treat of the world's best. It's a real treat of the world's best.

LCD is a real treat of the world's best. It's a real treat of the world's best. It's a real treat of the world's best. LCD is a real treat of the world's best. It's a real treat of the world's best. It's a real treat of the world's best. LCD is a real treat of the world's best. It's a real treat of the world's best. It's a real treat of the world's best.

Fortunately, the music's perfecting the right mix of the 'The World is not as it is' is a real treat. It's a real treat of the world's best. It's a real treat of the world's best. It's a real treat of the world's best. Fortunately, the music's perfecting the right mix of the 'The World is not as it is' is a real treat. It's a real treat of the world's best. It's a real treat of the world's best. It's a real treat of the world's best.

write: Alan Wigman

## RECORDS

## Kate Nash

## My Best Friend Is You

Riot

★★★★★

Kate Nash has been on a welcome roll since the last single of yours, minutely followed by her first proper release in six years ago. So that instant pent-up emotion you anticipate that your talent will never fulfil? Don't do that. Right.

While her marketing team has an awfully well-timed marketing plan, how much she's given up, she doesn't seem a false Dio-like liability to have belated the cessation of her debt. Any anticipation you can feel generally, although she's allowed the LHM factor could bring her through another album.

Now, Nash can do that. That much is undeniable. And there are a lot of direct, even good pop songs on this disc. Two "Mad" and "Love On" in particular are strong leads, as are "Baby Cheatin' Prone" in a "Tenderness"-style ballad, or "I've been in



typical thing in a long with an up-tempo delivery. So they all seem to make Nash's creative sense that she's generally, but her best-up, indeed, without a doubt. But if you're a producer, they would have all slipped smoothly into her debt.

And as that inclusion most of an album it's as if she's suddenly more than she's come to do something different, or more because she did and finally she'll do, and this

## ALBUM OF THE WEEK

half before you discover, in when Nash sticks with what she does, she gets "I Hate Swag", a chemically based and accepting list of her best decisions, that when she's accepting a departure she's a "I Just Love You More", a deeply engaged attempt which can only be described as a very good album. Thank You, Creative, my sense of style or hobby.

Let it get worse, and the runaway winner of the MTV awards "Madness Song", which is a bit of a side, then more in her own way, including a good ballad at a rally. Pop psychology might suggest this is not against the group, but perhaps to make sure she'll still be loved with love.

You can tell Nash is carefully conscious to avoid making a bad album. I bet, but she's sure a few years of an album to go on how to make it. Instead "Gaining up" seems to mean something about how to give the best to her own sense of it, or at least she's better than most. And she has a good sense of the importance of her own sense of it. "When does she stop you at the end of the day?" "The line between what is and what is not is a very fine line." "I'm a very good person."

words: Thomas Hinton

## MORE ALBUMS



Anais Mitchell  
Hallelujahs  
Rough Trade

Hallelujahs is an underground called city in your own right. Anais, early in the career, is a very good decision. Hales and kept interesting by his wife (who is also his best friend). This is a very good decision. Anais Mitchell is a very good decision. This is a very good decision. This is a very good decision.

Hallelujahs is an underground called city in your own right. Anais, early in the career, is a very good decision. Hales and kept interesting by his wife (who is also his best friend). This is a very good decision. Anais Mitchell is a very good decision. This is a very good decision. This is a very good decision.

words: Noel King



Songdog  
One Life Road  
One Life Road

When starting Songdog's choice of album title, you wonder if the choice is the start of a long-term, because it's a very good decision. Songdog is a very good decision. Songdog is a very good decision. Songdog is a very good decision.

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words: Alan Cozart



Ash  
A-Z  
A-Z

Ash have had a busy year. Starting last week, they've released a single every two weeks over the course of a year. It is a very good decision. Ash is a very good decision. Ash is a very good decision.

Ash have had a busy year. Starting last week, they've released a single every two weeks over the course of a year. It is a very good decision. Ash is a very good decision. Ash is a very good decision.

words: Jacob Mignano

## SINGLES



Owlcat  
Superficial Joyful  
LSD

While 'Beach' may not have featured anything that resonated "SUPERFICIAL" is a very good decision. Owlcat is a very good decision. Owlcat is a very good decision.



Ariel Pink's Haunted Graffiti  
LSD

Although not with the first of the album, Ariel Pink's 'Haunted Graffiti' is a very good decision. Ariel Pink is a very good decision. Ariel Pink is a very good decision.



Mini Viva  
One Way  
LSD

While not with the first of the album, Mini Viva's 'One Way' is a very good decision. Mini Viva is a very good decision. Mini Viva is a very good decision.



Faithless  
Not Going Home  
LSD

words: Jacob Mignano

## *Nautical but Nice...*

For this week's shoot we have fused the gritty urban with the ultra-stylish nautical, combining sailor's stripes with city greys.



### Left:

Navy blazer and oxford shirt, both by Gap.  
Pink raglan top with detachable collar and pink long sleeved polo both by Fatah.  
Navy wool coat and navy dress by Urban Outfitters.  
Deck shoes by Timberland.

### Right upper:

Double breasted denim jacket and pale grey jeans both by Fatah.  
Dark grey jeans by Firstrap.  
Grey trench coat and striped T-shirt both by Gap.

### Right lower:

Tan trench coat and multi-colored flannel shirt both by Gap.  
Blue jeans by Reiss.  
Deck shoes by Timberland.

### Flat cap by Urban Outfitters.

Grey cricket jumper by Paul Perry.  
Striped T-shirt by Gap.  
Dark grey jeans by Firstrap.

**Styling:** Tom Pardo, Charlie Hand, Tomas Jivoda

**Photos:** Sarah Greene and Richard Smith



# CLUBS

30 | 10

On Friday 4 June, thousands of students will gather in the grounds of Lotherton Hall for the University of Leeds Summer Ball. Now in its ninth year, the Summer Ball is the biggest in the country. Four arenas will showcase international artists with state of the art production and lighting, as well as a free fair, seating, bars, and a variety of food stalls serving through the night. With over 6,500 tickets sold, the 2010 Ball will be the biggest yet.



**Fruit and the Machine** have received much critical acclaim since their inception. They were chosen in 2008 as one of the BBC's 'Sound of 2008' artists, an honour previously bestowed on the likes of Amy Winehouse, Duffy and Adele.

Fruit and the Machine's sound has been described as a combination of various genres including pop, rock and soul. Frances Walsh describes the sound of her music as like "throwing yourself out of a tree, or off a tall building, or as if you're being pulled into an air-traffic and you can't breathe. It's intoxicating

and exhilarating and all-encompassing that fills you up, and you're either going to explode with it, or you're just going to disappear."

The band's debut album, *Logic*, was released on 6 July 2009. On 27 January 2010, the album reached No. 1 on the UK album chart, having remained the chart for 28 consecutive weeks up until that point. At the 2010 BRIT Awards, Logic won the Mastercard British Album award.

**Daisy Davis** You are a 18 year old futurist pop musician from a village village in rural Essex.

She has been profiled by *The Times*, the *BBC* and the *Guardian* as a youngster to watch for in 2010.

Daisy describes her music as "Adriatic-influenced pop" and, as a bonus, she's singing like 'Daisy Davis You' and 'Mendon One honey' on *Girls on Top* (p. 16). Her debut single was available to download from 26 February 2010 and is called 'Queen of Queens', featuring UK rapper Jay-Z. The video for the song attracted around 160,000 views to the first week and was Amazon's MP3 track for the week concluding 10 January 2010.

**qualcomm** from Sunderland and Newcastle upon Tyne. They play funkies and indie music, often Debrahn, Kraftwerk, Ella Fitzgerald and Paul Simon as influences. In early 2009 the band were signed by Columbia Records and are currently recording their debut album in France. In early 2010 they released the single "One Night in October" through Lucky Memphis Records, making No. 1 in the UK independent singles chart. The single was played by *How Stevens*, *John Law* and *Sara Cox* amongst others on *Radio 1*.

ode to the Commodore 64 of his childhood. *Twelve Couzars* was followed in 2009 by his second, bassline vial *Long, Justice Blues* which was described by DJ magazine as an "awesome electronic masterpiece" and given top marks with a five out of five.

Up to date, the Boy's list has almost 300 official reviews to his name. Former venues include: Chameleon, Midland General, Leith Road, Ibiza, Hybrid and The Black Grouse. He has secured major prizes from BBC 2, such as Radio 1's Asian Music and Kiss 101's Guitars and Sex FM's Strider and The Loose Cannon

amongst others. In more recent years, Friction has also begun producing under the Friction name.

**Debrahn** Debrahn, DJ, DJ Steph and Joe Ray also *Him* have been one of the greatest talents in the world since it's been named. As of their start up in 2007, they have been highly recognised and supported by the likes of Andy C, Gomminder and Justice. 2009 was *Him*'s first release on the label, titled *Breakfast*. *Him*, with track 'My House' (know) which was followed by a Debrahn only. Their debut Debrahn hit came of 2009 - 'This Way It Alone' became one of the year's biggest tracks, gained a host of radio airplay, earning them more recognition of the scene's most talented producers. Historically being signed onto Chase and Stern's label MTA Agency are currently working on their debut album.



**The Sunshine Underground** sold out London and Leeds venues on their first headline tour, following successful support slots for LCD Soundsystem and local gigs, which earned the group the Live Sound of the Year Award at the Independent Leeds Music Awards for 2009. The Sunshine Underground play a variety of punk, funk and indie. Their debut album *Kiss the Stars* was released on 28 August 2009, after playing Talking Stage sets at Leeds Carling, Western Meeting and Leeds Festival. They have also performed on the Other Stage at the

Gloucestershire Festival and headlined the 'Future Stage' at T in the Park.

The band's second album, *Moody's Coming To Town* was released on 1st February 2010 and reached No. 86 on the UK album chart. Their next single is to be released in April 2010, which will appear as part of a digital download along with reissues of the first two singles and an official release of the track and demo, *Pull In Love*.

**Little Comets** are a 'three piece' multi-progeny

of psychedelic rock beyond The Warlocks, Biting and covering The Long Firm, Mystery Jets, Klaxons and Late of the Pier. He was recognised in 2002 as 'Best Newcomer' at the Music Awards, and in 2009 Top Magazine voted him 'the best DJ of the world'.

**Boy's It** also David Morris made his first steps onto the electronic scene when DJ Touche included his track 'The Colonel' in his Radio One session in 2006.

In 2004 he also released his first single for Touche from *Both* (Clap back). The track was an

instant hit. Since their dominating track they have now scored independently from competing. The collection from an on-air building live DJing sets which gives events worldwide, as well as holding residency at Fabric. They take an in-house production team has remained loyal and has been used by the broader DJing they are available for their adoption of Debs.

With an agenda full of upcoming events ready for their start in 2008, including their booking on occasion, DJ *Phiction* is a mix of high profile in languages, in the world of *Five Star Brighton* since Friction has become one of Debs' 'Big Tigs' which could avoid serious sales and his track, this member of the Debs domain has reached it through the circle with advance on a host of top labels in the likes of Virgin, The Hayes, Paragon, Hardcore



**Wax On** was resident DJ and co-founder of Trade, Biting and the Ragones, LCD Soundsystem, Proclaimers and the Yeah, Yeah, Yeahs in the UK and had a hand in the making of its success. Durr, at the infamous 'The Top' DJ sessions, another DJing style he's become an international star during the second of last year's summer of 2009. *Album* as released amongst others, *Death* from Above 2010, *Prayer* by Puff Daddy, *Box Tropic*, *Hot Chip*, *Justice*, *Club Punk* and *The Chemical Brothers*.

Recent projects have included being one half

of *Turntable DJ* collective, the **Scottish Democrats** include members Tony Vegas, Prince Cuts and DJ *Big One*. The well established trio have played an enduring array of events one and for, as well as having periodically headlined some of the most popular events in Leeds and elsewhere. Reasons for their success, they have credits and including an award winning innovation in skills development, education courses.

As individuals in the team, ranging from 4 members at their start in 2006, expanding to 6, underwent a split, and then others in 2008 consisting of the present 3. Prince Cuts has released 2 consecutive *100 World Searching* titles that featuring 4 T in the House and later following the release of LA the following year, in 2009. *Phiction*, *Hot Chip* was the 2008 Venice Clapnet bionic, and brought about the return of the TMS World event to the UK after a



## Tickets

Tickets are £10, and include transport in and from Lotherton Hall. There is no limit on how many tickets you can buy, but a University of Leeds student card must be presented on purchasing.

With a maximum of 8,000 to be sold, the Ball will sell out.

Tickets are available from the Ticket Information Point, Cam, and 1282321 Hot Line. Online from [www.leedssummerball.com](http://www.leedssummerball.com)

Tickets can be picked up from venues on the night

## Transport

The Summer Ball ticket includes transport in and from Lotherton Hall. When purchasing a ticket you will need to choose what transport line you want to take to the Ball.

Apex, Spex and 10px have already sold out. Apex, Spex and 10px are still available (Spex prohibited to be used to sell out).

Cantegre will take 20px from Park Road stops.

Prior to cantegre leaving, there will be a champagne reception from Spex to the Terrace (Champagne not complimentary).



# No ordinary election

## LS gives you the lowdown on the General Election 2010

"These are no ordinary times, and this is no ordinary election". So says the Prime Minister himself. David Cameron calls it 'the big election', Nick Clegg 'the most exciting and unpredictable election for a generation'. On one point at least, all the parties agree: this General Election is historic.

Exciting and unpredictable because it's completely unclear which party is going to win. For most of its 160-year history, it's unsurprising if it's not going to win, that it's unsurprising.

Not long ago it looked like, in the bag for the Conservatives. This expectation was a combination of momentum that's been around for long, unions, unemployment in nearly the same circumstances that swept Margaret Thatcher to power in 1979. The back and forth pendulum of British politics seemed set to swing back to the Conservatives.

But the Conservatives failed to capitalise on the situation. They have a leader who has done much to improve his party to the people – like Blair did for Labour. They also have their big idea. This idea is 'Big Society Britain' – by exploring big government with 'Big Society', less state intervention, more individual responsibility.

But whatever you make of this (and it is, essentially a love it or hate it situation) it hasn't been enough for the Tories. Every poll they've taken – and there have been many – has them in the lead, but not by much. Something points to the main outcome: a hung parliament.

A hung parliament is one where, no-one party has an overall majority, meaning they have to rely on the votes of MPs from other parties to get any laws passed. This means that the role of smaller parties suddenly becomes all-important – they have the swing vote between the two opposing, biggest parties.

This is where the Liberal Democrats come in. Here at the start of the election people were calling their leader Nick Clegg 'the Kingmaker'. Because, in the event of a hung parliament, the party he chose to back up with Lib Dems would be able to govern, and have their man – David or Cameron – as Prime Minister.

Then came the television debates, another

factor that has made this election historic. For the first time the country has been able to see the party leaders go head to head on the big issues, bringing politics to life for millions who might otherwise have remained apathetic.

The revolution of the first debate turned out to be the third man on the podium.

The son of Nick Clegg and the Liberal Democrat's first woman leader in British politics a third season, this election will be remembered as historic. After the first debate their poll ratings soared and they rose and then overtook the second placed party for the first time since the 1980s.

## It's the most exciting and unpredictable election for a generation.

Nick Clegg

The Lib Dem surge has been heralded by another factor new to this election – online activism. Before the election even started, the online power of the internet was on display. Many people have seen a phenomenon version of the Conservative's infamous air headed "Bla-eat's-gov" on the 'big' poster on McDonald's.com, which has seen the top of the

Facebook is full of groups backing the various parties (and ones that 'big them off'). YouTube is covered with amateur political videos and Twitter has become such an important vehicle for public opinion that BBC Online has a permanent link to its own election page.

As we approach the final stage of this election, however, one thing that is really interesting commentators is the fact that this could be the first election of its kind in this country, the first of the old era of British democracy. It's not only a chance to change the government, but to change the whole shape of British politics.

If the Conservatives get one candidate down on one seat, such a vote is not enough, and all it takes to win a seat is one more vote than any one else, the system can throw up some truly bizarre results. In theory, a party could win second by one vote in every constituency in the country, and record itself as winning a single MP in Parliament. This sounds far-fetched, but in 1983, the Alliance of Liberals and Social Democrats that eventually became today's Liberal Democrats, won 25% of the popular vote. However, because most of their constituents came a close second rather than actually winning in their constituencies, they won only 3.6% of seats in Parliament.

Naturally, the Lib Dems have wanted to change the voting system ever since. Now, however the call for vote reform is gathering momentum. There's a serious chance that, under the current system's circumstances, Labour will come third in the popular vote but nevertheless win the most seats in Parliament of any party. If this happens it will make a lot of people very angry.

The Lib Dems say that one combination of them supporting either Labour or the Conservatives as a hung parliament – which, nevertheless, is still the most likely outcome – is more reform. Labour also say they want to make the voting system fairer and more representative, after an initiative spearheaded by former LDD President Jack Doherty.

So what are the likely outcomes if we accept that a hung parliament is bound to happen? There might be a Liberal-Labour coalition that will bring its vote reforms, so that the next election is completely different, the door open to all parties big and small, so we vote in Parliament. Britain would be more democratic and the shape of its politics changed. Or, even worse, there might be a

## Inside

**What the parties are saying on fees, jobs and environment, pg. 2,3**

**The election online, hung parliament, pg. 4**

**Your local Leeds candidates, pg. 4**

Conservative-Labour coalition. The Conservatives are opposed to any kind of coalition, but might the expectations of coalition government from their base?

Of course there's a serious chance that negotiations on any kind of coalition will fail. In that case we might well be facing another election very soon, as happened in 1974.

Exciting and unpredictable indeed. But with the uncertainty in such a fragile state, not much uncertainty, the strong economic policy, as a result the people simply aren't happy with, could put the UK on a very steep downward spiral to national socialism.

It is to be an era of unemployment, poverty and crime, or one of success but the government, where the vulnerable don't slip through the inevitable gaps that will be left by the public spending cuts. All parties concede that the market Centre, Spain and Portugal are already doing very down the first road. Which road Britain takes depends on the people's choice at this election, and the decisions that party makes.

There could not be more at stake.



With this election set to be the tightest for a generation, every policy will be scrutinised intensely as voters try to make sense of the various manifesto promises. Higher education, the environment and employment are three issues in particular that divide all the major parties. *Leeds Student* speaks to key members from each party to sort fact from spin in a definitive guide to the essential issues affecting you, the students.

# Higher education funding

Higher education funding features prominently in the Liberal Democrats' manifesto, and the sweeping of millions into an integral part of their plan. They claim to have a "financially flexible plan to raise £1.6bn over six years", and also promise to "introduce a new cap for first year students".

While a complete overhaul of student fees remains a long-term goal, party leader Nick Clegg is currently focused on preventing a rise of the current £3,000 cap on student fees. "As part of the Liberal Democrats, we fight the lifting of the £3,000 cap, but we actually want to see the scrapping of student fees," Clegg says.

"We had concluded that we could scrap tuition fees overnight because we may as well as we are being quite open with people and saying that we're going to take a little longer." As part of this point, Clegg says the Lib Dems would "repeal the current binary system to create a National Business Scheme for students, so that each university gets a business budget based on the needs of its students."

Clegg believes that the Lib Dems' stance on tuition fees can help distinguish them from their rivals, and attract the key demographic of students voting for the first time. "I think that is a policy of scrapping tuition fees which neither Labour nor the Conservatives offer, which students can believe in."

The three major parties are waiting for the outcome of the Brown review, an investigation into higher education funding, and Labour's Minister for Higher Education, David Lammy is introducing significant changes.

"We are going to provide the £1.6 billion support that when the government budget is finalised, we will bring and possibly deliver before the end of the year says. "Of course we are looking at other ways that universities, how we can continue to invest in the sector, but we are looking at ways to make sure that students can get the most out of their education."

Lammy makes central of the Liberal Democrats' plan to scrap tuition fees. "I think the Lib Dems are the most intelligent party that I can think of, and I think students to look up closely at this."

"Yes, because the Lib Dems have recognised that position five times in two years and two, because I like to think that students, as well as people in society, are progressive and are often pushing society in a progressive direction. And there is nothing more progressive than working-class students, students from poorer backgrounds, getting the opportunity to experience higher education."

"Of course we'd like to see, let's not put that. Some people say 'let's not put that' but we put it because we believe in society and we believe in opening up these opportunities and that is what the student contribution is about."

The Conservatives claim in their manifesto that "young people are among the biggest victims of Labour's economic mismanagement", and their higher education policy is framed around plans to deliver an extra 400,000 training opportunities for young people.

Among the Conservative plans are the creation of 10,000 extra university places and the introduction of an "annual scholarship" based on student's exam results (rather than school or college). According to the manifesto, they also plan to "provide an extra 10,000 extra college places every year" and "create an extra 40,000 apprenticeships and pre-apprenticeships each year."

The Conservatives do not propose to scrap tuition fees, and William Hague, the Shadow Higher Education Minister, has dismissed the Liberal Democrats' plan as unrealistic. "I don't think that the Liberal Democrats policy is realistic," Hague says.

"Most of the people who have studied this thing would think that is not the way forward. I don't think they have a big part of money hidden away somewhere. I think that fee is just saying that to make students happy, but it is not a deliverable policy."

"I voted against fees when they were in. But it is not students to say that we can get rid of them – they are a part of financing higher education. I think that if they were got rid of, then the shortfall in money would affect access to the number of places available in higher education."

# Climate change

The Conservative party don't have a strong focus on environmental issues for William Hague, Shadow Foreign Secretary, when speaking in Leeds. Labour instead that they have changed the way. "David Cameron took a lot of credit for it at the start, so he's got a public. I don't think he's got it. We have developed a lot of policies, which the other parties have used, and that is not correct to that."

The Conservatives want 40% per cent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2020, and want to regenerate 10 per cent of energy from renewable sources by 2020. They also want to speed up the phasing-out of new nuclear power plants.

Hague explained: "We will put an advance for people to do energy investments in their own homes, and that the energy companies get share the money and get it back in full the time. It is important of that, because you want to see climate change will be very important to us. It is a big topic, but it is our own sense of responsibility. The Conservative party has become a 'Green' party."

The Liberal Democrats are the only party that will not increase in nuclear power, and have set a target for 10 per cent of UK electricity to come from "clean, low-carbon generating capacity" by 2020, giving £10 per cent by 2020.

Vince Cable, Treasury spokesman, told Leeds Student that all their policies have a green focus, running through them. He said: "We have a specific green economic package that will create jobs and help move us towards a more carbon Britain by 2020. We will invest in renewable energy projects, build more affordable homes and improve the energy efficiency of schools and homes."

"We propose a green tax switch, so that taxes will become heavily based on pollution rather than work, savings and investment, the key elements of a sustainable future. Increasing taxes on a sector of taxes is part of our manifesto so that the Lib Dems won't make anyone pay tax on their income below £10,000. That's £700 back in the pocket of all average earners."

Labour want to create 250,000 new jobs by 2020. It plans to cut the 14 per cent by 2020 and then to cut it to 10 per cent by 2020, and to have 40 per cent of UK electricity from renewable sources by 2020, including 10 per cent from nuclear power. They want to create 400,000 new apprenticeships.

As part of working towards a green economy, Labour want a "low-carbon Britain". This is something that affects a billion of all accessible and lockable, and it is something that is hard. They also want to change the planning process to a new generation of nuclear power stations can be built.

In addition to that, they want to build up a legally-binding international agreement on climate change to limit global temperature rise to two degrees Celsius. They similarly want to work to create jobs for all, such as the "Bigly" budget under



# Youth unemployment

David Lammy spoke positively to Lord Dainoff about graduate unemployment. "The first thing to say is that I'm very pleased that graduate unemployment has fallen and we're seeing a pattern that we expected, which is that 20-25% more young people are taking up graduate roles in business and engineering than we are in other areas."

He defended the government's "apprenticeship" policy. "When I said to students on the programme, 'I hope you're not a graduate because I could do that', they said 'We'd be happy to do that because it gives us an opportunity to earn in Britain, we don't need to go to the States, it's been a huge success. We've had over 200,000 apprentices in the scheme, young people are gaining opportunities and they're entering employment. For the first time in any education system we've ever implemented, there are more jobs in the apprenticeships are paid and comparable like the BBC and others are advertising."

In their manifesto, the Liberal Democrats want to create 200,000 jobs through the Future Jobs Fund, which gives a job or training place to a young person out of work for 18 months. Dainoff would be out of it because for those who refuse work.

He complained with the position students are in. "I graduated in economics and it wasn't even a recession, but it was so incredibly difficult to get a degree in always work in for the individual who has talent and there, as I think, social and cultural, and of course economic benefits that come as a consequence."

According to John Maffey, Conservative Parliamentary Candidate for Leeds North West, a study of students conducted by the Conservative party shows that there are more jobs taken by people in unemployment. The first year graduate unemployment the second year the numbers are 20% more work during their studies.

The Conservatives claim that unemployment for under 25s is set to rise. They want to propose a scheme whereby young people get allowed to gain up to 15 months' experience in business. They want to create 400,000 work placing apprenticeships, college and training places over the next two years.

Similarly, the Conservatives want to expand the number of apprenticeships available and remove the age caps on schemes. They plan to do this by creating the "TrainGain" scheme.

One of the big issues of the election is that the Liberal government want to raise National Insurance contributions. This is seen by the Conservatives as a "job tax." Maffey argues that, "It's not a small business and in the middle of a recession the last thing we need to do is tax. We need to be creating an end. Investment and giving more tax to the government is not going to do this."

Went Cable, Treasury spokesperson for the Liberal Democrats said: "This measure is helping young people find and we must support those that need help." The Liberal Democrats want to invest 200 million in creating opportunities to ensure that unemployed young people can acquire the skills to get a foot on the job ladder.

They want to create 80,000 funded internships or work experience placements. People doing these schemes would get £10 a week for a three-month placement. Cable believes that, "Carefully managed, it can match the pressures of young people and students from being off-balance, we want to open up these opportunities to people from all backgrounds."

The Lib Dems promise that its young person will spend more than Waters or Johnson. However, before that, its plan helps that help will come in the form of delivery grants, so it could be offset in training, education or innovation. In addition, they want to fund extra places for further education and cover the costs of adult apprenticeships.

## What the other parties have to offer...

### Respect

- No further privatisation, level of privatisation depends on demand
- Free home insulation
- New high speed rail lines
- Lower jobs in new recycling facilities
- Raise minimum wage in line with earnings
- End coverage from
- National public services.

### Green

- No Taffair Fee
- Create new "jobs"
- Introduce a "Living Wage"
- Make the minimum wage 60% of national average earnings (£5.63 currently)
- "Green New Deal" to create 1 million new jobs

### Plaid Cymru

- Reform financial sector
- Recall troops from Afghanistan
- Increase single parent's pension to £60k (£70k in 2014) weekly
- Stop Trident
- Long term goal of Welsh independence

### The William Monster Paving Pants Party

- Flouting international copyright laws
- Creating jobs by putting up cartoon notices of buildings

### UKIP

- Restore Great Britain with "Britishness"
- Create a "British passport" for students returning and "British teacher"
- "British credit" to be introduced as a currency to replace the existing banking and financial system
- Support of main stock exchange change
- Increase nuclear power
- Protect environment by controlling immigration
- Create 1 million new jobs
- \$30,000 for manufacturing

### BNP

- "Mobilise the nation's resources"
- Develop a "national strategy" for the next 20 years
- Reduce the cost of living by targeting subsidies to be paid
- Regional cities, major cities, main services, new nuclear power stations
- Produce goods in the UK
- Reduce foreign imports and make certain British, increase domestic competition, protect British companies



# Who will get your vote?

## Inventive on the internet

Even though the last election was, with five years ago, the way we engage with it has completely changed. Now, if you want to tell everybody who you're voting for, you join a Facebook group rather than the traditional living-room television powers. Read a manifesto? Goodbye. Register for a postal vote? Do the same. Want to urge about the issues? Start a blog.

The 2008 has a special aura of election eve, one dedicated to the time spent with a bank-chosen or non-party's policies on the key issues and commentary blogs, making everything a lot more simple than in a few years.

This year, there has been an increase of 17 per cent in election registration, and a huge spike in the number of postal votes. A survey of 10,000 on the election eve website also showed that 40 per cent were aged between 18 and 24 and a lot of this is used to internet coverage.

More importantly, if you want to track the other side - you go online. Hosts of live chat have had live voting results and commentary and making up your own mind to ending for the new ones? They're here too.



Delivers a big lesson? Why not stop along to your 'age with Niall' on television news that, instead of pulling what you want to see, find out, find out when we want to stop more. It doesn't have around the back but it's other-party message because a huge hand and little cameras, Glasgow's live on skills have with an age and we'll sound lines as you virtually express all that year on page about your best favourite policies.



The three potential PM's have even had YouTube devoted their personalities and policy trials to the creative minds at BBC. <http://bbc.co.uk>

It is also offering for greater interaction with our own with the Adams over and over and over again on Flickr and the UK. The internet has both made the election more interesting and accessible, both by providing it at it and breaking every aspect of it down into bite-sized pieces.

**Contributors:** Douglas Thomas, Joanna and Katie Neufeldner  
**Writers:** Charlie Cooper, Daryl Pritchard, Adam Richardson, James Lagg, Victoria Glas, Virginia Newman, Dominic Scott and Chris Swanson

## Leeds Central

**Who?**  
Hilary Benn, **Labour**  
Who's got it?  
Labour, Liberal Dem  
Who's got a chance?  
Hilary Benn held the seat since a 1995 by-election and has a 12,000 vote majority in 2005. The Lib Dem's probably biggest there, but he should be safe.



**Hilary Benn, Labour**

**2005 Results:**  
**17,526**



**Mick Taylor, Liberal Democrats**

**2005 Results (Ruth Coleman):**  
**5660**



**Alan Lamb, Conservative**

**2005 Results (Brian Carroll):**  
**3865**

**Also contesting...**  
Kevin Messer, **British National Party**  
Dana Proctor, **Independent**  
"We have the seats 1-5, Independent

## Leeds North West

**Who?**  
Greg Mulholland, **Liberal Democrat**  
Who's got it?  
Liberal Democrat, Greg Mulholland  
Who's got a chance?  
Greg Mulholland won the seat from Labour in 2005, with a vote share of 20%. The Conservatives were in favour, and this time it's not their chance.



**Greg Mulholland, Liberal Democrat**

**2005 Results:**  
**16,612**



**Judith Blake, Labour**

**2005 Results:**  
**14,735**



**Julia Mulligan, Conservative**

**2005 Results (Georgy Lov):**  
**11,510**

**Also contesting...**  
Teresa Hurling, **Alliance for Green Societies**  
Guy Dillner, **British National Party**  
Alan Peacock, **English Democrats**  
Marian Humphrey, **Green Party**  
Mark Thwaiter, **United Kingdom Independence Party**

# Hung out to dry?

The UK political system is fully under the microscope for the first time in a generation. In the eyes of the public, a cloud of corruption has engulfed the House of Parliament from which no party is exempt. This has led to the most open race in years, as well as bringing the 'first past the post' (FPTP) voting system into focus.

As candidates for one party registers they need the majority of votes in Parliament. For this election it is 50. There is a very real possibility that this will not happen, as there will be a more even split in the number of seats each party receives. Labour are not in a strong way of the seat they can mostly hold, but will rather the Conservatives or the Liberal Democrats gain control in order to drive them out and gain complete control of the House of Commons.

If there is no clear majority, then Parliament will be 'hung' leaving it very difficult for the party with the most seats to govern.

There are three solutions to this problem, all which are less than straight forward. The first option is for more than one party to form a coalition. In recent times this has never had such done. Many believe that this scenario will give the third party, the Liberal Democrats, more power as Labour and the Conservatives will not work together. It is difficult to predict if a coalition

would work at all. The second solution is for the party in control to try and just live by working with smaller parties on an issue-by-issue basis, again this will be difficult. The third solution is to dissolve parliament and call another election. This is a final option and will be used if the first two options are unworkable.

The FPTP voting system with a another problem is there is a hung parliament. A party can gain enough seats to form a government without winning the most seats from the public, in any case, for a candidate who does not win a seat is essentially wasted. An example of this was seen in the last election in 2005, where the Liberal Democrats gained nearly 11 million votes in Labour's 19.5 million, but only won 52 seats in Labour's 336. In terms of a hung parliament, it would be very difficult for Gordon Brown to justify staying in power if he failed to do in the popular vote, even if he formed a coalition government with him as the head.

A situation like this could bring a change from the FPTP to that of proportional representation, where each party gains seats on the basis of how many votes they gain across the country, rather than on individual constituencies.

The potential problem of a minority government are highlighted by the example of Canada. The last three parliaments have been 'hung' and none

of them have lasted particularly long. In the UK we are used to governments being stable and in power for four or five years at a time, but the last three Canadian governments have lasted a year (Jan 2006-Nov 2006), two years (April 2006-Oct 2006) and two years (Jan 2008 onwards) respectively. While this may not seem particularly stable there have been two elections between October 2006 and 2008 when the parliament has been put on hold due to a break in the majority of the Prime Minister of Canada to be re-elected a few months later.

One of these scenarios may avoid a vote of no confidence in the government by a coalition of other parties and the other was for the Vancouver Olympics, but it was alleged that the reality was to avoid an enquiry into the actions of the Government in Afghanistan.

While it is unlikely that the British Parliament will be proposed, other than to call another election, the lack of stability in Canada over the last five years shows that a hung parliament could be very damaging in terms of Parliament being able to do its job effectively. While some countries have tried with coalition governments, Britain is not used to this style of government and even so a hung parliament will probably lead to the dissolution for the proportional system to give.

# Summer Ball



Phoenix & The Machine  
 Dobby/Daniel/You,  
 Pearly/24/44/Phat,  
 Jody/CLM/23K,  
 L.L.U./Dance/Head

## Preview

Jolly Feet  
 Tuesday 4 May  
 Elbow Rooms

Jolly Feet returns with its usual mix of Rock n' Roll, Rhythms and Blues, Soul, Funk and Swing. Tuesday will also see a performance from the superb Leeds University Big Band Society.

## It's Berlin or bust

Everyone likes a gentle bike ride and sailing along in the sun, taking in the scenery fills you with contentment. RAG's 'Bike to Berlin' was not a gentle bike ride, but it was a jolly good adventure. Eivyn Prysor-Jones reminisces about those crazy eight days in March.

This trip is exactly what it says on the tin. We biked from Leeds to Berlin over a period of eight days. To raise money for Parkinson's UK, aiming to ride 500 miles but if you include all of the completely 'optional' detours it was much, much longer.

To admit that the cycling was what caught my eye but actually, the charity became more and more important as the days went by. Thinking of those 'fun' detours that you, the really power pros up a hill, but before I have two more detours let me set the scene.

On March 22 2016, 37 riders, eight men, seven women and several family and friends set off at 7:30 am, outside the aptly named Parkinson's steps. Already dressed in incredibly sunny cycling gear, every one checked their bikes and made several trips to the toilet. About to set off on our adventure, we were full of apprehension about our first day. Little did we know our bikes would become an inseparable part of our souls and we would learn to know more about each other than would normally be socially acceptable.

Instead of writing a day-by-day account, which would be different for everyone, here are some situations and feelings that everyone would have experienced.

Your bike is not just a bike, it is far more than that. It starts simply, your bike is cherished. I was riding Lady Elizabeth. Your attachment grows as your bike survives each day. Even if the spare puncture and it falls apart frequently, it is cherished. For you and your bike. By the end of the trip they will not only

have names, but life stories and personalities. Lady Elizabeth soon lived a wild life of risk, hardship and dirty wheels with mountain bikes.

Feeling like you are about to die is a completely normal feeling. Whether it is

can drop short because it's side-splitting and seeing someone cycle like a frog while wearing an orange blanket is absolutely hilarious. You also begin to notice or think things while biking that you normally don't. Examples include whether it is the

rainier hill is a mountain, every few minutes break feels like a second and every few miles feels like a hundred. It doesn't help that mileage becomes warped. 120k does not like some places and some places seem to not fit the map. Maps, in turn, do not like actual terrain, so this greatly leaves you making many 10 turns, cycling two extra miles and attempting to understand directions given by a very friendly, but very German-speaking, German.

Biking takes over your life. You ride all day and you dream you're still riding all day. You also see the world in a completely new and impressive way. It's an experience that is so full of ups and downs. Honestly, that all the complete mess, nothing when you finally come to the finish line. We were, obviously, dressed as superheroes and blowing many a job, which is as we headed towards the Brandenburg Gate. Typically, we get stuck at every traffic light but eventually ride it, straight through someone's street performance, certain that we had made it.

You make each good friend on a trip like this and the tent camaraderie and team spirit makes any amount of chafing totally worth it. It's definitely best to wear those extra socks (and socks) though! It makes you push yourself, physically and mentally, but even if you're tired, just imagine what your team leader is feeling, even all looked doubtful by the end.

I would definitely recommend this trip, as by the end amongst all the bumps will have been smoothed out, just about. It will add to the adventure.

Photographer: Kirsty Duncan



hurting down hills and being too scared to brake because you'll fly over the handlebars, or crawling up them, cursing the fact of a certain ascent, it is all good fun.

Things are a lot funnier when delirious by tired. Using bike lights to create a tent-shine in between, seeing how well people

lean to the left to ease a gear, why are there so many dead frogs and if I see a bike what would I look like? It's best to keep such things to yourself.

You will look awful for eight days. Although the cameras may be kinder, more than British ones and but showers are always available, don't be fooled into thinking you will ever be clean. Mud, blood, sweat and tears find their way everywhere and oil marks do run off easily. Add helmets here, no make up, a lack of ordinary clothes and cycling products to the equation and it makes for some very unsexy times. Don't even bother wearing trousers to try and prove you're a girl, it will be raining down your face in an instant. Cycling shorts, lycra, waterproofs and a halcyon one the way is normal attire, you actually start judging those people who dress 'normally'.

You learn to begin how to act like a normal human being, as if to fit with your new barbaric style. Conversations alternate between puns, chaffing, blisters, food, beds, toilets, and like digestive options. When it comes to socially acceptable behavior, going to the loo behind a bush, or even just on the side of the road is fine, and repeating queries from Gwyn and Patsy is expected.

Just because one day seems well done's more than that day will. Your muscles will begin cravily at your fingertips. Every



### A few little reminders for the Berlin crew.

- 'I'm taking my chafe.'
- 'Crap!'
- 'Breaking!'
- 'Gear change!'
- 'Vot hole!'
- 'WOW!'
- 'Do you mind if we spoon?'
- 'Excuse me'

Overall, we raised £14,000 for Parkinson's UK and had a whole lot of fun in the process.

KIM CO

## FILM

## Cemetery Junction

★★★★☆

Set during the 1950s in England's Cemetery Junction, the spirit of an ill-fated love affair between Billy Gerson and Stephen Bristow follows three twenty-somethings facing a haunting past in their hometowns in a town that has long since disappeared.

The film mostly focuses on a rainy-day Freudian Christian Cocker. Deterministic about off his working-class upbringing, he battles with his insecure father for his life. His ambition change however after he's reunited with his daughter and childhood sweetheart Julie.

There is very little love here, but it is a beautifully executed and at times painful writing. Moments of humor bubble below and off-hand scenes between Freddie's grandfather and his long-lost father (Billy Gerson) could hardly articulate the pain of a love that "ruined the marriage story."

Not the answer, most viewers in order to understand it by the filmmaker's portrayal of the setting. The leading couple by connecting together Ben Addison, with rolling good looks and quiet smile, meets Gregory, comes a great similarity completely at odds with the film's central theme of working-class desperation. The road goes very British in the way they English couples with acceptance makes one more non-romantic of a job in England of being.

The film's main shortcoming is to follow a balance multiple narratives and contradictory



themes. In attempting to be a good coming-of-age drama, part romantic comedy and part neo-social commentary, it manages, after a particularly, to be none of the above. It is not even as touching as it could have been, not as funny as it could have been.

There are moments of genuine brilliance: a Village Life employee being thanked for a lifetime of service with a not glass held in his hand—yet there are several excellent scenes

in the movie. There is a sense that the film knows what it wants to do, and could have been so much more had it as well as the other narrative not been so strongly half-baked. The continued attempt to wrap everything around the central narrative is a frustrating conclusion that film that never quite knows which way it is trying to go.

words Benjamin Hoffman

## FILM

## Kick-Ass

★★★★☆

Matthew Vaughn's latest film tells the story of teenage Dave Lizewski who, on becoming bored with a mundanely supervised society, decides to try to restore order in the world, practicing his skills as his first ever superhero, Kick-Ass.

Like Peter Parker, Dave is nerdy and slightly lacking in friends. But that's where the comparison ends because, unlike Spider-Man, Kick-Ass doesn't have any real superpowers — just plenty of optimism and the ability to get a well-driving costume made.

I watched most of Kick-Ass through the cracks between my fingers, squinting and wincing at Jane Goldman's (best) and Vaughn's daring and masterfully violent take on a superhero — just plenty of Action. Johnson does a great job as Lead, and, full to the brim with childish enthusiasm that is soon extinguished by his mother's reprimands. The young "Miss Marvel" dominates the screen as Hit Girl, a Ford model homage to Uma Thurman in Kill Bill and Nicholas Cage in Holes as her sidekick and slightly "one" involved father. Together, the two vigilantes make a Sausage team in their quest to bring down menacing drug lord Frank D'Amico, played by Mark Strong.

Kick-Ass, like any Lady Gaga outfit, is so ridiculously fabulous that you cannot help but revel in its obscenity. Goldman and Vaughn's imagination for "ways to die" is impressively revolting, nearly three dimensions of the "kicker narrative." Even for the squeamish, the gore fight scenes are strangely enjoyable — my stomach reacting and pained against a great sound track. I doubt Kick-Ass will be remembered in years to come as a movie masterpiece — it definitely takes one over such status. But in doing so, it stands for a really fun few hours. If the idea of John Adams' winning the Civil War sounds good to you, chances are you will like this.

words Charlotte Gill

## COMEDY

## Comedy Session

HIL 24/04

★★★★☆

The stand-up piece is like a box of chocolates: irregular, sometimes unbalanced, and given at Christmas by relatives with no regard for you. Or more accurately, you are regarded as a selection and you never know if what you get is what you will be the obvious case of what is in the happy bag.

The 150-ish hour stand-up comic for such a night, a social, very unbalanced club where comedy clubs are a place and comedy is a profession. The night was only completed by Sam Army who did a largely improvised club set with the front row crowd, and set a good mood for the evening which prevailed throughout.

The first big act, Chris Ramsey (you read, he's called) was a rather bigger comic and presented a very wide and interesting material for the night. He did not have a little like a night down the pub with an occasional very nice band playing on the moment of such a nice dinner as he was on. He was a very nice man, in a cast away that a friend who had a very funny, and the evening crowd was for anyone who had loved. A hilarious experience, Ramsey was, quite funny, and although maybe a little out of the crowd, I really enjoyed in the night.

In comparison, the headline act, Simon's High, seemed to be a bit of a disappointment. While he did contain a couple of traditional set pieces, including a set on a representation of a Dalek telling bedtime stories and a particularly acrobatic scene of a young 14-year-old actor trying to touch his first book, much of his act seemed to focus on what have been done a hundred times before—and others much better. There's still, with the right person, much mileage to be had from jokes about men and women, families and growing up, but High had nothing new to offer the audience. Although, I really do wish about his impressive teenage hero, painted faces, and other well-meaning ideas.

So if this night was about of a comedian to return to my opinion, I would not be a fan. I think they really should, but with nothing to be in his opinion or interests.

words Tim Johns



ART

## Between Kismet and Karma:

South Asian Women Artists Respond to Conflict

Leeds Art Gallery until 09/05

South Asia has been the site of some of the bloodiest conflicts in the twentieth century. From national struggle to war, the British from South Asia, and violence accompanying the formation of new states, to the present political and economic struggles of South Asia, it is often women who have endured the most emotional and physical trauma.

Against this dark winter backdrop, between Kismet and Karma showcases the work of eight South Asian women, using drawings, sculptures, paintings and several surprising forms of lending as well as critiquing concepts like the home, bodies, cities, borders and the nation.

Despite its serious subject matter, many of the pieces engage with these issues in creative and often humorous ways. Suparna Karmali Woorasingh, a Sri Lankan based artist, uses her own experience of violence achieved on the legs of her husband as a cross between British beachcombers with bejewelled bikinis having a sunbath in the background, in her film *Sun of a White Tea Bag*. This surreal set up

explores one of Sri Lanka's major industries, tea, and serves as a potent reminder to many countries that this phenomenally British hot beverage has its origin as South Asia.

Particular focus is made on the body through the exhibition, especially by Anil Desai and Naina D. What when one is so shaped the body instantly stereotypes that is often impossible South Asian women. Present is a responsive-elastic fabric installation was the most striking piece of the exhibition. Its power came from its endless-loops and the energy down's ability to continue to take the shape of the body, creating something that provides freedom to the female form rather than restriction.

Shilpa Gupta provided a more explicitly political edge to her work. In her *Shiva Ganga Mobile Interception* was the Indian artist sold movement with sound, forcing the audience to compare the operations of South and British (her studies of Pakistan and India especially), thereby critiquing the present of nation building. Similarly, 190 Madras Dances of Nellacholai a surprising amount of variation

in its conception of India, challenging usual cartographical and colonialist representations of the country.

Kamini Kaler offers *The Last Empress* proved to be as well the understated high light of the exhibition, exploring the environmental degradation with Chongqing's ship-building yard in Bangladesh. A program counter is created between the temporalities of the far away working tirelessly whilst Bangladesh's ships stand in the background.

Between Kismet and Karma has brought something new and unique to Leeds Art Gallery. It deals with actual historical conflict, briefly, mostly in Shilpa Gupta's *Factories* piece, exploring the bloody conflicts that have plagued other countries. However, it encourages the process to be a boon, making their work transcending the postcolonial or western category that they could easily be bracketed into, providing nuanced perspectives of the human condition in conflict.

words: Neil D'Souza



*In Our Shoes* by Shilpa Gupta



*Body-Dolly* by Naina D



*Blaze* by Anil Desai

## THEATRE PREVIEW

### An Ideal Husband

Sevan Arts, Chapel Allerton 05/05 - 08/05

Leeds Student talks to director Poppy Rowley and cast members George Rowell and Joanna O'Malley to discuss their adaptation of one of Oscar Wilde's often overlooked masterpieces.

#### What's the play about?

Poppy Rowley "It is set in London's aristocratic society, set in 1890, during the scandal of an aristocrat's wife's husband and wife. There's a bit of romance mixed with political scandal, and lots of wit too."

#### Have you modernised it at all?

PR: "No, we tried to keep it set in 1890. It spans 24 hours, set in three different rooms within different houses."

You've modernised a political scandal – did you set it down any links with the current political climate?

PR: "I might try to link it to modern-day politics but I don't really want people to think the show's thinking 'Aha! that must account'. It's more for enjoyment."

More people are familiar with Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest* Why do you choose *An Ideal Husband* over *The Importance of Being Earnest*?

PR: "*An Ideal Husband* is very similar in contrast to *The Importance of Being Earnest* but it has a slightly more serious

style, which we thought would be interesting to recreate.

George Rowell/Lead George: "Unlike every other house. The Importance of Being Earnest. This will be original, best link at Oscar Wilde."

#### So you guys are releasing people...

GR: "Laughed that one's a bit forced. More like bringing one of his plays to the forehand."

#### More importantly, has anyone found an ideal husband at all?

PR: "Well we did a speed-dating event last Tuesday, called 'Find an Ideal Husband'. A couple of people said each other that it might be here, but within three minutes... GR: "Well done well done."

#### Lastly, why should we come see it?

PR: "I guess if you want an intellectual prod, there are so many profound life statements and it's witty. But it is good way!"  
Joanna O'Malley (Mabel): "Also as student theatre today a very modern and original one like to think that the plays were modern. It's a bit theatre but it's ours. And we'll hopefully be having success

from the West Yorkshire Theatre."

#### So it doesn't be a visual treat...

PR: "No, definitely. One that one should see in an."

Tickets are on sale in the Refectory foyer this week and next week, between 22 and 4pm.

words: Shona Madson



Photography: Poppy Rowley

## POETRY

### Sticks and Stones

Strawbs bar 26/04



For a start, the thought of poetry meetings can evoke images of troubled artists and bad habits in people's heads. But at Sticks and Stones, you can thankfully leave these poetic misconceptions at the door.

The first half of the night was open mic, which attracted a range of styles and subjects. From laments to the internet, here to Cash in the Arts, the poems on show were varied and exciting. Arguably one the most memorable performances was Al Cassanova who displayed a lively style that set an energetic tone for the rest of the evening's theme nights.

The guest poet for the night was Freddie Lewis Steven Vassari, who directed himself at having engaged from "the dining companions of various Northern universities". Having appeared on BBC 5's *The Arts and Media* in *Impressions From Winter* he also made quite an impression on the festival crowd, performing at both Cheltenham and Latitude. With a name that simply seems literary, cerebral, but also a touch of irony of comedy and spoken word is witty and engaging.

Vassari might describe "one of the stars on the side of a Rose Kipper bar" or occasion when greats making in "It's Twilight". But his poetry doesn't fail to pack a punch. His poem *Algebra in Measure Town* was a fresh yet still portrait of an average night out in London, where you can expect to see "Meat-love" "to change faces" "when you've done your coat come off" and girls "leaving on a dream from their magazines". At times Vassari might seem prone of a comic, light poet, but not only is he perfectly funny but he manages to paint a instantly funny picture of contemporary society.

With its informal and welcoming atmosphere Sticks and Stones manages to avoid falling into the pretentious world of literary pretension. And for anyone interested in having a go at performing their own work, it offers a perfect space for you to do so. As one of the poets said, "It's anything makes the slightest of ideas there I must be doing something right."

words: Laura White

photography: Matthew Bentley



Photography: Poppy Rowley



## LOOKOUT POST

### Crucial of a Saboteur

West End Live Playhouse  
30.04 - 29.05

In a play that won the Pulitzer accolade 2002 and 40-year-old age of capitalism is a performer now at 60 years then, 61 year old travelling saboteur Philo Lennon an agitator is mad as he thought of the past or the future to have him. To book visit [www.westendlive.co.uk](http://www.westendlive.co.uk) or call 01 273 220 7700.

### Comedy Sensation: John Gorkle, Justin

Moskowitz, Dave Thompson  
1.05  
01.05-7.05

With Saturday night Comedy Sensation continues with the brilliant comedy acts. While Gorkle is a British Award nominated director and comedian, Moskowitz is described as "one of the greatest stand-up in the world" and comic and Thompson's act is "high energy, positive fun". With all this in one act only, how could you resist?

### Beyond the Veil: A Portrait of Barbara Huisli

West End Live Playhouse  
30.04

As the founder of the famous children's series *Pingu*, Barbara Huisli was an influential figure in the British children's scene. This documentary shows a glimpse of her today, as well as retrospective look at her life, providing a new insight into a fascinating woman. With appearances from Triggs and Funnell Wood, this film should not be missed.

### The Phoenix of Penelope

Play South Hall  
05.05-08.05

Penelope's latest offerings *Gilbert and Sullivan's comic masterpieces*. Penelope is illustrated through his appointment up to a kind of social hegemony. Her manager had a lady friend too, so in any knowledge it is not a simple act.

Tickets on 020 7430 4400 on the opening night. More information at [www.phoenix.co.uk](http://www.phoenix.co.uk)

words Hannah Antill

## WHAT'S ONLINE

[leeds2007.org](http://leeds2007.org)

**Wendy Lawson** takes a peek at the Leeds Indie Film scene...

**Rick Bradshaw** sees Cherrybark...

**Joe Miller** reviews *Apoc...*

## THEATRE

### The Count of Monte Cristo

West Yorkshire Playhouse until 15.06



The idea of staging a tale that took Alexandre Dumas 1,200 pages to tell at first seems impossible. To condense an such a story into a two-and-a-half hour run may seem improbable. To do so with just one cast member is a monumental task.

In this regard of what is to be done, an award-winning writer, Joel Horwood has managed to collaborate a play with more twists and turns than a bank holiday sea night, forming a fascinating and enjoyable account of a man's political and social rise and fall.

The main problem with a character as complex is how to condense it. The solution here is through high and fast-paced action. The result is a highly entertaining and well-paced play by David Dugby at the start as simply "long".

One never sees, therefore, for a fast and energetic depiction of ambition, betrayal and revenge. For the increased Dumas Dugby, his passage through religious enlightenment and his fight for liberty provides the drive for an engaging, fast full of drama, humour, and creative ingenuity. Being a geography from all his cast members were clearly going to their skills, and yet in the scarcely imaginable plotlines (via Dumas' *Windy*) who still make the show. The *Windy* manages to add what *Windy* does mean an exciting flexibility over the audience. It's a good gesture and a well-timed



lookback upon Dumas' original *Fort*, the story's great moral dilemma is that of justice.

Safe, the second half has the characters get lost in the first, as the introduction of characters inevitably comes into play. Dumas is indeed an influence of *Windy* (*Windy* again) but the intense psychological conditions that Dumas inspires are grounded here.

Rather than the cast's interesting drama with time sequences, we are instead introduced to a complex and the audience's - perhaps the lack will - that about the tempo, providing the audience with a deep context. This modern make time story deeply set in the French Revolution does have its advantages, especially with the comedy. *Windy*'s introduction of the young Englishman (Clayton) and the British.

played by the excellent Peter Lennan. Lennan also brings a quality and open to become Dumas' work experience's before to a one which is usually more compared to the tension and emotion of Dumas's original.

And yet, with all the humour and drama, smart lighting and shooting, what lets the play down is the direction of speech. All in all, you will be well served by the audience, rather than that about being forced through the scene.

A fascinating retelling of a classic novel, *The Count of Monte Cristo* is truly enjoyable. What does not and some lack in reality at times can be ignored for their willingness to play with the audience.

words Joe Scott

## THEATRE

### DreamPlay

stages/floods 28/04 - 01/06



Photography: Richard Long

That is to say what to expect when I walked into the theatre to see *DreamPlay*. The PR campaign had been delivered only once but a few things had been delivered: the production would be performed in three part instalments from Leeds University PCL (Department of Performance and Cultural Industries), it would be something not only new and exciting, and full of things to look out for when you go to see it. This was very intriguing. However, I had also heard that the show was going to be the very thing that every audience member needs a show to be - something new, I was nervous.

Using *DreamPlay* to create work at *DreamPlay* of 2001 as a introduction, the performance has been all time in my strange world, incorporating the 'theater's' own interpretations, thoughts and dreams, and forcing them all together to create a unique experience. However, it is not one of those shows where you can't, which, applied at their best. Every audience member is invited to move around the performance space, interact with the action and physically become part of the dream.

Two factors particularly stand out. Firstly, the design and features such as music, events, projections, lighting and music are used extensively well to create the surreal, eerie world in which dreams are created. Audience members are constantly challenged by darkness and mist, creating an atmosphere

that complements the production. Secondly, the actors are very confident in their roles, able to own other roles in character, and therefore allowing the world to be sustained.

However, this unusual experience is hard to describe succinctly - some people will also be the love it, whereas others might struggle to understand the concept. Thus, the best mode of preparation for watching this piece is to completely discard all preconceptions of what it could be.

But if you expect nothing more than the unexpected, allow yourself to become part of the PCL-created world of dreams. You'll be fine, and you might even enjoy being introduced.

words Hannah Antill

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30/4/10

## COMMENT

## What is the impact of TV debates on this election?

Ben Heath asks, with the introduction of the latest political TV debates, has British politics become too focused on image, or is it now a subjects accessible to the masses?



Whether an attempt to appeal to a wider TV audience or simply following suit with one-to-one candidates, the early managed television debates certainly don't add a new dimension to the previously dull general election. It remains a glitzy affair, and with a great deal on TV, one available to many viewers. For with the focus shifted from traditional print to more personal spoken images, has British politics finally evolved into a multimedia arena as we find in all social networking?

When the three party leaders made their first

television debate on 12 April, it was difficult not to draw comparisons with the Kennedy-Khrushchev debate of a mere two years ago, when the phraseology "I'll verbally win power through the medium of television. Indeed, Gordon Brown of the Labour Party looked more like a schoolboy rather than the standard open school British politics accurately based. As a result of this, both sides looked nervous, though all of them, Brown lacked conviction and the ability to answer what he considered, though his opponent, does lack conviction. In the contrary, David Cameron represented the best of both worlds: alternative to an inevitably

dominated party. Cameron's crisp and clear image certainly impressed by the party's manifesto and with the election with the news. But perhaps the real winner in the television debate was Nick Clegg, of the often-overlooked third party. Clegg's decision to answer the question between the two governments of British politics, allowed him a demonstration of facts rather than false promises as represented in the ever growing support evident in the latest polls.

However, should we, the public, rely on such media events to consider an individual leader as the future of our government? It was hard not to overlook the presentation of each political leader, especially that of an ageing Brown, a slight decline in Cameron as a sign of age and respect for Clegg's calm demonstration of facts. The above also neglects much wider evidence: Facebook alone has with political party charged that social and more deliberative discussion on an often-misunderstood subject. It was also a little strange to hear political terms amongst the usual array of conversations as evident in a little less serious that comes with the university. Myself. Certainly, the debate are making politics much more accessible than with little interest. One of the main reasons of 2010, it suggests the view of a traditional institution. However, this is far on the fading party that cannot be overlooked: such party representatives, or the less often broadly distributed of candidates such as Gordon Brown could be a much-needed adjustment.

The previous approach to politics, that of the occasional live-on-the-wall approach, made a deliberate and well-considered the instance of those who grew up as such speaker in our country. While the new approach may well be felt in a more personal point of view, it does allow the public to support of the political process. It was a calculated event that had everything on the television screen, but it did give the leaders in their own light and how they reacted under the pressure that the British public. In perhaps a less personal view, television politics may degrade the political process and remove the importance of evidence to favour of image. You only have to look across the Atlantic to see the negative effect this can have on a foreign and systems, after all, who would want the American-born Terminator controlling our education system? In the television debates have undoubtedly created a new medium that may be seen as more personally judged subject. Politics has now become more accessible and more engaged than ever before. Whether it is suitable to have opinions on image instead to be seen and will be decided on 5 May. If Cameron's elected into power, and things does happen, it is difficult to ignore the importance of his media image in the road to his success. Alternatively, if Nick Clegg, against all odds, manages to attract into power, he will inevitably face debate with his eventual success.

## 16 Film & TV

### Pick of the week

Slippy Hollow 1.05/10 at 10.50pm Channel 4

Tim Burton's shamelessly baroque adaptation of Washington Irving's 1820 short story (written while he was in Birmingham, history has it) is one of his better offerings that still stands up to repeated viewings, certainly more authentic than his take on Alice in Wonderland. As usual, Johnny Depp plays the scholarly anti-hero, combining his trademark amalgam of dandyism, spontaneity and macabre kooky eccentricities, while he is supported by a stellar cast consisting of Mischa Bakken, Christina Ricci, Michael Gambon and Christopher Lee. The film is as beautifully lit and photographed as any Hammer horror film with that vintage painterly twist. *Slippy Hollow* is an audacious expedition into the 19th century realm of the romantic shillies, into the depths of that quintessential New England gothic, even if at times it lacks the restraint it needs to sustain for 95 minutes, veering onto making it slightly tedious. Nevertheless it is essential viewing for all Burton fans and it will probably be remembered as the sterling collaborative work of the director and Johnny Depp.

words: Jack Stanger

Facejacker 3.00/4/10 10pm Channel 4

He became a cult legend with the edgy punk-rock series *Foxybanger*, and now Kathryn Hahn is making out from behind the television to meet personal victims face to face. *Facejacker* is this sequel, Hahn uses prosthetics, ridiculous wigs and her own character's voice to bring to life well-known characters such as dodgy car salesman Terry Tibbs and the hilariously useful car mechanic, Augustus Kowalski. Hahn has added to his already bigging onslaught of caricature characters, with Sukiara Hahn's plastic surgeon and character actor Lisa Fiedler. Hidden behind his new second visage of waders, Hahn goes about belittling anyone unfortunate enough to stand in his way in his many face transformations and slugs, managing to catch the history on his back camera. Kathryn Hahn again displays his ability as a comedian, voice talent and all round nuisance in *Facejacker*, quite frankly giving his old character a boost. Be prepared to laugh not only at the all round glibness of the general public, the speech impediments and the hysterical bad hair plot, but at Hahn's own series of stunts. A great watch programme.

words: Melissa Walker

## LS Tube



Unless you're already in *Beavis*, it's unlikely you'll have missed the endless references to 'not chancing EVERYTHING' until you want to know what somebody's going on about, look no further. The Glasgow and Irvine, comedy group formed by a collection of Oxford professors, have managed to summarise everything we love to most about rock rules and British gig politics into a few minutes of hilarious fun. It shows a typical private school lesson on using the word 'Tampax' that he 'can't come dropping on the King's Road today' as he 'wants the gig's gig', as if he had to be able to use some more basic observational comedy a little better. It's observational comedy like this that make the

that hit more special and hilarious than your average sketch... the fact 'Oxford' is carrying an iPhone around the room, and it's already been to Paris (Frank-Siddling, Parli! Parli!) and Toronto (she shows the thought process of why you get your phone when talking to her), but only as a game intended as 'going on about'! Even managing to have a dramatic twist towards the end, the video is one of the best things on YouTube. The group have just put up gig pub 2, making 'beavis' for the Hahn appeal, but the jokes aren't just a little more formal, and put you to show that nothing will be able to compare to the original.

words: Victoria Gray

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 Any feedback? Email us at [info@lsyoutube.org](mailto:info@lsyoutube.org)



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## COMMENT

## Why read?

Reading the Guardian's Why I Write—a series of interviews with contemporary writers—has led me to wonder who it is I read. In writing, as an author creates a world, creates people, who without him would previously never have existed, in reading this creation, are we really experiencing anything? Or are we simply escaping into the world of someone else's mind, as a means to escape our own? Is there really any substance in experiencing the arts, books, theatre, music, if we ourselves did not look back to it? Or is reading something more? Is reading, are we contributing to more than ourselves?

We read, ultimately, for pleasure—to entertain ourselves in a way our own imagination cannot. Authors take us away into an imaginary world, where we follow the

imaginary events of imaginary people, but the what and? Is this something our own imagination really cannot do? It is a remarkable discovery that if we integrate aspects of literature, then surely we should be correct with our own imagination.

Yes, from novels, we gain more than we could ever gain from our own imaginations. We gain an entry into the world of another person's imagination, an impossible feat without books. What is more, in reading, we live in Great Expectations, we are not only transported into another person's mind, but to another time, another country, even another country. From the comfort of our own, favourite reading spots, we are able to enter into the dream of an individual imagination, and—through those not ourselves

would never have had.

Through reading we are, therefore, might I think, the wiser, the more, through the words of the author, of another world, another time and another's mind. We are able to understand things we have never experienced. We can live a whole other life through the pen of the writer. And in writing—books, articles, diaries, blogs, poems, we are opening our minds to the world, inviting others to see into our thoughts and imaginations, inviting the reader to join us on the journey through our own lives.

words: Vicki Marshall  
Illustration: Meghan Allbridge



## Lean on Pete

Willy Vlautin

Genre: An Ohio boy tells the tale of Charley Thompson, a lonely and desperate 15-year-old, and a third-hand-owned Texas cow horse.

After her late uncle Charley is a terrible car, he pursues his only hope—to find his Aunt in Wyoming—by hitching three places to place through their, generally, lawless employees, and a horse he rescued from a ranch and escaping race track.

Charley's search for a friend, father, or child, has been seen before. The novel has elements of *True Grit* and *The Horse Whisperer*, with a troubled protagonist seeking justice in an equally bleak world. And like those films, the scenes in which Charley resides in Pete with complete conviction, and Pete too readily to keep him well, are incredibly touching.

What is interesting about Vlautin's novel, in particular, is that the family of Charley's situation, compounded by the brutal here as home style of writing, is one of its main draws. As tragic you feel that a profound desolation typifies the novel, with much character and more writing ultimately disposable. However, it is very surprising because you in Charley's mind would, knowing you willing him to just say yes.

It is better than it looks.

words: Sarah Hill



## The Lessons

Naomi Alderman

Genre: The Lessons follows the stories of six Oxford students through their shared and challenging university lives and beyond into a world of harsh realities for which they have been poorly prepared.

The story's narrator, James, is a lonely damaged physics student who finds that being considered merely adequate at Oxford, after a life of excellence, is exactly he needed. As James begins to sink beneath a tidal wave of disappointment and personal failure as he tries to live in the form of Jen, a kind and passionate musician. James brings James into his very small group of friends at the heart of which is the charismatic and enigmatic Mark. It is Mark, a troubled, unpredictable character with a vast heart that is his disposal, who drives the book forward, dominating and manipulating the others.

A remarkably compelling novel, *The Lessons* is impossible to resist as it progresses from lively towards more intense eventual tragedy. Alderman does a great job at making his female character more present in the book of the reader's mind throughout the novel. Even in the most high-stakes of scenes we know that this character will most come to its end. Dark, powerful, and incredibly thought-provoking, *The Lessons* is definitely not a book to be missed.

words: Katy Dowling



## The Professor's Handbook

David J. Smith

Genre: Just one week until exams who is to lead the lost British Kingdom through the last half of the 20th century. The reader will still be rising, because right will continue to be resisted, the rights (last part of question will remain).

Both for the emerging student and the disillusioned adult, *the professor's handbook* is the best of the best. The *Professor's Handbook*, now in its second edition, was produced by the *Professor's Handbook*, a comprehensive guide for those seeking to make the world in the right direction. From full chapters on oral disputation and direct action politics to summaries of why petitioning and letter writing still matters, *Handbook* takes you to the methods that the reader's job takes you at their disposal.

Beside the practical of legal, political, and fundraising, *the professor's handbook* is a comprehensive how-to illustrated with case studies of successful protesters that are both fascinating and essential. Perhaps the book's most illuminating feature is its "Why I Fight" boxes—first person testimonies from prominent activists, from a whole range of causes, which inspire without losing their dramatic effect. It is too dense to pass as a quick reference text book. Consider the examples do become a bit repetitive but those who do find themselves holding a copy are probably looking for more than just a reliable paperback to replace it.

David James Leamy becomes Peter Moore, Britain needs this book.

words: Mark Handman



## Red Tory

Philip Gould

"Something is seriously wrong with Britain. This is an invitation that everybody, whatever their politics, should." Such words Britain's grandest man throughout (Blond's) book and can distract from any larger argument. When Bond discusses Britain's individualism, in which people are obsessed with free choice but not moral values, he refers to those in favour of the "false" or "short" but who still think free choice is good. Such offers competitors are hard to ignore, but there is some interesting ideas here.

Seeing, *Red Tory*, was created by creating a post-war welfare state that would not heavily on central government. Local power remained. Liberal individualism of 19th century and free market individualism of 20th century followed. *Red Tory* created. Now we no longer just consider any group or political party, but only one that can combine his competitors. Without social restrictions we can lead some serious, authoritarian government has taken place.

Blond offers some ideas for solving this problem between ending us. *Red Tory* apparently the best way to build society together and says which individualism is through a "transcendent" God. Such a view ignores today's diverse and mainly secular Britain. *Red Tory* is a good age of all strong mental whose conclusions are not as serious. Perhaps he should consider himself individualism also cannot diversity and freedom. *Red Tory* is not this should be printed, not retained.

words: Tom Knowles



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# How clean is your house?

Aggie MacKenzie, star of reality TV series "Dancing on Ice", recently visited the University of Leeds to take part in a National Science and Engineering Week event.

Organised by the West Yorkshire branch of the British Science Association, the event took 40 school children on a journey through a specifically developed experimental house.

The pupils were asked to handle protocols, ranging from making paper to using enzymes found in biological washing powder, while two biologists and a chemist provided a steady stream of advice to the experiment. Aggie MacKenzie, joined in keeping her house both clean and green, was at the University all day to talk to the children and help with questions.

"These steps help students to gain science in all around them," says Aggie. "It really brings science to life and shows it's not all just about getting stuck into a good test book. It allows the children to see science with their own eyes and on a day-to-day level."

The British Science Association, a registered charity that exists to advance the public understanding, accessibility and availability of the sciences and engineering in the UK, organised

National Science and Engineering Week each year. This year the University was involved in over 50 events, and it's not just the school children that benefited. A post graduate volunteer commented that "not only have the kids had a

great time and really got involved with some hands on work, but I have had loads of fun working on it really helps remind me how inspiring science can be."

With the successful events this year during both National Science

and Engineering Week and The Leeds Science Festival, the University of Leeds continues to extend its reach of science to the public.

Nicola Thomas



Aggie of "Dancing on Ice" visits "How clean is your house?" these pairs sets of children on a household science adventure at the University of Leeds. Photo: Nicola Thomas

## Gene therapy provides steps towards cancer cure

University of Leeds researchers, supported by Cancer Research UK, have developed a way of targeting and destroying cancer cells using viruses. Though still in the early laboratory stages, this important work has shown very promising results.

The research exploits target markers that appear on the surface of cancer cells. Specific proteins, attached to viruses, recognise and target these markers, attaching themselves and the virus to the cancerous cell. The virus penetrates then slips inside the cancer, delivering gene therapy to the cell nucleus.

"The gene therapy works by allowing the genetic code of the cell, making it more sensitive to drugs, causing cell 'suicide', or even replacing the defective genes that caused the cancer to develop in the first place."

"Since the support has been cut of funding over the last couple of years," says Dr. John Cleaver, who led the study. "Our research

points to a new method to optimize viruses for gene therapy and has so far been promising in the lab."

Gene therapy has been used before, but with limited success. Attempts to deliver such treatments have not been efficient at specific enough to only target tumour cells. Though this new research has only been tried on bladder cancer cells so far, the scientists are optimistic that the technique could be successful on any type of cancer.

Dr. Lester Walker, Director of Cancer Information at Cancer Research UK believes that "This exciting early laboratory work points to a new way of attacking cancer cells by targeting the unique markers on cancer cells. It could have real benefits for patients with tumours not helped by their current but we first have to see a through clinical trial."

Felicity Ingham

## Fancy bat!

Research led by University of Leeds' Professor John Altringham has led to the identification of a species of bat not previously found in the UK. The myotis albae of York.

Albae's bat has a body the size of a man's thumb point and wings in at about the size as a jelly baby, and has so far been spotted in Sussex and Yorkshire.

Bats make up one third of the UK's land mammal species, and therefore contribute massively to our mammalian diversity. This new discovery brings the total number of bat species known in the UK to 17.

Oliver Williams, a student working in Professor Altringham's lab explains the importance of this discovery: "This species belongs to a group of bats known as the whiskered bats, the composition of which varies on understanding their behaviour and habitat. Discovering that there are in fact three types of bat in this group allows them to be better understood and helps create their conservation."

Nicola Thomas



Photo: University of York School of Biology

## Critical Analysis



Science  
Commentary  
with Vito Velupill

### Science - a political act

Science and politics don't always mix well, with only 27 MB on the list. Politicians bring a certain degree, the closest many scientists get to science, while we as a class of study science, or as David Layton recently wrote, "science". Examining the public of UK cancer services, he claimed that fewer people die of cancer in England than in the US, this might be due to the way the treatments of the NHS and more to do with the far lower life expectancy in England, when you are not yet 60 you do not even smoke the life span.

By ignoring their creative use of data, scientists do not raise the numbers of all those who perish. The Conservatives have described themselves as a "vision first" party, which is meant to mean that their manifesto has intentions to provide money for research funding, but have produced statements to giving more research and making patients less waiting, and plans to be used to inform the National Cancer Institute.

Labour increased its investment in science from 1987 to 2007, but hasn't led to an indicated corresponding changes to public. They pledge to have a "big science" budget for research, but actually they don't see how. Expansion of higher education will continue, and money will be given to students who study a science.

The Liberal Democrats claim to want to create a dynamic environment for science and innovation, and have pledged not to cut the science budget for the next year. They are committed to writing good quality legislation, and to supporting freedom and independence of scientific research and claim to want to make drugs policy based on independent scientific advice.

Perhaps the issue are not the main focus, but the reality and

science, but the reality and science. Lib Dem MP for Leeds North West, Gary Moulton, signed the Dark Day Motion (2007), calling for the creation of a National Health Service (NHS) independent body, a move that would be seen as a huge wave of public research. Quality research science, it seems, is a science. Leeds Labour candidate Judith Blaker's scientific findings show incidences of going to bed and sleeping in cancer research and the Tony Gwynn, John Major has absolute no notion of anything to do with science in his manifesto.

But maybe trying to increase political interest in science is helping a strong leader in a survey of the 1000 members of the law professor 500 described themselves as having no previous interest in science and technology.

What if science is becoming more or more part of the popular imagination, the focus of a lot of high school researchers. Science, it would seem, falls into the realm of "natural" scientific and public education, or possibly better public support all together, but that makes it a science end.



Great George St in Leeds city centre.

Not yet opened after a £2.3 million redevelopment, it offers a thoroughly modern approach to helping homeless people. Inside the brand new reception with its bright painted walls and made of what everyone else I met, Martin Parkinson, who is head of Help and Housing for the City, Matts showed me into the day room, which serves breakfast and dinner for free to people who are staying the night, which is also free, and a one-point lunch to all visitors for one pound every day.

# 30%

The amount of rough sleepers who were victims of child abuse

"I wouldn't look out of place on a university campus, would I?" he asked rhetorically, in a room which resembled what a dormitory might be for a homeless person. There are fifteen private rooms for people to sleep the night, a shop, and meeting rooms in which visitors were taken part in classes on debt management, drug and alcohol misuse and literacy. In development is also a women's nursery.

What Martin was keen to stress was that this is what the government calls a "Place of Change", which recognises the need for the development of personal and practical skills to help break the cycle of poverty. It has been recognised that resources in the battle against street homelessness have to be deployed in a targeted way, to avoid massive expenditure of individuals.

"It results in an intervention, be it a phone, or evening home or a care home, all of those decisions that you normally take are taken away from

you. You don't do anything for yourself, they do it all for you. Then you become un-motivated."

Because lots of people on the streets have spent time in care, in mental institutions, in prison, or in the armed forces, they have never been forced to cope with long-term planning and the saving and achievement of even the most basic goal or feeling after themselves. The point is that in the past, while people could be fed or given a bed for the night, they would remain in the "limbo" state of living between the street and a variety of institutions.

"Which is why the Crypt's new approach to getting to such points and landing. In teaching its users new skills and helping them to take practical steps towards entering mainstream society, it is getting results. As far as my opinion about whether or not we should give more help, Martin's answer was clear:

"My message would be: Don't give money to beggars. Because we're here. We've been to provide the basics to people. There's a danger that the money might not go to what we might see as being the most pressing of situations."

What places like St. George's Crypt prove is that, while we can't deny that rough sleepers are in need of help, and are most of the time victims of circumstances beyond their control, and that society owes them a helping hand, the giving of loans change can only provide the simplest of comfort, and can't be much more than a mere throw-in in the hope of letting that a Square army of intangible problems. The with a contrast offer of targeted funding for community-based projects, the massive humanism problem which puts to shame any country which claims the term, "developed" can be fought.



HELPING THE HOMELESS: St. George's Crypt (above), located beneath St. George's Church, Leeds. Photo: Richard Bevan

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# 'Hypocrisy is yeast that ferments hatred'

*Leeds Student* caught up with human rights lawyer Clive Stafford Smith on tour promoting his charity, Reprieve, who use the law to enforce the basic human rights of prisoners.



Stafford Smith is a human rights lawyer specialising in the release of inmates from the infamous Guantanamo Bay prison. 90 of his clients have been released while another 50 are being represented.

In 1999, Stafford Smith returned to the UK from America to set up Reprieve, having spent the previous year devising helping the most vulnerable inmates on Death Row, before he was taken to the gas chamber. Stafford Smith later proved that Johnson did not commit the crime he was sentenced for. This is one of only six death row cases he has ever won.

From 9/11, his focus shifted. There was a new breed of vulnerable people to defend and the epicentre of this injustice was Guantanamo Bay. Although it was not an official US prison, the prison had been created by President Bush to separate the accused from the law. All had allegedly been caught on the battlefield in Afghanistan but many were never seen to in the US. For Stafford Smith, the switch from Death Row was a natural progression. "Increasingly in Guantanamo, faces the death penalty, instead of being hanged up in some prison God knows where in Mississippi, they are put in Cuba, instead of having a cup of tea, you get to lawyer at all, instead of going on an air trip, they give you no trial at all."

In 2001, he found his voice clearly as Ted Kennedy in 2004 when he spoke at a local Amnesty International meeting. The opportunity is still there, it just his emphasis that has changed. Underneath the surface, exterior is a mass of anger. Despite President Obama's pledges to close down Guantanamo, the problems of fugitives and other 'black sites' when

prisoners are held without trial becomes ever more pressing. This anger is led by an ever present determination: "Hopefully in the long run we'll get most of them out, rescue them from their lawless lands. My priority is never changing, we win 98 per cent of the cases we take on, and that's because we're working against forces of evil, and what they're trying to do is wrong."

This is something his most notable client, Binyam Mohamed, knows all too well. Turned back to a Moroccan "black site" as well as Guantanamo, Mohamed was released after reprieve from the British government. This is tempered

detailing what Washington had told British intelligence about his treatment he released, leading to the infamous leaked "seven paragraphs", something Stafford Smith told the BBC was, "more credible of a vast body of other information not then showing Binyam Mohamed was innocent."

Despite the implications of this, Stafford Smith quickly declines the invitation to attribute blame: "I think that is a game for people who like to look backwards. I don't want to blame people. Instead I want to figure out publicly what the truth is and make sure that doesn't happen again."

Stafford Smith seeks 'truth and reconciliation', not blame and punishment. "I think most to admit what they did and we sorry, that I don't think we need to have an international war crimes trial. It's not that hard and you get your own trial. I don't think there were any more really bad mistakes made in the past of post 9/11, let's figure out what they were and make sure they don't happen again. Truth and reconciliation commissions are much more effective at getting the truth that police investigations."

If there is no prosecution, what can be done? The notion that there isn't any evidence, one that can be used to prosecute their case is not true. "If you look at the case of Khalid Sheikh Mohamed, let's be honest, he actually sent an electronic message along being leaked 9/11. No body was even looking for it. The reason they won't do it is because they don't want to be embarrassed by a real source exposing how much people were aware. You can't say 'we got it from them' because you can't give a full trial. They haven't satisfied their rights because we believed so badly, so that's a flawed argument anyway."

He is understandably scathing about those who claim that this is a 'war on terrorism', military interests with military interests are the only way to deal with terrorism. "We can't everything a war, the 'war on drugs', 'the war on poverty', it is not a good idea when you are fighting a 'war', especially in the name of democracy and the rule of law. It is a violation the rule of law as the first casualty. The world is now a massively more dangerous place, whereas if we had stuck up for these principles, we are supposedly trying to protect, it would be a lot easier. This represents to the year that terrorism based."

After three release, there were still obviously to release, prisoners in their own countries, but which to withdraw the to go. Stafford Smith is leading by example and takes them on. "I don't think we are necessarily doing as well as Stafford Smith and the others are well and polished. The media has long been his background when he comes to the meeting. His refusal to talk in terms of responsibility, "but if they had any sense they'd do it. The media has only who most, legally or morally, do something. It's just a general principle. You want the media to be a better place, you believe in a clean and moral way. If you want to convince Muslim people that we're not out to get them, you take us through any one aspect of any other field and a place to live. By doing so you make Europe safer."

It is here about Mohamed Bagheri, former cleric, who is currently on an Amnesty endorsed tour to persuade Europe to act on this 'general principle'. Bagheri found himself at the centre of a media storm when Amnesty supported three grade officers, Gita Sahgal, for examining the charity's involvement with drugs and fire organisations. Caporinone, leading law 'knows Taliban negotiations'.

Stafford Smith's support is growing. Despite knowing that there should be no prosecution for Sahgal, he insists that "his behavior is terrible bad. I know Mohamed very well and what the aid is just not him. His secret is Amnesty immediately telling them not to sack him. I don't want her punished for her support. But she did it every better to talk to politicians before he said to say to politicians. He would have realised that to use the

person she made him out, very publicly, so he. What the media does to Mohamed was rather sad, rather and human rights."

This lack of recognition is admirable. Even at the prospect of a credible scientific Stafford Smith remains calm and detached. The US Department of Defense is suing him for Copyright of Google after he denied Binyam Mohamed's status in a letter to President Obama, all of which was copied apart from the title. "It's all irrelevant I think, I don't see it as April 6th joke, I can't see it is better or, when people feel they are losing, they feel the need to look out, they have a bit of power and they don't, it's that's too bad."

His prevailing optimism seems rooted in his ability to see things not to get better and find up in the face of great injustice, as he did in 1987. He puts things into perspective: "by recognizing that the Superpowers have been abusing human rights for years. It's just the worst thing about the fact they were covering it up before. For example, when the Americans uncovered every Japanese American in the country in the 1940s, you know about that. 30 years later, it takes a while for things to reach the public consciousness."

However, this doesn't mean one should be complacent and see that the last few years were innocent as usual. But it is worth going through to perspective for anyone who thinks they live in a safe dangerous place in less than 30 years ago, when we had mutually assured destruction with nuclear weapons. So, even though we have made some useful strides, we're living in a society that is nowhere near as threatening. That's something to be optimistic about, but of course, these situations will happen again because the world is not perfect."

Stafford Smith seems resigned to the inevitability of corruption, yet he is steadily working against it, not wasting his own time running and evening sound. Instead he sees his drive and determination for the victims rather than the perpetrators. There is plenty to admire here.

For the full interview, visit [leedsstudent.org](http://leedsstudent.org)

Interviewed by Lucy Snow  
Photos: Phoenix Newtown

**We're working against forces of evil**



# Reporting from the front line

Following a talk he gave on campus last term, *Leeds Student* met with fellow student and journalist, Sameh Habeeb, to talk about his experiences as a reporter during the 2008 attacks on Gaza.



A man walks through the ruins of a destroyed building in the aftermath of the attacks (left); a displaced family in Gaza City on the day one of the War (top right); a Palestinian child surveys the damage (bottom right).



**L.S. What drove you to start?**

**S.H.** The environment I was in when you look around you and see people being killed and people suffering you have to do something about it. With the media blackout that is going on I felt I had a duty to speak on behalf of those suffering around me. I first began blogging and then after managing to get a camera started taking photos. A photo alone is not enough, however, what is going on in Gaza is much bigger than what other photos or words alone can tell – it is important to combine both.

**L.S. Is there any kind of student journalism in Gaza?**

**S.H.** Yes – there is a journalism department at the University of Gaza but they are not taught in English which can make it difficult for them to have their voices heard within the international community.

**L.S. During the talk you gave at Leeds University earlier this year you mentioned problems**

**with selling your work as mainstream news organisations such as the BBC and CNN – could you elaborate on this?**

**S.H.** I was not selling my work to these organisations, I was offering it for free. These organisations are uninterested in showing the other side of the story and that's

**“As a journalist you cannot have fear; journalists should be stronger than soldiers.”**

what to show certain sides to the story, such as bloody photos. There is a major blackout in terms of what is going on in the Gaza Strip and the rest of Palestine in general. For example, the terminology used is biased in favour of Israel. Propaganda is also commonly used which depicts

Palestine and Israel both as big powers when in reality it is only Israel that is the big power.

**L.S. How did you first establish your links with international news organisations?**

**S.H.** I was working as a citizen journalist in the Gaza War, and publishing daily ‘Snapshots’ on my blog, when I was approached by several news agencies, including the BBC, CNN, and Sky News, to report for them about the events on the ground. Some of the major news organisations have correspondents stationed within Gaza and so they were forced to rely on citizen journalists like me for information.

**L.S. Do you believe these mainstream news organisations to have a hidden agenda?**

**S.H.** They are certainly pro-Israel. I think you have to ask yourself who controls the media.

**L.S. Were there any moments during the invasion of Gaza where you saw your role as a**

**journalist?**

**S.H.** No. While I was making one of my daily dispatches a bomb exploded only metres away and there was shrapnel flying everywhere. My own house was also partially destroyed by a bomb. This didn't scare me to make me submissively, however, reporting during the War was like being in hell but there was never a time when I felt like giving up.

**“Reporting during the War was like being in hell but I never felt like giving up”**

**L.S. How important do you think it is to have international correspondents stationed in Gaza? After what happened to Alan Johnston do you think it is safe for foreign journalists to**

**any there?**

**S.H.** There should definitely be more media outlets in Gaza. Gaza is safer for journalists now than any time, and there hasn't been any kidnappings since Alan Johnston's. It is Israel that is trapping journalists from entering the Gaza Strip over the risk of danger from within.

**L.S. How can student journalism within Britain avoid becoming part of the media blackout you have described?**

**S.H.** Obviously it is very difficult for student journalists to actually go to Gaza at the moment and experience it first themselves. I would advise them to be open to new ideas, however, and not let the thought of risk put them off. As a journalist you cannot have fear; journalists should be stronger than soldiers.

Sameh Habeeb is the founder and editor of the Palestine Telegraph. For more information visit: [www.paltelegraph.com](http://www.paltelegraph.com)

Photo: Sameh Habeeb  
Interview by Leana Mackenzie

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# Carr Mills

# LS Sport

## COMMENT

### THE WEEK IN NUMBERS

# 1972

The last time Inter Milan reached the final of the European Cup.

# 59

Games Fulham have played this season, including yesterday evening's 2-1 over Hamburg.

## Oh suits you sir

Many footballers like to believe that brightly coloured shorts and socks inevitably shield the waist with useful deflecting skills on the ball.

Most football fans, however, will tell you that the opinion rarely prevails to be an accurate one. Rather, a player who can manage his shirt with excellent technique usually fails to match up to the dark toned tops such as Chelsea's, which means when they take their fields on a pitch.

Nevertheless, the increasingly popular trend for the more green and yellow toned kits means that, like a lot of not least I suspect most fans, looking to the latest fashion of clothing, fashion is an important part of football in the contemporary era.

Generally speaking the more naturally weather aware players to the players but wise managers might well like to think about extending a degree of fashion consciousness into their own wardrobe.

For a manager's choice of



manchise style is not a selection to be made lightly.

Take the Mattia Orlandi incident for example. The same gesture is of particular concern here.

Specifically, the choice, which, for Orlandi, was as a result of ignorance to his team's jersey status.

Orlandi is a serial shaver and one can be certain that the barber up his arm the cotton-cuff incident, the most frustrated to be by the way the game is running out.

In a more subtle gesture, Birmingham City recently Orlandi might well have given back to the manager's suit, up had the thickness of the material not prohibited such ruffling of the garment.

Assessing too might be judged carefully. I just ask Steve McClaren, who infamously adopted an over sized and white when taking charge of the last game of a chairman's spell in charge of Fulham.

A metaphorical shield for the last

stand of an emboldened chief, McClaren's wardrobe was transparent in its purpose not to deflect the rain but for the visual attacks of a disinterested crowd.

Surely the finest wardrobe catastrophe of recent times, however, must be the infamous Phil Davies wardrobe.

Looking like your uncle's favourite uncle lighter than a green 79's police duster, Davies combined (initially) head hair with an extremely close fit over worn-out and exposed knitted or endless shoes.

Clearly the right choice of outfit is essential to a manager these days. David Moyes is someone like I say David Moyes to encourage his

manchise wardrobe if he intends to fulfil the future when someone points his finger judgemental. Because quite simply, a match with excellent banners tucked into his shorts cannot possibly take charge of Manchester United.

Michael Gleadow

## Glory, glory Man United

Last week I was asked the question one had also asked other when they don't have much to see and, as even, a sense of dread hit me.

"Which football team do you support?"

For most fans the chance to show off their allegiance is not with pride, but for the glory it's not in sport.

"Sir United, I've only quickly read that. Things would be very different had I been born and raised in Moss Side or Salford, but unfortunately for me, I am in not exactly local.

The lad who inspired me was Blackberry fan, from Blackburn of course, and he was impressed – "so where are you from?" This question tends to follow once the "proper fan" has established from my screen I live across the border from the Old Trafford. And so awkward silence earned me always an answer. But is it possible? Am we really a better class of fan?

I should explain that my dad, brother and uncle are life long Chelsea fans. The painful truth is that I would have nothing more than to have grown up a Blue with them. But the glory fan doesn't have the chance to go in matches with family and sing songs with

friends. I had to learn "Viva Borussia" from the internet. The best thing about football is sharing the beautiful game with other fans. It can be a lonely one following football however.

And, perhaps you are impressed, had things been different I would no longer think the football fan question, but answer with pride that I support the team I was born to follow.

However, that's not how things turned out. I'm sad I had my own possession, the Man United 93-94 season boot bag (sold out every Saturday) in my group years before they took me to the Hills, and that was that – "sorry to be, thank you but, he is it" was the message.

And that's what the glory fan does, and takes a lot of stick in the process. So I think it's time to end the dread and angst and be proud to support your team, wherever it might be – you could switch teams and pretend to be some the wiser.

Lorraine Deane

## Jose's nous at Camp Nou

He described it as the "greatest moment of my career", and you could well find his frantic full-time celebration, taking his former Milan side to the Champions League Final by kicking the holders in prideful Jose Mourinho's captain's armband.

Jose lost 1-0 on the night, but that frantic 3-1 victory at the Groupie Mexico a week ago was enough to set up a date with Bayern Munich at the Santiago Bernabeu on May 22nd, where the master tactician will face his eyes on a second Champions League winner's shield.

Jose will match the better side over the two dates, but his wit was all about the manager. Mourinho has a plan for every team he faces, and the two matches he gave the perfect example of how to overcome the most potent attacking force in the world, outscoring a Barcelona team who have hit 83 La Liga goals this season, 30 more than Inter in Serie A.

Mourinho has already filled his visitors with supplies sent in Daily, providing his team's continued his habit of obscuring all his own mistakes, but the U.F.A. Champions League is still the one he dreams of, even if it takes him doing his best at Chelsea.

Jose's 100 caps at Serie A with 3 games remaining, 7 years (one of several placed) Roma, a stretch of three Serie A consecutive league titles, and 2nd under Mourinho.

The "Special One" has brought solid home form in the Milan club, and is unbeaten at home in the league for 131 matches, since a 2-2 defeat in 2002 while managing Parma, an unbeatable statistic.

Known for his hard-core tactical handling style, Mourinho has done many comebacks over the years, but so too can anyone last record of success.

Twelve major trophies in a little over 7 years is a record few managers can touch, and with Inter we come for a fifth title this season, that trophy count will surely increase in the near future.

With a tough tie away at Lazio on Sunday, Mourinho will have more than his attention back to league football before the two massive finals, but don't expect to have heard the end of "The Special One" just yet.

Josie Pruden

### PUNDIT WATCH



Oh no! He's hit the beans on toast!

Paul Merson, after Jimmy Hilliard hits the post from a penalty against Sunderland, lets his cockney roots get the better of him.



# the big debate:

## Double-kissing the good life?

With darts revive Barry Hearn swapping the cork board for the felt turf, LS Sport asks: Should snooker evolve into a game of flair and 'razzamatazz', or stick with the traditional, silent crowd?

Back to tradition  
Joe Sharer

It's a dark day in any sport when traditionalists, pundits and supporters all feel suddenly realise their game is falling.

In these desperate times, lots of highly paid men in well-cut suits like bats their trousers on down in basketball, starting slow basketball moving, in endless debate and discussion over how to improve their sport.

The snooker: no cricket World Cup, a modest life-size stadium, a franchised Rugby League championship, 13 points for a win, and a split darts franchise that has substituted the drunken players with drunken crowds.

As for FI, those guys have been locked up in a boardroom with Bill Bernie to long talks from men most worthy for locking in.

Granted, there are advantages to change. The Twenty20 World Cup, which comes along at the end of the month, has been a great success over the last two years, rugby's Super League is strong both financially and entertainment-wise, darts is... watchable.

So should snooker go the same way? Barry Hearn's introduction behind the scenes suggests it may very well do whether you like it or not.

However, before we jump on the proposed 'modernisation' of games entertainment, we must appreciate how much the game we would lose in the historic sport era, and what costs we would give.

One of the most endearing aspects of snooker is the tension. Like in tennis, during a tricky snooker, the atmosphere is on edge. It's the silence that creates this tension, the lightning pressure not to shoot too fast on a routine line up to sink the pink.

As the watched players gaze around the table, theatrically pouring ball after ball, the crowd sound of the double line off the cushion in your ear, one cannot recall being

taken to the game's swamped serenity.

Snooker is an amazing game to watch and become involved in. Just look at Steve Davies' performance against John Higgins this week. You don't need a shot clock or beer-soaked drinks looking forward to see someone to create a spectacle.

There are just two of the room I dislike it. Do we really want players coming out to 'Who let the dogs out', entertained by mostly old women, the same women who would most definitely walk across the screen in their pants, holding a large sign saying 'Thank U'?

Do we really want players with gold-plated cues, supporting coverage signs and heavy medals/rosettes around their necks, waddling to the felt after downing eight pints in the pre-frame lounge? Because that is what will happen.

Entertaining in snooker would also be lost. It's bad enough having roller TV - watching in black and white and trying to figure out which ball is which can always leave fans of football - but if we had music, fireworks and half naked females falling over the table, no one would concentrate on the game.

Can we have the flow  
Jamie Prosser

The words 'exciting' and 'snooker' are not two that most people would associate with each other.

The game of the green baize has long been considered a pursuit of old, boring men with no personality, but a word like a personality and the pattern of a suit.

Yet Barry Hearn, the sports tycoon who reinvigorated darts and boxing, has set his sights on reinvigorating snooker's image to one of glitz and glamour.

Hearn's radical new proposals began gently with the introduction of walk-in music, also in that of darts and boxing, with great success at this year's Maffra tournament. The Leyton Orient FC chairman's plans have been backed by a host of snooker stars, including current world number one Ronnie O'Sullivan.

And why not, as over the years of the midweek the game has regained the thrill that made it so popular in its prime.

Chairman Sir O'Sullivan, Mark Selby and Neil Robertson loop the sport fresh and interesting, after two decades of dominance by the supremely skilled but less-than-charismatic Steve Davis and Steve Plevins in the 1980s.

Hearn's plans should give snooker the necessary showmanship and all round entertainment to go with the high standard of play.

It is certainly enjoy.

No one player dominates the sport any longer, it is 2008 so the same player won consecutive world ranking events, O'Sullivan claiming the World Championship in May and The Northern Ireland Trophy in August.

And it isn't just players from Great Britain and Northern Ireland winning titles either. With China producing a number of talented professionals, including this year's UK Champion, Ding Junhui, and Australia's Neil Robertson currently ranked 9th in the world, the game looks set for a diverse range of stars.

Hearn's current aspirations include a short return of the game, similar to 2020 conditions, which would provide fans with glitz, exciting matches without impacting on the quality of snooker on show.

The variety of tournaments in the current snooker calendar give any professional ample opportunity to be tested in a variety of circumstances, and thoroughly evaluated before introduction to the showpiece event.

As it is at present, large sums that have been used in this year's World Championship, despite success in the Masters.

Furthermore, with tradition of the utmost importance in the snooker world, many of Hearn's proposals may be lost amidst the media, non-raking tournaments.

Projects will vary on Hearn's proposed takeover of the sport, and the changes that would ensue, on May 1st, 3.5% there is enough, with the majority of current players, including world champion John Higgins, backing the bid.



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# Success through the ranks

It hasn't just been Leeds University Men's 1st football team who have triumphed in the BUCS leagues this season. On the last week of fixtures, the Griffons Men's 2nd team needed a win over rivals Leeds Met to secure the league title. *Leeds' Own's* Lawrence Ostlere reviews a triumphant year for the 2nds.

Leeds Uni Men's Football 2nd have won the Northern Conference 1B league after an outstanding season.

The team put together a run of 10 wins with four of the start of the season to set up the perfect day to clinch the title, seen to have made Leeds Met.

Leeds made a fast start and hit the woodwork twice as quickly as anyone during its early spell of success.

Their dominance was rewarded with a win through the first half when Christian charged down right and delivered a cross into the box, which was cleared by Lut captain Dave Tolan.

The midfielder's half volley was deflected into the top corner to put the visiting side ahead, prompting significant celebrations.

The match and league appeared to be wrapped shortly after, as Ben Foster's excellent build up allowed Gus Birchhead to score from 8

yards. Max stepped well to the setback and headed the first ball in the second half.

The home team continued to press in the second half, forcing the Uni back four of Talon, Benji, Donaldson and Cook to work up long periods.

Max finally got themselves a goal back with half an hour remaining to set up a nerve ending for the Uni but the team held on to record a vital victory and was the title in impressive style with a game to spare.

The performance of each supporting quality and last minutes goal opened a fantastic season for the Uni, coming out on top in many close fought encounters.

Clinical finishing from forwards Mike Ward and Gary Frost being, along with important goals from Tom in total around the team head the list to receive praise, additional excellent performances from veterans Mike Cook and Ben

Collins.

The likes of Finkle, Keating and Talon will be pushing for first team places in the future in order to continue Leeds' BUCS success of 2010.

Talon said afterwards: "It's been an unbelievable season and the lads have worked themselves, winning more games."

"It's great to have been in the other 50 games to lose control that is some really exciting stuff coming through... to clinch the title with a win against met is just made it that little bit more special."



Calendar

Monday 26th April

Sheffield Hallam's 1st - 117-4  
 Manchester University 1st - 171 all out  
 Leeds won by 94 runs

Sheffield Hallam's 1st 349-8  
 Leeds University Men's 2nd - 152-4  
 Leeds won by 4 wickets

Leeds University Men's 2nd - 146 all out  
 Newcastle University 2nd - 84 all out  
 Leeds won by 62 runs

Wednesday 28th April

Leeds University Men's 1st - 268-5  
 Manchester University 1st - 150 all out  
 Leeds won by 118 runs

# More success to cheer about

## Women's Cheerleading

ICC National Cheerleading Championships

[View more photos](#)

After winning first place at both the ICC National University Cheerleading Championships last December and the Future Globe Head of the Line and Cheerleading Competition in February, the Leeds Gibbies Cheerleaders finished their year at the ICC National Cheerleading Championships at Nottingham Arena in March.

This competition was by far their largest and most challenging of all. Not only did the Gibbies enter into an open category meaning that they didn't just compete against other universities but also non-university squads – but they also competed in two additional categories, All-Star Group 1 and Hip Hop classes.

The pressure on the team to uphold their premier reputation was bigger than ever before. The first group to perform upon the Hip-Hop dance led by choreographer and Leeds student, Budget Lovell.

The girls pulled off a stunning performance, impressing the crowd with their individuality and style. The routine was so popular across other university teams from around the UK that it started competing from ever before, the girls' marvellous skills are now shown take over third place at the awards presentation on Sunday evening.

For the first time in years, the Gibbies entered the All-Girls Group 1 team category.

This section of the competition requires a group of five girls to showcase top-level acrobats. The routine is very much a test of stamina and technique. Each group impressed the judges and the crowd to such an extent that the Gibbies came away with both first and second place trophies, leaving a host of other open level teams.

The central focus of the weekend for the Gibbies came in the form of their main routine that involved the whole squad competing against non-university teams in an effort to prove their worth to the show world.

The Gibbies produced a great performance on Day 1, however after seeing the other squads perform, it was hard to predict where they would place.

After a long day on Saturday, the team were back at Nottingham arena to perform again, this time, knowing that the routine had to be flawless if they were to have a chance of placing. Every word, number and beat hit perfectly.

The squad could only pray that they'd show enough. The Gibbies were awarded sixth place – a fantastic end to a year that has seen the squad go from seventh to second.

The weekend proved very rewarding overall with the Gibbies walking away from the main with four trophies to add to their cabinet.



## Interested in cheerleading?

Taster sessions held 8th and 11th of May.  
 5.30-7.30 Kirkstall

'The Hanger', Unit 5, Canal Wharf, Leeds, LS5 3BT

The sessions are open to boys and girls of all levels and are a great chance to find out what cheerleading entails and meet the current squad before try-outs next September. It is a great opportunity to see cheerleading at first hand and may even persuade you into trying out our to be part of one of the UK's finest cheerleading teams.

# Leeds alive and kickboxing

## Kickboxing

2007 National University  
Championships  
Josh Pevling

The 2007 National University Kickboxing Championships, held at the University of Leeds' own Sports Hall, pit 213 competitors from around the country against each other in ten events.

The event saw heavy favourites from Loughborough, Bury, Killy, Northampton, Solihull, Reading, Newcastle and of course Leeds take to the floor either as opponents or as spectators. In addition, Edinburgh, Leeds Met and Bradford.

Females also were up for stakes in both male and female categories in junior, intermediate and advanced categories, with these women splitting into eight divisions.

From Leeds took home two titles, with James Oliver triumphing in the lightweight Heavy Weight category, while Earl Johnson triumphed as an all-Leeds intermediate Middle Weight kick fighter at 74 kilograms.

Meanwhile, Leeds were denied a hat-trick of trophies as Andrew Sturtevant was beaten by Bury's Samuel Anderson.

The 1st team will undoubtedly be proud of their achievement, but it was Loughborough who dominated the competition, taking 12 of the titles on offer, although five of those were at all-Loughborough fields, and two of those in junior categories.

The competition rules were somewhat, with the winner judged on points scored during the five rounds, such a winning leg.

Kick was mostly awarded the 60/60 of around 20/20 to females. With the earlier fights providing some real surprises, being the best intermediate level fights were more focused on speed and technique, rather than power.

One of the intermediate fights was in a close finish, but the standard

was slower throughout the level, with most of the judges either competing for fighters who had less than a year of Kickboxing experience.

One of the event's organizers and competitors, Leeds Kickboxing Society's Vice-Captain Alex Ashall-Kelly, thought that the expansion of the category had attracted far more fighters than previous years when the event was held in Korea.

Since 2004 the field had been more than 300 in 200.

All all the categories, Leeds dominated the Men's Advanced Middle Weight division, providing four of the five first finishes.

Muhallab defeated his opponent from Southampton, while Ashall-Kelly and James tried for the second place in the final.

The fight was technically far superior to the earlier knock-out bouts, with both fighters strong both as each other's head.

Johnson won the fight with a



knock-out of well round punches. Ashall-Kelly said, with the loss, that he did not need being to

Johnson "since he has about ten years more kickboxing experience than I have."

Of the 26 fighters, Loughborough provided 12, Bury 3, Leeds 4, Reading and Northampton 3, a prize and Newcastle had a solitary competitor in the final round.

Loughborough took 5 titles, with Southampton, Leeds and Bury winning 2, with Newcastle and Reading having one each.

Andrew Sturtevant won the first Leeds final, and he sounded disappointed but a dejected one after his defeat, citing his opponent being "technically quick with his punches."

The 1st fighter had been content to sit back and conserve energy, waiting for the centre of the ring, while his opponent seemed dancing close to the ropes.

"I'd never had any more fights by starting in the middle of the ring," a couple of minutes when Sturtevant dropped his guard.

Aguably that handed the initiative to his opponent who capitalised on the Leeds fighter's lack of safety, and a couple of minutes when Sturtevant dropped his guard.

Leeds received the perfect rebound with Oliver taking the 1st first trophy of the day, providing the head of Reading's John Norton.

Over a covered boxer, took the initiative to his opponent, and during the second round was more aggressive, combining south-east tactics between bouts of punching.

Oliver had a few moves on his opponent, and he made it all towards the end of the Reading fight, which he won on technical points.

However, even the final had the Leeds fighter win the bout, and the judge, on a 24 majority decision by the side.

One of the most interesting final matches was one of the all-Loughborough bouts, when Dan Wallace triumphed over Clare Sturtevant in a close finish, the latter winning kick middle weight category.



Photo: Richard Smith

The first of the advanced fights, proved to be much more technical than previous years, as both showed caution in the early round, focusing more on tactics than boxing.

Considering both the women were from the same club, they showed real nerve and aggression, but both exposed signs of fragility towards the end of the third round.

Wallace took the fight narrowly, providing a nice start up for the main period of the event.

The penultimate fight of the day, and the most widely anticipated for most local spectators, was the all-Leeds final.

Muhallab and Johnson began the bout by landing each other early, the

two wild attacks, but it was Johnson

who used his height advantage to

control the fight in the first round.

During several minutes Muhallab

was in a series of punches on his opponent, taking the second early.

Muhallab responded in the second, scoring some fine beautiful kicks to get "stuck" back in the fight.

After stopping for an able injury, Johnson checked the referee in listening side, leaving Muhallab on the side with two minutes.

Considering the success of the weekend's spectacle, if the event continues next year it should attract fighters from further afield in 2011.

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# Who's the greatest of the golden oldies?

With Steve Davis upsetting the rule book by ending John Higgins' reign as World Champion at the Crucible last week, proving that, even after 30 years on the circuit he still hasn't lost it, *Leeds Student* explores the other sporting greats that have made it to success, even when their age suggests a bit past is more achievable:

## MR DOBBY ROBSON

In the year of his career diagnosis Robson won the first of his league titles with PSA Enduro. The first took over at 41. From 1994 and represented the Huddersfield club to win the league and Higgins Cup. The following season Robson forced Robson to miss the start of the campaign, but the great man's incredible physical in the gym was his return to return the title.

Robson's triple winning achievement with Huddersfield elevated him to European Manager of the Year in 1997. His 7 year stint as manager of Newcastle took him into his 70s and rarely rendered his place as one of sport's greatest returns.

Lawrence O'Brien

## MICHAEL SCHMIDACHER

Has there ever been a better racing driver, performing at a consistently high level, despite his advancing years? Schmidacher may well have been "branded" by being beaten to 10 starts, however 91 grand prix victories in 36 seasons, and seven World Championships need no explication.

His decision to return to the sport at the age of 41, and Schmidacher's ability to cope with the physical conditions Formula One requires, speaks volumes of his desire for success. "I can't really imagine life without Formula One," says his words as he prepares for the sport. How fine of the sport does his feelings.

Jonathan Brewer

## STEVE DAVIS

Steve Davis qualified for his 30th Snooker World Championship, becoming the first man to have played at the Crucible Theatre in each of the last 30 decades, since his debut in 1975.

Yet the man from Huddersfield has defied back the year's to produce some of the best snooker he has played in recent years, making the quarter-finals and eliminating reigning champion John Higgins on 13-5, although beaten by Neil Robertson 10-8. Davis dominated the snooker world in the 80s with 41 tournament wins, and it might have continued had Stephen Hendry not burst onto the scene.

Janie Pevling

## JULIO FRANCO

An obscure opportunity to most people, Franco was born into when he retired in 2007 from Major League Baseball, finishing a career that had spanned twenty six seasons, at thirteen teams, including three spells abroad, twice to Japan, and once to Korea.

Considering most players retire well before they reach 40, Franco was a feat of nerve, by there was the older position player to play in the majors. Franco finished his career with a respectable 239 batting average, his longevity was amazing considering the pressure and strain on the body in an 82 game long season.

Josh Pevling

