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That Friday free thing

Leeds Student

Friday, March 2, 2007

VOL37:ISSUE 16

Mugged: one attack a week on Woodhouse Moor

By Jack Aldwinckle

Students are ignoring safety messages and are paying the price according to statistics released by West Yorkshire Police.

Muggings in the notorious Woodhouse Moor - also known as Hyde Park - remain rife and students are the main target.

Five people, three of them students, were attacked whilst walking through the park in January alone. The victims were male, all in their 20s, and in most cases suffered punches to the face before mobile phones, wallets and bags were seized.

Crime in Hyde Park is relatively rare during daylight hours, but many students continue to risk walking through the park after dark, despite warnings from the

police.

PC Carole Munsey, the Student Liaison Officer for the University, warned of the dangers of time saving by using the park as a short cut at night.

She said: "Walking around the park takes only a few minutes and can prevent you from being robbed."

Robberies increase dramatically as the days become shorter, and the lack of public lighting in the park provides plenty of opportunity for criminals. Two similar robberies occurred in November, as well as four in December, and more than 60 incidents of crime were reported in Hyde Park over the course of 2006.

A male student aged 21 and a recent victim of robbery in the park told *Leeds Student* this week: "The threat of crime is a real problem when walking home through Hyde Park and it is horrible when it does happen. Students need to realise

the risks they are taking."

Men are particularly at risk of being robbed. 69 per cent of crimes committed in the park in 2006 were perpetrated against men and the police are keen for them to take better care. Munsey continued: "Men are just as vulnerable, if not more vulnerable, than women - they must be just as aware as women of how to keep themselves keep safe."

The Street Offences Team, based in Bellevue Road, deal with robberies and similar crimes in student areas and are keen to highlight the potential risks that students expose themselves to when not taking due care on their journey home. The team also fear that the true levels of crime may be even higher than the statistics indicate. "The police know, and have known for a long time that not all crime is reported to us," continued Munsey.

"Take very simple precautions and

you are far less likely to become a victim. If you are robbed, call the police as soon as possible".

Students increase the risk of becoming victims of robbery, often by inadvertently advertising iPods and talking or texting on mobile phones whilst walking through the park. Police fear that by using them, students are less aware of the potential dangers and with their gadgets visible, they are more susceptible to being approached by robbers. Similarly, students deciding to walk home through the park under the influence of alcohol may also be putting themselves at unnecessary risk.

• To contact the Police:
 999 in an emergency only
 0845 6060606 for non-emergencies
www.westyorkshire.police.uk
 Email:
twsi@westyorkshire.pnn.police.uk

Theives make off with booty after hitting Union twice

By Charlotte Griffiths

Hundreds of pounds' worth of audio equipment has been stolen from Leeds University Union in a spate of burglaries over the weekend.

The first of the two burglaries took place last Friday night at around 9.45pm when the LSR office was left briefly unattended, with the door open, by a member of production staff. A DJ was broadcasting live in the adjacent soundproofed studio during the six minute period that the intruder was present. Up to £600 worth of equipment was stolen, including microphones, an outside broadcast equipment kit, and two mixers, one of which was brand new.

In the second attack, at around 7pm on Saturday night, speakers and mixing decks of a similar value were stolen from Pulse. It is suspected that the two thefts were carried out by the same individual.

A member of Union staff said: "I'm sure they will be back and, hopefully, we will catch them next time. In the mean time, the police have taken over the investigation."

The LSRfm.com studio broadcasts daily from 8am to 9pm, and is occasionally left unattended in the upstairs lobby of the security-guarded Union building, prompting speculation that the thief is familiar with the surroundings of the Union and possibly the radio studio.

An LSR staff member said: "The production room where some of the stuff was stolen from is just a small room at the back of the studio. I think the thief would had to have been someone would have known exactly where that room is."

• Continued on page 4



MEAN BEAT: Two Community Support Officers patrol Hyde Park yesterday afternoon, but most attacks occur after dark. Three male students were mugged in the park in January alone and more than one mugging was reported in each week during 2006.

PHOTO: PATRICK NIXON

News



Sketch

By James Haddon

Presumably you've just opened up the paper and, presumably, you've noticed a slight change to the look of the thing. Yes, *LS2* - lovely, cynical, expensive *LS2* - is no more. "Why?" you're no doubt poised to yell, tears already blurring your eyes: "Why have you done this? What have I done? Have I made you unhappy? Haven't I done everything for you, been faithful to you, loved you?"

Well, yes: I suppose you have. The problem is that your love, your attention and your loyalty are no substitutes for your money, and the latter's something we're rather short on. Don't think of it as your fault, don't see it as the action of an angry God and, please,

don't blame yourselves. If anything, it's the cruel sadism of a meaningless universe which - I'm sure you'll agree - is a far more reassuring thought.

You've got to move on and forget the past; while *LS2* is gone, *LS2 Inside* has waltzed onto the scene. It's cheeky, it's cheerful and it's not going to wind up with us going bankrupt: it's a streamlined alternative to its predecessor, not just a rebound thing. Things are going to be different, though; they'll have to be. We've lost Epag (oh no, thinks Sketch, satirically) and some unnecessary luxury items like advertising and features - we're reinventing ourselves as the no-frills, no-nonsense, no-lawsuit, no-supplement,

no-fat, low-carb alternative. We also like excessively long self-definitions.

It's the same content, more-or-less (as in, 'more' chance of actually putting out a paper and 'less' chance of our going bankrupt next week), just with a few basic changes: contents are pink, we're running a Heat-esque gossip column ('Scorch') and the photo for Lowdown is slightly different. That's about it, really. Oh, and we're about 24 pages thicker - but you probably realised that a little earlier on. The paper can now serve as a bludgeoning instrument if the need arises: we provide more of the hard-hitting issues, packed with more of a punch.

All-in-all, last week's *LS2* front

cover, of a man stood mournfully over the magazine's grave, was strangely prophetic. Who would've thought that the commissioner of the piece was able to predict the future quite so accurately: it's almost scary, isn't it?

Remember the good times but look to the future. Your relationship with *LS2* is over; it's time to move on.

If the issues raised in Sketch this week have upset you, and you need someone to listen, call the Nightline office on 0113 3801381.

(They probably need your custom more than we do.)

VC grilled on student politics

By Rachel Hunter

University top-man Vice-Chancellor Michael Arthur weighed into student politics during an open question and answer session on Tuesday.

Arthur was asked about the controversial Motion Five, which dealt with how LUU would define anti-Semitism, and was passed at last November's Referendum. He urged authors of motions being submitted to referenda to think carefully about how they are worded and the potential implications for campus.

Arthur said: "Motion Five was a complicated motion. I think that quite a lot of students didn't realise the construction of Motion Five as such, that it would be deeply offensive to Jewish students. It's very technical, and you need a lot of advice to understand the issue from a lot of expert people."

"I don't think the student body completely understood that as they made their votes for that motion. That's my personal view," he added.

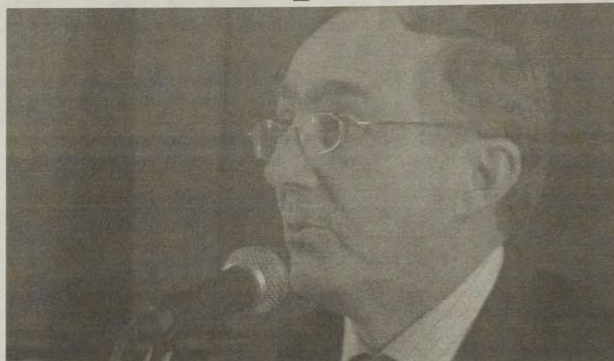
Reaction from both the Union's Jewish Society and from Leeds' significant Jewish community has been damning of the motion, *Leeds Student*

understands. High-level members of the community have lobbied the University to water-down what the motion says about Judaism. National Jewish newspaper the Jewish Chronicle claimed the Union had become "the stronghold of a growing pro-Palestinian lobby" following the Motion's passage. When asked if the fall-out from Motion Five might lead to greater scrutiny of Union politics from University administrators, the VC said that, should another potentially offensive motion be floated, he would have to act.

"What I have said to the authors [of Motion Five] at the Palestinian Solidarity Group is that we want them to have complete freedom of speech, but we cannot be anti-Semitic," he said, "and if they are anti-Semitic, I will have to act on that, because we can't tolerate anti-Semitism or any other form of racism at this university."

He added that this raised an issue on the phraseology of Referendum motions, and argued that motions should be kept simple, and that a debate that students can be invited to in order to hear different sides of the argument is "essential".

The session was chaired by LUU Communications and Democracy Officer Damola Timeyin, who



TOP DOG: Vice-Chancellor Michael Arthur answers your questions

PHOTO: John Puddephat

reiterated that: "An informed debate and discussion is an important part of the referendum process, and there are opportunities for students to be involved in that."

The 'Question Time' event was the VC's termly public grilling from students organised by LUU. Arthur also fielded questions on the provision of internet services at University halls of residences, international fees and the

upcoming nation-wide smoking ban, which will be brought into effect at the University from July 1. At the start of the event, he commented that the first Question Time was attended by about 300 but, with roughly 30 students assembled in the Riley Smith hall, attendance was declining.

A podcast of the event is available to listen to on the Union's website, www.luuonline.com.

New criticism over staff stress

By Jess Geen

Leeds University is failing to protect its staff from stress, according to a recent Health and Safety Executive report.

The report, which was leaked to The Times Higher Education Supplement last week, stated that Leeds "has not upheld its policy on stress at work, because it has failed in its general aims. It is not promoting a well-managed work environment; not protecting staff from undue stress; and not supporting staff in managing or avoiding stress."

It was also found that stress accounted for a third of the reasons staff listed for being referred to occupational health, and that academics were under "significant pressure", leading them to neglect legal duties to protect colleagues

and students. The report, which was based on an inspection carried out last October, added: "It is foreseeable that the health and safety of staff and students may be jeopardised." The HSE warned in the report that it is prepared to take enforcement action against universities which contravene health and safety legislation.

Leeds Student understands that University administrators privately accept the HSE findings and are now working with the body to address the issues raised. A spokesperson for the University said: "We know what we need to do to get it right."

A recent nationwide survey of 100,000 lecturers found that 78 per cent suffered from poor sleep, exhaustion and anxiety. High levels of stress were blamed on poor management and an excessive workload.

When *Leeds Student* reported on this last month, a University spokesperson denied that the results were representative of Leeds.

A statement released by the University in response to the report describes the measures in place to tackle the issues raised.

A working group comprising of staff, health experts and trade unions has been brought together to rewrite University policy on health and safety, and initiatives such as healthy week and stress management courses have already been set up.

The spokesperson added: "The staff well-being survey started this week. On the basis of past surveys, we've made changes."

"This year, for example, the mediation service was set up. Last year, we appointed the UK Higher

Education's first Director of Well-Being, Health and Safety, Gary Tideswell. This month, we've had a series of open meetings with staff to discuss causes of stress and how it can be reduced." Previous well-being surveys have shown that one in five respondents feel pressure has a negative affect on their work.

Gary Tideswell said: "We must do all we can to understand the pressures on staff, identify and control sources of workplace stress. We are not complacent about staff well-being and we are determined to make Leeds a better place to work."

Head of equality and employment rights, Roger Kline, said: "Across the whole of post-16 education, stress is now at epidemic levels." He added: "It is bad for staff and damaging to students, learning and research."



GLOBAL

By Alex Doorey

At the initiative of the International Space Education Board, ESA has decided to sponsor a place for one European student per year to participate in the NASA Summer Scholarship scheme.

Recognising the importance of education for the benefit of the space sector, NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration), CSA (Canadian Space Agency), CNES (Centre National d'Etudes Spatiales), JAXA (Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency) and ESA have established the the International Space Education Board (ISEB), whose objective is to enhance cooperation in the field of education between its members.

The NASA Academy, a ten-week intensive summer research programme, is conducted in four of the NASA space centres.

Designed for undergraduate and graduate students interested in aerospace engineering and space sciences, the course will allow students to participate in NASA cutting-edge research projects. The programme is built around group projects, visits to launch and research sites and seminars with top experts in students' fields of interest.

The academy represents a great opportunity to make contacts with experts and like-minded students.

The scholarship goes on offer to a student with high grades throughout their university career, with a major in engineering, science (physics, chemistry, biology, earth sciences, etc.), maths, computer science or other areas of interest to the aerospace sector.

It is the first time that students from outside the United States have been given the opportunity to experience NASA technology.

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Women's groups call time on gender inequality with cashback at the bar

By Alex Doorey

LUU Women's Assembly is celebrating this International Women's Day by giving women 17 per cent off their drinks. This event is in recognition of the 17.2% pay gap that remains between men and women in the UK despite the Equal Pay Act of 1970.

LUU Women's Assembly Chair, Clare Laxton said: "We want to show that women still face severe inequalities in the world of work and raise awareness of women's issues to students who wouldn't ordinarily be interested."

"The pay gap will affect every female graduate of Leeds University,

so I think it is important that we make our students aware of it."

The Women's Assembly will also be celebrating International Women's Day with events in the Riley Smith Hall during the day, including displays of inspirational women amongst their other campaigns.

The offer of 17 per cent off drinks for women will be applicable in the Terrace Bar in LUU from 2-4pm and in Mine Bar in LUU from 5-7pm.

International Women's Day is on Thursday, March 8th.

• For more information about the full-time and part-time pay gap that exists between men and women in the UK, see the Fawcett Society website at: <http://www.fawcettsociety.org.uk>



BARGAIN: Women get 17 per cent off their pints on Thursday

PHOTO: Patrick Nixon

Singer jet-set for success

By Rachel Hunter

An unsigned singer could be set to hit the highlife after a song he wrote and performed was featured in a television advert.

Micky P. Kerr, as he is known when he performs, is a 25-year-old, part-time worker at Leeds Metropolitan University who writes songs in his Hyde Park bedroom in his spare time. The singer-songwriter, a Leeds-born lad, happened to perform

his song, 'Dreamers' Club', in a Leeds bar on the same night that a representative from 'home-ad' advertising agency was drinking there.

The advert, for newly-launched company Jet2holidays.com has already sparked more than 1,000 requests for the mystery tune since it first aired during Coronation Street on February 12. The television commercial has been heavily played not just in the Yorkshire region but across the UK.

The holiday company has now posted the song on its website so that

it can be downloaded for free, and has revealed the details of the mystery melody, which is not, as many people have suggested, from an existing album, or even from an established artist.

Micky said: "I suppose it was one of those right time, right place things – the guy was in the process of shooting the ad for the company and they had planned to use an existing chart song."

"They were having a beer in Mixing Tin Leeds after shooting the ad in Tenerife; they just heard me singing 'Dreamers' Club' and said the melody was spot on for what they were looking for, and could they use it."

"It's brilliant for me: one minute I'm practising in my bedroom, the next my song's being played on the telly during Coronation Street – how weird's that?"

"It's quite ironic that, when I wrote the song, it was about escaping and about dreaming of bigger and different things and, as a songwriter looking for a break, you dream of this sort of thing – maybe now, who knows?"

There is already talk that 'Dreamers' Club' could be Yorkshire's answer to José González's 'Heartbeats' – González, a then unsigned Swedish songwriter, exploded onto the UK music scene after his recording was picked up by Sony and used on its 'Bouncing Balls' Bravia televisions ad.

Carly Brear, General Manager of Sales & Marketing at Jet2holidays.com, said: "We've lost count of the number of emails and letters we've had from people who've either seen the ad or heard it in the background, and have contacted us to ask who's singing it or which album it's off."

Download 'Dreamers' Club' for free at www.jet2holidays.com.



65 POUNDS RETURN TO MALAGA ANYONE?: Micky on stage

PHOTO: Daniel Barber



INSTANT HIT: Micky's song was immediately popular

PHOTO: DANIEL BARBER

News

People and Planet coffee event

To celebrate FairTrade Fortnight, People and Planet are hosting a FairTrade speaker event. Ugandan coffee producer Samuel Magona will be speaking directly about his own experience of FairTrade, and how it has affected his life and that of his community. Silje Vold from People and Planet will also discuss wider Trade Justice issues - in particular, the current exploitation in the cotton industry.

• The event takes place on Thurs, March 8, during FairTrade Fortnight, in the Centenary Gallery, Parkinson Building 7.00pm - 9.00pm. It is free to attend.

Charity bike ride to raise £5,000 for KAOS

A group of second year medical students are to take place in a bike ride from John o'Groats to Land's End in order to raise money for children's charity KAOS and the Great Ormond Street Hospital charity GOSHCC.

The trip, which will cover about 950 miles, will take the group of four 15 days to complete, at an average rate of 60 miles per day.

GOSHCC raises funds needed to build a new world-class Cardiac Ward at Great Ormond Street children's hospital, which treats over 100,000 patients a year.

KAOS, the Kids Action Overseas charity, is an international organisation set up and run by students from Leeds University Medical School, and is responsible for projects in countries all over the world involving Kenya, Tanzania and Ethiopia.

They work to build, monitor and improve facilities for children, including work with children's homes, a school and a hospice.

The group would gratefully receive any contributions to their effort, and ask supporters to contact them at thecharitybikeride@hotmail.com.

Visit www.thecharitybikeride.co.uk for more information.

A wicked performance from SMS

Stage Musicals Society are back with their latest production, *The Witches of Eastwick*.

This is the society's third production of the year, following the extremely successful musicals *Grease* and *Crazy for You*.

The production will run from March 6-10 in the Riley Smith Hall, with tickets from Wednesday to Saturday priced at £5 NUS and £7 adult.

Tickets are available from the Riley Smith box office.

LSR suffers theft of equipment worth £600

By Charlotte Griffiths

Continued from page 1

Despite CCTV video evidence of the LSR burglar walking into the building through the fire exit of Mine Bar and

then out again through the same entrance just minutes later with the equipment in hand, security staff were unable to recognise the culprit. However, the member of staff continued: "The suspect was not recognised as a local or regular of the Union area by security staff who

watched the CCTV footage. The video evidence has now been passed onto police to see if they can recognise the individual; nothing more has been heard as of yet.

"Members of the LSR team are worried that, without their valuable

equipment, the quality of production and editing of radio shows could be hampered, which may have a knock-on effect when submissions are made for the upcoming Student Radio Awards which take place next term.

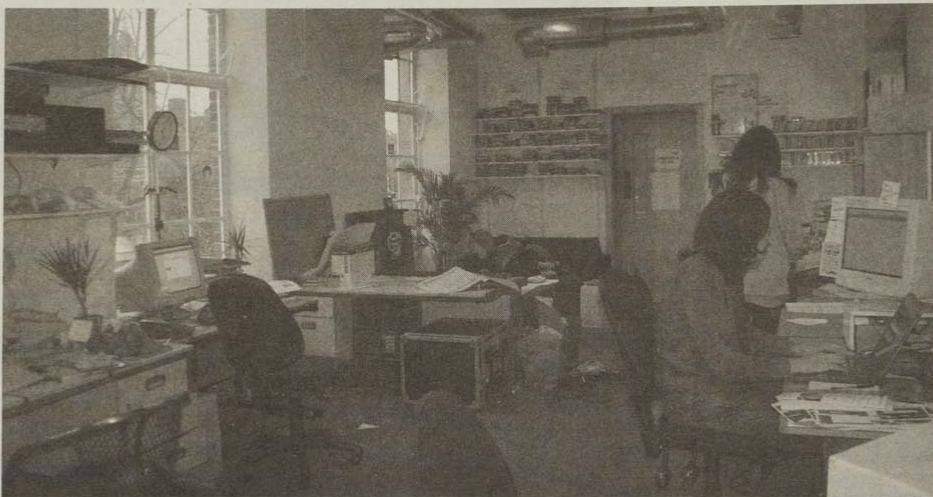
Barry Carlyon, a second year electrical engineering student and head of web development, was present on the day of the robbery. He said: "I was really upset, as it could harm our chances of winning at the student radio awards."

"Without our outside broadcast equipment, we can't make our weekly live show at the Met, so we can't submit that, and we can't produce the rest of the entries properly without adequate production equipment."

With an annual budget of around £1,000 for equipment, the volunteer student radio station cannot afford to replace such important equipment this year and it is unclear whether any of it will be replaced by insurance, particularly as some parts of equipment personally belong to members of the LSR staff.

Richard Andrews, a music finalist who is head of engineering for LSR, was the owner of parts of the outside broadcast equipment kit.

He said: "I had about £350 of my own equipment taken and I'm disappointed that someone would steal from students."



ROBBED: The LSR office on Thursday, £600 the worse for wear

PHOTO: Alex Doorey

NHS says "no chance" of graduate nurses finding jobs

By Laura McKenzie

Nursing students from the University of Leeds are facing a jobs crisis in the city, as the local NHS Trust is told to cut costs.

This means that newly-qualified nurses may have to find jobs outside of the profession, even though £30,000 of taxpayers' money is spent on training each nurse. 100 nurses are set to qualify this year from Leeds University; however, they have been told by Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust (which runs Leeds General Infirmary and St James's Hospital) that there is no chance of finding jobs in any of its hospitals as the hospital has been told to save £84 million this year by the government. The trust is struggling with debts of £11 million as well as the national NHS debt, which now stands at nearly £1.3 billion. To combat this, the Trust has installed a recruitment freeze, unless wards become understaffed.

Chief Nurse at the Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, Ruth Holt said: "I realise this is a worrying time for student nurses and midwives, but the situation is constantly under review and we will continue to work closely with University colleagues to ensure they are kept fully informed of the

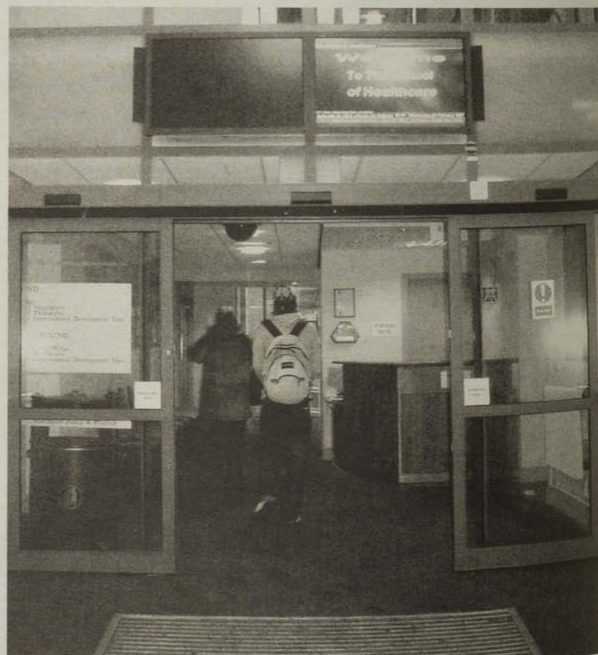
situation."

There are fears that this staffing crisis could snowball year on year as official University figures show that, of the last 55 nurses to qualify, in January, 33 were still looking for work, adding substantially to the problem.

Many nursing students are being left feeling angry and hurt at how they have been treated. Caffy Bundy, a final year nursing student, said: "We've put blood, sweat and tears into our training, knowing that we won't be doing a particularly well-paid job at the end of it."

"But to be told you won't have a job at all is just heart-breaking. The only option available to us is to work in the private sector, which just seems ridiculous when you consider how much money the NHS spent training us."

Acting head of the School of Healthcare at the University, Dr Paul Marshall, commenting on the crisis, said: "The School is very aware of the difficulties faced by newly-qualified students at this time, and the concerns held by students due to qualify in the near future. The School is working closely with the NHS to explore ways to assist newly qualified nurses who are unable to secure posts."



FLASH: The modern facilities in the nursing department - but will grads struggle to get on the employment ladder?

PHOTO: MICHAEL LIPAROTO

VC condemns Oxbridge attitude

By Abid Hussain

Vice Chancellor, Professor Michael Arthur, has criticised Oxford and Cambridge for not taking part in the National Student Survey.

For the past two years, Oxford and Cambridge have rejected the survey claiming that it is not ideally suited to cover the complexities of a collegiate

For the past two years, Oxford and Cambridge have rejected the survey

system but, last week, Professor Michael Arthur condemned this behaviour at a cross-party Commons Education Select Committee.

The NSS requires 50 per cent of final year undergraduates to take part in the survey, but the Cambridge Students' Union has discouraged its members from completing it because the survey questions are "over-simplistic to the point of meaninglessness."

Oxford, though not actively boycotting the survey, does not promote it, and has designed its own rival questionnaire which aims to monitor undergraduate students' learning experience of their whole

courses.

Critics of the Oxbridge approach, including Michael Arthur, argue that, without feedback from the NSS, which is available on the UCAS website, prospective students, particularly those from low income families, may be put off applying.

Michael Arthur said: "We have been working hard on trying to persuade them to participate. I think I would describe the University of Oxford now as being at least neutral, and the University of Cambridge is actively boycotting the survey this year."

"I personally think it's a great shame that they have done that, because this is an opportunity for their students to say what they want to say about the institutions. The National Student Survey is giving prospective undergraduates robust information about the courses available to them."

"The more students participate, the better the information available to prospective students - and this has to be a good thing. It would be a great pity if anyone were put off applying to any university in the UK simply because that information were not available to them on the NSS website."

Following the boycott, the National Union of Students (NUS) stated the approach of Oxbridge has helped maintain their image as "bastions of exclusivity."

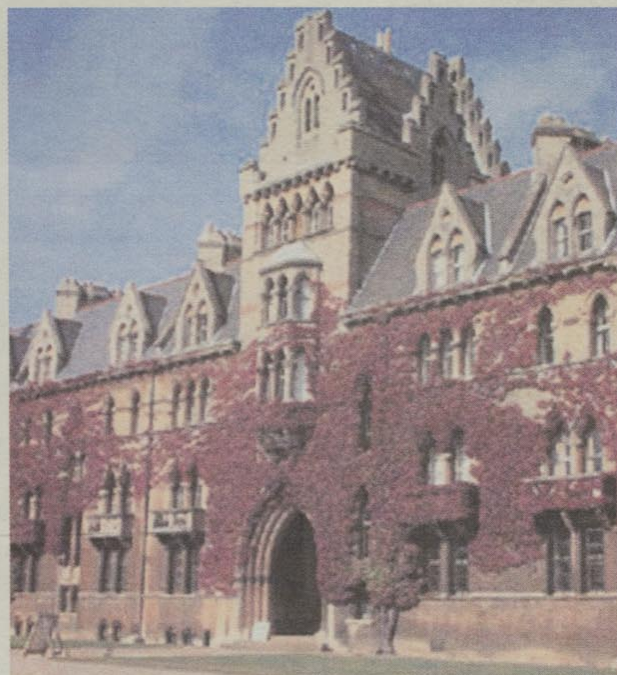
Wes Streeting, NUS vice-president, told the select committee: "I think they have issues to deal with in terms of the ongoing myths that exist around the admissions system - the notion of the old school tie and the secret handshake."

Michael Arthur added: "They will do themselves no favours when applicants click onto the UCAS website in the future and find that they can find student satisfaction data for every higher education institution in the country except Oxford and Cambridge."

A spokeswoman for Oxford said the University would not have objected to the publication of their results, but it was the NUS that declined to publish the Oxford results because of the low response rate.

A spokesman for the University of Cambridge maintained that all final year students at the institution were encouraged to complete the survey, he said: "Pro-vice chancellor for education Professor Melveena McKendrick wrote to all final year undergraduates on January 26 advising them that, while the National Student Survey is not ideally designed for the complexities of a collegiate university, it is here to stay."

"It would be a glaring omission for Cambridge to be the only university not to have its results posted along with those of other institutions when prospective applicants are making comparisons."



IVY LEAGUE: Oxbridge not partaking enthusiastically in National Student Survey

PHOTO: Richard Gallagher

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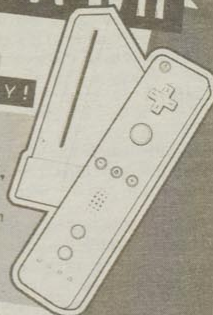
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300 Seconds

International superstar

By Rachel Hunter

Name: Jeremy Walker
Occupation: Chairman of the International Affairs Forum

“We believe that an informed choice is always going to be better.”

LS: Hello, and welcome to 300 Seconds. Has it been a busy day so far?
 JW: It has been, I've been doing lots of preparation for our forum event this evening, writing out an interview and also my introductory notes, so yeah it's been busy.

LS: Do you find it hard to balance university work with such a demanding extra-curricular activity?

JW: Yes, I'm definitely not striking a balance at the moment, I need to work on that. The International Affairs Forum is definitely winning out.

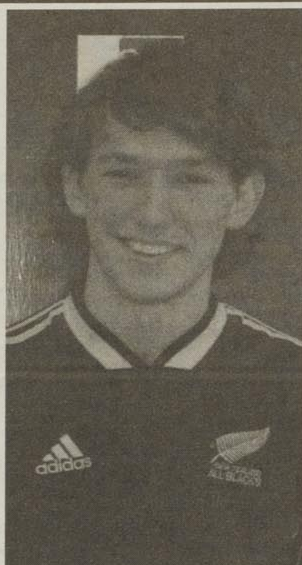
LS: You get to meet lots of interesting people through the forum, who has been the highlight this year?

JW: Sir Sherard Cowper-Coles, the ambassador to Saudi Arabia and ambassador-designate to Afghanistan. He's one of the foremost experts on middle-eastern politics, and a very impressive character.

LS: Who has been the most controversial speaker?

JW: We haven't had particularly overtly controversial people, we've had a lot of speakers who have said things that students have disagreed with. Last week we had the deputy leader of UKIP, and there was plenty to disagree with there, and many did. Before that we had Leslie Tsou, political officer of the United States Embassy in London, she was here backing up American foreign policy, which is always a hard thing to do.

LS: What's the aim of the International



Affairs Forum?

JW: We are a non-partisan environment for making international political issues accessible and engaging for students. We do our best to present things in a non-partisan and unbiased manner, and allow students to make up their own minds. We believe that an informed choice is always going to be better.

LS: Do you think it's important for students to be aware of world-wide political issues?

JW: Obviously someone like myself would say yes - it's important not just because of the value in itself but because of a certain responsibility that I believe all people have towards one another.

LS: We've just had the sabbatical elections, do you think that getting involved in student politics is a good training for political career in the 'real world'?

JW: I'd say that it provides a certain degree of training, but I don't think it prepares you quite for the continuous gravity of issues that are faced in the so-called 'real world' of politics and international politics. I wouldn't want to demean the often very serious issues which come up on campus, some student groups deal with some fairly heavy stuff, but I do feel that nothing quite prepares

you for the continuous barrage of essentially important issues people deal with in real political life, but I haven't been there and I may well be wrong.

LS: Do you think there's as much bitching and backstabbing going on?

JW: I think there's definitely more.

LS: Where would you like to be in ten years time?

JW: As a media mogul, in charge of a global non-partisan media machine, providing an accessible forum for international citizens to engage in political issues.

LS: Have you ever done anything naughty that could come back to haunt you, David Cameron-style?

JW: Well, we don't know that David Cameron's done anything naughty, and I couldn't possibly comment on whether I'd done anything similar.

LS: What do you think is the most important issue is international politics today?

JW: I'd say the shifting economic balance of power, with the rise of new industries, and the changing face of the developing world.

For more information go to:
www.iaforum.org.uk

The Wooldridge report

Fair-trade frenzy



By Michael Wooldridge

Right. This week, I discovered darts, and came across the fortnight whose emphasis could have fairly drastic implications, on a global scale, if not taken seriously.

Whilst we are now almost half way through 'FairTrade Fortnight', I thought I would bring some of those who are not up to the date - exactly to that date, and explain some of the things going on. Positives first - at least it wasn't a Fair-trade Week. No alliteration combined with missing the boat is just about the worst thing that can happen in any situation. Good. I'm glad we cleared that one up.

So, courtesy of People and Planet, these two weeks hold experiences that range from the yummy to the political. As far as food and drink is concerned, there will be Fair-trade wines to taste on various occasions and we are being offered talks on Trade Justice with specific reference to the Cotton Industry, the pinnacle being a talk from Ugandan coffee producer, Samuel Magona, who will be explaining how Fair-trade has, and

promises to, affect developing markets and populations.

The increasing injection of money into developing economies through trade will mark a contrast to the predominant situation at the moment.

Allowing developing nations' populations to participate in their own development will encourage a more stable and sustainable development process.

“The holding of capital in a few hands gives those few hands political clout. In short, free-trade will undermine our democratic rights.”

This will mean movement away from the unstable, pocketed development that we see so often today, partly due to the opening up of markets.

Now, admittedly, opening markets is frequently thought to be the key to fast development, and there is evidence to show that poverty is reducing. However, what FairTrade offers is a chance to

tackle the remaining and alarming poverty issues such as the global economic gap which sees poor people getting ever poorer.

Now, perhaps you're not a Ugandan coffee producer, but the effects of maintaining the present dominance of free-trade will ripple on to the populations of G-8 countries too. The holding of capital in a few hands, gives those few hands more political clout. In short, free-trade will undermine our democratic rights.

However, we do well, I think. Leeds University is a fair-trade University, which means that it has to comply with various catering and retail regulations.

Nationwide, we bought £290 million fair-trade products in 2006, which showed a 46 per cent rise from 2005, and at the moment, for 2007, we are averaging a £300 million expenditure.

The Union generally takes the topic seriously; a petition this week will hopefully mean the Union stock fair-trade house wines, and Essentials have offers on fair-trade products.

But I think that we could be doing a little more. Healthy week - an issue that didn't really apply to students as such - was actively celebrated by the Union and, by that token, I think the Union could be making larger steps to endorse People and Planet's initiative.

Having jumped into the back seat recently to see 'Green Issues' take over, it remains immensely important to bring fair-trade back into our line of sight.

In the money

By Abid Husain

Bulging pay packets are being enjoyed by UK university chiefs this year after pay rises brought salaries up to amounts exceeding that of the Prime Minister.

Vice-Chancellors received average pay rises of 7.9% last year, taking the average salary to £165,105, an average which, according to the Times Higher Education Supplement, rose by £12,000 in 2005-06.

At universities in Leeds, pay rises were even higher than the national average. Professor Simon Lee, vice-chancellor at Leeds Metropolitan received a wage and pension packet of £239,169, which was a rise of 9.2% on the previous year.

At the University of Leeds, Professor Michael Arthur was paid a package worth £215,000, a staggering rise of 13.3% on the previous year.

Both these pay packets are far higher than that of the Prime Minister, Tony Blair, who received £187,677 last year.

A University spokesperson said: "The Vice-Chancellor, Michael Arthur, leads a growing and complex organisation with some 7,500 staff and a turnover now rising beyond £400 million.

"His salary is agreed by a committee of the governing body made up of external (lay) members. The committee takes account of a range of factors, including performance and data on Vice-Chancellors' salaries elsewhere, particularly in our peer group of large research-intensive universities.

"It should not be surprising that the Vice-Chancellor of the UK's third largest university is - although only just - in the top 20 in the vice-chancellors' salary

league table.

Under Professor Arthur's leadership, Leeds has embarked on an ambitious strategy to make itself one of the top 50 universities in the world. Valuing and developing staff is a cornerstone of that strategy."

The vice-chancellor's group, Universities UK, said their pay was determined by remuneration committees at each university. A spokesman for Universities UK said: "These committees report to the independent governing body of the university, and invariably include business and other external representatives. Any suggestion therefore that such pay deals go unchecked is sadly wide of the mark."

A senior lecturer at the University of Leeds who wished to remain anonymous rubbished these claims, saying: "At a time when lecturers have been striking over pay it is outrageous that Vice-Chancellors earn so much and continue to get pay rises. The committees who decide their pay packets are run by corporate businessmen who see handing over higher salaries as a method to get access to a lucrative student market."

The average pay of University chiefs is almost four times as much as that of a senior lecturer who, on average, earns £41,776.

The University and College Union (UCU) condemned these high salaries. Joint UCU secretary Sally Hunt said: "The whole sector needs to unite around defending academic values, securing better funding and maintaining our proud world-class teaching and research."

The handsome rewards for those at the top threaten this vital unity and send exactly the wrong message to university staff."

Night Bus driver quits job following concerns for her personal safety

By Charlotte Griffiths

A driver of the LUU Night Bus has quit her job after fears for her personal safety.

Gemma Rooke, a final year acting student, has been working for the LUU Night Bus safety service since Christmas, but recently quit after she felt that the Union failed to respond adequately to queries and concerns for her personal safety.

The night bus service drops people to their door from the Union steps, and is open to any student who is travelling at night alone or with fewer than three people. Gemma was required to drive the bus for shifts that lasted up to twelve hours starting at 5pm but, when she finished in the early hours of the morning, she had to walk alone from the Union steps down to the security office by Halo whilst carrying the bus SatNav system, two sets of keys and her own belongings. She then had to wait alone for a taxi and pay for it herself; yet, bar and security staff are permitted to have their cabs paid for by the Union if they are not driven home by the Night Bus.

The recent introduction of a 'Walk Safe' scheme allows students to be accompanied to a taxi by a security guard who ensures that they get safely inside. This service was often unavailable to Gemma as she would have already driven the security guards home. However, even the security guards involved in the 'Walk Safe' Scheme were required to

carry a radio and regularly report to the Union for their safety.

Gemma said: "I had asked the Union to order and pay for my taxi before my first shift, but they said they couldn't. The problem was not so much paying for the taxi, but waiting ages for a cab on a Saturday night, and then finding one that was safe and wasn't trying to rip me off. It was also really unsafe for me to have to walk from the Union alone so late at night whilst carrying bus valuables as well as my own phone and purse.

"The worst thing was that the customers of the Night Bus are often people that have been in dangerous situations before, which is why they have chosen to use the service - so as the driver I became acutely aware of the dangers of walking around alone. When you finish the last shift, you have to come back and park the bus outside the Union building, but it is all locked up because the staff have left - it's pretty scary.

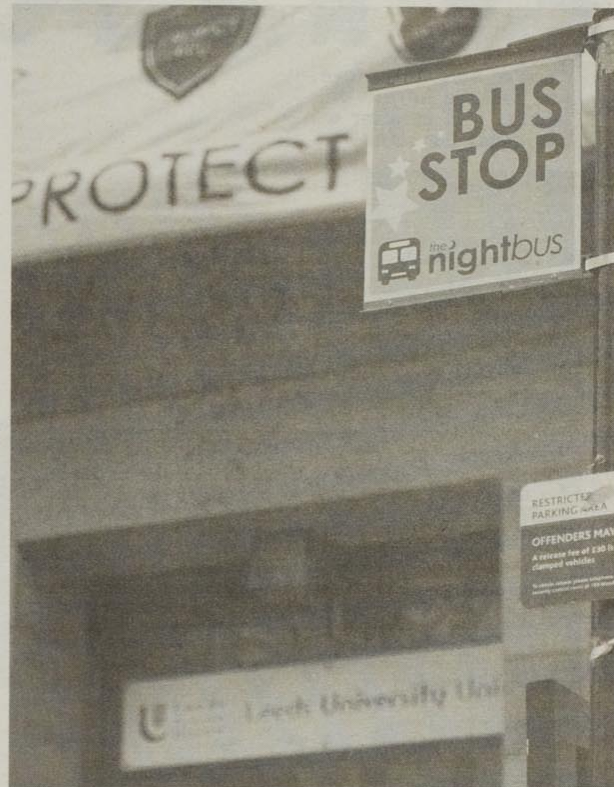
"We have really tight time slots with the Night Bus, which can be quite a pressure, particularly if there is a passenger that has had a few drinks, and I am not qualified to deal with them if they are ill. One night, I was on the way back to the Union to pick up the last run of bar and security staff. I was running late because there had been some hubbub with a girl who had had her drink spiked, and a bouncer called me from the Union and told me to "put my foot down", which I thought was an irresponsible question to ask the driver of a so called 'safety bus'. He

then told everyone that was waiting for me to make their own way home because I would take too long. When I got back ten minutes later, everyone had left, the whole place was locked up and the staff had all had to take taxis home. I think that particular bouncer just wanted an excuse to get home early, but the rest of the bouncers are all really kind and caring and look out for me."

Gemma quit the job after two months, having spoken to the Bretton Hall officer and the Women's officer about the problem but receiving no action.

Gemma continued: "It is a shame because the Night Bus is a great service. I believe in the Night Bus and I think more students should realise how useful it is and also how invaluable the security team are. They are all really helpful and caring, and they have always looked out for me. Sometimes, one of the bouncers would stay and wait for me to get back from my last shift so that they knew I could get my cab home safe and sound."

The Women's Officer, Sarah Wayman, said: "student safety is important to us, it is one of our core values and, therefore, the issue was, of course, raised with management. After about a week, we were able to arrange a budget to pay for cabs for Night Bus drivers. We thought that Gemma made a valid point about safety, and we are willing to talk to her any time if she wants to discuss anything more about the issue."



THE NIGHT BUS STOP: having driven people home to safety, Gemma Rooke was required to make her own way home PHOTO: Patrick Nixon

Burley Road's million pound makeover

By Virginia Newman

A multi-million pound safety improvement scheme for the Burley Road in Kirkstall has begun this week.

The £3m scheme, carried out by contractors North Midland Construction, aims to improve safety, congestion and public transport services on the usually busy and congested main road for motorists, pedestrians, cyclists and bus routes.

Councillor Andrew Carter, leader of Leeds City Council and executive member responsible for Development said: "Tackling congestion and pollution and making our roads safer for everyone are all big priorities for the council. These improvements will make accessing the city centre by public transport and cycling much easier and safer."

The plans include new outbound bus and cycle routes, new pedestrian crossings, improved disabled access to buses, marked parking bays, better road and footpath surfaces and the planting of trees and shrubs.

Councillor Carter explained: "These improvements will mean great news for thousands of people who travel by bus on

this busy route. It should mean quicker and more reliable journeys, and will hopefully encourage more people to take the bus rather than the car."

The junction of Burley Road, Cardigan Road and Willow Road will have a new pedestrian crossing as it has suffered a string of accidents in recent years. There will also be two other crossings on Burley Street to ensure pedestrian safety.

These improvements are welcomed by residents. A first year Burley Road resident said: "I have frequently had problems with road safety on Burley Road. The zebra crossing near the Park Lane triangle is a death trap; cars don't even stop when you wait, so I have to dodge cars. The bus routes are good but they are irregular; I often wait four or five times longer than the bus timetable states."

All bus stops will be made accessible to the disabled and wheelchair friendly. Planners say the work has been carefully designed to retain as much green space as possible and that, once work is completed, trees and shrubs will be planted.

The work is due to be completed by the end of the year. There will be temporary traffic lights in use during off peak times.

Bursaries are still not tempting enough for students

By Anton McLean

Increased levels of financial support available since the introduction of top-up fees is still not tempting students into higher education.

The introduction of top-up fees in the UK has led to a rise in bursaries, but the prospect of this extra financial support is not necessarily luring new students, according to a new report.

The report, commissioned by Universities UK (UUK), the representative body for Vice-Chancellors at UK universities, showed the effects the new variable fees arrangements are having on full-time undergraduate applications.

The "vast majority" of universities have decided to charge new students the maximum tuition fee of £3,000 and are therefore required to offer a minimum bursary of £300, the study explained. There is also "a huge variety of bursaries and scholarships being offered by institutions."

Professor Drummond Bone, President of UUK, said: "UUK's report provides useful information for considering the effects of the changes [the introduction of

top-up fees] introduced in the autumn of 2006.

"Despite some pessimistic predictions following this change, our report confirms the upward trend in numbers of applicants and acceptances between 2004 and 2006. It also illustrates that demand for higher education places remains solid."

The National Union of Students (NUS) has accused the report of "massaging" the figures. Gemma Tumelty, President of the NUS, said: "Though UUK do report poor bursary take up, they also imply that students are not letting finance interfere with their choice of institution - convenient spin from an organisation that is determined to lobby for the marketisation of the sector." The students' union has called for a national bursary system.

A University spokesperson said: "We want to make sure all students can take advantage of the financial support available at Leeds and we have set aside a considerable proportion of fee income to make sure all students with the potential to succeed get the opportunity to come to university. So far, over 1,000 students have benefited from the University's bursary scheme, but we want to make absolutely sure all the students who may

qualify are aware of it. We have written to a further 436 students whom we believe may also qualify for the non-repayable bursary to make sure they are fully aware of the scheme and how to apply."

The Government denies there is a need for a national bursary system. Bill Rammell, the Higher Education Minister, told *Leeds Student*: "This approach gives flexibility to the universities allowing them to offer more than the minimum, to widen the target to more students or to target certain subjects; in fact, last year, the typical bursary was worth around £1,000 per annum. We recognise that this is a new concept for students and that we have a role, together with our partners, in raising awareness of bursaries."

The University of Leeds offers a bursary which is open to students who are studying for a degree at Leeds and have a family income of £25,500 or less. The amount of bursary a student can receive ranges from £310 for students with a family income between £24,501 and £25,500, and up to £1,330 for students with a family income of £18,000 or less.

For full eligibility criteria and instructions, visit <http://www.leeds.ac.uk/students/office/leedsbursaries.htm>.

Under the Radar

The future of Council Estates

By Michael Wooldridge
& Stefan Page

"You're safe here, love, you're safe here," one teacher told us after we had visited her school



GIPTON, LEEDS. LS9: Allegedly one of the largest and most crime ridden council estates in the UK

GIPTON, EAST LEEDS: Situated between Harehills and Seacroft, Gipton is largely comprised of 1930s semi detached houses and mid-to-late twentieth century council flats. The streets are wide and spacious with green parkland dispersed about the estate and Gipton Woods stand at one end. From first glances, the notorious reputation of being "one of the worst council estates in Leeds" seems meaningless. The houses that overlook the estate set an ominous frame to the area but, throughout the few hours that we spent there, rather than feeling this perpetually inescapable image that council estates are so often associated with, it appeared simply as another place that people live in.

The rape and murder of two-year-old Casey Leigh Mullen earlier this month brought Gipton into the public eye through the press. Almost all of the coverage described the estate in the same negative way that has faced the region in recent years. Some residents claim that the problems faced by Gipton are, to an extent, a result of this bad press. This image can potentially be justified, however. With vast unemployment, only 57 per cent of 16-74-year-olds are in work, very often irregularly, and 48 per cent of the population have no qualifications, which, in Gipton - and many other council estates nationwide - undoubtedly leads to poverty and crime.

The residents and workers in the Gipton area that we spoke to, almost unanimously, explained that Gipton's image is unfair. A Glaswegian woman who migrated to the area 20 years ago said that Gipton, in comparison to Glaswegian estates, was "like heaven". In Glasgow, it was not uncommon to see people 'buzzing glue as they were walking down the street', and seeing needles at the end of her road was an everyday experience.

"I had a young baby, and I didn't want to bring her up with that," explained the woman, justifying her move to Gipton. Her identity now as a 'Giptonite' is not something that she feels estranged from; rather, a sense of

belonging to.

She described how there were two sides of the estate. The Wykebeck side, where she lived, and the Amberton side where Casey Leigh Mullen lived. She explained how the Amberton side is much rougher than her side, but passed off the problems as "just kids being cheeky".

However, it seems apparent that this simplification is exactly where Gipton's problems stem from. Adults are very rarely involved in gang crimes; rather, "it's kids in gangs who are bored" who have generated the image of these "sprawling bad lands" that has come to be associated with Gipton.

Many people laid claim to the fact that Gipton "used to be rock hard" only 20 years ago, but they also pinpointed the trouble as joy riders, which are now very common in Gipton during evenings.

Racial abuse and tensions too are often brought about by children, explained the Scottish woman. Gangs of white children target members of the Pakistani and black populations "simply because their [the minority races'] children can't speak English properly", and this results in graffiti, broken windows and verbal abuse.

Whilst the white population of Gipton constitutes 75 per cent of the estate's total population, the black population accounts for 5 per cent of the total black population in Leeds, and a staggering 10 per cent of Pakistanis who live in Leeds live in Gipton.

The police are focusing in on the trouble with youths in the area by placing extra police on foot and horse back. They believe the key to the problems lies in 'locking up' those responsible for crimes such as robbery, vandalism or break-ins. Operation Banrock which started in mid-January aims to tackle the rising phenomenon of youths attacking cars waiting at traffic lights. Some taxi drivers now refuse to go into certain areas of Gipton.

"We would rather attend and check people out, even if they are there for a completely innocent purpose... It is difficult to be prescriptive about the offenders, but youths with hoodies and baseball caps are a feature common to all offences, and sometimes youths on bikes," said a spokesperson for the

Neighbourhood Policing team responsible for the area. Nearly all of the young people that we saw in Gipton fitted either exactly or closely with this description.

There is concern over the lack of input into young people in Gipton, which comes up regularly in council meetings. Indeed, with the Gipton Wood Youth centre having been closed down, and the widely-held view that "there is nowhere for [children] to play", "many people are working hard to generate another scheme". But, as it stands at the moment, there is no programme designed to deal specifically with the young population of Gipton.

But there is some help. GIPSIL (Gipton Supported Independent Living, Ltd.) helps 16-25-year-olds with housing, some of who have left home due to relationship struggles, are leaving care or are single parents. GIPSIL supports 60 young single tenants, and 44 single parent families, and will continue to do so until its clients are financially capable of supporting themselves. GIPSIL also offers a drop in centre, parental skills training, and educational and cooking courses. The centre is open between 9am and 4.30pm but, when closed, the centre's windows, lights and many cameras are either completely caged or shuttered off.

The Gipton Community Arts Centre and 'Gipton Together' aim to create a greater sense of social cohesion and self-esteem throughout the population by generating funds for community and arts based activities. They aim to "build on what's there and celebrate it".

And it seems that there is something there. The Gipton Community Arts Centre explained that the murder of Casey Leigh Mullen really "saw the community come together" and the "good community spirit" that, all too often, is hidden under the surface by negative coverage in the press, became evident.

'Gipton Together' claim that the future of Gipton lies in the diversifying of ownership of property. At the moment, "it is just seen as one big council estate... more private housing might help get rid of the image that it has".

Also in the news

Student shot in Bradford

Brackenhill Park, Bradford. Detectives are appealing for witnesses to the shooting of a 20-year-old university student who was left fighting for his life in hospital. The man was found with a single gunshot wound to the head by a passer-by in Brackenhill Park in Horton Bank, Bradford, on Monday morning. Yesterday, police named the victim as Skander Habib Rehman, an information technology student at Bradford University who lives with his family. Police and detectives are now trying to establish a motive for the attack. The 20-year-old was in a critical condition in Bradford Royal Infirmary last night.

'Mrs World' contestants tour Chechnya

Mrs World contestants were touring Russia ahead of the finals, to be held in the Black Sea resort of Sochi on March 8. They were whisked to Chechnya in a convoy of 15 black Porsches, with armed soldiers positioned every 500 yards along the 30-mile road to protect from rebel attack. Claiming greater decency than its Miss World counterpart, the pageant has been mired in scandal of late. Last year's competition in St Petersburg saw the winning tiara being ripped off a tearful Mrs Costa Rica's head before being handed to Mrs Russia, an 18-year-old model married to one of the country's richest men.

Burley Road undergoes surgery

Burley Road, Kirkstall. Any Headingley students will no doubt have noticed the changes taking place in Burley Road: a £3m project to improve safety and congestion on one of Leeds' busiest roads has begun. The improvements on Burley Road in Kirkstall will include new bus and cycle lanes, pedestrian crossings, parking bays and more trees. About £1.7m of the project is being paid for by the government. City council leader Andrew Carter said: "Tackling congestion and pollution and making our roads safer for everyone are all big priorities for the council. These improvements will make accessing the city centre by public transport and cycling much easier and safer."

Fight to save Leeds family from deportation

Campaigners have mounted a last-ditch attempt to stop the deportation of more than 40 Congolese people from the UK. A protest was held outside the Home Office against the deportation of 23 adults and 19 children. The refused asylum seekers are thought to be from Middlesbrough, Leeds, London, Birmingham and Glasgow. The group includes Aseng Nzoabar and her six children, who have been living in Leeds for the last four years. Her case has been backed by the Bishop of Ripon and Leeds, the Rt Rev John Packer, who wrote to the Home Office asking them to reverse the decision.

extra

12 City of cycles

Copenhagen has cycled its way to a greener future; *LS extra* marvels at this bold statement and wonders if it could ever happen here.

15 High culture

Matt Winsor looks at the Class-A culture in Britain's nightlife and concludes it's just a minority of troublemakers that the authorities are after.



CARCINOGENIC ACCESSORY: Good luck to you. And thank you for smoking.

In a class of our own

It seems Elton John was right: Lady D's legend lives on. In addition to all her other honours, she holds the extra title of being the original Sloane Ranger. But times have changed and the eighties preppie has morphed into a newer species. The Rah's have long-since arrived - but what are they, and are they here to stay? Jessica Parker goes straight to the aristocratic horse's mouth.

What is the following object? It has a croaky (but rather loud) voice, is often to be found with a Marlboro Menthol/Light dangling from its mouth, possesses an aloof confidence, scraggly blonde hair and a pair of ostentatiously baggy tracksuit bottoms. It generally moves in packs of similar objects, lives in Devonshire Halls (although there are many exceptions) and is strangely drawn to drum 'n' bass nights. It is, indeed, the infamous Rah. Perhaps you bitterly hate them. Perhaps you desperately want to be one of them. Perhaps you even are one of them. (If the latter, please take no offence from the above stereotypes - they are absolutely true after all.)

Be warned; this is not a three thousand word rant against the cult of the Hooray Henries and Sloane Rangers (as fun as that might be). It isn't an impassioned defence of them either. Rather it is an attempt to address a supposedly simple question: what are they?

A vocal vestige of the fading upper-classes? Or new money attempting to recast the definitions of what it means to be rich, raucous and a bit 'rather'? Perhaps they're simply a randomised collection of public school darlings, hailing

from west London and the grander Home Counties. Maybe I shouldn't read too much into it; loaded, loud and not-well-liked might sum it up enough for you.

In 1982, *Harpers and Queen*, published Peter York's 'The Official Sloane Ranger Handbook' with accompaniment, 'The Official Sloane Ranger Diary'. This is popularly seen as the birth of the modern poshmina. Previous to her marriage with Prince Charles, Lady Diana Spencer was the original eighties emblem of Sloane Ranging. If she had a male equivalent, it was popularly cited to be the Tim-nice-but-dim character from Harry Enfield. But enough of the history - Lady Di is no more and Enfield, just a golden TV memory. The Sloane Ranger has discovered new titles and pin-ups in the likes of our Royal Princes (clearly 'rah' runs in the veins), TPT and the bumbling Ben Fogle. But we hardly need to look at the newspapers or refer to reality TV in order to catch a whiff of the Rah ruling elite.

The old maxim goes, 'University is a place to experience new things and meet new people.' So why is it, in the 21st century, some of the so-called upper

classes seem to be stubbornly maintaining a social, political and cultural class of their own? Since 2005, sixteen of the nineteen universities in the Russell Group have taken a smaller proportion of state school entrants than in previous years. Only Birmingham, Bristol and Sheffield bucked the trend. Are the ladies and gentlemen of ye olde England in the process of staging a dramatic reclamation of their old stomping ground, that is, higher education?

To penetrate the clouded mist of cigarette smoke that so often surrounds the Rah community, I pulled aside one particularly quintessential Rah for an interview. (This will be followed with a comparative questioning of a veritable non-Rah.) My first subject wished to remain nameless but I can reveal the following information. 'It' is a she, a second year and most definitely, a Rah, right down to her proudly displayed roots, tied unlovingly in a scruffy ponytail.

So we begin. Do you think you're a Rah? "No I wouldn't say I was a Rah. They call them Sloanes where I come from mostly. But I don't really buy into the whole stereotype of the Rah thing. Just because I went to public school doesn't mean people from state schools

Extra Class divide

► should judge me on my background.

I just think, you know, I can't help coming from a certain type of background." Do you think that there is a division between Rahs and the rest at Uni? "No, not really. I mean, I might feel I have stuff more in common with people who are similar to me but that's the same for everyone. And it's not necessarily about what class you're from or your background. It's just who you get on with. I'll talk to anyone who's interesting. And there are loads of social divisions. Not just Rahs. Like between Emos and Chavs and stuff. Or geeks and cool people! You can't be friends with everyone. Especially someone you've got nothing in common with!" But geeks and cool people - that's not really class division, is it? "Well no, but I'm just saying divisions will always exist in any kind of situation where there are loads of people. Class or social or whatever. You just have to deal with it."

Forgive me for saying so, but I notice you're wearing one of the classic Rah outfits (tracky bums at provocatively low-hip level, a jangling mass of bo-ho jewellery and a bottle green leavers jumper with school emblem and year of graduation sewn on). "Well I'm only wearing something comfortable. I don't think it's a Rah outfit! Don't you own tracksuit bottoms? Or a hoodie? Or jewellery!" (She's got me there - but I only wear my tracksuit bottoms on very special occasions).

Do you smoke? "Yea I smoke, yea - socially." What do you smoke? "Normally lights." Marlboro? "Yea, or menthols if I feel like a change."

Where are you from? "Buckinghamshire." What do your parents do? "My dad works in a bank. Not sure what he really does there! Something to do with shares..." What does your mother do? "Well she does some charity stuff, helps organise village events and looks after my little brothers. That's like a full-time job, trust me!" Is she a Lady who lunches? "Well of course she has lunch! She likes to eat out with friends, now and then, if that's what you mean." (I sense the Rah is getting a little annoyed with me, so I change tack, sort of.) Did you ever have a nanny? "Umm yeah - more of an au pair. She looked after me and my brothers until I was about 12 or 13 but then we all started to leave home." Leave home? "Yea, to board." Do you brothers board now? "Yea. Although one's probably about to get kicked out. Idiot. He's gone a bit off the rails." So your mother doesn't look after them if they board, presumably? "Yea she does! I mean they have really long holidays and she's

Which political party, if any, do you support?
"Conservative I suppose. I'm not very into politics. I did vote for them in the last General Election though. My dad drove me to the polling station and was like, 'Vote! Now!'"



ROUTES: Where it all began?

always having to over to the school - they're always in trouble!" When you did have a nanny, what exactly was her job description? "Well, I don't know. She used to make my supper sometimes, tidy the house, do a bit of ironing. She wasn't a slave or anything!" I didn't say she was. "Yea, yeah OK, I know. But it's like, some people - when they find out I used to have a nanny are like - 'Was she your slave?' 'Did you keep her in the basement?' Annoying stuff like that." Where did you keep her? "We didn't 'keep' her! She didn't even live with us."

Does your family own a second home? "Umm well my father has a small apartment in London - so he doesn't have to commute all the time. And we have a really small shitty shack in France." How many bedrooms does the shack have? "Well - four I think but it really is a shit-hole. I hate going there. It's so boring."

Which political party, if any, do you support? "Conservative I suppose. I'm not very into politics. I did vote for them in the last General Election though. My dad drove me to the polling station and was like, 'Vote! Now!'" So you don't really ascribe to any specific Conservative views? "Well I don't think like, high taxes are very fair. Like I think that if you work hard for your money you should get to keep it! More than anything I just don't like Labour." Any particular reason? "Well the worst thing was the fox hunting ban - obviously. Anyone from the countryside knows what a stupid law that was."

What do you study? "Art History." Art History? Again - known as quite a Rah subject. "Everything's Rah to you! You keep coming back to that!" Well, that's what the interview's about. "Yea I know - but I don't think you're being fair. How is it a Rah subject? You'll find what you call 'Rah's' studying everything. Are you gonna make me sound really awful?" I'm just going to quote you directly. "OK,

Are we going to be done soon? I'm supposed to be meeting a friend to try out pilates. I'm so scared! I'm like, completely mal-coordinated!" I'll be as quick as possible.

What do you like to do on a night out? "Umm I love like drum 'n' bass but also for less crazy ones - like Revolution, Tequila or HiFi - anything like that. Also good pubs with group of friends and a good glass of wine. Or a bottle!" And where would you hate to go on a night out? "Oh God - somewhere like Cockpit. Went there last year once. I'm scared of goths. And it's kind of filthy in there." Fair enough. "Oh God - that sounded really awful, didn't it? Don't put that in. I'll get angry goths throwing bricks through my window!" Don't worry - I won't give out your address.

Just a few more questions. Which Halls do you originate from? "Bod." Not Devonshire? "No! I'm a Bod girl through and through." Out of your current house-mates, how many come from private school? "Well, there's six of us and one doesn't, I think. Yea, he went to a Catholic school - they're free right?" Out of your circle of friends, approximately what percentage attended private school? "Well I can't give you an exact percentage! I'm terrible at maths!" A majority or minority? "Well probably a majority." And how many of your friends are from the south; a majority or a minority? "A majority. But I do have friends from the north."

Does it concern you that Universities in this country have accepted less state school applicants in recent years? "Well, I don't know. I don't think it's very fair to judge people on their school so I think it should all just be about what grades you get - regardless of your school." You don't think that private school educated students have an advantage over state school? With more money, better facilities and smaller classes etc? "Well, I

capable of getting to Uni. It's up to you to do the work and get there. My classes at school were crazy - we just took the piss the whole time. It wasn't like, loads of boffins cramming all the time."

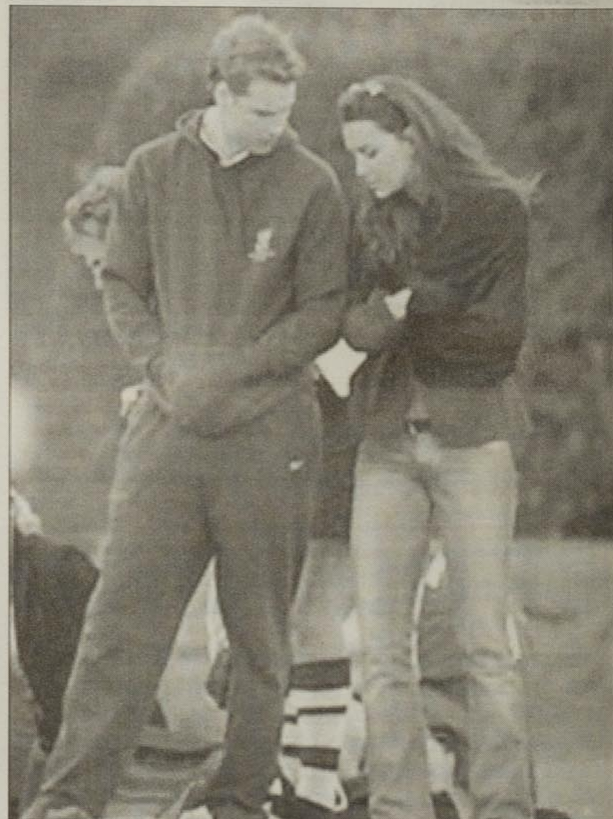
Where was the last place you went on holiday? "I went skiing at Christmas in France. The snow was awful though! Like skiing on gravel." What do you want to do after Uni? "Oh well, I'll probably go travelling again. Might bum around South America or do some sort of volunteer work with like animals, or children, or birds." Why birds? "I don't know. Just if I could be an animal, I'd definitely be a bird." What kind of bird? "Oh I don't know! Maybe a flamingo!"

Not exactly the cutting edge insight into socio-political perspectives that I was imagining, but certainly interesting about the flamingo. The same questions (that can easily be applied) were asked of another second year female but, from a Northern city and state school educated. Most definitely, a veritable non-Rah. But I'll ask her just in case.

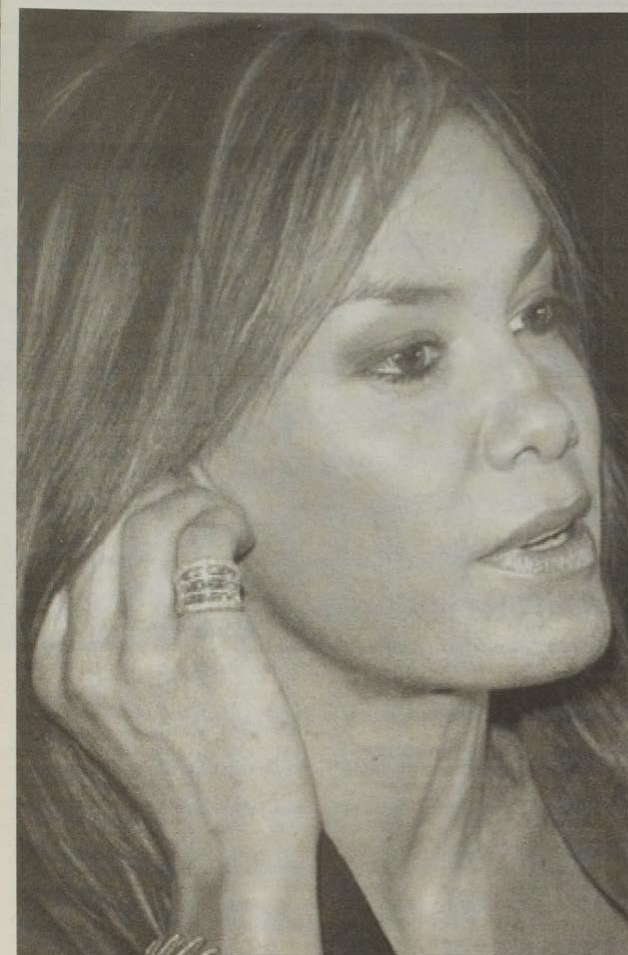
Do you think you are a Rah? "No, of course I don't." Do you think that there is a division between Rahs and the rest at Uni? "Yea, definitely. I mean you see gangs of them don't you. And I know people who've met Rahs who won't give them the time of day. But then again, I think there are lots of groups and stuff. It's who you feel comfortable with. But not speaking to someone because they didn't go to private school, or whatever - that's pathetic."

Do you smoke? "Yea, I do." Socially? "No, pretty much just all the time unfortunately!" What do you smoke? "Marlboro Lights. Switched over from Embassy recently." Where are you from? "Newcastle." What do your parents do? "My mam works in a bakery. And my dad was made redundant a year ago from his job as an IT manager." Did you ever

don't know! As far as I can see you have both state and private school kids at Uni. That shows that both backgrounds are



ROYAL RAH: William Windsor at a polo match; are our royals the ultimate Rahs?

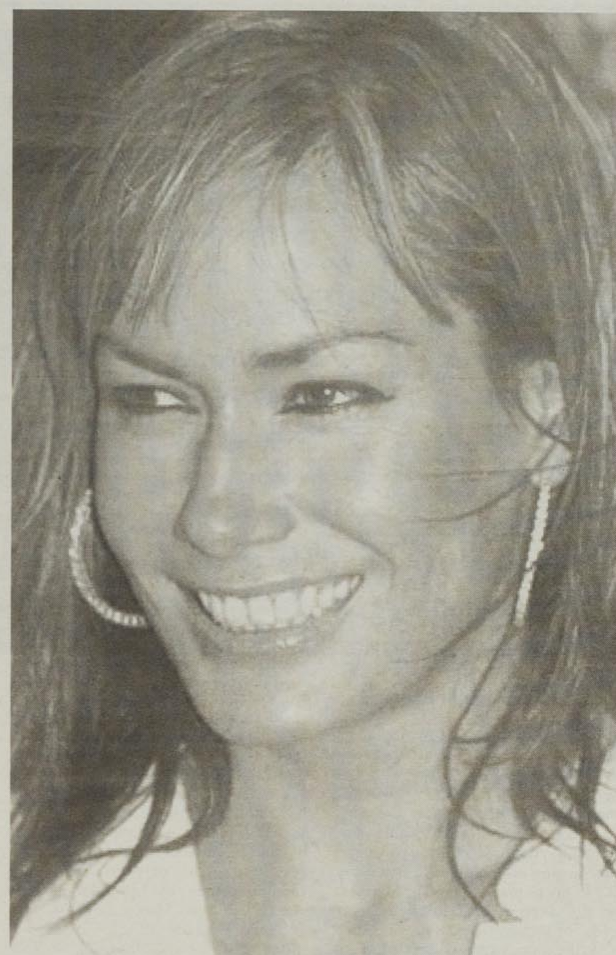


There's complete division. The catered have all there own social stuff separate from us and private school networks going on. If you don't come from the south, a boarding school and have a massively posh accent - I don't see how you could feel like you fitted in at the catered halls in Dev.

some people come from awful schools that it takes a lot of work to get out of. And they're not expected or encouraged to go to Uni at all. Whereas I think private school people are almost, like, trained for it. I think Uni's should try and be as fair as possible with grades and stuff but have to understand it's harder for some people to get good GCSEs and A-levels."

What was the last holiday you went on? "I went inter-railing in the summer with two mates." What do you want to do after Uni? "God I don't know! What do you actually do with a history degree? Get a job of some kind - try and get rid of my debt." One more question. If you were a bird, what kind would you be? "Bird? Ermm - I don't know! What kind of question's that?"

Of course, the testimony of only two students hardly makes for a thorough comparative study on this subject. And you'll just have to trust me that the Rah was a Rah and the non-Rah wasn't. (Flawless journalism.) But to gain a little further insight into the cult of the Rah, let us go to our own imitative Oxbridge college, Devonshire Halls. An inhabitant of the Devonshire non-catered flats last year, had this to say, "The catered are the private school people and the non-catered are just normal people. There's complete division. The catered have all there own social stuff separate from us and private school networks going on. If you don't come from the south, a boarding school and have a massively posh accent - I don't see how you could feel like you fitted in at the catered halls in Dev. Quite a lot of people really don't like it there - they didn't know what they were getting



TARA: Where's the money?

themselves in for!" (Apparently the Rahs did. Something must be said for the private school network's operational success). A first year student, who lives in Bodington, claims there's something of a similar division in his halls. "I wouldn't say there are actual areas designated to the Rahs but they all stick together. Some of them wouldn't even speak to you. I actually heard one say, 'I have nothing in common with state school people - I'm not being harsh or snobby but it would be a waste of time to talk to them or for them to talk to me.' I mean, can you believe that! Talk about narrow-mindedness."

So who do we blame? The Rahs, the rest or the ever-convenient fall-back position - that blasted Government! Although the current Labour Government has made huge strides to push up the numbers of those entering higher education, with a particular focus of underprivileged backgrounds, it seems sadly conceivable that top-up fees might have gone some significant way to negate the whole higher education project. Yet, although we could point the finger (and maybe stick two up) at Blair for his fees - the Rah culture is perhaps one of the few developments that we can't easily pin on our PM. He wasn't even an MP in 1982. And even though he did attend the Scottish equivalent of Eton, I personally can't see Blair in a pair of tracksuit bottoms. Not even during his 'Cool Britannia' phase.

It is a grounds-roots level to which we must look. Whether working, middle, higher or somewhere else on the spectrum - it is impossible to deny that there are people who simply can't get past the class boundaries.

And now, with potential students

from poorer backgrounds facing a bigger debt than ever before, are we going to see an even greater disproportion of private school kids over state school kids at university than ever before? Is the Old Boy's Network insidiously creeping its way back in (although it never quite left, of course)? Will the Exec Sabbs of tomorrow all have names like Freddie Parker-Bothnell, Charlie Coco-Camberwell and Rupert Tempest-Bottomley? It's a frightening thought - think how uncontrollably massive the ballot papers would have to be.

Of course, as the original 'Rah' in this article said, you can't help what background you come from and you might naturally feel drawn to people that you have something in common with. (Does this mean Rahs will spend hours sharing a mutual interest in their own posh accents?) Yet, it seems sad to miss out on the opportunity that University presents to live, work and socialise with people from all backgrounds and from all around the country.

Gone are the days when classes were so well-defined you could take a sharpened pencil and draw the lines between the working multitude, middle-class bourgeoisie and society's upper echelons. In fact, it is often said that if you go to university, you automatically enter the realms of the middle-classes. But it seems that this pleasant middle-class utopia has far from been achieved at our or any other university (if such a thing can be called a utopia). But whatever your views on the issue of class, it seems hard to conceive that the divisions that exist can be blamed on anyone but ourselves.

have a nanny? "No, I don't think so! I've got a nana - she's a bit senile." Oh, sorry to hear that. "No don't worry. She seems fine. Y'know what she said the other day? 'How do they train the animals in Jurassic Park?'" (I try to suppress a laugh). "You can laugh about it, it's fine." (I laugh about it).

Does your family own a second home? "No - just the one for us." Which political party, if any, do you support? "I don't know. Labour I suppose but I don't really vote. My family used to be staunch Labour but they hate Blair now. I think

my dad spoilt his ballot paper last time." So you don't ascribe to any specific Labour views? "Well I know they're like the party that I'm supposed to vote for. But I don't see much difference between any of the parties. I might vote Green next time."

What do you study? "History." What do you like to do on a night out? "I like Wire, Cockpit, Drydock and going to gigs and stuff." Where would you hate to go on a night out? "Probably Oceana, Nu Bar or some shit R'n'B or cheese place." Which Halls do you originate from? "Leodis." Out of your current housemates, how many went to private school? "None of them. Or at least if they did, they haven't admitted it! I'm suspicious about one of them though - they know who they are!" In your circle of friends, approximately what percentage attended private school? "I've no idea about a percentage. I do have friends that went to private school - but they're not really Rahs." How do you mean? "Well, they don't dress like Rahs dress. And they're not snobby or anything - just normal and happened to go to private school." And how many of your friends are from the south: a majority or minority? "A minority perhaps. But lots of my friends are from the South or what I consider the south. We're always arguing where exactly the south begins and the north ends so it's a hard question to answer!" Where do you think it begins and ends? "Anywhere below Nottingham's got to be the south."

Does it concern you that Universities in this country have accepted less state school students in recent years? "Is that true? Yeah I guess it does. I mean - like

"Is the Old Boy's Network creeping its way back in? Will the Exec Sabbs of tomorrow all have names like Freddie Parker-Bothnell, Charlie Coco-Camberwell and Rupert Tempest-Bottomley?"

Extra Cycling

Copenhagen: city of cycles

As congestion charges and pollution levels soar in the UK, people are looking to other methods of transport. *LS extra* correspondent, Leon Sealey-Huggins takes a look at how cycling in the Danish capital is setting the standard for intercity travel throughout Europe.



Dicing with death in England

Before I came to Copenhagen I had heard that it was one of the best urban cities for cycling in the world. As a would-be cyclist this was probably one reason for me choosing to come here for my Erasmus year. Having lived in Oxford for two years I had become accustomed to using my bike as my primary method of transport and discovered the many benefits it holds for impoverished students, such as saving money on bus fares or being able to travel home in the early morning after late night parties (sober of course). I'd also become accustomed to the fact that as a cyclist most other road users regard you and see you as a

redundant unmotorised nuisance.

I took it for granted that as a cyclist I should be prepared to cycle in the gutter to avoid being run over by careless motorists as they attempt to overtake you without slowing down. Or that you have to fight with the owners of cafes just to be allowed to park your bike outside while you enjoy a cup of coffee. Perhaps car drivers in England rarely consider how intimidating they can appear to an insecure cyclist. The culture of road use in the UK is skewed in favour of the toxic tin machine. The car, one of the most polluting modes of transport, is king of the British roads.

And yet increasingly we're being told to change our lifestyles in order to lessen the impact of ecological disas-

ters, such as climate change. We should recycle more, cut down on waste and reduce our energy consumption. At the same time, the number of car owners continues to grow, as does our futile eagerness to try and accommodate them. Many of my fellow Leeds students have their cars in Leeds; apparently the commute down Otley Road is too strenuous without a car. So it often comes as a big surprise to people when I tell them that I can't drive, nor ever intend to. I'm almost made to feel embarrassed that I'm not a member of the gas-guzzling club and I'm often asked when I will come to my senses and join it. Well here in Copenhagen the situation is encouragingly different.

Cycling in Copenhagen

When I first arrived I was shocked when I waited 10 minutes at a junction for a car to turn right before I realised that the car was waiting for me because (as a cyclist) I had right of way! I was left flabbergasted and unable to cycle anyway, waving the disapproving driver on while I tried to regain my composure. In Britain cyclists sometimes have official right-of-way but these laws are more often than not disregarded.

I've been pleasantly surprised by the demographic of people who use cycle lanes here as it's refreshingly varied. Sometimes when I pull up next

to someone it's a fellow student, but I regularly see elderly folk or parents with children on their bikes.

The extensive networks of cycle lanes in Copenhagen are world famous. There are over 300 kilometres of them which have been built up over the past century. And by including the bicycle as an integral part of mainstream traffic planning, it has been dubbed the most cycle-friendly city in the world, something which - after only five months of living here - I'd have to agree with.

Positive Policy

The government in Copenhagen listened to the advice of experts in Urban Policy Planning and acknowledged the fairly obvious fact that unless people feel safe when cycling they will be reluctant to do so. In fact, Copenhagen's cycle policy goes as far as to classify the bicycle as: "a distinct traffic category with its own separate road area". This means that bikes are elevated to the same level as motor vehicles and pedestrian transport. It also means that cyclists don't feel that they are risking death when commuting to and from work, making cycling the pleasant and relaxing activity it should be.

Scandinavian model

To understand the prized position the bicycle holds in Copenhagen, and all Denmark, you just have to consider the characteristics of the society. For example, with the welfare state people agree to pay high taxes in return for efficient and good quality care. It's a pragmatic arrangement that works to improve the quality of life for all. This pragmatism is visible in many other ways here too. From the fact that public places are welcoming to families, to the fact that students receive a decent liveable grant.

It's unsurprising then, that people here would choose a method of transport that is cheap, healthy, efficient and safe. And is even less surprising that once they had decided that cycling would become a major part of their transport infrastructure they developed policies and practices that made it even safer and more efficient. There is clearly an environmental aspect to the cycling policies here too.



The culture of road use in the UK is skewed in favour of the toxic tin machine. The car, one of the most polluting modes of transport, is king of the British roads.



VILLAGE BICYCLE: Everyone, it would seem, has a ride in Copenhagen, not on The Little Mermaid (left), you dirty little man, but on one of the city's thousands of cycles (far left, lower left and right). Bikes are helping to transform the city into a green haven.

CYCLE PHOTOS: BEN LANGFORD

gestion and pollution.

Possible in the UK?

If you consider the fact that cycling in Copenhagen was at an all time low in the 1970s then you have to accept the potential for a dramatic increase in cycling in the UK given the necessary public support and government resources. The ways the government encouraged people out of their cars and on to their bikes here were often simple; making sure that there is parking for bikes at regular intervals and at convenient distances, or ensuring cycle users priority at points where they meet cars. Also, standard marketing campaigns encouraged people to save their cars for longer weekend journeys whilst relying on the bike for intercity travel. At the same time the government wasn't afraid to introduce heavy taxes on road users which made cycling a much cheaper option or to say 'No' to extensive increases in parking spaces therefore making it harder to find a space in the centre. This all seems a world away from what's happening in Leeds for instance, where I've heard they want to turn part of one of the cities 'most loved' parks, Woodhouse, into a giant parking complex.

There are some unique features to Copenhagen that make it a more viable city for cycle use, such as its flatness. Yet a city such as San Francisco, far from flat, was repeatedly voted a top city for cycling by *Bicycling* magazine. Indeed in Leeds a comprehensive survey, funded by increases in car tax, could identify the most efficient and least hilly routes so that these get priority when choosing where to put cycle lanes.

I admit that Leeds will probably never be like Copenhagen, fortunately it's not as expensive for a start, but surely we should take a leaf from the Danes' book and work towards tipping the balance in favour of one of the most environmentally friendly methods of transport in existence.

Again this demonstrates the pragmatism that underpins this Scandinavian country's transport policy. If there is a problem, such as a congested cycle lane, then they conduct research into how the situation could be improved. The big difference is that in their calculations is always the health of their citizens, the quality of life for people and the environment. As well as what makes practical sense, for instance, Copenhagen had the first walking street in Europe, Stroget, which was probably the forerunner for the pedestrianised city centres that we see in numerous European cities.

The Scandinavian countries were also among the first in the world to formally acknowledge some of the environmental problems that started to emerge over the past century, such as acid rain. And ever since they have often been at the forefront of environmentally friendly policies. Here in Denmark recycling was the norm long before Britain. Even though the environment was not the initiating factor in Copenhagen's cycling policies, as more evidence about the damage that cars cause emerges and the need to ensure people stop living so far beyond their resources increases, the role of the bike is secured and expanded.

For instance, the cycle route from the suburbs in the north to the centre of the city is one of the most used cycle lanes in Europe and recently the council in Copenhagen decided that they'd make this a 'green wave' lane. This means that cyclists are directed from back streets onto a main road where all of the traffic lights are matched to the average speed of cyclists. Effectively this scheme sticks two fingers up at polluting motorists who will have to watch as cyclists are shown the green light to cycle straight into the centre. The deputy mayor for environmental affairs in Copenhagen, Klaus Bondam, expressed his commitment to the scheme stating that, if it isn't already: "Copenhagen is going to be the world's best cycling city."

Cycling in England

To cycle regularly in Britain might mean having to become part of the helmeted lycra brigade. OK you might

look fashionable in some kind of space age way, but you have to admit that this kind of wear is not very practical for anything other than cycling (or maybe a Star Trek convention). In Copenhagen I was shocked to see people cycling to work in their suits or in their smart clothes ready to go out for the evening.

In Britain you can forget cycling with a baby on board. That is unless you want your baby to grow up to be an extreme sports enthusiast and plan on giving it an early introduction. I've plenty of memories of having my ears nearly clipped off by bus wing mirrors as the driver zooms past oblivious to your existence. I've also had the pleasure of cycling along designated 'cycle lanes' which if you're lucky might consist of a lamppost and half of an uneven pavement, and if you're not so lucky, could just direct you onto one of the most dangerous and intimidating main roads in the area.

Image

The importance of image should not be overlooked either. People tend to view cyclists, as poor people who can't afford a car. Even if this is true, it is a harmful image to have at a time when we need to be moving to less polluting methods of transport.

Here I've seen all kinds of distinctive bike designs, some which would rival the flashiest cars. There are the classic 'duck-belly' bikes that ensure proper posture; these are favoured among most stylish Copenhageners and you feel as if you're somehow superior to those around you as you sit upright and proud. Another popular model is the Christiania bike. With its giant bucket on the front it's perfect for carrying big items or children.

Images of cars are often glamorous and are associated with notions of freedom. The irony of these images is that the more people who become 'free' and drive their cars, the less space and more traffic there is. I relish the mornings when I can just hop on my bike and cycle past the beautiful Royal Gardens and National Art Museum whilst on the other side of me frustrated motorists are clogging up the roads and probably their arteries. And there is a

real rush that anyone who's free-wheeled down a hill will be able to recall. Also, when I'm on my bike I can talk to fellow road users, and because as a cyclist you rarely suffer from road rage I won't just be swearing at them.

Not all is perfect

Copenhagen's not without its problems though. I've heard stories from friends that they've had their bikes nicked, apparently a common occurrence. Although it's not that surprising in a city with more bikes than people some will go missing. Another frustrating thing is that most of the cycle lanes are littered with broken glass, which means punctures are a regular occur-

rence. Fortunately the costs of repairing a bike are measly in comparison to repairing a car. And I have to admit that cycling in the rain isn't the most pleasurable experience. Nevertheless, even the foul weather doesn't pose that big an obstacle to cycling.

Despite Copenhagen's harsh winter weather two thirds of those who cycle in the other seasons continue to use their bikes in the winter. When the government asked people why they cycle the majority cited reasons of practicality, exercise and a few the environment. Even though almost one third of commuters cycle to work, the Copenhagen city council is intent on increasing the numbers of people who cycle in the city, thereby reducing con-





Sebrina Nasir

Labour leadership

There's more to the Labour leadership contest than a Brown coronation, says Sebrina Nasir. She takes a look at two contenders from the left and weighs up their chances against the bruiser Brown.

The 2007 Labour election campaign is in progress and there is strong speculation that Gordon Brown is unlikely to face any serious opposition for the Labour leadership when Tony Blair decides to step down later this year.

However, two Labour contenders have built up the courage to challenge what is believed to be Mr Brown's 'natural succession' to Tony Blair.

Left wing backbencher John McDonnell announced his intention to run some months ago. However, it was recently announced that the former Environment Minister and veteran left wing MP, Micheal Meacher, has also joined the race, paving the way for a three-way leadership contest. This seems to suggest that there is an alternative to the New Labour agenda, in contrast with the common belief that there is only one direction the party can go in.

Although both MPs have strong left-wing credentials, McDonnell could benefit from his record of voting against the Iraq war, which follows strong public opinion. He calls for an independent inquiry into the war and

the withdrawal of British troops from Iraq and Afghanistan. He is a strong Blair critic and is probably seen as more of a radical than Meacher. He also voted against University top-up fees, privatisation of public services and cuts in benefits, which he says makes him different from the other two candidates, who voted for all of these things.

On the other hand, Micheal Meacher did vote for the Iraq war, but later stated: "The biggest political mistake of my life was over the Iraq war. I believed the Prime Minister when he said there was a growing and imminent threat". However, when asked if he would vote for an investigation into the war, he said no. Meacher believes moving away from US foreign policy is in Britain's best interests. He also wants the scrapping of Trident nuclear weapons, huge investment in renewable energy, curbs on city bonuses, re-nationalisation of the railways and the national minimum wage to be raised to £7 an hour.

Although both of the left wing candidates distance themselves from the failed policies of Tony Blair and are

likely to hold policies that are very different from those of Gordon Brown's, what chance has either left-winger got of winning?

Before putting themselves forward, each candidate is required to obtain signatures of support from 44 Labour MPs. At the moment, John McDonnell says he has the support of about half and Michael Meacher is claiming the support from about 30. Although numbers are likely to rise in the next few months, it is questionable whether or not they can reach the 44 signature target.

The announcement of Meacher and McDonnell as contenders for the leadership may be able to raise the profile of the left 'in the interests of democracy', but it is likely to cause them problems as the left-wing is now divided. Both candidates are standing firm but, unless one of them stands down to make way for the other, the only victor will be Gordon Brown. Even if either McDonnell or Meacher can secure enough votes to get on the ballot, it remains doubtful that one of them could win in the long-run, especially as Gordon Brown has the support of most

of the cabinet and bookmakers are placing Brown as favourite to win.

So it can be said that the chances of either John McDonnell or Michael Meacher winning Labour's leadership are very slim, but Brown's rise to the position has still got a way to go yet. There is no denying that Gordon Brown is a highly intelligent man and is held in the highest esteem by many of his colleagues. Yet, in the eyes of some, his predicted replacement of Tony Blair will do little to save the reputation of New Labour. Brown and Blair are merely 'two cheeks of the same arse', as George Galloway so eloquently puts it.

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“There is an alternative to the New Labour agenda, in contrast with the common belief that there is only one direction the party can go in.”



Al Gunn

Beardy life

Beards used to be the the addition to have on your face. But woe betide, they have recently fallen from grace. Al Gunn laments our lack of facial hair

Britain is blighted by beardism. Pogonophobia permeates our society, from the roots of its follicles to the wisps of its whiskers. If it even had whiskers, that is, for, even in these supposedly liberal times, our country is determinedly "clean" shaven.

By way of proof, consider that from 1929 until 1997, no member of the British cabinet wore a beard. Margaret Thatcher even went so far as to declare that she would have no beards in her cabinet. Aside from the occasional moustachioed maxilla, the face of British politics has been decidedly glabrous for generations. In the USA, it is believed that a 5 o'clock shadow lost Richard Nixon the 1960 Presidential election.

Even McDonald's have a policy of not employing the barbate amongst us. Somewhat perversely, the grounds for this are those of hygiene. ExxonMobil and the Fire Service have both enforced bans on facial hair for health and safety reasons. Of our armed forces, only the Navy allow beards. The right of Sikhs to wear beards in the

Army has only recently been established, suggesting that the only bona fide reason to wear a beard in battle is religious. And ask yourself this: Would you be more likely to be offered a graduate job if you turned up for the interview with a prepubescent physiognomy or a jungle on your jaw?

Beards used to signify wisdom, virility or status. The Ancient Egyptians garnished their beards with gold thread. Even their queens wore artificial beards as a sign of sovereignty. Jesus, Mohammed and even God are all portrayed or described as being bearded. For the more rationally inclined, Socrates, Karl Marx and Charles Darwin are all fine exponents of the beard. Woe betide the Viking who had alopecia.

Now, facial fungus is associated with hippies, nerds, paedophiles and the unhealthily studious, such as philosophers and the overly religious. What was once a defining asset of manhood is now solely an accessory for the pious or the perverse. Is this a mere fad or something more? Or are we now faced with a virulent and cor-

rosive prejudice eating away at the very essence of the masculine identity, afflicting the hirsute where'er they grow? I believe we are. It is now illegal for employers to discriminate on the basis of age, race, religion, gender, sexual preference or disability. But there is nothing to stop an employer discriminating against the bearded and many do.

Nor am I alone. In Britain we have the Beard Liberation Front, founded in 1995. The BLF campaign on behalf of the bearded, bestow annually the prestigious honour of the 'Beard of the Year' award (always to Labour politicians or cricketers) and offer such sage advice as dipping a beard in real ale to keep it cool in summer heat waves. In 2000, Tasmanian MP Dick Adams launched a campaign against beardism down-under. The fight against beardism is a global affair.

Nor, necessarily, is it a man-only affair. Hirsutism in women carries with it an appalling social stigma. Whether it is the waxing of legs, arms or the upper lip, the expectation for women young and old to epilate is ubiquitous

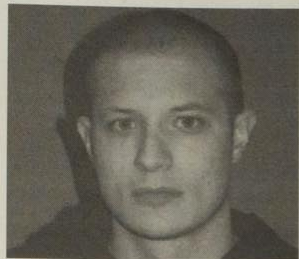
to our culture. We live, in fact, in a society that dislikes hair with a passion. From bushy eyebrows and furry shins to mutton-chops and handlebars, our hatred of the follicular has led to an unnatural situation where the Brazilian is *de rigueur* and men are more likely to endure the back, sack and crack than attempt to pull off the Fu Manchu.

This is hypocrisy against nature. Our hair is as much a part of what we are as any other aspect of our anatomy. But through our hair we also express who we are and through our shaving we betray who we do not want to be. I thus implore you, dear reader, to set your follicles free and let your hair be heard in the name of justice and the fight against beardism!

email:

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“Now, facial fungus is associated with hippies, nerds, paedophiles and the unhealthily studious, such as philosophers and the overly religious.”



Matt Winsor

High culture

There's no getting away from drugs, but with the police's campaign trying to stamp them out, the authorities seem as determined as ever to remove them from the streets. But Matt Winsor argues that it's only a minority that cause trouble on drugs

A few Saturdays ago at Dirty Disco saw the latest in a recent spate of police raids in clubs popular with recreational drug users, raids that were previously very few and far between throughout the whole country. So why the sudden police interest? For many, it is no doubt a welcoming sight - seeing the police finally cracking down on the massive drug culture that affects the dance scene. However, for those in the industry the reasons behind this attention are down to a dangerous change in drug fashion...

The Hollyoaks date rape storyline brought gamma-Hydroxybutyric (or GHB) to the attention of those who did not already know of its risks. However what is often misunderstood is that GHB is not only used to date-rape, but is becoming popular as an alternative to MDMA and amphetamine-based substances and was being legally sold as an aphrodisiac until only a few years ago (in the same manner that a form of MDMA was one of the first anti-depressants). GHB, ketamine and other designer drugs such as 2C_B and 2C_I are increasing in popularity due to the decrease in quality of pills - ask someone who went to raves in the early nineties and they will tell you that back then a pill was really a Pill, and

deserved the capital P, however nowadays pills are being filled with speed, Ketamine, and other cheaper substances over MDMA (rather than alongside it), and so rather than take more and more cheap pills and have nastier come downs, clubbers have looked elsewhere.

This new popularity (of GHB in particular) not only makes those who wish to use the drugs on others for reasons that a normal person would never even consider much more easily available, but misuse through inexperience or bad information can have much more serious consequences than other drugs. Ketamine is another drug that causes concern and although the chances of long term affects directly from the drug are minimal (it is a tranquiliser so if over-used will lead to little more than vomiting, discomfort and sleep) the possibility of wandering out into a road, falling over, and seriously hurting yourself without noticing is much higher than with other substances.

It is not an uncommon sight on a Saturday night to see people getting up to all sorts of things that you know they will regret in the morning after drinking too much, and in the early hours of the morning wide-eyed and gurning clubbers walking home are not

altogether out of place either. Yet with GHB, taking too much can have terrible consequences: there is a very fine line between doing enough to enjoy yourself and doing enough to fall unconscious within a few minutes of consumption - and the amount you need to die isn't that far off either. This means that, unlike pills and coke, those who do not know how to take GHB and Ketamine safely put their personal safety at much higher risk - especially the first few times they take it. Due to its nature, GHB can cause the body to shut down and talking to some friends in London I was told that in an after hours club there may have been a death in January, although this is only a rumour and neither of them could confirm it. In fact, the rumour mill also whispers that an after hours club in Leeds entertained a GHB fuelled male rape about a week before the start of the police raids.

Recreational drug use has often been a contentious area, as people will do what they want, and it is very hard to catch someone in the act of taking drugs if they are sensible about it. Also, aside from cocaine, the use of recreational drugs in clubs does not tend to lead to violence - a sweaty hug off someone you have never met perhaps, but not violence - so drug use apart, there were little associated crimes, unlike with

alcohol which is linked to a high number of issues that are still not being solved. This has often led to the police making allowances, and accepting to an extent what goes on in clubs as what an adult does to himself or herself is ultimately their own choice. However, with new drugs (on the club scene, as both Ketamine and GHB have existed for some time in varying forms) there are new reactions to contend with - and (when used wrongly) those of GHB, Ketamine and similar drugs can have much further reaching consequences than feeling upset the next day and wondering why you spent half the night chewing on your tongue - and now that drug use in clubs is effecting more than just the consumer, the police are stepping in to stop a situation that could mirror that of the horror stories of dirty needles placed on toilet seats that did the rounds during the nineties. So while many on the club scene feel victimised, it is not the police that deserve the anger but the minority that seem determined to ruin for the majority what has been for a long time a happy, friendly, and moreover safe scene.

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CARTOON: Mark Mackay

“In the early hours of the morning wide-eyed and gurning clubbers walking home are not altogether too out of place either”

Leeds Student

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Students still at risk from crime

All major inner city areas suffer from a relatively high level of crime, and Leeds is no exception. The fact that such areas in our city are populated by students makes them even more attractive to thieves, and a continuous rate of crime in Hyde Park is testament to that.

Even with regular police patrols and a great number of students out in Hyde Park in the evenings, students are still easy pickings, with many taking unnecessary walks through the park itself. Students complain that the lack of lighting in the park is the reason for the contin-

ued muggings, but authorities stress that the lack of park lighting is to discourage members of the public from taking a short cut home.

News of the attacks come just weeks after the Leeds Student report into sexual attacks on female students in the Leeds area, and should serve as a warning to any student walking home alone. With more than one person a week being mugged in Hyde Park, there should be lessons on both sides; it is not just the duty of the police to be vigilant, but for students to have some sense, and stay safe.

Apathy number one for student elections

This week, our own Vice Chancellor Michael Arthur took to the stand to be tried by his student audience, but even the VC himself couldn't help but notice the number of empty seats.

Arthur is one of only a few University Chancellors in the country to offer a regular audience with his students, and perhaps more should be taking advantage of his openness.

However, the VC hit on a crucial issue when questioned about motion five, commenting that he was uncertain whether students had 'completely understood' the complexity of the motion when they went to vote. This is a sentiment echoed around the student

population, not just about motion five, but on the ambiguity of the University voting process as a whole.

Be it Sabb elections, Referenda or any other act of 'mass' participation, the turgid reaction to student politics has been evident across the board. Maybe it is the fault of those involved in student politics that there are low voting figures, maybe it is, as the Chancellor points out, the ambiguity of the motions and proposals put forward in student voting that is at fault.

Or maybe, when voting is thrust so regularly in the face of the student body, number one choice is apathy.

University staff still stressed

The reports are in, and it seems that stress is not just a student problem, but a difficulty for the teaching and administrative staff at university as well.

Leeds prides itself on the support network it provides, facilities of which are open to both students and staff.

However, stress is not an easy problem to solve. The University have made changes in order to help its workers, but there is a

limit to what an institution can do. Stress is a personally measured factor, that cannot always be remedied by such changes. What is stressful for one worker may not be so for another.

A survey to discuss the stress that University workers may experience is a positive step, but obviously not a cure-all.

It is the responsibility of both the institution and fellow staff members to keep stress levels to a minimum for each other.

ls:tv fightback

Dear Editor,
All in all, the article reviewing ls:tv is much appreciated. The exposure it gives and the praise is excellent, especially comments such as "the editing is slick", and "long may it continue". We also accept most of the criticism given. For instance, individual programmes are open to interpretation and obviously we can't please everybody all the time. However, some things that have been criticised have been taken out of context, and some of the criticism is wholly unfounded.

Our main concerns raised by your article are the use of phrases such as "What the fuck do these people think they're doing?", a remark that we consider to be out of order; we can appreciate that we're open to criticism, but you must agree that this comment is overly harsh and in no way consistent with the overall positive tone of the piece. ls:tv is about letting anybody, no matter how skilled a presenter, editor, or director, take part and be involved. We hold no-one back and encourage every idea. To make a statement like that takes no account of the hard work and enthusiasm we see every day in the society.

Furthermore, you must agree that it's likely to alienate anybody who's thinking of joining up – surely your writer wants to encourage more people into our society so we can raise our standards, not drive them away?

The presenters at ls:tv are criticised by the journalist who, apparently, has no appreciation of who our presenters are or why they're presenting in the first place. The majority of our presenters and actors are other programme makers, who lend their time and effort to other people's projects. To personally insult them is a bit below the belt – we know they're not Miq-uita Oliver or Steve Jones, but we've never claimed to be E4, and the efforts of our presenters should be commended, not derided.

We are proud of the positive comments made by the reviewers, and thankful to Leeds Student for doing the review.

Phil Marriott
Station Manager – ls:tv

Fees income 'benefitting students'

Dear Editor,
I was interested to read last week's article, 'Undergrads pay more to receive less', and thought your readers might like to know that Leeds is spending the new fee income in a variety of ways which will directly benefit students. This includes a significant investment in resources like

the library, in learning and teaching in faculties, and in staff. One of the key aims of the University's strategic plan is to improve our staff-student ratio, and the partnership agreement between schools and students includes codes of practice on personal tutorials, assessment and attendance.

But it's also important to recognise we shouldn't measure the quality of the educational experience just in terms of formal teaching hours. The number and kind of contact hours will differ between Schools and between courses. Medical or Engineering students need to learn very different skills from students taking essay-based subjects like Politics or History, which need a lot of reading time. We have one of the top university libraries in the country and, as a research-intensive university, we want students to make the most of resources like the library and to learn to become independent thinkers.

Your article rightly points out the importance of surveys like the National Student Survey, and our own programme and module surveys, which help us review and continue to improve what we offer. And if students are unhappy about anything, including the level of staff-student contact, we encourage them to raise it at their school's staff-student forum.

Vivien Jones,
Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Learning and Teaching)

Don't be 'weirded out'

Dear Editor
I was upset and saddened to find that Steven Smith is 'weirded out' by the trans community. Maybe he should think about how many people he could be hurting with his words before writing future observations. LGBT is an essential safe space for a community of people still sadly discriminated against. Despite not being able to marry another man or give blood, Steven has still managed, somehow, to come to the conclusion that he is not discriminated against. Well it certainly is a good thing that he can strut his stuff at gay nights like homo without fear of being the victim of a hate crime but this doesn't mean LGBT liberation is complete does it?

I'm glad that you feel accepted Steve. Allow those who want to take part in the LGBT do so and stop denying the very existence of sexual identities millions of people choose to self define. Get over the fact that not everyone labels themselves with narrow irreversible sexual tags like 'gay' or 'straight'. Open your mind, chill out and you never know, 10 years down the

line you might be a lovely lesbian called Stevearella!

'LGBTQ doesn't represent me either'

Dear Editor,
I just wanted to write in support of Steven Smith's Observations column last week – whilst it is clearly going to provoke an angry response from the usual suspects on campus, his article does actually highlight an interesting problem with the concept of LGBT. As a gay man I certainly don't identify with transsexual people, and whilst I appreciate that someone needs to stick up for them, it certainly isn't me. And to suggest 'Queer' people (by which I presume they mean those who pretend they don't have a gender, despite the evidence to the contrary) are the same as gays is frankly quite insulting to me. To what extent we still need gay rights activism is debatable, but I don't see that a movement which is fast growing to encompass these people and their 'problems' has anything to offer me, and I wish it didn't represent me.

Adam Backhouse,
2nd year Philosophy

Expose gets standing ovation

Dear Editor,

I would like to congratulate all the people that involved in the Dance Expose show that was on last week in the Union. I watched the show on Friday night and I had a really awesome time.

I was so impressed with the obvious skill of the dancers and choreographers, not to mention the huge amount of effort that had obviously been put into pulling off such a spectacular evening of entertainment.

It makes me feel very proud to be part of Leeds University when such passionate and hard working people go here.

Congratulations and well done to everyone involved!

Harriet Cullum

Corrections and clarifications

It is the policy of the Leeds Student to correct significant errors as soon as possible. If you see an error in our pages, email the editor on editor@lsweb.org.uk. Please quote the date and page number.

Send letters to Leeds Student newspaper, Leeds University Union, PO Box 157, Leeds LS1 1UH, or email the editor on editor@leedsstudent.org.uk. Please keep comments to 200 words. The editor reserves the right to edit letters for content and space.

** Improve your text life - text LS **

PLEASE change the music playlist in the Terrace! Fed up with hearing the f**king Rogue Traders over and over. GC

Does anyone have Ahmed Sawalem's number? He's a hot little number!

Weekly Cubic Horoscope: Venus is aligned with your face this week which means your bits might fall off leaving you emotionally lost as no one loves you anymore

Most of Hyde Park lay in ruin today following a catastrophic earthquake triggered by Ned Vardey falling down the stairs

Nice to see someone writing sketch on a level with its readers. No more patronising rubbish please.

Poppy & Olivia. I no which one id rather do. And her name doesn't begin with a P. Hope I havent given it away

txt 07794
125795
2 get ur msg in



LS2 inside

What's the buzz about Hot Fuzz?

20

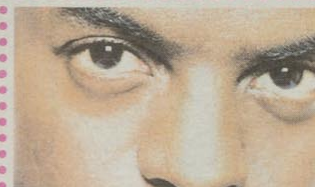
A no-holds barred interview with the team behind the hilarious movie.



Summer Ball Preview

24

LS2:inside takes a look at who's made it onto the coveted line-up to entertain 8,000 of us at this year's ball.



Going out

28

A night out with DJ Erol Alkan is never something to be forgotten. LS2:inside reviews his recent gig in Sheffield.



Stage and Screen

29

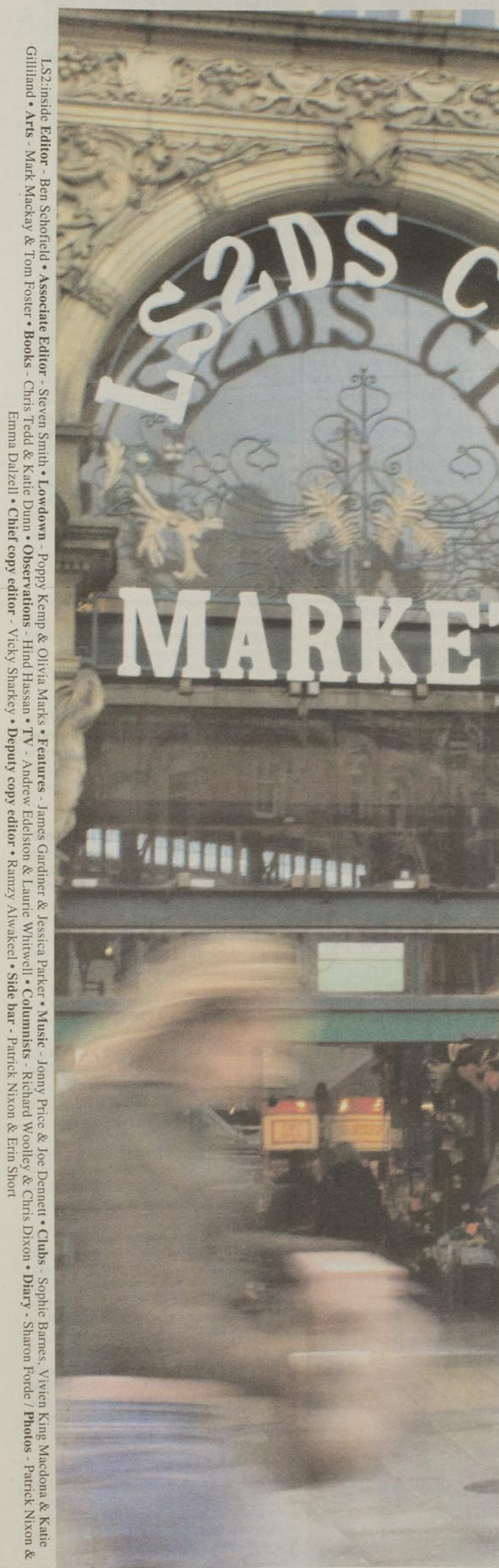
As well as our usual movie reviews, why not try our report on this year's Academy Awards.



Scorch

32

Scorch, LS2:inside's brand new gossip page is ready to tantalise you with everything LUU. Who's this sticking up their middle finger? Find out on page 32.



LOWDOWN}

By Poppy Kemp and Olivia Marks
(hungover)

Going Up:

Bodysock

Provides a fascinating insight into the worlds of people whose bodies are somewhat different to our own i.e. have an extra head on them.



New Looks

Not the shop, but the new look paper and our new looks. Olivia's gone goth and Poppy's had a nose job. To make it bigger. It may or may not work.

Smoke machines

Always set to create an atmosphere, and carefully mask the face of the ugly person you're voraciously pulling. Get one for your house to ward off burglars.



Helen Mirren

She is looking fucking good for a sexogenerian. And she's got oodles of talent to boot. Wouldn't mind looking like her when we're that old.

The price of books

They are so pricey but the thing is, you can't avoid buying them. And you'll only ever read them once. So bloody irritating.

Cameron Diaz's Oscar outfit

Looked like a tranny. No sorry wait, she looks like a tranny whatever she wears, but this was bad even for her. Looked like stiff kitchen roll.

Hollyoak's new credits

As if it wasn't cheesy enough already they involve those horrendous male and female symbols in the opening titles. Fucking cretins.



Bar snoggers

It is not appropriate to snog whilst at the bar. You are clearly there for a drink, not a wet kiss and a fumble. If you're going to do it, go elsewhere.

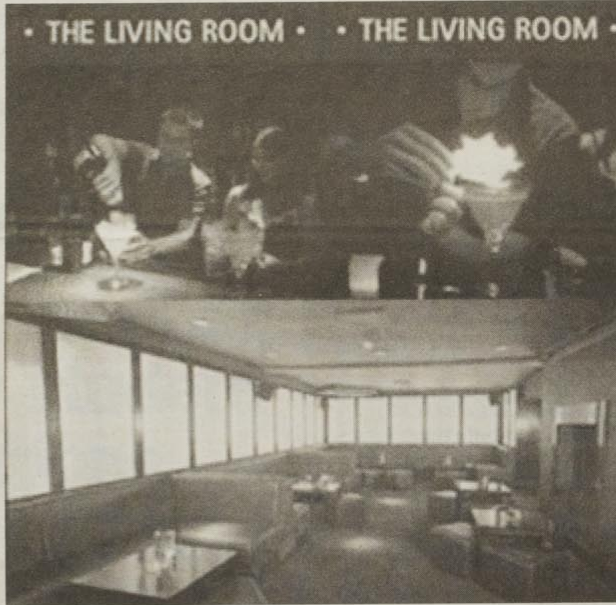
Going Down



Have you noticed anything a little bit different this week, apart from realising how much my eyes slope and that Poppy is actually burning a hole into your soul with that intense look of hers? That's right, no more LS2. Say your

farewells because you ain't gonna see it ever again. The one major downfall to this, apart from the obvious (i.e. that it looked really hot and was well cool and that) is that we have more space to fill which means that there will be even more unrelenting drivell

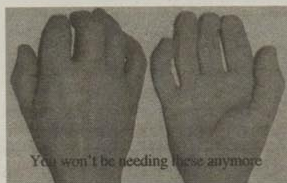
(and lots more pictures) for you chumps to read. Our die hard fans will most likely be jumping for joy at this revelation, to the rest of you, our commiserations. Go and have a stiff drink to calm your nerves, but don't get carried away. It is time for hard work and knuckling down, not waking up at two-thirty in the afternoon after a heavy night on the sauce. At this point I would like to promote the magical qualities of Nurofen. If you do find yourself in a position where, after one too many voddys, you awake to a throbbing in the head caused by your swollen brain trying to push its way out of your skull, pop a couple of Nurofen in your gob and feel the pain melt away. For best results take with a generous slug of cola. Have a lie down until the pills take effect and then you'll be raring to go! You'll feel so good that you'll want a cocktail to celebrate. But you don't want to buy one and you don't know how to make them so what are you going to do? I'll tell you what to do, get down to the Living Room on the 9th between 6-9pm and learn all about the history of cocktails, how to make them and how to drink them. All for the very reasonable price of absolutely nothing. I went to something similar to this a little while ago and it was definitely a good use of my valuable time. Don't remember much about it though. OM



Enraptured : Rubbing

The Rapture's first single, 'House of Jealous Lovers' only came out in 2002, which doesn't seem very long ago, but hell have they been playing for yonks. It seems that not a Friday passes by down the Cockpit without some goon raising his fist in the air, sweating like a rapist and screaming "shake DOWN!" along with the New York quartet who take their influences from bands such as Gang of Four and ESG. You'll know this song and you've probably danced to countless more without even knowing it, so why not open your eyes and pop down to see them at **Leeds Met Uni on Monday 5th March**? You'll perhaps be able to grasp a better understanding of a band who have described themselves as 'schizophrenic.' Surely can't be all that bad...Alternatively, you could save your money and go and see **The Cribbs at the Brudenell Social on Tuesday 6th March** but you'd probably have to be a) deaf, b) dumb or c) a pillock to actually want to go and see this band. I saw them entirely by chance down at Wire about a year ago, and I thought that I was going to have a thrombo. And I couldn't see a bloody thing. So stick with The Rapture, at least you'll be able to dance like a motherfucker. And that's always good. PK

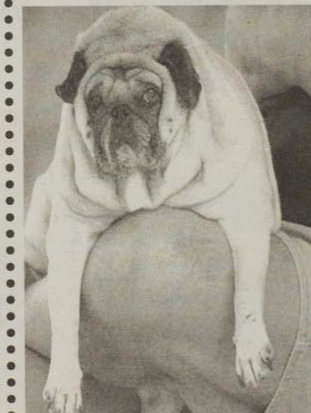
If you happen to be the unfortunate victim of a double hand amputation and think you will never massage again, you were wrong. **On Tuesday 6th March**, there is a beginners lesson in "No Hands Massage" in the **Conference Hall in the ARC**. For the meagre price of £3 you can learn to give a more than satisfactory rub down using only the lower arms. This isn't aimed at people with no hands but is apparently just "ideal for those who are looking for new and exciting ways to extend their massage skills". What was wrong with the old fashioned two hand method with a few choice essential oils? It all sounds a little bit suspect to me. "Lower arms" eh? Is that what they're calling them these days? If you get into the session and people are using more than just their lower arms then don't feel pressured into doing anything you don't want to. It might be an idea to alert someone too. But don't knock it till you've tried it, you may just enjoy it.



Overheard

"...I've had his balls in my mouth for god's sake...Johnny Johnny Rapey Boy...and then he said like, he didn't fancy me no more, coz like, I got no tits...do you know what, I'd rather die here in the streets from being stabbed than go to Iraq..."

Pic of the week

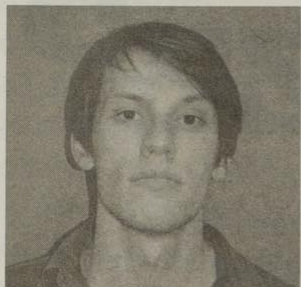


Top 10 Kiddie fears

When you're young, the world seems a daunting place. Everything is too big, too loud, too forceful and too much. So you hide beneath the covers, shaking like a dried leaf in a stiff breeze, until the horror goes away and the nightmares subside. Here are some that tormented our childhoods (and that we're not strictly over yet...)

- 1. Clowns** - This is not an unusual fear and one that often stays until adulthood. In Argentina, two made-up clowns went doolally and shot two people last month. What more reason do you want for fearing them?
- 2. TCP** - Grannie always whipped the depressingly brown bottle out of the cupboard above the sink, you got the intense fear. The smell makes you feel physically weak, like being unable to clench a fist.
- 3. The Sammeyad** - From Five Children and It. He was such a stressy little bastard - why did they put up with him? He looked like a shrivelled willy erupting from a sandpit. Bloody terrifying.
- 4. "Uncle"** - You know, the 'Uncle' who wasn't really you're uncle but you had to call him that and sit on his knee. He smelt of stew and sweated profusely. Loved golf.
- 5. The Twits** - Roald Dahl was a little bit fucked up (probably the war) and tried to fuck us up too. We got through it, but this didn't help. A tale of domestic violence where a man sets his wife off INTO SPACE. Freakish.
- 6. A Jesus Mannequin** - The village church often has one of these. When young and impressionable, this can appear to be Jesus's actual head, which is terrifying.
- 7. The Dark** - Not much fun, the dark. Like it now but when you're little you don't know what terrors are going to come and get you under your duvet.
- 8. Teachers** - There was always one teacher at primary school who would shit you up. If a tutor crossed you now, you'd tell 'em where to shove it. Back then, you'd poo your pants. Poppy's scary teacher got put in a mental asylum. No joke.
- 9. Long nails** - An old dinner lady with long nails trying to clean your wound after you'd fallen over in the playground was horrid. Especially if painted a blushing shade of crimson.
- 10. Maleficent** - From Disney's Sleeping Beauty. You always kind of thought she'd come and get you. Especially fearful when she hypnotises Aurora to prick her finger and the music goes all mental. Yuck...

RICHARD WOOLLEY



It's been a busy week for nutritionalists. A morbidly obese child narrowly avoided being put into care, whilst Prince Charles preached from the other side of the world (part of another undoubtedly essential waste of jet fuel) about the culpability of McDonalds in the obesity of his future subjects. And against this backdrop came the findings of several studies into the 'truth behind food.'

Firstly the shocking news behind vitamin tablets which, in a vaguely worded article in the Independent, were revealed to "significantly increase the risk of death." Whereas, at the same time in the same paper, ice cream was revealed as helpful to the tricky process of falling pregnant. I also learned elsewhere that watercress is a great help in reducing the risk of cancer. I read that cheese is now officially classed as junk food, and someone told me that rubbing flaxseed oil onto my naked body whilst whistling the "Ode to Joy" through a mouthful of blueberries would reveal to me the secret of eternal life.

Studies like these baffle and annoy me at the same time, not only because they are clearly filler for lazy newspapers, but because they have such a noticeable effect on people's attitudes. I've been a victim of food snobbery pretty much since I arrived at university, my offences being either a) unhealthy diet, b) unrefined tastes c) use of unethical products d) simple poor presentation. In fairness most of this criticism has come from people who are clueless about food and seem to live on green olives, hummus and pitta bread for their oh-so-bohemian Mediterranean charm. But a significant portion of this stick is from those partisan foodies who respond to ridiculous nutritional studies the same way Daily Mail readers respond to paedophile stories: that is with contemptuous, half educated panic, followed by vicious moralising.

Findings about the carcinogenic properties of microwave dinners, or the increased risk of heart disease from too much salt/sugar/taste in a cheeseburger, provide them with all the ammunition they need to make me feel like a slobbering, suicidal degenerate. The criticism transcends any concern they might have for my wellbeing and just becomes a self

congratulatory sermon on the moral superiority of avocado pears.

Well if eating these is the key to a longer life I will commit suicide tomorrow. The human body's a simple structure at heart, if something is wrong it will generally inform you via the mediums of pain or discomfort. This extends to food as well. The most memorable occasion on which my body responded violently against particular foodstuff was when I foolishly introduced an avocado pear into the mix. My disgust at both was agonising and long lived. It is without doubt the most disgusting thing I've ever eaten.

Is this the point? Is enduring a healthy but tasteless meal an act of contrition? Will it save your soul? Well it would do if only the food standards agencies weren't such a contrary bunch. The announcement that vitamin tablets are out and ice cream is in is quite a poetic inversion of the way these things tend to go. Usually dosing your body up with concentrated goodness whilst refusing all bodily pleasures is the way to go about saving your flabby life. Not so any more.

But this is an empty celebration. Soon enough there'll be a watercress/ice cream combination in response to these new findings and the cycle will begin again: "Personally I care what I put into my body, I want to avoid cancer and increase my possibilities for pregnancy, after all studies show...blah blah."

Of course there is a great deal of legitimate ethical debate about food. There is now very little excuse not to buy most products in their fair-trade alternative. And if you are against the slaughter of animals, and the use of their milk or unfertilised eggs in the human diet, there's a great deal of decent food available for you. It might be quite a good idea to avoid Bernard Matthews' turkeys at the moment after all. But these arguments (valid and crucially important as they are) don't have any impact on the food I put into my mouth, they tackle serious moral problems but they don't turn my day to day eating habits into a site of nutritional interrogation.

Take aways are bad for you, if you eat too many you'll get fat, if you're too fat you'll die. This is common wisdom. Everybody has access to this knowledge from an early age and acts on it as they see fit, it's nobody's business but their own what they stuff in their mouths. When the sins of a poor diet are preached to me with the same fervour as religious doctrine, and when the holy texts are newspaper studies into whether cheese is a junk food (it now is by the way), it makes me want to transgress all the more. If eating avocados is the only way for me to achieve Grace, then I'll see you in hell for a Big Mac.

email: eng4raw@leeds.ac.uk
Richard is an English finalist

“It's been a busy week for nutritionalists. A grossly fat kid narrowly avoided being put into care”

Richard”



I'm 21 in less than a week. This is unfortunate because I've not yet finished my novel. I've not poked a Tory in the eye, or eaten the odd looking white vegetable from the shop on the corner. I haven't met Jon Bon Jovi, or taken acid. I haven't even managed to go to 97 per cent of the clubs in Leeds, but I reckon that's a good thing.

Every day I am confronted with people who have achieved amazing things. The guy who is swimming the length of the Amazon, Jane Tomlinson cycling across America with terminal cancer...Even my sports teacher at school was one of the first women to row solo across the Atlantic. My chronic mediocrity is apparent whenever I leave the house. The adverts telling me I could have the most beautiful skin, the best hair colour, the best smelling farts...Whatever. I have decided to embrace my overwhelming average-ness. I can be the first person to be unfazed by my unimportance. By their scale of achievements, the best thing I have done is watch Point Break for the hundredth time last night, although that film is a masterful piece of cinema so I have no shame. My lovely editor just told me I could increase my word count (gutted!) so I feel I should maximise my space by further discussion of Point Break. I know what you're thinking; Keanu Reeves has only one facial expression. This is certainly true, but this monosyllabic 'hunk' has wormed his way into two of the greatest films ever made, namely, Speed and Point Break. Ok, so plot-wise Point Break is a little thin. It's about an agent who goes undercover as a surfer to bust a gang of surfing bank robbers who dress up as ex presidents of the US. However, the anarcho references such as, "Why be a slave to the law, man, when you can be its master" uttered by Patrick Swayze no less, and pledges to "not be like those losers inching along the freeway in their metal coffins" and instead experience the ultimate ride, whatever that is, make this extremely watchable. Not to mention Dr Cox from Scrubs, who gives the performance of his life and delivers the line, "young, dumb and full of cum." Anyway, I digress.

Part of our culture is to set goals, targets to be realised within a certain time frame. Even University asks you to fill out bullshit forms about what you want to achieve from your module by the end of the term. Ummm...learned something? Passed it? Not spent every waking minute sitting in the lecture theatre wishing I

was at home cutting my nails? Is this really necessary? I dread graduation and the inevitability of at least temporarily working some ridiculous job in which someone in a suit asks me to jump through hoops. Exhausted, saddled with debt, listening to a motivational speaker, probably hung-over I say 'Woof!'

I write to-do lists. Things I can tick off during the week and add some order to my disorganised life. A to-do list works well for me - keeping things small and simple. I'm not sure underneath 'Call my brother' and 'Do the shopping' I could write 'Alleviate world debt'. I don't think it works quite like that. School, the media, University - all of them - have perpetuated a standardized version of success. I had the maverick teacher who refused to teach the syllabus for my history A-level. I didn't come out with the best grade in the country, but I still remember his inspirational classes and the important parts of history. The rest of my spoon-fed education sits cobwebbed and forgotten in the recesses of my mind. Consequently I have started categorizing things by my own standard of success. Not to take anything away from the Tomlinsons of this world, but my current achievements stand at writing an essay for a law module without any help from anyone. Law is like Mormonism - I don't know what the hell they are on about. It might not be scaling Mount Everest and I'm sure law students could write it with the ten thousand page media law tome tied behind their backs, but it means something to me.

I'm tired of people setting standards by which to measure others. The little things we do, like picking someone's books up when they drop them, managing to recycle 50 per cent of your rubbish, quitting your job and choosing to work as a street cleaner so you can spend more time at home with your partner who has cancer. These things rank high on my list. They might not get the highest grades or the most recognition, but I'd rather go for a beer with them than the ultimate high achiever - Mr Universe himself, Hollywood star, namesake of the stadium in Graz, Austria, Governor of California and potential next President of the US... Hasta La Vista standardized targets.

• Dixon has joined the internet age (as if I haven't been Myspacing for years!) Old columns have been archived at:
<http://bitterbeatings.blogspot.com/>

email: ics4c2sd@leeds.ac.uk
Chris is a Viz character

“Chris”
My chronic mediocrity is apparent whenever I leave the house”

What's the buzz about Hot Fuzz?

First, brought to television fame by their success with sit-com *Spaced*; next, breaking into the movie market with *Shaun of the Dead*; now, cementing their past successes with *Hot Fuzz*. From the pens of Simon Pegg and Edgar Wright, their foray into the world of cop films has just hit cinemas. *Cultured* sent two of its writers, James Haddon and Tom Foster, to Manchester to meet Simon Pegg, Nick Frost and Edgar Wright to talk films, inspirations and dieting...

It wasn't the start we'd expected, the faces of Simon Pegg, Nick Frost and Ed Wright beaming over a plate in the centre of the table containing a small country salad and a half-eaten biscuit that Simon immediately proffered, "Do you want a biscuit? They were fresh about three or two hours ago. They were amazing: crispy on the outside, soft on the inside." It took a while to reach the topic at hand, the film *Hot Fuzz* – written, directed and starring the team of hit sitcom, *Spaced*, and their 2004 released first feature film, *Shaun of the Dead*.

Pegg plays Nicholas Angel, a London officer with an arrest record four times greater than any other officer – manoeuvred out of the City by his embarrassed superiors, he's dispatched to the soporific village of Sandford and a lifestyle of fêtes and frustration. Asked to define the film's attraction to the student market, the trio struggled to come up with a definitive answer: "It's got beer in it. Someone smokes," Nick offers. Ed interrupts: "Shaun is the weed film, and this is more the beer film. It's got the student choice of biscuit, though. Maryland

cookies feature in a scene." Simon finally finds a reason, with "If you watch this film, you're immediately entitled to 40 per cent more housing benefits", although Nick helpfully adds the disclaimer that this might actually be a lie. And, with an odd twist, the conversation takes a different turn: Ed playing off his friend's comment to steer the

conversation in the direction of Jaffa Cakes and cigarette adverts.

With *Hot Fuzz*, writers Wright and Pegg hoped to do for the action movie what *Shaun of the Dead* had done for the zombie movie: take an American genre and twist it into a British shape. "There's a great tradition of British crime films, but hardly any British cop movies, so that is what we're hoping to address," explains Wright. "Very few British cop movies

actually use the iconography of the uniformed policeman. If you talk to people from other countries, they say, 'they're so cute with their helmets and isn't it funny, they haven't got any guns.' So how do we a) make a big genre film about British Bobbies and b) how do we get lots of guns into it?"

Hot Fuzz revels in referencing the American action film, a genre that can be neatly grouped by their tendency to show gun-laden heroes triumphing over evil. What *Hot Fuzz* does is to provide a British counter to this genre-defining tendency. Namely, a reversal of circumstance, whereby the forces of good are satirically eroded by evil – in this case represented comically by a community concerned primarily with some very British concerns: the

“Anytime you have to get up and work with your two best mates and fire off a fat shotgun at an old woman, it's a pleasure.”

latent menace of hoody-clad youths, the social embarrassment of underage drinking and the constant irritation of shoplifting. This gives the film a sense of gently patriotic affection, as it juxtaposes Pegg's super-cop seriousness with copious amounts of paperwork. The sleepy village of Sandford is accordingly represented by a plethora of middle-class concerns, seemingly hand picked from the pages of the *Daily Mail*. To watch *Hot Fuzz* while aware of this beautifully simple formula makes it seem as if you're watching *Miami Vice's* Crockett and Tubbs take on that mean, ASBO-wielding section of the general public whose collective favourite programme is almost certainly *Watchdog* or *Points of View*. Between them, the trio came up with a more appropriate set of analogies: "It's like *Lethal Weapon* meets *Miss Marple*," or "The Bill as directed by Tony Scott."

Making an action film is, of course, a very different experience from making any other genre. "It's fun watching action



BOBBY: Policemen, as you've never seen them before (assuming, that is, that you've not recently encountered a SWAT team)

“If you watch this film, you're immediately entitled to 40 per cent more housing benefits.”

“There’s elements of procedural thrillers, naturalistic police films, the buddy-cop element, you’ve got the sleazy, sort-of violent, seventies, horror-thriller element.”

films,” Ed explains. “But there’s a lot of hard work that actually goes into making them. So I came out of the experience with even more respect for my favourite action directors. Especially to try and make something in this country of that ilk with the British weather: it’s tough going. Fun, but tough going. But for these guys –” “It was an effing hoot,” Simon interrupts. “It was like fucking Christmas all day, every day. The feeling of getting up in the morning knowing that you’ll be spending most of the day firing off heavy ordinance.” Almost as an afterthought, he adds “And not, you know, hurting or getting hurt.” “Let me tell you,” Nick begins, in an informing tone, “Anytime you have to get up and work with your two best mates and fire off a fat shotgun at an old woman, it’s a pleasure.”

The physical demands made of the actors were more rigorous in *Hot Fuzz* than their previous

projects. There were a lot of injuries on set, with Nick Frost alone suffering shin splints and bruising covering his lower leg (“Not on my lower leg,” he pointed out, “It was hovering just above the skin. Like a grey leg cloud.”). “They were good injuries,” Simon explained, “They were injuries that made you go ‘ah – I’m fucking hard’. Our make-up designer, Jane Walker, is so maternally and motherly but she’ll always photograph your wound before she calls the nurse if she’s nearby, so she can recreate them later on. If we ever do a *Hot Fuzz* book I think it’d be great, ‘cause there are photos of all of them. There were lots of cuts and bruises, but our health and safety were top notch – we had a fantastic nurse on set called Morag, who’s been looking after me since *Big Train*. She was always there to mop up the blood. I had lots of cuts and bruises, two strained quad muscles and a bad hand.” The catalogue of injuries was deceptively long, but seemed to offer the trio more than an enough of an excuse to recount anecdotes of their own past injuries. Nick interrupts Simon mid-flow with a left-field question: “Have either of you bitches ever shot off Nines?” In response to our blank faces, he

continued –
gesticulating wildly, “Hot
cartridges
fly out, so
when
we’re on
the crash
mats the
shells
have

landed on them. So when we land, the shells roll down to where we are and they’re hot. When you get up, you kind of have shells stuck to you – just out of shot you’d have me and Simon going ‘ooh’ ‘ooh’.”

“I was still in my twenties for *Spaced*, thinking I was indestructible,” Simon explained. “Obviously, I’m in my mid-to-late thirties and I had to train every day for three months. And also, you know, take part in a very rigid diet which I thoroughly enjoyed and I’ve maintained it ever since. I can have a biscuit every now and then, but on *Hot Fuzz* I couldn’t have done that, you know? I was really strict. I had no sandwiches on set. It was difficult – at four every day on a film set, there’s a big tray of sandwiches that’s brought out. And, when you’re feeling a little low on energy, Horace would come round – he was part of the catering crew – with a tray of fucking Kit-Kats.” Obviously a fondly shared memory, Nick and Ed reminisce about Horace’s toasted sandwiches at some length, pointedly ignoring Pegg.

Nick Frost was propelled into the limelight through his friend and flatmate, Simon’s, role in *Big Train*. “I put a ‘wanted’ ad out – ‘Need

upstaging sidekick’,” Pegg laughs. “We met in a restaurant in Cricklewood – I knew someone there, they came and told me there was a guy who was very funny and wanted to be a stand-up and I offered to get him in touch with some people. And that was fifteen years ago.” Working as an extra in *Big Train* alongside Simon Pegg and Mark Heap (later to star as tortured-artist Brian in *Spaced*) brought him more fully into the acting world.

Finally returning to the topic at hand, Ed turned to their development of the idea that became *Hot Fuzz*. “In this case, it’s like we wanted to tackle the whole cornucopia of cop films: there’s elements of procedural thrillers, naturalistic police films, the buddy-cop element, you’ve got the sleazy, sort-of violent, seventies, horror-thriller element. We’re covering a lot of ground from a lot of films we love.” The movie’s essentially British qualities are a deliberate part of its identity, and a part that Simon took pains to emphasise. “It polarises the absurdity – you see a zombie film in Crouch End in London, and suddenly it starts to highlight the things you don’t normally notice because you always see those things in America. It’s funny enough just taking a gun battle and setting it in Somerset, that’s a joke in itself let alone what you then layer on top of that.” Nick picks up on the analogy, “You can see the Danny Boyle London Zombies under the London Eye or the Houses of Parliament, so to see Zombies in a small, tubeless neighbourhood in North London...” “It’s

like the real-
England, not
the
picture

“You get your fix straightaway – it’s like the crack cocaine of performance.”

postcard England,” Simon finishes. “It’s like the old joke structure, you know? Juxtaposition of categories – you put a duck in a pub, and it’s funny.” At this point, Simon is forced to wait for Nick to finish laughing, (“He laps that shit up!” he exclaims triumphantly over his friend’s almost hysteric laughter) “*Shaun of the Dead* is a film about where we live, and *Hot Fuzz* is a film about where we come from. Edgar and I both grew up in the West Country, and we shot the film in the town where Edgar grew up and it’s set in Gloucestershire, where I grew up. Even if it’s not autobiographical, as *Shaun of the Dead* is in some respects, there’s still an element of ourselves in it.” Asked about the possibility of returning to stand-up, Simon seemed less than enthusiastic, “I’ve done a couple of gigs recently but stand-up is a very immediate and gratifying form of performing. You get your fix straightaway – it’s like the crack cocaine of performance, your hit is immediate. Even in theatre you don’t quite know what they’re thinking out there in the dark – with stand-up they’re either laughing or not. That’s something about it that’s appealing, but it’s too much work. It’s too much stress, I suppose I could do a run at a theatre but I’ve got to write all that material and I’m having fun doing films. It’s kind of where we want to be: it feels like the ideal environment for what we want to do. Doing films is great fun.” Straight-faced, Nick begins to tell us of their plans to make ‘Duck in a Pub’ their next film, but Simon interrupts: “We’re not sure yet. We know who we like to work with: don’t worry, there’ll be another Pegg-Wright written thing that Nick Frost then steals.”



WRIGHT ON: Ed Wright, director of *Hot Fuzz*, on the set of his debut *Shaun of the Dead*. Hugging a zombie, as it seems.

Square Pegg: a selected TVography

Asylum (1996)

Black comedy set in a mental asylum run by Norman Lovett, in which Pegg – a pizza boy – is committed due to a mishap, and despite being entirely sane. Co-starring Jessica Stevenson, Julian Barratt and (in a cameo role) Bill Bailey, all under the direction of Edgar Wright.

Big Train (1998)

Eclectic sketch show with an all-star comedy cast including Eldon, Mark Heap, and (in his comedy debut) extra parts played by Nick Frost.

Hippies (1999)

Not content with simply starring in this series, he even sang the theme tune. Created and scripted by the writer of *Father Ted* this series,

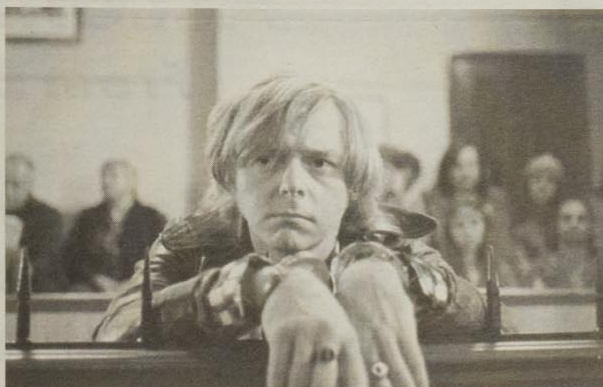
exploring the lives of a group of hippies, was sadly under-rated.

Spaced (1999)

Co-written by Stevenson and Pegg, this flat-based sit-com gained a cult following. Perhaps one of the most frequently quoted TV series, the show centres around the misadventures of Tim Bisley, Daisy Steiner and friends. Given a unique and wholly distinct style by Edgar Wright’s direction,

Brass Eye (2001)

Starring as a pillory-encased paedophile was not the most glamorous of roles, but it was certainly a memorable part of Chris



HIP TO BE SQUARE: Simon Pegg in his role as Ray Purbbs in sit-com *Hippies*

Morris’ controversy-encouraging series.

Black Books (2004)

Playing Evan, this quirky comedy’s answer to Brent has Pegg cast in the role of the sadistic book-shop owner next door to the eponymous ‘Black Books’ in the first episode of the third series. Just plain creepy.

Dr. Who (2005)

What star’s catalogue of roles would be complete without at least one role as a villain? It’s worth double if it’s in a programme with such a long history of memorable villains as Dr. Who. He played the banally named character of ‘the Editor’ in a single episode during Ecclestone’s tenure.

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Geek Pride

How did science-fiction and fantasy stop being the preserve of the socially inept and end up on our cinema screens, TVs and high streets? Joe Barnsley reports.

As I type this there are, to my left, *Shaun of the Dead*, *Star Wars*, and *Batman Begins* posters and to my right is an 18-inch Terminator action figure. This tells you something about me. Namely, that I'm a fully paid up member of the geek fraternity. And (having escaped school with a little bit of pride left to cling to) I don't mind admitting it, either. Luckily for me, such a confession is no longer followed by an awkward look or an even more awkward silence because, like it or not, we are all geeks now. "Not me!", you protest, but take a good look at your own room. A *Pulp Fiction* poster, perhaps? Or at least a couple of Harry Potter books on the shelf? Maybe *Lost* is circled in the TV Times? Either way, your computer is almost certainly glaring out the sinister Facebook mini-feed. There's no denying that the world is getting in touch with its inner nerd: geek culture is charging through entertainment like King Kong on the rampage in NYC - from the

leading man Daniel Craig. Adventurous revamps of the Batman and Superman franchises have similarly been undertaken with the dangerous employment of art-house directors.

Even the stalwart media medium of TV has got in on the act - combining the tradition of 'beautiful people' soaps, (like *The OC* and *Dawson's Creek*) with science-fiction plots so inconceivably ridiculous that even the biggest *Star Wars* fan might blush. Such hybrids include the blue-eyed gods and goddesses of *Smallville* (aka, Superman: The Early Years) and tantalisingly troubled castaways in *Lost* (aka, the show with all the weirdness, none of the answers that is still inexplicably addictive). On our own side of the pond, the BBC has revived the legendary *Dr. Who* with the dividends of great critical acclaim and even greater profits (judging by the vast amount of paraphernalia given to my cousins at Christmas).

Moving from one screen to another, the

frenzied midnight openings that occur each time a new Harry Potter book hits the shelves - I've often pondered the idea of elbowing my way through the maddened masses to get to the Border's cashier desk, only to make enquiries into the availability of books on eighteenth century Chinese history - just one odd example as to how a geek's great mind works. And, of course, there's always the old guard with role-playing games and other things involving dice that I just don't understand.

So why has all this happened? Quite simply, because business has changed so that it now makes financial sense to cater for hardcore fans rather than mere passing trade. The rise and - well - rise of DVDs have perhaps forced the most crucial change. In the olden days, the idea for movie- and TV-makers was to try and get as many people as possible to watch your work just the once. They could get away with tricking you into sitting out a mediocre mess with your mum - something that

reading the internet chatter of very sad people whose lives consists of moving from screen to screen.

That's not the only reason, of course. The editor of Screen International, the movie business magazine, reckons the directors are also responsible and, in a negative sense, to blame. "There's a new breed of film-maker who has more sympathy to this kind of geek material than your typical bunch of Hollywood suits. You have Sam Raimi [Spider-Man] and Quentin Tarantino, who has crime boss Joe Cabot, one of his characters in *Reservoir Dogs*, described as looking like Marvel super-hero, The Thing. Peter Jackson is your obvious example, in that he even looks like your typical fan-boy. There's a whole generation of film-makers who grew up in the golden age of the 1970s comic, and I think that there's a natural progression from comic strips into movies, because the visual language is so similar." Or, in the words of Steven Spielberg, "The

Playing the numbers game

4m

Copies of *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince* sold on its first day.

8m

Pounds made by *Spider-Man 2* in its UK opening weekend.

15m

Worldwide players of *World of Warcraft*, an online roleplaying game.

16m

Viewers for the first episode of *Heroes*, a series produced by the creators of *Lost*.

23m

Pounds worth of profit for Marvel's comics and toys last year

42m

Visitors per month to the Internet Movie Database (IMDb).



LARPS: Are geeks redefining cool?

'super' profits of mega-movie franchises to the growing trend of very popular things based on very silly things, like time-travel and magically powered rings.

Of course, movies have always erred a little on the wrong side of cool. Since 1977, when we first visited a galaxy far, far away, to the modern day of the big blockbusters - Hollywood has always sourced heavily from comic books and cartoons. This year sees *Ghost Rider*, *The Simpsons Movie*, *Fantastic Four 2: Rise of the Silver Surfer*, *Transformers* and *Spider-Man 3* released (in that order). And as well as quantity, geek films are also increasing in quality: take James Bond, for example. The previous 20 efforts were certainly fun (to varying degrees) but, in the modern movie environment, a serious attempt was made with *Casino Royale* to push the boundaries of the Bond franchise into something that was more than merely mainstream. Credit must go chiefly to the Oscar-winning writer, Paul Haggis - recruited in a stroke of brilliance by the movie's producers. The experiment resulted in *Casino Royale*'s BAFTA nomination for

internet has always been a friend of the geek, but now it can be used as a great tool to help build up the fan-bases. Mainly, the growing popularity of Japanese Animation (or Anime) has been fuelled by the wide availability of shows on - (whisper it oh-so-quietly) - illegal download sites. It's a two-way process, with the international geek scene continuing to grow from strength to strength (obviously, being geeks, this strength is purely metaphorical - no muscles included). An Indian comic book company has recently been launched and China's massive DVD markets provide the public with any movie they want, regardless of whether it has actually been released in the country or not.

In literature, sales run consistently high for the classic fantasies of Tolkien and Lewis. And, of course, you can't mention geek literature without paying homage to the publishing juggernaut that is Terry Pratchett, and his hilarious Discworld series: thirty-two best-sellers and counting. Even his name is quintessentially geeky - Terry? PRATChett? We salute you, Terry. All that can eclipse this great man are the

wasn't quite bad enough to make you want to rip out your own eyes but not good enough to ever contemplate a repeat viewing. Hence, Inspector Morse. But now times have changed. It isn't about tempting people into a one-time erroneous viewing of the latest TV drama or ridiculous rom-com. Now the big money is to be gained from flogging DVDs. DVD box-sets, DVD box-sets with behind-the-scenes info, a quaint little booklet listing of all the scenes/episodes and a nonchalant running commentary by one of the stars. Sometimes you can pull this trick more than once - *Terminator 2* has been released on DVD in five different versions and zombie flick, *The Evil Dead*, an admirable seven times. So if the Hollywood heavy-weights and BBC bosses want the public to shell out their hard earned cash (or, indeed, their student loan) for something they've already seen, they have to make sure that we want to see it all over again, and again, and again. So if you're a studio executive it now pays to do a new kind of research -

first generation that grew up on TV and comic books is now behind the camera." You stalwart non-geeks should be very afraid for the future - and think of the children. They'll be catching it too!

Bill Clinton loves Western movies, appearing on a documentary to argue in favour of his favourite, *High Noon*, and visiting John Wayne's birthplace. Whatever the origins, the effects are clear everywhere you go: branded toys, "fashionable" cartoon shirts, the cinemas packed with avid *Hot Fuzz* groupies (a tribute to geek life from start to finish) and the geek shops themselves. Closer to home are the Leeds University geek havens - the 'Film', 'Anime', and 'Science Fiction & Fantasy' Societies. You might be in the closet but consider: if you accept the truth and embrace your geek side, you will be joining the ranks of the world's next superpower.

The geeks shall inherit the earth - will you join us?

Cultured Summer Ball 2007

This year's Leeds Universities' Summer Ball claims to be bigger and better than ever. LS2:inside gives you the lowdown on the lineup

Every year, Lotherton Hall Estate on the outskirts of Leeds hosts the largest student only event in the UK. This year the Leeds Universities' Summer Ball has an increased capacity - but don't think that means it won't sell out. 2,700 tickets were sold on the first day alone last year.

The event is comprised of four arenas each with their own different agendas of live music and DJs. Every stage is fitted out with state of the art lighting and soundsystems and the separate areas are connected by hard flooring - so, in case you were wondering, go for Brogues, not wellies. In addition, every ticket holder will have free access to a funfair and cloakroom, will find plenty of places to

take a seat whilst enjoying some of the great food and drink on offer from the many bars and food stalls. And the best thing? All this will be available for twelve hours of partying - 6pm to 6am.

Also included in the price of your ticket is free transport to and from the venue - so no need to worry about the prospect of getting a taxi from the middle of nowhere at 6am. There are a number of different buses leaving throughout the night and you will be able to choose beforehand which one you would like to travel on. You can choose when purchasing your ticket, but allocation is on a first come, first served basis.

Tickets will go on sale in a few weeks' time, and there are special priority tickets on sale for those who get there first.

On Wednesday, March 14, priority

price tickets costing £35 go on sale to final year students. All other years will be able to purchase priority tickets on Thursday and Friday, March 15 and 16. Priority price tickets will be on sale in the Riley Smith Hall in Leeds University Union, online at www.leedssummerball.com and from CATS in the union from 9.30am onwards on each of the three days. And, as if you needed another incentive, the first 25 people to buy tickets on Wednesday 13th or Thursday 14th will receive a free bottle of champagne.

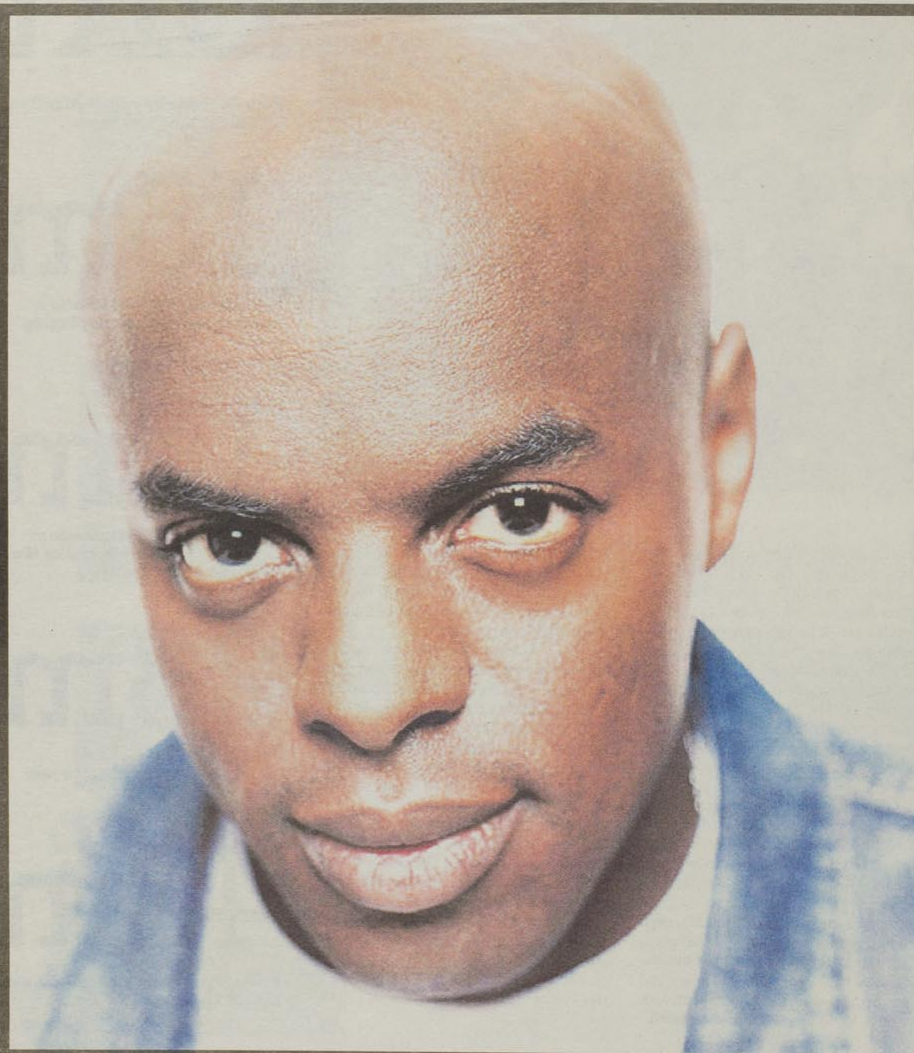
From Saturday, March 17, regular tickets will go on sale at the price of £40 each. They will be available from CATS, online and from the main reception in the foyer of LUU between 12-3pm.

When you go to purchase your

Leeds universities'
Summerball
Lotherton Hall
01.06.07

tickets, make sure you remember your student card. Without this, you will not be allowed to buy any! With your card, you can purchase a ticket for yourself plus up to two additional tickets for guests. If you wish to purchase any more additional tickets for your friends, you will need to bring their student cards with you. If you are purchasing your tickets online, you will need to know your student ID in order to complete the transaction. If paying by cheque, you must bring your cheque guarantee card to complete the transaction.

• **For more info, any news concerning ticket availability and lineup, and to sign up to the free newsletter, go to**
www.leedssummerball.com



Kate Lawler

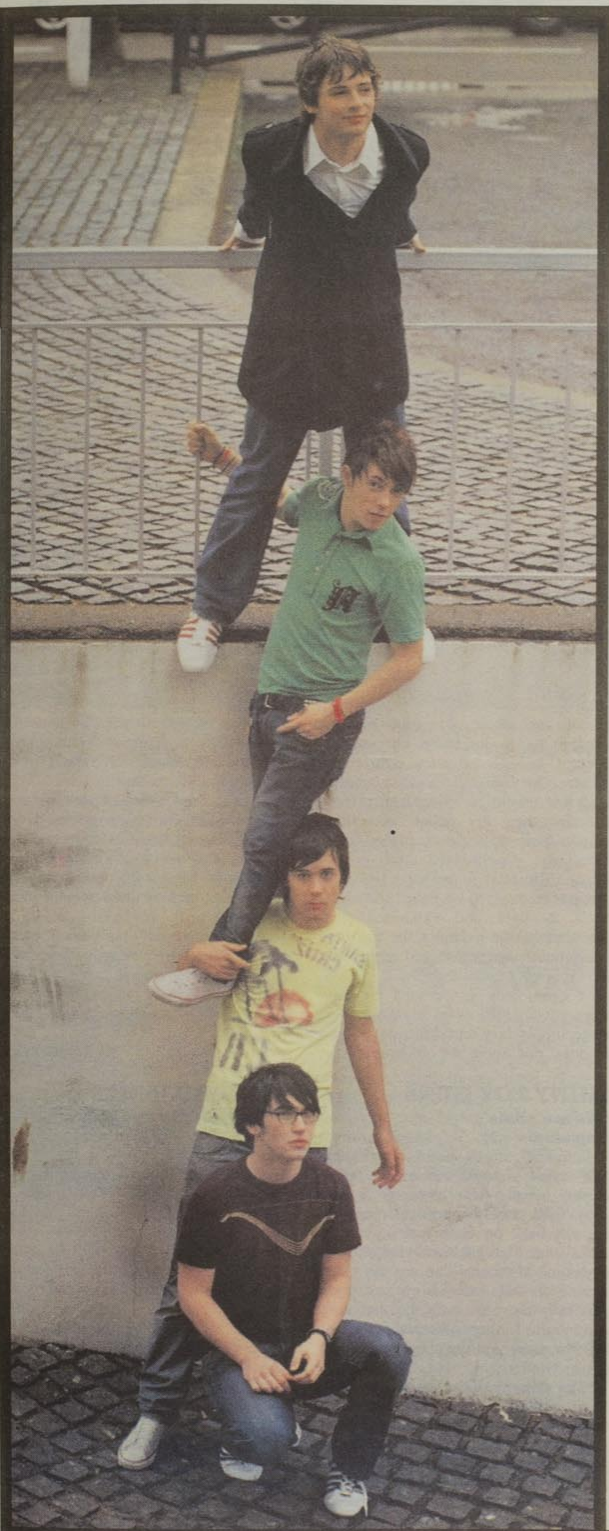
Some say that spending 12 weeks completely deprived of oral stimulation was what finally persuaded Big Brother star **Kate Lawler** to take up DJing. Or perhaps it was an adolescence spent playing music at friends' parties and making

mixtapes. "I have always been into music and made cassettes for all my mates at school. I would sit at home every Sunday and make tapes of my favourite house and garage songs. The amount of tapes I still own with "Kate's House Mix" on is ridiculous, but I can't throw them away!" Her words, not mine.

Trevor Nelson

Muzik Magazine call him "the most powerful man in British black music". His mates call him Trev. Possibly. Mr **Trevor Nelson** MBE (as we now know him) has built this reputation around what is coming up to three decades of championing RnB in the UK. Initially putting on warehouse parties back in the 80s, Trevor was soon invited to DJ at pirate station Kiss FM. After the station became a fully signed-up navigator of the airwaves, Trevor was offered a position as its director. Days were spent presenting a regular show on Kiss while he spent his evenings building up his name as a DJ, most notably as the now legendary Soul II Soul night at Covent Garden's Africa

Centre. This soon led Trevor into club and artist promotion. He's given a helping hand to acts such as Arrested Development, Gang Starr and Lynden David Hall. In 1996, he jumped ship to present Radio 1's Rhythm Nation, and managed to attract over a million people weekly (that's quite a lot - ask anyone at Leeds Student Radio). Trevor currently presides over MTV show *The Lick* which he presents twice weekly, as well as continuing to maintain a heavy DJ schedule including the nationwide MTV Lick Party. The T man is something of a Summer Ball stalwart fixture and claims the event is one of his favourite to attend.



The Automatic

Since rocking out of the valleys and into the charts with smash hit 'Monster' in the summer of 2005, **The Automatic** have become one of the biggest rock bands in the country. The band have put in show-stealing festival performances at T in the Park and Reading and Leeds Carling Weekends, are currently commanding a headlining slot on the NME Indie Rock tour and are scheduled to take their cheeky pop-punk electro over to

the US of A later this year when they join the annual Warped Tour. While showing a non-stop commitment to touring, their debut album *Not Accepted Anywhere* has just been certificated as 'gold'. Which means they've sold a shit load of copies. Pretty amazing stuff for four boys from Cowbridge, Wales (that's somewhere near Cardiff, apparently). They describe their sound as emerging from a shared love of Brit indie such as Blur, Ash and Radiohead, and formative band years spent in close proximity to the Cardiff



The Pigeon Detectives

The Pigeon Detectives state, as their influences, acts as diverse as **The Velvet Underground**, **Oasis**, **Bert Jansch** and **Elvis**. So pretty much the history of popular music 1950-2007, then. After

“
Their big break came when they signed to Leeds label and indie institution Dance To The Radio.
”

spending their younger years in various bands playing in and around Leeds, Matt, Oliver, Ryan, Dave and Jimmi formed The Pigeon Detectives in 2002, but their big break came in 2005 when they signed to Leeds label and indie institution Dance To The Radio. Support slots with **Dirty Pretty Things** and **Kaiser Chiefs** followed in 2006, and they are currently locked away in the studio somewhere - in all probability, not too far from where you are now.

The DJs

Bring your dancing shoes because DJs from all your favourite LUU clubnights will be making an appearance:

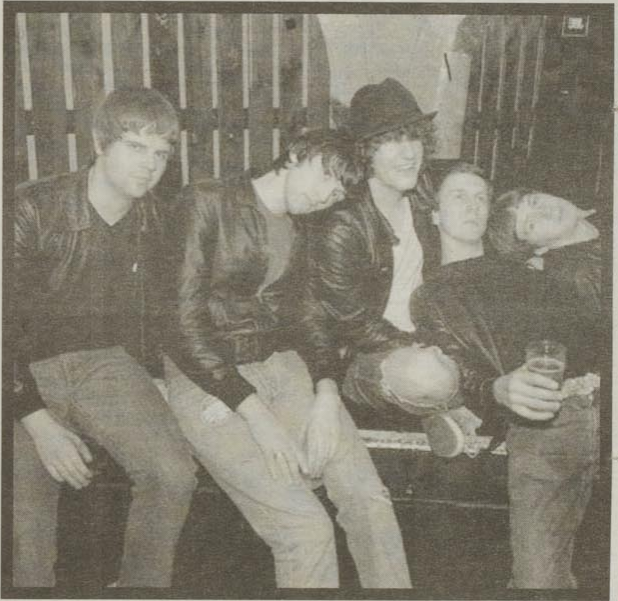
Brighton Beach

Since beginning in 1994, Brighton Beach has become a big feature on the Leeds clubbing scene. Residents Helen Baron and Tony Leighton say the ethos of the night is to celebrate the best of British, both new and old. Club founder Richard Todd says: "You'll still hear a lot of new music at Brighton Beach, but we mostly play uplifting classic tunes - timeless tunes that are immune to fashion and trends. That's why, at Brighton Beach, you'll hear an **Aretha Franklin** or **Rolling Stones** record

screamo scene. The band's talismanic (manic being the operative word) keyboardist and stage performer Pennie doesn't make the overused claim that The Automatic make "original" music; instead, he says they "absorb the best bits" from their influences to produce a sound that isn't linked to any flash-in-the-pan scene. "Listen to it," says Rob. "It isn't like that. Come and see us live. We're more exciting than a lot of bands. You've got to have interesting songs." And those they have, in spades.

Krafty Kuts

When you enter a DJ competition and win - despite the fact you've before never felt the sweet caress of 125 shellac beneath your fingers - then it's probably one of the only occasions you can get away with calling yourself **Krafty Kuts**. The artist formerly known as Martin Reeves has never looked back. A big 'playa' on the Brighton old skool scene in the late 80s, Mr Kuts also opened a record store specialising in hip hop, funk and breakbeat - the styles he would eventually fuse into a unique and highly distinctive new sound. Since then, Martin has held residencies both in his native Brighton and London in clubs such as **Heavenly Social**, **Fabric** and **Electrowerks**, and played alongside megastar DJs such as **Norman Cook** and **Scratch Pervets**.



played alongside a **White Stripes** or **Supergrass** record and, of course, all the great modern British bands, the classics of the future."

Central Beatz

Central Beatz DJs know, first and foremost, how to throw a party. But don't expect to see these guys at your cousin's wedding or a mate's house party. These guys have got to where they are through keeping their feet, and ears, firmly to the ground all the way. Currently residing in Mine the second Saturday of every month, the night has seen line ups including guest DJs, MCs, beatboxers and turntablists, as well as live drum'n'bass and dubstep bands.

House of Red

Launched by the people behind Red Artist Management, House of Red aim to hold quality house music parties showcasing their own artists as well as very special guests. After hosting the Vicious Circle 6th birthday in the Terrace, House of Red's resident DJs Clewz and Stash are set to bring the pain, or... red... to Mine the third Saturday of the month.

Tunnel Club

Beginning in 2005, the Tunnel Club has been bringing the best in indie, electro-pop and new rock to Mine

every Tuesday. As well as providing a regular indie night devoid of the regular sunglasses and drainpipe jeans pretension, they have also showcased a variety of up-and-coming acts such as **Forward, Russia!**, **The Research** and **South Central**.

Wax:On

Beginning two years ago at Newcastle's Digital venue, Wax:On recently expanded to a monthly night at Stylus. The night has attracted big name DJs such as Erol Alkan, Annie Mac, Digitalism and Evil Nine to play cutting edge electronic music alongside visual effects, most notably last month's 3-D disco. Wax:On residents Oli Patten, TC Monchton and People Get Real are experienced and versatile DJs who play anything from breakbeat, drum'n'bass, house, hip hop and funk.



Music: Records

Singles

"Tell Me 'Bout It" (Relentless) is the lead single off an album that **Joss Stone** claims is her first to really express her artistic vision, which, on this evidence, appears to be "Same as before, but even less

interesting". See also **Get Cape. Wear Cape. Fly's** 'I Spy' (Atlantic) as confrontational as ever, but his angst still veers petulance. He's possibly moaning at his critics, possibly at himself, but he's definitely moaning, and it's getting very tiresome.

goFASTER>>> have got a nice way with a cheap keyboard, but 'She Starts Monday' (This Is Fake DIY) makes the schoolboy error of dragging itself out a few minutes too long in the mistaken belief that the guitarist is going to do something interesting; something like the guitars on **Wolf & Cub's** 'This Mess' (4AD), perhaps. Unfortunately, Wolf & Cub's vocalist sounds like a sobered-up Black Rebel Motorcycle Club, and the whole thing comes off like a more workmanlike

Comets on Fire — nice and warped, but never quite reaching the heights of giddiness that they're aiming for.

How much you enjoy **Regina Spektor's** 'Fidelity' (Sire records) will depend on how accommodating of her coquettishness you are. If you can stand the bit in the middle, where she starts repeatedly pronouncing "better" as if she's got a fish flopping about in her mouth, then you get a charming little pop song about the difficulty of knowing how much to give up to the one you love. If you can't, then you may well vomit. Your call.

You know when football pundits talk about 'doing the simple things well'? 'The Duke', by **The Butterfly** (Wanderlust), is sort of like that. On the surface, standard goth-rock tear-up, but its elements align just so: drums go a bit too fast, singer sounds just haughty

enough, and the guitars have this beautiful efficiency when they cascade down the scales, deliberately blunt and brief. It's not the Eighties Matchbox, but then, what is?

By a short head, though, they all get edged out by **Sometree's** 'Hands And Arrows' (Dance To The Radio), a big gloomy slice of German indie-rock, which approaches things from the Midlake end of the spectrum — terribly intricate arrangements of guitar lines and bass lines, a nicely throaty singer whose voice hits all your lovelorn buttons dead-on — and comes up trumps.

By William B. Sywgart

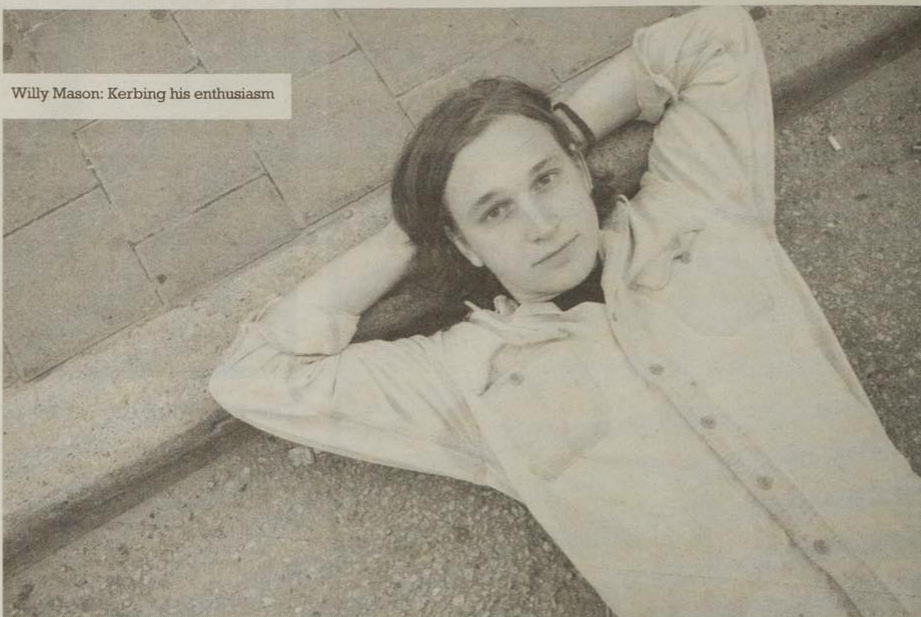
The return of the Wunderkind

WILLY MASON
'If the ocean gets rough'
Virgin

It is quite literally impossible to say a bad word against this man. His music consistently achieves a delicate balance of being both rugged and determined yet simultaneously, precise and introverted. Where as his debut album 'Where the humans eat' was an announcement of his talent and a tribute to his innovative, do-it-yourself approach to getting an album out, 'If the Ocean gets rough' is the sound of a young artist cautiously taking his first steps towards mass global appeal and instant commercial success.

Some will undoubtedly suggest that he has 'sold out' with this release, but then who can blame him for taking a lucrative record deal with a major label, a deal that would undoubtedly put pressure on him to write exactly this kind of album when it would presumably ensure the financial security of his family indefinitely? This is not a sell out, this is a tribute to Mason's superb ability to adapt to his surroundings and his eyes are clearly set on creating a fuller and more accomplished piece of work, something which he manages effortlessly.

Gone are the sparse, harrowing tracks like 'Oxygen' and in their place are full blown stompers like 'We can be strong', complete with harmonies, full band and a relentlessly infectious chorus. One thing that does not go unnoticed is the sheer amount that the piano and guitar tracks in the verse resembles Eric Clapton's live version of 'Layla', yet with the doe-eyed ploddings of Mason's vocals it is hardly what you would call a rip-off. Recent single 'Save myself' is equally an epitome of the new and improved song writing style he has adopted. There remains a level of honesty and maturity in his vocals and throughout the song, and



Willy Mason: Kerbing his enthusiasm

“The songs are catchy but without being annoying and they remain thoughtful without becoming self indulgent.”

indeed the album, his tone remains candid, as if he were sharing his deepest thoughts privately, over a pint of beer. One cannot help but also notice that this album is recognizably more melodic than his debut, something which surely does greater justice to his familiarly politicized and critical lyrics. 'Rip-tide' is perhaps the only obvious remnant to his debut and offers itself as dark and exhausted rant, presumably be-moaning the tiresome struggle of modern life and is possibly the highlight of the album.

'I can't sleep' is perhaps the only song you'd really want to avoid, it is quite simply lazy and directionless, yet it does not serve to undermine the

brilliance of other tracks such as the resolutely pragmatic 'Gotta keep walking' and the soulful 'Simple town', to mention only a couple.

In all, this is an album that will doubtless still be suprising you in ten years time, not because of its musical intricacies or overwhelming depth, but because of Mason's lyrical ambiguity and the fact that, by and large, the more you listen to it, the more you like it. The songs are catchy but without being annoying and they remain thoughtful without becoming self indulgent. Sell out my arse, this is comfortably an album of the year. (1st)

By Jonny Price

SHINY TOY GUNS
'We are pilots'
Universal

Self styled as some sort of new wave electro heroes, their music is acutely emo; think lonely spaceman pines for his girl back on earth and decides to make some high pitched digital noise to overcome his loss. I can see the video now: a tear falls from his eye and floats magically down to earth, girl looks up and mourns for her spaceman as the tear hits her square on the cheek... it's that cringe-worthy!

The majority of the songs are simply 'I am alone', 'I love this girl' kind of things that possess zero originality, and are not helped by the attempt at 'synthy' programming and 80s throwback production. Admittedly, 'Le Disko' is a sterling effort and is reminiscent of Peaches' 'Fuck the Pain Away' in places, but how can you take the voice of Carah Faye seriously when she lent her vocals to the demos of Paris Hilton's foray into the pop world?

No matter how much they'd have us believe they were out there, or even progressive, Shiny Toy Guns are nothing more than a Shiny Toy Water Pistol. They have produced nothing more than an awful pop-punk album with synths rather than guitars, in an attempt to be a credible version of Angels and Airwaves. It doesn't work. It doesn't inspire anything, Shiny Toy Guns ain't loaded. (3rd)

RICHARD JAMES
'The seven sleepers den'
My Kung Fu

An introduction of atmospheric haunting choral sounds recorded from within a Cathedral, leading into gently plucked guitar, is a soothing start to a very calm album. Some songs sung mysteriously in Welsh, others in English for those of us not living on the hilly side of the border, and a relaxed folk sound throughout make a treat for the ears. Richard James, formally guitarist of Gorky's Zygotic Mynici, is a Cardiff based singer-songwriter, and with the help of some friends has produced his debut solo album.

Entitled 'The Seven Sleepers Den', a title extracted from John Donne's poem 'The Good Morrow', is as poetic as its predecessor, "I've seen in your heart, you make me feel, like love never dies, it feels so real". Reminiscent of fellow Welshman, Gruff Rhys, of Super Furry Animals fame, a debut solo album full of harmonica's, soft drumming and 'doo-be-do-ing', it feels cute and happy and warm inside. Single 'My Heart's on Fire', is slightly more upbeat than the rest, featuring slide-guitars and reverb drums, and although it doesn't have an exceptional hook that might propel it to fame, it has all the right ingredients in the right places for any discerning folk fan. (1st)

By Tess Eaton

Shiny toy guns: Clearly engaging in some form of giant 'Art-attack'.



UNION OF KNIVES/SHINY GUNS/THE SOUNDS

The Faversham
Wednesday 21st February

Despite their original billing as headliners, Scottish trio **Union Of Knives** (plus a couple of extra musicians) are the first to step up (or is that down?) onto The Fav's undersized stage tonight. Initial impressions are very good; Chemical Brothers-style block rockin' beats and a flashy light show are supplemented by brooding lyrics delivered by dual vocalists who sound, respectively, somewhat similar to Dave Gahan and Thom Yorke. Current single 'Evil Has Never', in particular, is satisfyingly moody; its repeated refrain of 'Evil has never loved you/Nobody has ever loved you as I do' resonating strongly with any of us who have ever been handed a restraining order. Ahem... The set then rather loses its way with a couple of slower, slightly monotonous numbers, although their enthusiastic dancing (well, OK, nodding whilst facing each other in a triangle) does at least keep things entertaining, lending them the air of one of those bands from Brighton who used to like rave music and MDMA before they discovered guitars (they're actually from Glasgow). Still, they save a couple more decent tracks for last, leaving those in the crowd who haven't suffered epileptic seizures quietly impressed. (2:1)

Next up are **The Sounds**, a band which I may only be aware of due to the appearance of their drop dead gorgeous (and apparently bisexual) Swedish frontwoman Maja Ivarsson in



Arena Magazine last month. In person, she has a strong singing voice, is perfectly proficient at working the crowd until they're moist with desire and, yes - fucking stunning. Unfortunately, the same can't be said of her masculine compatriots, nor the staid indie/electro-by-numbers which they collectively emit; this is essentially the same audio bollocks which The Bravery tried (and, thankfully, largely failed) to put in shiny packaging and flog to the masses a couple of years ago. Except with a Scandinavian sex-bomb instead of that bloke with all the eyeliner and wristbands singing. Although even she gets a bit annoying when she keeps calling the audience, "Muthafuckaaaaas," in a faux American accent. You still would though... (2:2)

Finally, those who hang around are treated to a set by recent Universal

signings **Shiny Toy Guns**, who, as well as having a very silly name, have recently been named as main tour support to (gasp!) Fall Out Boy. They have a male lead vocalist who has tonight opted for a daring ginger-stubble-and-blue-eye-shadow look and a female co-vocalist who's quite hot (but not as hot as Maja). The songs which she features on - especially single 'Le Disko', which is particularly silly but probably quite fun for the first few listens - are much better than those without her, his whiny voice proving rather tiresome. They also have some cool flashing lights, but these fail to disguise what STG truly represent: a cynical attempt to sell half-arsed electro music to the much-touted 'emo kid' demographic. Tragically, with major label backing, they're likely to succeed. (3rd)

By Mark Armitage

Starz in his eyes?

JUST JACK

The Cockpit
Thursday 15th February

Radar took to The Cockpit's stage for their support slot just before 8pm.

The London-based four-piece were entertaining a room that was less than half-full. Illuminated by simple red and blue lighting, their guitar-driven sound had a skippy lightness with ska overtones, reminiscent of Madness and Gorillaz in parts.

Radar, in addition to having a comfortable, jaunty stage demeanour, which included splitting the crowd in to two and interacting with them between songs, were also evidently excellent musicians whose performance featured songs of a wide range of styles and tempos. (2:2)

Arriving to a full room just before 9pm to the sound of Athlete's 'El Salvador' and Wolfmother's 'Joker & The Thief', the North London-based rapper **Just Jack** was accompanied by a drummer, keyboardist, bassist, guitarist, and female co-vocalist, Roz James.

Covering styles ranging from funk to 80s-hair-rock-influenced guitar-based tracks, to songs with a dark, brooding edge (courtesy of the Rhodes keyboard), and complementing these with fantastic vocoder vocals from the keyboardist, Jack and his band excelled. However, James's vocal performance throughout the first two songs had been marred by technical difficulties with the microphone wire, which were fixed when it was

changed.

"Goth In The Disco", performed towards the end, was the undoubted highlight of the evening. Encouraging the crowd to 'shake something', Jack explained that this track was only being performed live in anticipation of a single release later this year. This fascinating Mylo-meets-The Rapture-meets-Scissor Sisters number was particularly impressive in the way Jack encouraged the drummer to accelerate into a frenzy, before slowing down to a beautifully controlled finish.

Sadly, the musical brilliance contrasted sharply with the disappointing lighting. Uncoordinated and obviously unrehearsed, it was ironic after her earlier technical difficulties with her microphone that the lighting seemed to plunge James into darkness every time she went to sing a vocal.

Following a brilliant rendition of "Disco Friends", the band finished with a remarkably energetic rendition of "Starz In Their Eyes", the latest single from the new album. With the drummer on fiery form, the stage and the entire crowd throwing their hands in the air, Jack pointed to the spotlight to toast the party atmosphere. It was clear from the smiles of the band members that they were equally enjoying the gig, their first-ever headline performance in Leeds. (2:1)

By Nicholas Polydor
& Fflur Hilton

Hungry Like the Wolf

PATRIK WOLF

The Cockpit
Wednesday 14th February



Patrick Wolf will appear on your I-tunes under the genre of 'unclassifiable' and this certainly rang true tonight. Wolf is a musical chameleon with a set encompassing 1980s New Romanticism and Apple Mac loops to brooding introspections. Leaning heavily towards the electronic vein of his work, Wolf proved himself adept in the art of live performance; his bold (albeit verging on camp) choreography accompanying electronic sounds of an almost industrial nature lent themselves well to an aesthetically impressive set. Audience satisfaction was clearly the aim and he impressed the clan of 'new ravers' nearby me, however this did come at a cost, the flood of electronic sound did tend to smother once delicate songs which were originally arranged to achieve far more of an organic sound.

Although he could be complimented for his adaptability, in opting for instantly gratifying music rather than that which requires a little more thought, is he selling out?

Despite this, there were some beautiful moments; littered with lyrics of a pastoral nature, minimal stringed accompaniment and a soaring falsetto. 'London' was hauntingly fragile amplifying the fact that it is impossible to deny the appeal of his music and his versatility as a performer, switching with dramatic ease between ukelele and violin to indulging in what was essentially glorified pop.

In exchanging his vulnerable demeanour for bold precociousness, throughout the set, one couldn't help but feel that his stage persona was heavily contrived. Donning a half haired violin bow, a constant need to dishevel his hair and an outfit that looked like the result of a rummage in a dressing up box this was far from effortless, it seemed that much thought had gone into assembling as 'quirky' an outfit as possible.

Wolf has grown not only in confidence but in the nature of his fan base which has reached almost cult-like heights; the female stage invaders clinging onto him at the end of the show was particularly embarrassing to watch. Clearly a paradoxical figure, my final thoughts are still unresolved; has Patrick been subsumed by what typifies the 'MySpace generation' of image over substance? (2:1)

By Isabel Gillen Smith

BLACK WIRE @ PANIC

The Cockpit
Wednesday 14th February

All in all, Panic is your standard indie disco, fans of Klaxons will be spoilt for choice and those of you who find little appeal in New-rave and the Jo Whaley show will not find much here. However, if it's a cheap, student infested piss-up, sound-tracked to the best popular, British guitar music that you want, then Panic's comfortably the best night in Leeds.

Black Wire march on stage, along with the replacement for their drum machine, new member Danny, a real life drummer. It's all quite exciting, and as they throw themselves into previous single 'Hung Up', the crowd surges forward, desperate to show off their dance moves. And dance moves are shown off, since everything Black Wire play seems to grab you by the scruff of the neck and physically force you to dance. They could probably bang out a tune on a saucerpan and you'd still be throwing yourself around the room, limbs flailing in all directions.

Old and new songs are thrown together and the band display their talents superbly. Drummer Danny fits in well, and everything seems that bit more real with the substitution of their drum machine. New songs like 'See The Blood' fit snugly against old classics like 'Hard To Love, Easy To Lay', the crowd going equally bananas for both. However, the highlight of the set is most certainly new song 'House', a chanted, foot stomping classic that is sure to be a future single. It's a short set, and just as well, since everyone is utterly knackered. Black Wire have been away a long time, but by god I'm glad they're back. (2:1)

By Owen Clements

Blonde is the colour

THE LONG BLONDES

The Met
Monday 12th February



Sheffield quartet **Navy** are first to take the stage at The Met, boasting not one but two female percussionists (a singing drummer and another lady who appears to specialise in playing the woodblock). Despite the general disinterest of the somewhat sparse early evening onlookers, they generate a nice enough Pixies-ite racket which is rather spoilt by the fact that both the aforementioned drummer and frontman Keith struggle to reach even the level of intelligibility of the singer from Clap Your Hands Say Yeah! (i.e. nil). (2:2)

Leeds locals **The Lodger**, however, are much more successful in tempting the sold-out crowd away from the bar. The trio's sound may be a little bit 1995 (an impression reinforced by drummer Katie's Britpop-babe-style give-a-fuck gaze), but one can have little cause for complaint when they write concise, bittersweet pop songs of the calibre of 'Let's Make A Pact' and 'Simply Left Behind'. Forthcoming album 'Grown-Ups' will be one to

watch out for. (2:1)

Should one be in any doubt as to whom the majority people have paid to see, though, a cursory glance at the amassed retro-chic-clad lovelies and a few of their broadly-grinning beaus dispels this instantly; whilst **The Long Blondes** may not yet have the platinum discs to match some of their over-hyped (and often less talented) contemporaries, they clearly inspire devotion in those who do 'get' them, and these are their people. From the moment Kate Jackson bounds onstage (tonight sporting a fetching pair of high-waisted denim shorts), strikes a pose and then launches into 'Lust In The Movies', the throng spontaneously breaks out into... well, if not frenzied dancing, then at least a spot of enthusiastic booty-wiggling; maybe this is what your parents mean when they talk about going for 'a bit of a bop' in their youth.

Meanwhile, lead guitarist, principal songwriter and genuine Northerner Dorian Cox provides the perfect masculine foil to Jackson's hyperactive yelping, strumming his stickered instrument with consummate cool. The celebratory atmosphere remains undiminished throughout the set, which takes in two songs absent from the band's debut long-player, before the shout-a-long 'Separated By Motorways' provides a fitting finale to an utterly exhilarating forty-odd minutes of entertainment. All that remains to say is, roll on album number two - then we may even be treated to an encore! (1st)

By Mark Armitage

Going Out

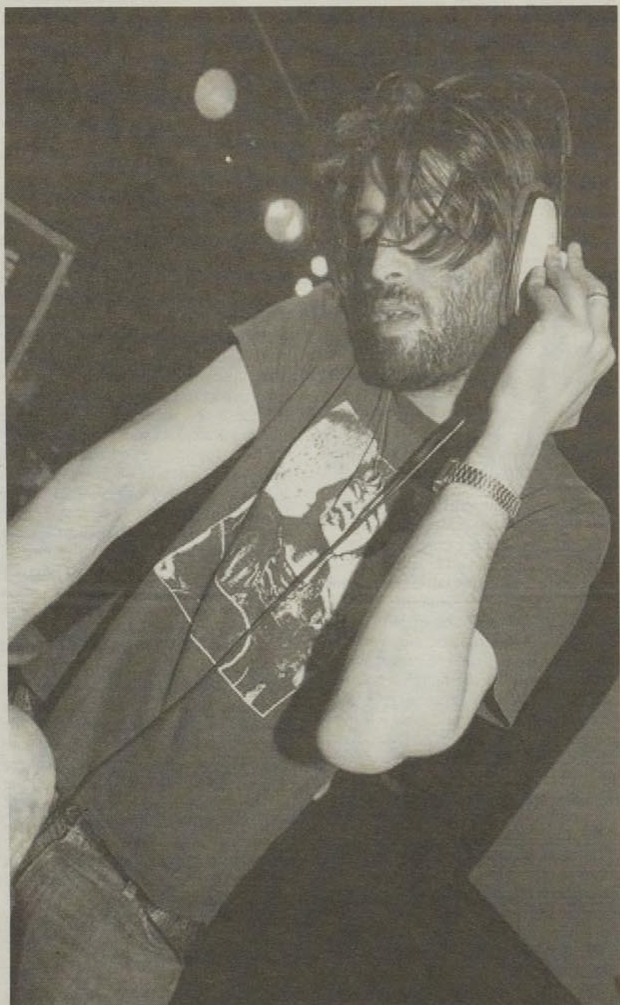
Not so hot chip

Hot Chip provide a damp squib of a set

Think Hot Chip. Think new fangled electro tunes raving through your head with neon clothing and cardboard box dancing. Oh no no. I was promised an eclectic mix of rock, breaks dnb, techno, electro and funk. Not in the Elbow Room. Instead, after the painful entrance fee of £10 my purse is further dented by £5.50 for a double vodka. Instead of indie kids in neon, there's an older crowd and a surprising amount of geordies. Bless them. At least you and the oldies have space to move your arms around and sit down upstairs, which definitely works as an advantage, and don't forget the ultimate pro for female club toilets. GHDs; hot, and on standby and for a small fee of course. Worth it? The real problem for all semi-celebrity spotters was that it was pretty hard to tell if Hot Chip were even there. If there were, they most definitely miss their 90s childhood when they were mere boys at school. As we walked in Flat Eric was blasting out over an over, leaving hope for some serious pop beats, but instead I think I may have even heard Crowded House. Basically they sounded as if they'd downloaded tracks from iTunes with their eyes closed and couldn't even be bothered to merge the tracks, never mind mix them. Although if you want good pool and to pay by the hour and

want to feel a little more mature than 90s for 90p then head on in. However I was desperate for some electro beats and everyone to sing along to 'the monkey with the miniature cymbal,' (sod maturity) or at least some attempt at pumping up the crowd, who looked like their dancing skills wore off in 1999 along with Prince. The possibilities of them playing their own songs was always going to be a long shot but I don't even think the crowd knew who they were, even though one of the band members, Al Doyle, is from our very own Leeds. They've had two top-40 singles and NME even graced them with the award for Best Single of 2006 so someone must know them? Are all the electro kids hanging out at the Fav these days? Where was the new electro-pop? I felt fooled. I imagine the Sugarbeat club has more to offer on other nights, but I guess I just set my standards too high. I'm a lover of electro and if Aphex Twin were DJing, I'd hope to get some computer based spasms not half arsed plastic pop. I think the whole idea of electro has been dumbed down, or maybe just quietened down. Then again, maybe I should have actually gone to a gig. The warning- if Hot Chip are DJing, don't bother.

By Emily Morgan



Keeping the kids dancing the rant

The pioneer of savvy clubbing, Erol Alkan, impresses all over again

Ah, Erol Alkan. I've come to expect only terrific things from this 'DJ extraordinaire'. Fast becoming a worldwide phenomenon with sets at Benicassim festival last summer and lined up to play in New York, Barcelona and Rio De Janeiro

“ He is quite literally... everywhere ”

Whilst I must say that I hate Trash, the pretentious London indie club-night he set up a few years ago, I am a big fan of the man himself. Not least because he fulfils the expectations. Scepticism normally surrounds most indie kid heroes but Alkan is more than capable of living up to his lauded name. He is THE guy to have onboard when trying to up your cool potential. The Long Blondes, Peter, Bjoern & John, Franz Ferdinand, and Hot Chip have all been remixed by Erol. Not forgetting that eponymous The Gossip rehash that

soundtracks the down-with-the-kids new series, Skins. He is quite literally, everywhere. Considering his punishing touring schedule his appearance at The Plug in Sheffield wasn't exactly unexpected but was definitely welcomed. Digitalism warmed up the crowd with their favourite brand of robo-electro, sounding almost too futuristic for a club where the theme seems to be jungle scenery. Whilst good to dance to their definitive style of mixing did start to get a bit tired. But just as the crowd started to get slightly restless Erol took to the decks and the mood lifted. His djing has almost a catatonic effect, with the strobe lights and constant pulse, you feel guilty just pausing for breath as the beat drives you on. Each time there seems to be a lull in the music a new classic is remixed so deftly that you wonder why you never truly appreciated the original. The Eurythmic's 'Sweet Dreams' was given a revamp with staccato electronic twangs adding a whole new cool to the already pretty awesome track. 'Waters of Nazareth' by Justice, now a staple of the typical Alkan set, went down a treat but to be honest he couldn't put a foot wrong. Spurred on by an adoring crowd who, with the aid of all sorts of less than legal substances, danced into the wee hours, Erol showed us all why he is in such high demand. Believe the hype.

By Sophie Barnes

So, you've paid quite a lot of your hard-earned (or at least hard-loaned) cash on a ticket for this gig, it's the hottest band of the decade and you're ready to rock out.

Unfortunately the random eejits surrounding you and your little posse seem to have conspired amongst themselves to be as expertly aggravating as possible.

Twit 1: the 42 year-old bloke who has obviously decided to let his (receding) hair down by taking speed for the first time in 15 years. He insists on jumping up and down incessantly, usually on your feet, knocking his drink and your drink and just about everybody else's everywhere.

Twit 2: The girl who smokes fashionably throughout the gig, managing to leave a pretty pattern of burn-marks on your arm/face. Singe my hair and risk death, you bint.

Twit 3: The dude behind you who obviously thinks of himself as some sort of hot-shot photographer and leans forward with his camera so much that he's practically balancing it on your head. Are any of the 476 photos he's taking going to be appearing in the NME next week? Hmm...

Twit 4: The berks who only know one song and shout its title at every possible opportunity, in the vain hope that this tactic will charm the band into playing it next. Shut it you planks!

So, if we all avoid these annoying behaviours the gig-going community should be kept happy. Well, as long as I stop dancing like a loon and annoying everyone else...

Oscar joy for Mirren and Scorsese

The 79th Academy Awards promised to be an altogether much more open affair this year. Although each of the competitors within the individual categories had their clear-cut favourites, the competition was encouragingly diverse, yet still remained fierce.

Britain was most ably represented in the nominees by some genuine stalwarts of the acting world. Amongst them were Dame Judi Dench, Kate Winslet, Dame Helen Mirren and Peter O'Toole, up for his eighth nomination. This prompted a vast selection of compliments regarding the outstanding quality of our great nation's thespian produce. Unfortunately, for the most part these nominees were snubbed with only Dame Helen taking the honours for Best Actress for her role in Steven Frears' *The Queen*. Beating off competition from the likes of Penelope Cruz and Meryl Streep is no mean feat.

Yet again there was disappointment for the legendary Peter O'Toole for his enjoyable performance in *Venus*. However, he weathered his dismissal with typical good grace and saw Forest Whitaker deservedly pick up his award for a terrific and terrifying display as dictator Idi Amin in Kevin Macdonald's *The Last King of Scotland*.

The Best Supporting Actor and Actress categories contained an even broader selection of candidates, and the overall winners were appropriately

surprising. Indie success story *Little Miss Sunshine* gained an unexpected triumph as supporting actor Alan Arkin picked up an award for his touching, but offbeat turn as the grandfather in this tale of a dysfunctional American family road trip. The only tame decision of the night proved to be found in the best supporting actress category, with Jennifer Hudson's performance, though admittedly solid, harking back to the tedious predictability of the biographical films audiences had to weather a few years back.

Undoubtedly, the night can be considered a success as finally the cinema going world saw one of its greatest and prolific contributors justly awarded, having been snubbed for his five previous nominations for best director. Martin Scorsese and his triumphantly received gangster film *The Departed* finally picked up awards for Best Director, Best Picture and Best Adapted Screenplay. The great man was so shell-shocked that he asked his award presenters and good friends Francis Ford Coppola, Steven Spielberg and George Lucas to "double-check the envelope please". A most worthy winner, and a terrific way to round off a good evening in tinsel town.

For the most part this was a largely controversy-free Oscar ceremony with little dispute over award winners or otherwise. However, Best

Documentary Feature winner Al Gore for his topical and revealing presentation on global warming in *An Inconvenient Truth* did come under

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Finally the cinema going world saw one of its greatest and prolific contributors justly awarded. Martin Scorsese and his triumphantly received gangster film *The Departed* picked up awards for Best Director, Best Picture and Best Adapted Screenplay.

some scrutiny. Contrary to the stance he professed in both his documentary film and Oscar acceptance speech, it was revealed afterwards by the local Tennessee Centre for Policy Research

that Gore spends over 20 times the US national average on lighting and electricity. In his aforementioned acceptance speech, Gore explicitly and admirably stated: "It's not as hard as you might think. We have a long way to go but all of us can do something in our own lives to make a difference." The ex-presidential candidate is now struggling to uphold the integrity of his current campaign for global warming awareness in the face of allegations of hypocritical behavior.

With the Oscars coming under increasing levels of scrutiny regarding

the competition continues to open up in the way that it has been over these past few years.

By Tom Foster

A selection of the major award winners:

Best Picture *The Departed*
Best Actor Forest Whitaker, *The Last King of Scotland*
Best Actress Helen Mirren, *The Queen*
Best Supporting Actor Alan Arkin, *Little Miss Sunshine*
Best Supporting Actress Jennifer Hudson, *Dreamgirls*
Best Directing Martin Scorsese, *The Departed*
Best Foreign Language Film *Das Leben der Anderen* (*The Lives of Others*) - Germany
Best Adapted Screenplay William Monahan, *The Departed*
Best Original Screenplay Michael Arndt, *Little Miss Sunshine*
Best Animated Feature Film *Happy Feet*
Best Art Direction *Pan's Labyrinth*
Best Cinematography *Pan's Labyrinth*
Best Original Score *Babel* (Gustavo Santaolalla)
Best Documentary Feature *An Inconvenient Truth*
Best Documentary (Short Subject) *Blood of Yingzhou District*
Best Film Editing *The Departed*
Best Animated Short Film *The Danish Poet*
Best Live Action Short Film *West Bank Story*
Best Visual Effects *Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest*

”

the narrow-mindedness and predictability of its selections, it was good to see such diverse, competitive competition. There's still room for improvement though, let us hope that

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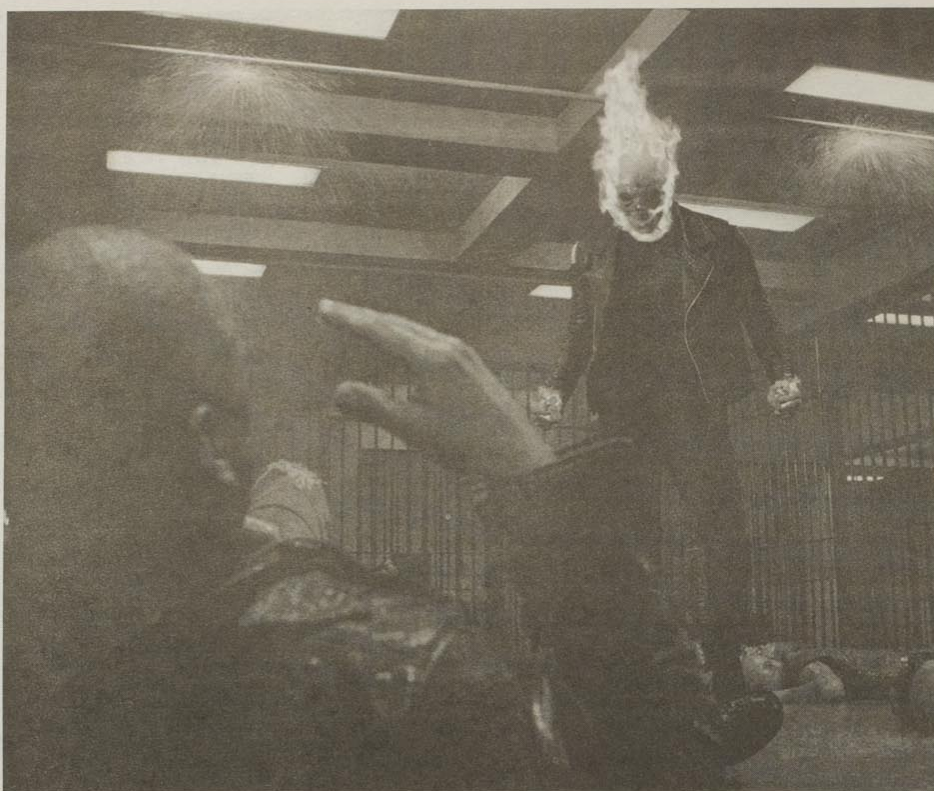
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Screen & Stage



Ghost Rider

Starring: Nicolas Cage, Eva Mendes, Peter Fonda, Wes Bentley and Sam Elliott
Director: Mark Steven Johnson

Running Time: 109 minutes
Certificate: 12A

Remember the thrill of seeing Spider-Man swing through the streets of New York, or the buzz of witnessing Batman's dark brand of justice? Well, after watching *Ghost Rider*, the latest adaptation of a Marvel Comics character, all you're likely to be feeling is distinctly underwhelmed and slightly sorry for all seven of the *Ghost Rider* fans out there.

Nicolas Cage is a lifelong comic

nowhere near as exciting or original as it thinks it is.

Although this isn't about your typical spandex clad superhero, and it's not everyday you see someone ride a motorbike up the side of a skyscraper, it still doesn't feel all that unique and you've probably got the t-shirt tucked away at home somewhere. Even the villains, often the over the top saviours of many a movie, look like they've sulked off the set of *Buffy*.

Rider is aiming to evoke the pure escapism that comic books often offer, but it didn't have to sacrifice the simple things like story and character to do so.

It's a shame that *Ghost Rider* is bad film. Really, it is. The concept of Hell's very own demon slaying Angel should have lent itself perfectly to a *Blade*-esque hard edged action thriller. Instead, *Ghost Rider* lacks anything approaching the bite of the first two *Blades*, thanks to the studio (Let's give it up for Columbia and Sony Pictures) ditching any darker aspects so they'd have a family friendly hit ala their amazing Spider-Man. All the ifs, buts and maybes wouldn't have been such a big deal if *Ghost Rider* had simply been a good film, whatever audience it was appealing to. Aside from Cage's crazy, there are some other good points. The film does feature some impressive visuals and eye catching images, though maybe that's more to do with the comic book pages they were torn from. And there is a certain trashy appeal that comes with casting Peter Fonda as the Devil. Not to mention Nicolas Cage's other co-star, Eva Mendes' cleavage.

Ghost Rider has been a box office sensation in America and spent the last two weeks at number one. There really is no accounting for taste. If you must see *Ghost Rider*, remember that the adaptation of Frank 'Sin City' Miller's graphic novel *300* is released later this month. So just think of *300* as a cleansing water.

(3/10)

By Mark Mackay

Any potentially poignancy is far from the filmmakers concern. But hey, when you have a guy whose head is on fire, why should it be...right?

book fan and the role of Johnny Blaze, a motorcycle stunt rider who sells his soul to the Devil, is one he has fantasised about playing ever since he read the comics as a kid. Whether he's knocking back Martini glasses full of jelly beans or laughing manically as his flesh burns to the bone when Blaze becomes the skeletal spirit of vengeance, Cage does his best to play a different kind of hero. And he's having a ball. But as quirky as Cage's performance is, the rest of the film is

Ghost Rider certainly isn't helped by having a script that's about as subtle as a sledgehammer and extremely heavy handed direction, both courtesy of writer/director Mark Steven Johnson. Even with the inevitable tragedy that affects every would-be hero, there's absolutely no depth to the flimsy characters and any potentially poignancy is far from the filmmakers concern. But hey, when you have a guy whose head is on fire, why should it be...right? It's clear that *Ghost*

Ghosts

Starring: Ai Qin Lin, Zhe Wei
Director: Nick Broomfield

Running Time: 99 minutes
Certificate: 15



As *Ghosts* begins, a group of cockle-picking Chinese illegal immigrants huddle upon the roof of a minibus that is stranded out at sea as the tide rapidly rushes in. What follows this dramatic scene is the story of Ai Qin, and her gruelling illegal migration from China to England that leads her to that fateful minibus.

Ghosts is based on the real events of 2004 which saw 23 Chinese illegal immigrants drown at sea, and is shot by a documentary film-maker using a cast predominantly comprised of survivors of the tragedy who all had input into the creation of the narrative. It is clear that this film is trying to portray a starkly real and contemporary side of England that goes unseen, and it succeeds in doing so, creating a hugely depressing but highly effective and affecting film.

The everyday realities of the conditions and injustices endured by the immigrants throughout are often hard to watch, and it is a very grim side of England that is presented here, one of exploitation, deception and racism. Whilst there is occasional and brief respite from this grim tone – in tender moments of burgeoning friendship – on the whole, watching this film will sink you further and further into a state of horrified depression.

Broomfield (better known for his documentaries Biggie and Tupac and Kurt & Courtney) successfully transfers his skills to produce this stark and gritty film that often feels like a documentary itself. Shots uncomfortably linger in situations and capture moments and reactions that feel unnervingly real. This documentary style allows the geography of England to represent itself, amounting to very bleak shots of rundown suburbia which are set against some stunning rural and seaside scenes. The only diversion from this realist presentation is in the soundtrack, which ironically employs upbeat Chinese pop songs serve to effectively emphasise the sobriety of the situation.

Annoyingly, some of Bloomfield's agendas are portrayed somewhat too explicitly and feel rather patronising and awkward. Nevertheless this is a film that has no qualms about openly

criticising major British brands for their exploitative employment of immigrant workers, and many of the scenes are shocking in their blunt portrayal of grim places of work such

It is a very grim side of England that is presented here, one of exploitation, deception and racism. A starkly real and contemporary side of England that goes unseen.

as meat factories – places we all know are probably horrendous but prefer not to think about.

The cast of survivors are predominantly excellent in their roles, and the central performance of Ai Qin Lin manages to hold this film together (though it would be quite a feat to play yourself badly). It is, though, some of the English actors that let *Ghosts* down in places, yet whilst these moments of bad acting temporarily shatter the reality which is elsewhere so strongly maintained, they are quickly forgotten in what is otherwise an excellent film.

(8/10)

By Dan Smith



The Good Shepherd

Starring: Matt Damon, Angelina Jolie, Alec Baldwin, Billy Crudup, Robert De Niro and Joe Pesci
Director: Robert De Niro

Certificate: 15

Running Time: 167 minutes

This political drama is the second of Robert De Niro's films as director, with an all star cast including Matt Damon, Angelina Jolie, Alec Baldwin and Billy Crudup. With this high profile cast it has been a heavily anticipated film.

It follows the life of Edward Wilson (Matt Damon) and his career in the American secret service. The plot jumps around between 1939 and 1967 trying to reveal, at a snail's pace, how the CIA was established. Wilson's career in America's secret service simply grows and grows. As the 167 minute film develops it displays how his personal and work lives intertwine.

The suicide of his father makes him incapable of creating any sort of attachment with his wife or son. While Wilson acts surreptitiously about his work, it leaves his wife (Jolie) feeling neglected. Though Jolie's character appears less than expected, her acting is astounding; especially as she is able to convey frustration at her husband's lack of communication.

Matt Damon's character never expresses emotion, except for a slight smile when reunited with an old love, leaving the audience in a constant battle, trying to decipher his feelings. Ultimately it is a challenge to keep engaged with a story about an unfeeling and distant character such as

Edward Wilson.

Despite having such a high profile cast, the film is disappointing as a whole. It takes a large amount of concentration to understand the plot, unless you know the full history of the CIA and America's history over the past seventy years. It does however demonstrate how governments can be corrupt, highlighting important issues that can still be relevant in the modern world.

Certainly worth a watch, but not one to purchase.

(6/10)

By Catherine Coleman

Letters From Iwo Jima

Starring: Ken Watanabe, Kazunari Ninomiya, Tsuyoshi Ihara
Director: Clint Eastwood

Running Time: 140 minutes
Certificate: 15



Martin Scorsese has been waiting a long time for an undoubtedly deserved Oscar, but to give both Best Director and Best Feature to *The Departed* was unfair to Eastwood, because *Letters From Iwo Jima* is probably the most beautiful war film ever made. The cinematography is stunning, and the soundtrack is so poignant that its almost overwhelming in its sense of loss. Add to this the story of the hopeless defence of Iwo Jima and some fantastic acting, and you find yourself hoping that against all the odds, the film's central characters might somehow survive.

The film is a study of the battle of Iwo Jima from the differing perspectives of the Japanese soldiers serving there. Chief among these are General Kuribayashi, the Japanese commander on the island, and Saigo, a young baker drafted into the war effort, and it is these two who are largely responsible for the eponymous letters, through which they are shown to be all too human, trapped between a desire to return to their loved ones and to stay and do their duty for Japan. Around them others struggle with the same dilemma, and each finds his own way to deal with it, from the noble Baron Nishi to the scared Shimizu, and the audience is somehow left feeling sympathetic, regardless of the choices the characters make. The feeling of a calm before the storm at the beginning of the film is so accurate an analogy that you half wish the Japanese would abandon the island before the attack begins, as they know it must end in their annihilation.

In its treatment of the characters shown the film is very fair, featuring none of the dehumanization of the enemy that sometimes mars other war films, and the historical inaccuracies are very few and insignificant at that.

The portrayal of the Japanese way of life and the difficulties of maintaining

“
Letters From Iwo Jima is probably the most beautiful war film ever made. The soundtrack is so poignant that its almost overwhelming in its sense of loss.”

those traditions in a modern war are also well conveyed, and the shot at the end of the film of the blazing red sun setting over the ocean is so symbolic that it could easily have been clichéd. Thankfully Eastwood has more sense than to allow such a thing to happen to this magnificently crafted film.

(9/10)

By James Silson

A Sleeping Beauty Tale

At The Grand Theatre, Feb 24- March 3

David Nixon's update of *Sleeping Beauty* doesn't just reawaken the classic tale, so much as give it a shot of adrenaline and drag it up by the hair. By propelling the well known story and Tchaikovsky score to an intergalactic context, Northern Ballet Theatre create not the fairytale world of princes and princesses you remember from *The Brothers Grimm* or Disney but rather something much darker, and set in a galaxy far, far away.

Aurora's palace becomes the Blue Planet, populated by wizards with prosthetic foreheads pirouetting on points and a queen with oversized plastic hair that looks like it was borrowed from a CBBC show. Perhaps most disappointingly and pretentiously of all, there are no fairy god mothers but 'Evolved Beings'.

Unfortunately, at times, the naff special effects just make the space

theme seem cheesy. When the set moves to the warring Red Planet, amongst all the UV lights and dry ice you'd be forgiven for thinking you're not at the ballet, but at a Lazerquest.

To be fair, a space-age setting is an unusual and ambitious twist for such a done-to-death ballet. And on some levels the science-fiction theme worked particularly well. The dancers seemed to possess the super-human powers of gliding through the air, and were able to make their phenomenal bodies appear weightless. A feat surely only achievable on a planet with less gravity than our own.

The lead performance from Liverpoolian soloist Pippa Moore as Aurora is literally spectacular. She is born by emerging out of incubation from a giant perspex ball and later crosses the stage dangling inside a giant hoop.

The dystopia in the third act allows

Northern Ballet Theatre Company
Tickets £11.50 - £30.00. Students 15% off

for some really well executed choreography involving a mutant giant spider and a desert sand storm. The ruined paradise of the Blue Planet and the 'withered beings' that exist there provide a stark comment on today's world. The green message is really rammed home at the end, all plants inside glass jars and weird weather systems.

Although purists might object to this *Star Trek* take on *Sleeping Beauty*, it does make the story more relevant and entertaining. I would recommend catching this production on its short run, especially to anyone who's been put off classical ballet in the past and who secretly likes a bit of sci-fi on the side. *A Sleeping Beauty Tale* is ballet Jim, but not as we know it.

(8/10)

By Kate Willis

Scorch

Scorch

FREE SAMPLE?

Sports Officer Archie Sample celebrated his 23rd birthday in style last Monday, with an exclusive drinks party held in Skippy's Bar, Headingley. The event kicked off at 7pm with a round of made to order cocktails: a source told *Scorch* that favourites included Amaretto sours, Trio favourite Brambles and Martinis all round. Smart attire was expected for the light tapas dinner, finished off with wine and speeches.

Fellow Exec members, Beth Forrester, Sara Wayman, Damola Timeyin and Chris Johnston also attended the night time jaunt, Johnston adding "it was one of those swoosh swoosh [complete with actions]

places," no doubt referring to barman Vernan's (an old school mate of Sample's) swift cocktail shaking moves. Rowing jock Sample was said to be in his element. When asked about Sample's reported drunkenness, one *Scorch* informant said: "I can't really remember, I think I was worse than him", adding "We only left when the lights came on to chuck us out".

Renowned for his quick wit and old style charm, it's no secret that campus stud Sample is a hit with ladies. But hold up girls, Archie is currently busy organising and promoting Saturday's Sports Ball, which is sure to be a night of frolic and chappery. Sample style, *Scorch*, as ever, will be there in force.



Ed Rex
and
Holly Potter

Rumours that Potter's relationship with RAG co-ordinator Rex was purely a vote gaining stunt for the recent LUU sabbatical elections have now disappeared. It seems this 'blossoming' relationship has 'leaps and bounds' still to come. Magic!

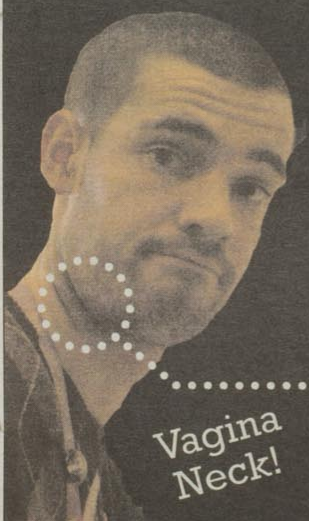


Neil
Mackenzie
and
Neil
Mackenzie

Next year's recently elected Communications and Internal Affairs Officer, Neil Mackenzie, has gone from victory humility to satisfied president of everything. Already starting to give orders, Neil's army of women, colloquially known as 'Neil's Women', ensure his utter fascination with himself. Watch out Neil, *Scorch* is watching!



Ring of Ruin



Vagina
Neck!

Ben Schofield, Editor of *Leeds Student*, might think he looks cute pulling that surprised face. *Scorch*, however, is on hand to point out his vagina neck!

Fruity Furore



2 fingers.
Very lady like!

A brown envelope was pushed under the *Scorch* office door earlier this week containing what can only be seen as rumour gold. In smuggled photos, Education Officer Beth Forrester is seen partnering with Steven Smith, shamed ex-Returning Officer, at Christmas Fruity 2006. The relationship between Smith and Forrester remains unexplained but many who read Smith's Observation in last week's LS believed his strong 'anti-



Steven Smith
and
Andrew
Greer

Rumours circulated the *Scorch* office last week about a reported romance between Activities Officer elect Andrew Greer and shamed ex-Returning Officer Steven Smith. Smith, a member of LS staff, would not comment of weirdness of such an event, which sees them both sharing an ex-boyfriend. When asked, he said only: "I've had enough of this f'cking shit" and continued-- to storm out of the LS office.

Most recently, reports of lunch dates have all but disappeared. *Scorch* can only presume that the incestuous world of LUU has claimed two more casualties.

Fan the Flames

Got a story worthy of being *Scorch*ed? Become an informant scorch@lsweb.org.uk.

This week's *Scorch* was guest edited by a Miss T.T. Heven 'single and looking'.

Fiction

Exit A
Anthony Swofford
287pp, Simon &
Schuster, £12.99



Anthony Swofford rose to international acclaim with the publication of *Jarhead*, his memoir of life in the U.S. Army during the first Iraq war. The book was widely praised by critics, drawing comparisons to such classics of war literature as *Catch-22* and *The Naked and the Dead* and suggesting that Swofford was possessed of a real literary talent. *Exit A* is his first venture into the realms of fiction, and will stand as the test of whether he is able to apply the talents of observation and description that marked out his debut to a wholly created narrative and environment.

The story he has chosen for his fictional debut concerns the fortunes of two teenagers, both children of high-ranking military officers, set in Japan. One is a half-American, half-Japanese girl, daughter of the base commander, whose mother died in childbirth and who flirts with the rank-and-file troops and runs with a gang of small-time Japanese criminals. The other is a high school American Football star, coached by the base commander and deeply in love with his daughter. The book follows them as they get pulled into the criminal underworld, before one ends up in jail and the other is sent back to America to continue their education. The story then resumes several years later, and follows the process of how they become inexorably drawn back together, in spite of the many years of changes that separate them.

It must be said that as a whole the book is greatly disappointing. While the overall trajectory of the plot seems reasonable enough, if possibly a bit overused, the details of specific events are by turns bizarre, implausible or extremely clichéd. The course of events is also entirely predictable, a fact which is not at all helped by the fact that significant points of plot development often occur within the space of a few paragraphs of each other, finally leaving no space to reflect on the changes these

events have on the characters and their environment, and secondly having the effect that as soon as you predict the next turn of events, it occurs, making the plot seem possibly more predictable than it necessarily is.

The greatest failure of the book is that nothing is ever fully realised, nothing is treated with enough detail or subtlety for it to ever take form as a recognisable, convincing correlative to the real world. This covers several aspects of the writing: firstly the speed of plot development as mentioned above, which often makes the book read more like a plot summary or outline waiting to be fleshed out. The book is also rife with ill-advised attempts at symbolism or insights into the universal human condition; these are treated in such an obvious manner, mainly due to the fact that he doesn't take the time to set them up in an unobtrusive way, that any significance they may have contained is lost in the reader's adverse reaction to the way it is presented.

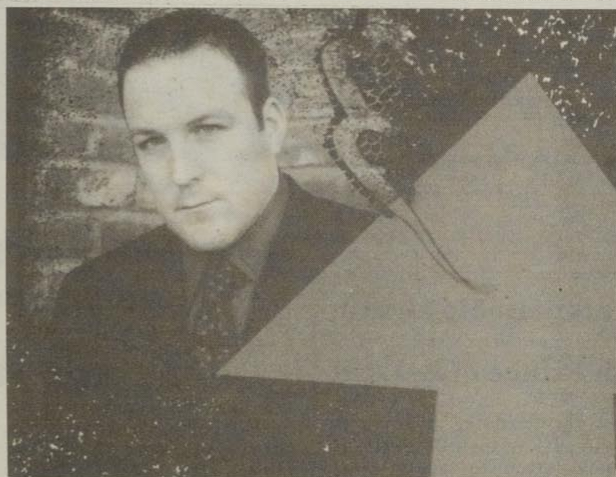
The dialogue is startlingly unconvincing, with characters often being described as angry or tearful without the reader ever getting an impression that they were becoming so, and due to the unreality of the interactions between characters we are

left with little fully formed idea of their personality or nature. Whereas one of *Jarhead*'s greatest qualities was how it distilled people's feelings, motivations and intentions to their purest representation, he seems unable to apply the same trick to characters which were created in his own mind. Most widely the failure of realisation applies to the situations and surroundings in general. Although a fair attempt is made at capturing the seediness of the backstreets that surround the Air Force base, and the neon-bright highways of inner-city Tokyo, for the most part the settings that the characters find themselves in are not substantial enough to convince, further detracting from other aspects of the story.

All the same, there are occasional flashes of the qualities from *Jarhead* that made people think Swofford could become a fully fledged novelist, moments of fresh sharp description that set an object in a new light, yet encapsulate it perfectly, however these are all too few and far between, and do not alter the overall mediocre nature of the book.

(3/10)

By Christopher Tedd



Fiction

Humanity: A Moral History Of The Twentieth Century
Jonathan Glover
480pp, Vintage,
£14.99



So it's the middle of term, and a bit of light reading is perhaps the last thing on your mind, what with all the essay titles and excuses to avoid doing any form of reading floating around inside your skull, washed down with a healthily large glass of wine to soothe those building nerves. If this is the case, Jonathan Glover's in depth examination of the history of mankind's misdemeanours is possibly not what you're looking for in life right at this moment. However, even if that's true, I strongly suggest you take a glance at him in the direction of Glover's *Humanity*.

The book is written as a series of extraordinarily in-depth case studies of the darker sides of the past century, covering such horrifying

events as the Holocaust, the bombing of Hiroshima, the countless lives lost in the Gulags, and the slaughterhouses of Cambodia, Yugoslavia, and Rwanda. Glover's central thesis is that the massive growth in technology and gradual loss of a central guiding force for human behaviour (such as religious doctrine) has contributed to the characterization of the last century as one of the darkest ever in the long and bloody history of humanity, and the arguments within are really rather persuasive.

The case studies Glover examines are treated not only as historical events, but as the title suggests, he offers some moral analysis; *how* and *why* such tragedies are allowed to occur, and attempts to offer answers on how to prevent their repetition. As Glover is the director of the Centre of Medical Law and Ethics, Kings College London, you get the impression the man knows his crises of human morality, and the use of the accounts of people involved in some of the tragedies in one way or another

adds meat to his suggestion that there are recognisable patterns of behaviour and human psychology linking the cataclysmic events.

The title of the book gives the impression that it will likely be heavy going, in terms of being an academic-style read. For those thinking that, I would like to suggest you give *Humanity* a chance to alter your perspective on life, as although occasionally jargon heavy, Glover's style flows magnificently, and it does offer some insights into the rationality of the darkest examples of the capacity of the average human being to do serious evil, although they are sometimes really quite unnerving, and more than a little disturbing.

I would prescribe reading *Humanity* in daylight hours on a sunny day, preferable with a nice cheerful Disney film to watch straight afterwards.

(6/10)

By Katie Dunn

"Nobody ever committed suicide while reading a good book, but many have while trying to write one." – Robert Byrne

News

• The PEN/Faulkner award for the best work of American fiction has been presented this year to Philip Roth (pictured) for his short novel *Everyman*. The judges praised the work for its "simplicity and brutishness". 2007 marks the third time that Roth has received the prize of \$15,000, having previously won in 1994 and 2001 for *Operation Shylock* and *The Human Stain* respectively.

• Distinguished historian Keith Kyle has died aged 81 after a long career as both a prolific writer and broadcaster. Kyle worked on the BBC's *Tonight* program in the 1960s, where he was famed for being able to explain difficult and potentially sensitive issues to the general public.



• Writers whose work has been adapted for the big screen can eagerly await a huge boost in sales after this year's Oscars. Those who could expect such an increase this year include Giles

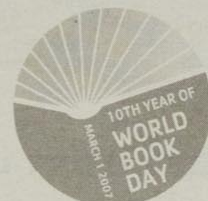
Foden's *The Last King of Scotland* and Zoe Heller's *Notes On A Scandal*. • The selection panel for the 2007 Man Booker Prize has been announced, and will be headed by the Howard Davies, the director of the London School of Economics. Other judges of the 39th Man Booker include Giles Foden, poet Wendy Cope, actor Imogen Stubbs, and biographer Ruth Scurr. The longlist of nominated titles will be announced in August, followed a month later by the six novels chosen for the shortlist. The prize itself will be awarded on October 16. Last year's award went to Kiran Desai for her novel *The Inheritance of Loss*.

• Recently released titles include Clare Clark's *The Nature of Monsters*, Iain Banks' latest, *The Steep Approach to Garbadale*, Sujit Saraf's *The Peacock Throne*, Paul Torday's debut, *Salmon Fishing in the Yemen*, and *Afterwards*, the second novel to come from Rachel Seiffert.



World Book Day 2007

Somewhat worryingly, the seasons are rolling along, and already March has crept onto the calendar, almost without me noticing it do so (doesn't time fly when you are drowning under a pile of impossible essay titles and other such cheery clichés). The first day of March each year brings with it one of the most ignored national "days" of the year, unless you are at primary school, or never mentally left primary school, like myself. World Book Day (sponsored by National Book Tokens) falls upon March 1, and this year, it's apparently going to be extra specially ignored by a nation who would rather



books, but actually enjoying them.

World Book Day is also associated with a number of book-related charities, all of which are excellent causes, such as Book Aid International. BAI believes quite rightly that education is a prime way of climbing out of poverty, and that therefore everyone should have access to those items which in my opinion remain the greatest sources of information; books. To this end, they collect around half a million titles each year and donate them to 17 countries in Africa, as well as Palestine, to support schools, libraries and adult education and community development schemes.

Another aspect of World Book Day is that of the publication of "Quick Reads" for adults to encourage what for some might be the first attempt at reading for pleasure since childhood, as well as a selection of books priced at £1 for children, with popular authors, public figures and journalists involved in both schemes.

To my mind, anything that actively tries to get the population of this country to engage with books once more and flex their literacy muscle is marvellous, but still, it seems nominating one day a year to this task is a somewhat paltry effort; every day should be World Book Day, devoted to ensuring people read something (anything!), and until it is, we will continue to take a good kicking from the Scandinavian countries every time a list of Europe's cleverest children is published. Fact.

By Katie Dunn

“It's apparently going to be extra specially ignored by a nation who would rather stab out their own eyes with a ball point pen than pick up a book”

stab out their own eyes with a ball point pen than pick up a book, let alone read one (unless it happens to have been "written" by some suicide blonde stick insect or fatty connected to one of the myriad "reality" television shows invading screens everywhere) as 2007 marks the tenth anniversary of the celebration of the literary arts.

However, I really ought to rein in my bitterness before it gets me into real trouble and point out that despite the fact that the only people who really benefit from World Book Day are the thousands of children at primary schools and nurseries up and down the country who will have been awarded a voucher promising a whole pound off a book of their choice, it is the largest annual event promoting the tragically declining art of not only reading

Television

Ad Fab (Or Not)

Adverts...That's what this comment is about. Oh yes we're scraping the barrel here at television HQ. But why not comment on those little bits of visual stimulation that nudge their way in between our favourite programmes; they are on the box after all.

If you squint your eyes enough (and perhaps drink some mercury) commercials look just like that smelly nerd at school who always tried to tell you things you didn't want to know – like about 'micro bacteria' or 'global warming' – the geek who you attempted to ignore and speak little to or about. They were an annoying inconvenience that you tolerated rather than enjoyed the company of. For me this is exactly what adverts are... Minus the B.O of course.

I was watching one of my daily doses of Hollyoaks this week when it came to a really climactic moment. It was at this moment – via the horrendous new intro (if you haven't seen it think random groups of posturing characters in front of a white background, with a slightly blurred picture and some flashing lights) – that the screen cut to an image of a couple of women with the body of chickens. These 'chicketaurs' started to chat about some kind of insurance or banking while a third chicken made it's way over to said bank which eventually led to the punch line 'so that's why the chicken crossed the road'. Not only is this a horrible, horrible way to advertise a

product but a horrible, horrible waste of thirty seconds of my life which I will never get back.

The whole incident – while making my brain want to cry – totally ruined the effect of the Chester-based drama unfolding. The drama in question was school girl Amy giving birth to her baby, which was actually rather hilarious. As she crouched by the kitchen counter in agony, tears streaming down her face she finally told her dad and sister she was "having a babe!" Far from instantly believing her, they proceeded to demand "the truth", obviously missing the humongous mound of baby that made up Amy's belly. Then her dad comes out with the classic question, "how?" Well Mr Barnes when a man and a woman love each other very much...

Anyway I digress, back to the adverts and their nerd-like ability to interrupt important moments, ruining the mood. However, just like geeks, adverts can occasionally be rather interesting. I started to think of my current favourite ads that either push the limits of the 'genre' or are simply quite funny. I always think humour is the best way to make people buy something anyway. The bizarre Guinness hands advert sprung to mind first. All we see is a grey hand on a white background with a kind of 1930s cinematic flicker to the shot, pretty simple. But then the hand starts to twist and turn, stylishly flicking fingers in different directions, in turn

pulling off some frankly impossible acts of bone rotation, before finishing by typing the company slogan and proudly holding a perfectly poured pint aloft for our viewing pleasure. Now this ad actually has its own website! When logged onto you can spend many pointless hours constructing your own version of the one minute clip while other people's attempts are there for you to watch. The Sony Bravia advert is another which is brilliant in its abstractness and I like the aptness of advertising a new television on the television. It does so by showing fantastically coloured paint exploding up, across and around a block of flats, finishing with a shot of a playground as the kaleidoscope of colour rains down. I assumed this kind of mastery would be produced using some kind of computer but oh no, this ad was filmed in a part of a Glasgow estate that was about to be demolished and almost everything seen in the clip was actually physically done with paint blasts and detonations on the day of the shoot.

It is these advertising gems that make me want to fight my obsessive nature to switch over to another channel as soon as the adverts kick in simply to avoid watching a single moment of them. Who knows I might miss out on that thirty seconds of enjoyment that make all the others worth it.

By Laurie Whitwell



Blast from the past!

Time again to take a nostalgic look back at memorable shows from a bygone era. This week...

Fresh Prince of Bel Air!

"In west Philadelphia born and raised in a playground is where I spent most of my days..." and so on... this my inferior reader was a tune that almost got me laid at the ripe old age of 13?! I know 13! I was in fact on a cruise in the Caribbean humming the tune to myself when... well I don't need to say anymore, as I think we all know where this story goes. Anyway I digress. The Fresh Prince of Bel Air, was truly as the title suggested: Fresh. The formula for the programme was groundbreaking stuff. A boy, from the wrong side of the tracks, moves in with his rich, fat... oh so fat, I mean we are talking obese, uncle and loving auntie.

Then we throw into the mix a geeky cousin who can cut some moves on the dance floor, an extremely hot, sexy younger cousin, who must have encouraged incestuous relations throughout the world, a snobby bitch, who comes good in the end and finally Jazzy Jeff and we have as we all know one of the greatest teenage comedies of all time.

Dear God, I apologise, I failed to mention Geoffrey, the lovable English butler. He was truly lovable, I distinctly remember watching episodes and asking my father for an aging black butler, who would love me the way I wanted to be loved (interpolate that how you want), and give me

insightful advice at poignant moments in my life, with an undercurrent of sarcastic dry humour.

The show also taught me a lot about real life. Remember when Will was shot, well now I know that when I'm down a dark alley at 3am with a black man not to be a hero and just give the man with the shooter (that's right, I learnt some ghetto lingo from the show too) your money. I also learnt how to become a 'playyyeeer' with the ladies. I now pump up my trainers, turn my cap back and limp a bit while getting FRESH with the ladies. (That was a play on words there, a pun if you like... a pun).

All in all I think it's fair to say that this programme was truly epic of the biggest proportion, and is missed like an orphan misses their dead parents; and that my friends is a lot.

By Sebastian Haire

To bi or not to bi: should there be more cycling on TV?

Yes there wheely should!

This weekend was arguably the most exciting weekend of my life, yes, even better than spit roasting my first whore while my father watched and reading Andrew Edelston's fantastic review of LS:TV. 'Why?' I hear you cry. Well I'll tell you why – there was over four hours of cycling! I defy any man who tells me that watching fully grown muscular men (and at times women, yeah I know, women and sport- who cares) in lycra not awe inspiring.

At times I was genuinely on the edge of my seat, with just

300ths of a second in it would our man make it, would he be the greatest cyclist in the world?!... Well, fear not my fellow peers he did.

On a more serious note, this is a sport that we actually excel at and if you add this fact with the all in one lycra dressed men, well then, my friends, we have a sport of the Gods... the Gods.

By Sebastian Haire

Hell No, cycling is a Tour de Farce!

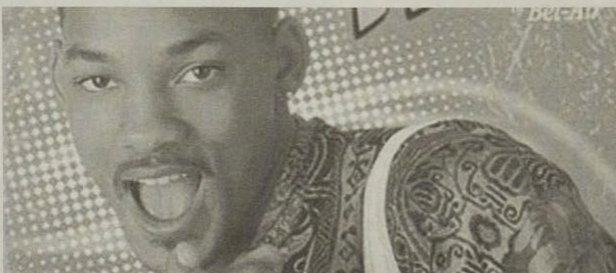
If I wanted to watch a man in Lycra thrusting his legs up and down I'd rent out an X-men themed porn movie. Why anyone would find such a thing enjoyable is beyond me.

One Sunday, I was so ridiculously bored having watched every politics show and repeated soap known to (wo)man I made the mistake of tuning in to such a pathetic excuse for entertainment. The one highlight was when an inadequate cyclist wobbled a little, tumbled quite

painfully to the ground, causing an obstruction to the others and a bit of a pile up. Serves them right losers.

At least taking your niece out on a tricycle you have the opportunity to kick her off and having a go yourself. An increase in the number of cycling 'shows' on television would only highlight the dire situation of our broadcasting services.

By Hind Hassan



The Conman With 14 Wives Five 11:00p.m

Everyone loves a bit of polygamy. This documentary allows us to indulge in the joy of serial marriage as it explores the life of the world's biggest bigamist and serial conman. While the show should focus on just how this guy managed to trick numerous women into the sack and

rob their money the camera annoyingly follows him as he feels guilt and decides to apologise to those he has damaged... Although... it could be yet another con to scam the fools some more. Here's hoping.
Laurie Whitwell



Friday March 2nd

BBC ONE

6.00 Breakfast. **9.15** Gene Detectives. **10.00** Homes under the Hammer. **11.00** Living in the Sun. **11.45** Cash in the Attic. **12.15** Bargain Hunt. **1.00** BBC News; Weather. **1.30** Regional News and Weather. **1.40** Neighbours. **2.05** Doctors. **2.35** Diagnosis Murder. **3.20** BBC News; Weather; Regional News. **50/50**. **5.00** Gina's Laughing Gear. **5.30** Newsround. **5.35** Neighbours. **6.00** BBC News and Weather. **6.30** Look North; Weather. **7.00** A Question of Sport. **7.30** Inside Out. **8.00** EastEnders. Max starts to believe there might be something between Sean and Tanya. Keith inspires Libby in a new-business venture. Bert spends his first day at work. **8.30** DIY SOS. Home improvement mishaps remedied by Nick Knowles. The team are in in Cleveland to help transform a shell of an extension into a funky lounge with a huge media centre. **9.00** Lilies. Drama series set in 1920s Liverpool and based around the lives of three sisters. May's baby is due, but will she survive the birth without Dadda? **10.00** BBC News; Regional News; Weather. **10.35** Comedy Connections. Series charting the history of the best of British comedy looks at Mel Smith and Griff Rhys Jones's comedy sketch show that dominated ratings throughout the 80s. **11.15** FILM: Crocodile Dundee in Los Angeles (2001). More cross-cultural mishaps ensue when the charismatic Australian crocodile hunter returns for another city adventure, this time with his young son in tow, starring Paul Hogan and Linda Kozlowski. **12.50** Joins BBC News 24.

BBC TWO

6.00 CBeebies: Fimbles. **6.20** The Story Makers. **6.40** Balamory. **7.00** CBBC: Astro Boy. **7.25** Newsround. **7.30** Wonderful World of Weird. **8.15** Chucklevision. **8.30** CBeebies: Brum. **8.40** Tweenies. **9.00** Doodle Do. **9.20** Lunar Jim. **9.30** Something Special. **9.45** Numberjacks. **10.00** Nina and the Neurons. **10.15** Jackanory Junior. **10.30** Schools: Razzledazzle. **10.50** Words and Pictures. **11.00** Starship. **11.20** Focus - Substance Misuse. **11.40** See You, See Me. **12.00** The Daily Politics. **12.30** Working Lunch. **1.30** Coast: Wales - The Gower, Rockpools and Dylan Thomas. **1.45** Nature's Calendar. **2.15** Escape to the Country. **3.15** Sudo-Q. **3.45** Flag It! **4.30** Ready Steady Cook. **5.00** European Indoor Athletics Championships. **7.00** The Cost of Kids. The cost of raising a child till the age of 21 costs £180,000 on average. Max Flint reveals how these sums add up and the companies that are cashing in on the cost of kids. **7.30** Masterchef Goes Large. **8.00** A New Year at Kew. **8.30** Gardeners' World. **9.00** The Wild West. Drama-documentary about Billy the Kid, notorious gunman of the Wild West. What is the case for the defence of a man who lived and died by the gun? **10.00** The Grumpy Guide to Art. Guide to how to look and sound profoundly clever and well informed in an art gallery. **10.30** Newsnight. **11.00** Newsnight Review. **11.35** FILM: eXistenZ (1999). Fast-paced fantasy about a cutting-edge games designer who must seek refuge in her own state-of-the-art virtual reality game when she survives an assassination attempt, starring Jennifer Jason Leigh and Jude Law. **1.10** Star Trek. **2.00** Star Trek. **2.50** Malcolm in the Middle. **3.10** Close

itv 1

6.00 GMTV. **9.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show. **10.30** This Morning. **12.30** Loose Women. **1.30** ITV Lunchtime News; Weather. **2.00** Midsomer Murders. **3.00** Coronation Street Confidential. **3.30** Dancing On Ice Exclusive. **3.55** Kavanagh QC. **5.30** Dale's Supermarket Sweep. **6.00** Calendar. **6.30** ITV Evening News; Weather. **7.00** Emmerdale. Under police questioning, Rosemary Jiminy comes face to face with his half-sister. Rosemary asks Zak if he will let her sponsor Belle. **7.30** Coronation Street. Steve spills Sonny's secret - but how will Michelle react? An old flame spends the night at Jamie's. A new worker puts the cat among the pigeons. **8.00** House Price Forecast: Tonight. Is the value of your home set to rise or fall? Amid mounting warnings of a property crash, experts reveal their predictions for house prices over the coming year. **8.30** A Touch of Frost. Feature-length police drama. A beautiful student is attacked on campus, and Frost has to decide whether it is an isolated incident or the start of a nightmare. **10.30** ITV News; Weather. The latest national and international news, plus national weather. Including local news programmes. **11.00** Al Murray's Happy Hour. The Pub Landlord meets Shane Warne, Abi Titmuss and David Coulthard. But will Mel C bow to pressure from the Guv and perform a classic hit from his favourite band, Queen? **12.05** ITV Play: Make Your Play. **4.10** 60 Minute Makeover. **5.00** ITV Nightscreen. **5.30** ITV Early Morning News.

4

6.10 The Hoobs. **6.35** The Hoobs. **7.00** Freshly Squeezed. **7.30** Friends. **8.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. **8.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. **8.55** Frasier. **9.30** My Big Gay Prom. **10.30** My Big Gay Prom. **11.30** Gay to Z. **12.00** News at Noon. **12.30** FILM: Dallas (1950). Western, starring Gary Cooper and Ruth Roman. **2.15** Supporting Acts. **2.25** A Place in the Sun. **3.30** Countdown. **4.15** Deal or No Deal. **5.00** Richard and Judy. **6.00** The Simpsons. **6.30** Hollyoaks. Amy's baby is causing havoc within her family and Amy realises she has to make a decision over her daughter's future. **7.00** Channel 4 News. **7.30** The Insider. Ex-Home Secretary and exponent of ID cards Charles Clarke voices his opinion on identity theft, the fastest growing fraud in Britain. **8.00** A Place in the Sun: Home or Away. Roger and Sharon want a South Downs home as well as a ski lodge in northern Italy. **9.00** Ugly Betty. The day after Thanksgiving is no holiday for Betty, who struggles to pull together a last-minute photo shoot with a famous couple and their baby. **10.00** The Charlotte Church Show. The Voice of an Angel presents her own show, featuring a mix of celebrity guests, comedy and music. **10.50** Balls of Steel. Neg tries his hand at human skittles. **11.40** 4 Music: Shockwaves NME Awards 2007. Coverage of this year's Shockwaves NME Awards presented by Lauren Laverne. Among the acts performing are Kasabian, The Killers, Kaiser Chiefs, The View and Jarvis Cocker. **1.20** 4 Music: JD Set: Longcut. **1.35** 4 Music: 4Play: Scott Matthews. **1.50** 50 Pounds Says You'll Watch This. **2.50** World Cup Snowboard. **4.45** Freesports on 4: Snowboarding. **5.10** Countdown. **5.55** Inuk.

five

6.00 Tickle, Patch and Friends. **6.25** Old Bear Stories. **6.35** Bird Bath. **6.45** Hi-5. **7.20** Miss Spider's Sunny Patch Friends. **7.30** The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. **7.45** Make Way for Noddy. **8.00** Fifi and the Flowertots. **8.15** Peppa Pig. **8.25** Thomas & Friends. **8.40** Titch. **8.50** Mio Mao. **9.00** The Wright Stuff. **10.30** Trisha Goddard. **11.30** five news. **12.00** Home and Away. **12.30** BrainTeaser. **1.40** FILM: Neil Simon's The Sunshine Boys (1995). Comedy, starring Woody Allen and Peter Falk. **3.40** FILM: Mom at Sixteen (2005). Drama, starring Colin Fergusson and Danielle Panabaker. **5.30** five news. **6.00** Home and Away. Peter and Amanda grow closer. Jack and Sam begin to build a firm friendship. Alf is worried about Martha's relationship with Ash. **6.30** Out of Practice. **7.00** five news. **7.30** Mean Machines. Showcasing some of the heaviest, fastest and technologically advanced machines. This episode looks at bulldozers - from tiny machines to massive six metre-high monsters. **8.00** Supersize Crocs. After his 1983 discovery of the skin of a 21-foot-long salt-water crocodile, Rom Whitaker searches three continents for a record-breaking supesize croc. **9.00** NCIS. Tony is accused of murdering a woman whose body is found at Quantico. **10.00** Law and Order: Criminal Intent. Crime drama series. A physicist tries to avoid humiliation by resorting to murder when he fails to prove a controversial theory he has spent his entire career advocating. **11.00** The Conman With 14 Wives. **12.00** Prison Break. **1.00** Quiz Call. **5.35** Wildlife SOS.

club

Atrium
SALSOUL
salsa, timba, latin
RESSURECTION
indie

Baja Beach Club
FEEL GOOD FRIDAY
NIGHTS
radio Aire DJs

Cockpit
THE SESSION
indie, electro & guitars

Faversham
NEW BOHEMIA
funk, soul, hip hop with
quests Peter Parker
[Fingathing] & ASM

Flare
STRICTLY DISCO

HiFi Club
FUNKSOULNATION
70's soul, funk with DJ's

Metropolitan University
STAR + ELECTRIC HEAD
metal, rock & indie

Mission
VIBEALITE
hardcore

Space
GLADRAGS
funky house, disco

The Subculture
FRIDAY FLOCK
goth, alternative, 80's

Uni, Stylus, Pulse & Mine
FRUITY
pop, party, r'n'b, indie

Wire
POLAROID
with Justus Kohncke
[Kompakt]

Brudenell Social
Club
PRINTED CIRCUIT

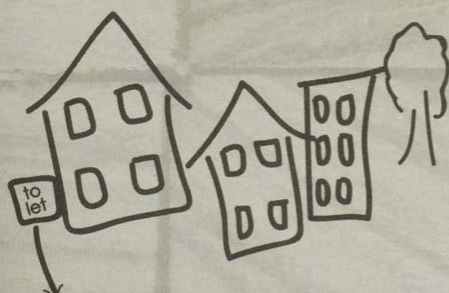
Cockpit
THE BLOOD ARM

HiFi Club
(6pm) **VIB GYOR**

Joseph's Well
THE BRIBES

Santiago's
RED CELLS

alive.co.uk
alive
born 1993



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checking if your landlord has applied for their HMO license
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problems getting deposits back

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Television

**Saturday
March
3rd**



Bear Grylls is this guy's actual name. A show deserves watching just for that. As Bear is a former Special Services adventurer he has kindly decided to document how to survive in the world's most extreme environments. In this episode Grylls travels to a Costa Rican

rainforest where he climbs a 120-foot waterfall, fishes a bit, constructs a raft (of course) and avoids poisonous berries. Oh and he gets diarrhoea. Obviously didn't avoid the berries well enough.
Laurie Whitwell

Born Survivor: Bear Grylls
Channel 4
7:00p.m

club

Atrium
SATURDAYS
house, soul, funk, r'n'b
Baia Beach Club
SHAMELESS PLEASURE

Common Place
DEFIBRILLATOR
with Rahisi & Doctor Bod
+ guests Nito & Joffman

Corn Exchange
FEDERATION
Pirates of Penzance
party / for tickets ring:
08709 913913

Evolution
I LOVE S.E.X.
chart, r'n'b & hip hop

Faversham
BAD SNEAKERS
rock, punk, funk, soul

Halo
VOODOO
anthems, r&b, hip hop

HIFI Clu
THE BOOGALOO CLUB
funk, jazz, latin, reggae

Missio
GLASSHOUSE
funky & hard house

Mission Annexe
POPTASTIC
indie & pop

My House
BASICS
guest Scarlett Etienne

University Stylus
THE DIRTY DISCO
with Thomas Schu-
macher

Warehouse
ASYLUM & TECHNIQUE
with Gaiser, Troy Pierce
& Marc Houle

Brudenell Social
Club
TRENCHER

Cockpit
JAMES YORKSTON

Joseph's Well
NECROPHAGIST
for tickets ring:
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born 1993

**BBC
ONE**

6.00 Breakfast. 10.00 Saturday Kitchen. 11.30 Bill's Food. 12.00 BBC News; Weather. 12.10 Football Focus. 1.00 European Indoor Athletics Championships. 4.30 Final Score. 5.35 BBC News; Regional News; Weather. 5.55 Comic Relief Does Fame Academy.

7.15 **Weakest Link.** A special Sports Stars edition of Weakest Link. Ricky Hatton, Alec Stewart, Ashia Hansen and Peter Schmeichel are among the competitors. But who will hit the deck?

8.05 **The National Lottery: Saturday Draws.** The National Lottery Draws hosted by John Barrowman.

8.15 **Casualty.** The arrival of a new female consultant drives a wedge between Greg and Cyd. Jeff and Dixie have a bet on a patient.

9.05 **Comic Relief Does Fame Academy.** Has your favourite student lived to sing another day? Has your vote made the difference? Which celebrity student has been expelled from the Fame Academy?

9.35 **The Vicar of Dibley.** Sitcom about a female vicar. David is confident of a victory in the local elections, and his new plans include twinning Dibley with every country in Europe - except Belgium.

10.05 **BBC News; Weather.** BBC News; Weather.

10.25 **Match of the Day.** Gary Lineker presents highlights of today's eight Premiership games, with analysis from Alan Hansen and Alan Shearer.

11.45 **FILM: Return from the River Kwai (1988).** A downed American pilot joins British guerrillas to rescue POWs from a Japanese transport ship before they can be shipped back to Japan, starring Timothy Bottoms and Edward Fox.

1.25 Joins BBC News 24.

**BBC
TWO**

6.00 CBeebies: Balamory. 6.20 Tweenies. 6.40 Big Cook Little Cook. 7.00 Roar. 7.55 Arthur. 8.10 Lizzie McGuire. 8.30 The Story of Tracy Beaker. 9.00 Our House. 10.00 The Story of Tracy Beaker. 10.30 Time Warp Trio. 10.50 Secret Show. 11.00 Krypto the Superdog. 11.30 The Fairly Odd Parents. 11.45 Sportsround. 12.00 See Hear. 12.45 Coast: Scotland - Cardigan Bay. 12.50 Film 2007 with Jonathan Ross.

1.20 Churchill's Bodyguard. 2.10 Monk. 2.50 FILM: Robin Hood (1973). Animation, starring Brian Bedford and Peter Ustinov. 4.15 FILM: The Musketeer (2001). Adventure, starring Justin Chambers and Catherine Deneuve.

5.50 What the Papers Say. 6.00 TOTP 2.

6.35 **Meerkat Manor.** Flower's new litter ventures out into the world for the first time.

7.00 **Meerkat Manor.** Evicted Tosca considers starting a group of her own.

7.25 **The Culture Show.** A journey around the UK, pinpointing the places that have inspired our comic talents.

8.15 **Comedy Map of Britain.** A journey around the UK, pinpointing the places that have inspired our comic talents.

9.15 **Dragons' Den.** The ideas include detachable gloves for baby buggies and rear-view mirrors for horseriders.

10.15 **The Grumpy Guide to Fashion.**

10.45 **Never Mind the Buzzcocks.**

11.15 **Have I Got Old News for You.**

11.45 **FILM: Crazy/Beautiful (2001).** Modern take on Romeo and Juliet in which a talented but poor Latino teenager falls for the troubled daughter of an affluent congressman while studying at the same high school, starring Bruce Davison and Lucinda Jenney.

1.20 The Culture Show. 2.10 FILM: That's Your Funeral (1972). Comedy, starring Bill Fraser and Raymond Huntley. 3.30 Close

itv 1

6.00 GMTV. 9.25 CITV: Horrid Henry. 9.40 CITV: Bel's Boys. 9.50 CITV: Tricky Quicksies. 9.55 CITV: Art Attack. 10.20 CITV: Drake and Josh. 10.50 CITV: King Arthur's Disasters. 11.20 Coastal Kitchen. 11.50 Saturday Cooks Live. 1.20 ITV News; Weather. 1.25 Calendar News and Weather. 1.30 American Idol. 3.00 Planet's Funniest Animals. 3.35 FILM: Housesitter (1992). Romantic Comedy, starring Steve Martin and Goldie Hawn. 5.25 Calendar News, Sport and Weather. 5.40 ITV News; Sports Results; Weather. 5.55 New You've Been Framed!

6.25 **Harry Hill's TV Burp.** 6.55 **Dancing on Ice.** 7.55 **Primeval.** Helen Cutter escapes from custody at the Home Office, leaving in her wake a flock of dodos which carry a deadly parasite that could have a devastating effect on the human race.

8.55 **PokerFace: The Million Pound Final.** Six finalists risk the 50 grand they have already won for the chance to win a million pounds.

9.55 **Dancing on Ice - The Skate Off.**

10.25 **Al Murray's Happy Hour.** The pub landlord welcomes more celebrities into his friendly local.

Natalie Cassidy and Torchwood's John Barrowman are joined by Donny Osmond. Music comes courtesy of Madness.

11.25 **ITV News; Weather.**

11.40 **FILM: The War of the Roses (1989).** Black comedy about a couple whose marriage break-up degenerates into a pitched battle fought out in their beautiful mansion, which neither is prepared to vacate, starring Michael Douglas and Kathleen Turner.

1.45 ITV Play: Make Your Play. 4.25 Don't Move, Improve. 5.00 ITV Nightscreen. 5.30 ITV Early Morning News.

4

6.10 The Hoobs. 6.35 The Hoobs. 7.00 Goalissimo! 8.00 The Morning Line. 8.55 T4: 4Music Presents... Kaiser Chiefs. 9.25 T4 at the Shockwaves NME Awards 2007. 10.15 T4: Friends. 10.50 T4: Popworld. 11.45 T4: Friends. 12.20 T4: Shipwrecked 2007: The Hut Cam Diaries. 12.55 T4: Shipwrecked 2007: Battle of the Islands. 2.00 Channel 4 Racing from Newbury and Kempton Park. 4.05 Location, Location, Location. 4.40 Deal or No Deal Classic. 5.30 Monarchy with David Starkey.

6.30 **Channel 4 News.** 7.00 **Born Survivor: Bear Grylls.** Former Special Forces adventurer Bear Grylls demonstrates how to survive in the world's most hostile environments. Bear faces the challenge of the Costa Rican rainforest.

8.00 **Bremner, Bird and Fortune.** Topical satirical comedy from impressionist Rory Bremner and regular collaborators John Bird and John Fortune.

9.00 **The 50 Greatest TV Dramas.** 200 of Britain's top television drama professionals took part in an exclusive poll to discover what they consider the finest dramas ever produced. Here are the results.

12.05 4 Music: Kings of Leon: Video Exclusive. 12.10 4 Music: Bryan Ferry: The Dylan Sessions. 1.15 4 Music: Live from Abbey Road. 2.20 4 Music: Kings of Leon: Video Exclusive. 2.25 FILM: City of Industry (1997). Crime, starring Harvey Keitel and Stephen Dorff. 4.00 Hitler's Holocaust. 5.00 Andares in Times of War. 5.05 3 Minute Wonder: Losing Myself. 5.10 Countdown. 5.55 Inuk.

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five

6.00 Sunrise. 7.00 Franklin. 7.25 Miss Spider's Sunny Patch Friends. 7.40 Peppa Pig. 7.50 Make Way for Noddy. 8.05 Harry and His Bucket Full of Dinosaurs. 8.20 Harry and His Bucket Full of Dinosaurs. 8.35 Gerald McBoing Boing. 9.05 Jane and the Dragon. 9.35 Don't Blame the Koalas. 10.05 Hercules: Legendary Journeys. 11.05 Xcalibur. 11.40 The Gadget Show. 12.30 Built for the Kill: Dog. 1.15 Built for the Kill. 1.45 FILM: The Greatest Show on Earth (1952). Drama, starring Betty Hutton and Charlton Heston. 4.40 FILM: All Dogs Go to Heaven (1989). Animation.

6.05 **FILM: Godzilla (1998).** Effects-laden blockbuster about a huge reptile which emerges from the sea to wreak havoc in Manhattan. Based on the cult Japanese monster movies, starring Matthew Broderick and Jean Reno.

8.25 **five news and sport.** 8.45 **NCIS.** Series following special agents who investigate crimes connected to the Navy. A mummified woman is found wearing a wedding dress, leading to a hunt for an obsessed serial killer.

9.35 **CSI:NY.** Danny and Lindsay explore the worlds of goth and glam when a girl belonging to the underground 'Suicide Girls' cult is found dead after a concert.

10.35 **Law and Order.** Powerful American crime drama. When a skeleton is found, the team discover that the victim was thought to have died during the September 11 attack on the World Trade Center.

11.35 **FILM: Outbreak (1995).** Thriller about the race to halt a virus that is threatening to wipe out the population of the planet, while powerful political forces try to suppress the truth, starring Dustin Hoffman and Rene Russo.

1.55 Quiz Call. 5.35 Wildlife SOS.



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Town Hall, Leeds**

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Town Hall Box Office on 0113 224 3801**

**Email: unimusic@leeds.ac.uk or visit
www.luums.co.uk for more info.**

50 First Dates Five 6:05p.m

I am not sure whether said amount of dates actually occur in the film but as it is a nice round number I can understand their claims. A guy (Sandler) falls for a girl (Barrymore) who has short term memory loss as a result of a car crash. Basically she forgets everything each day

so he has to repeat their first date over and over again. How will the lovers overcome this slight obstacle in their relationship? Spoiler Alert: A video camera holds the key. Incidentally my mum loves this film.
Laurie Whitwell



Sunday March 4th

BBC ONE

- 6.00 Breakfast. 7.35 Match of the Day. 9.00 Sunday AM. 10.00 Heaven and Earth with Gloria Hunniford. 11.00 Countryfile. 12.00 The Politics Show. 1.00 Diagnosis Murder. 1.45 'Allo 'Allo! 2.25 Keeping Up Appearances. 2.55 EastEnders. 4.50 Songs of Praise. 5.55 When Love Comes to Town. 5.55 Rolf on Lowry.
- 6.45 **Comic Relief Does Car Booty.** Six celebrity duos put their bargaining skills to the test at a special Comic Relief car boot sale in Battersea, South London. Celebs include French and Saunders and Jason Donovan.
- 7.35 **BBC News; Regional News; Weather.**
- 8.00 **Rough Diamond.** Drama series set in the horseracing world of rural southern Ireland. On her wedding anniversary Yolanda has money to spend at the horse sales and she wants to take Aidan.
- 9.00 **FILM: Cold Mountain (2003).** Drama set during the American Civil War, a wounded soldier returns home to his sweetheart. She struggles to keep her farm going but all changes when she takes in a feisty wanderer, starring Jude Law and Nicole Kidman.
- 10.00 **BBC News; Regional News; Weather.**
- 10.15 **FILM: Cold Mountain (2003).** Conclusion of Anthony Mingella's multi award-winning epic Romantic Drama, starring Jude Law and Nicole Kidman.
- 11.45 **The Sky at Night.** Dr Chris Lintott advises on how best to see Saturn, whilst Sir Patrick Moore finds out the latest from the Cassini mission which is currently orbiting Saturn.
- 12.10 Sign Zone: Bill's Food.
- 12.35 Sign Zone: Wanted Down Under. 1.20 Joins BBC News 24.

BBC TWO

- Sunday March 4, 2007
- 6.00 CBeebies: Balamory. 6.20 Tweenies. 6.40 Big Cook Little Cook. 7.00 CBBC: Biff and the Big Bang. 7.10 The Batman. 7.30 Smile. 10.00 Something for the Weekend. 11.30 Planet Food. 12.00 Animal Park. 1.00 Premiership Rugby. 1.30 European Athletics Indoor Championships. 5.15 Masterchef Goes Large. 5.45 Natural World.
- 6.35 **Meerkat Manor.** A rival group invades Whiskers territory and a battle ensues.
- 7.00 **Crufts 2007: Preview.**
- 8.00 **Top Gear.** This week they build their own stretch limos out of the most improbable cars.
- 9.00 **Oklahoma Bomb: The Conspiracy Files.** An investigation whether the Oklahoma City bombing was the work of lone bomber Tim McVeigh, or whether there were others involved who are being protected in a government cover-up.
- 10.00 **Kombat Opera Presents.** Down-home Alabama wife, Adey Winchester, swaps her double-wide trailer abode for a life of domestic bliss with Roy Gay, a Philadelphia interior designer.
- 10.30 **Match of the Day 2.** Adrian Chiles presents highlights from the Barclays Premiership of today's two matches, both big local derbies: Bolton v Blackburn and West Ham v Spurs.
- 11.20 **Graham Norton Uncut.** Graham Norton presents a show focusing on the odder aspects of celebrity culture, featuring monologues, chat, characters, stories and home-grown weirdness from the British public.
- 12.05 Family Guy. 12.30 Family Guy. 12.50 Family Guy. 1.15 FILM: Patrick (1978). Thriller, starring Susan Penhaligon and Robert Helpmann. 3.05 Close

itv 1

- 6.00 GMTV. 9.25 CITV: Mr Bean: The Animated Series. 9.35 CITV: Feodor. 9.45 CITV: Curious George. 9.55 CITV: Pocoyo. 10.05 CITV: Jim Jam and Sunny. 10.20 CITV: Jim Jam and Sunny. 10.30 The Championship. 11.30 The Sunday Edition with Andrew Rawnsley and Andrea Catherwood. 12.30 Calendar News and Sport. 12.35 American Idol. 3.05 The Crocodile Hunter Diaries. 3.55 Primeval. 4.55 Dancing on Ice. 5.55 Dancing on Ice - The Skate Off.
- 6.25 **Calendar News and Sport.**
- 6.40 **ITV News; Weather.**
- 7.00 **Emmerdale.** The net closes in on the King brothers. Bob's feeling guilty as he'd rather be with the twins. Edna sympathises with Billy. David is almost caught out.
- 7.30 **Coronation Street.** Michelle and Sonny are finally engaged - but for how long? Claire finds comfort in helping Casey. Sean comes under pressure to tell the truth.
- 8.00 **Wild at Heart.** A bored Caroline gets some much-needed distraction from a pilot and his pet chimp. Danny undertakes a drugs trial, but the outbreak of a mystery virus threatens to destroy the farm.
- 9.00 **Lewis.** Starring Kevin Whately. When an Oxford housewife is found hanged in her home, Lewis and Hathaway unearth a far darker murder case than the initial suicide verdict suggests.
- 11.00 **ITV News; Weather.**
- 11.10 **The South Bank Show.** The artist Mark Wallinger talks to Melvyn Bragg about his new and highly controversial work State Britain, which opened at Tate Britain in January this year.
- 12.10 The Moral of the Story. 12.35 ITV Play: Glitterball. 4.05 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 5.00 ITV Nightscreen. 5.30 ITV Early Morning News.

4

- 6.10 The Hoobs. 6.35 Trans World Sport. 7.30 Velux 5 Oceans. 8.00 World Cup Skiing. 8.55 T4: Popworld. 9.45 T4: Hollyoaks Omnibus. 12.15 T4: Shipwrecked 2007: The Hut Cam Diaries. 12.50 T4: Musicoool. 1.55 T4: Beauty and the Geek. 2.55 T4: The OC. 3.55 T4: Ugly Betty. 4.55 Deal or No Deal. 5.45 Time Team.
- 6.40 **Shipwrecked 2007: Battle of the Islands.** Reality series in which two rival groups are marooned on neighbouring islands in the Pacific. Model and dancer Naomi spends time on both islands before choosing her destination.
- 7.45 **Channel 4 News.** Including sport and weather.
- 8.00 **Bodyshock.** Series looking at extreme cases in human science. The story of Egyptian girl Manar Maged, who was born with a parasitic undeveloped twin conjoined to her head.
- 9.00 **FILM: I, Robot (2004).** Dynamic futuristic thriller. A Chicago cop does not trust the robots that are part of human society and unearths a frightening android conspiracy, starring Will Smith and Bridget Moynahan.
- 11.05 **FILM: Johnny Mnemonic (1995).** Futuristic drama about a courier who smuggles information in a computer chip in his head, starring Keanu Reeves and Dolph Lundgren.
- 12.50 KOTV. 1.25 Freesports on 4: The Roxy Jam. 1.55 Freesports on 4. 2.30 Velux 5 Oceans. 2.55 World Cup Skiing. 3.50 Grudge Match. 4.00 Hitler's Holocaust. 5.00 The Insider. 5.25 Countdown.

five

- 6.00 Tickle, Patch and Friends. 6.25 Old Bear Stories. 6.35 Sailor Sid. 6.40 Bird Bath. 6.50 Franklin. 7.15 Miss Spider's Sunny Patch Friends. 7.30 The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. 7.45 Make Way for Noddy. 8.00 Harry and His Bucket Full of Dinosaurs. 8.15 Harry and His Bucket Full of Dinosaurs. 8.30 Gerald McBoing Boing. 9.00 Jane and the Dragon. 9.30 What Makes Me Happy. 9.45 Demolition Dad. 10.00 Round the Twist. 10.30 A Different Life. 11.00 Snobs. 11.35 RAD: The Grooms Tour the Baltics. 12.05 Rooted. 12.40 Revelations. 1.15 five news update. 1.20 Divine Designs. 1.55 FILM: The Naked Jungle (1953). Drama, starring Charlton Heston and Eleanor Parker. 3.45 FILM: Logan's Run (1976). Science Fiction, starring Michael York and Jenny Agutter. 5.55 five news and sport.
- 6.05 **FILM: 50 First Dates (2004).**
- 8.00 **Grey's Anatomy.** Medical drama following the fortunes of first year interns. A train wreck causes mayhem in the emergency room.
- 9.00 **Grey's Anatomy.** Cristina, Izzie and Meredith are fascinated by the case of a pregnant male patient.
- 10.00 **FILM: When Harry Met Sally (1989).** Acclaimed romantic comedy about a man and a woman who have a love/hate relationship that lasts for 11 years, but is it possible that they could in fact be ideal partners? starring Billy Crystal and Meg Ryan.
- 11.55 **A1 Grand Prix.** Coverage of motorsport's equivalent of the World Cup. Round 8 action comes from the only street circuit in the championship, in Durban, South Africa.
- 12.50 Boxing Classic. 1.40 Adventure Triathlon. 2.05 UEFA Cup Football: Newcastle United v Zulte Waregem. 3.40 MLS Cup Final. 4.30 NHRA Drag Racing.

club

Courtyard
RECOVERY SESSION
DJ playing eclectic tunes

Fab
FILM NIGHT

Fibre
FEDERATION CLASSICS
Stuart Robinson plays Federations classics & anthems

Flares
JIM'LL MIX IT
requests night

Fudge
SHINE
house music

HiFi Club
THE SUNDAY JOINT
live jazz & funk bands/artists, resident DJs MJ Soul & Malcolm X

Mook
FLYTIME
latin jazz, old skool funk & soul

Reform
LOOKANDLISTEN
a/v night

The Subculture
BLACK SHEEP
goth

gigs

Brudenell Social Club
QUACK QUACK

Cockpit
THE HOURS

Faversham
THE TWANG

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The
Old Bar
est. 1939

Television

Monday
March
5rd

This show sounds like fantastic fun. It's got the obligatory whizzes and bangs but also a guy called Professor Bonkers who does 'bonkers' science. Apparently. The main feature of the programme is the taking of viewers ker-razy invention ideas and making

them happen. Today they will be making a robotic horse complete with a music system and space for sweets. Obviously... Watch. Be inspired

Laurie Whitwell

Whizz Whizz Bang Bang
BBC1
4:00p.m

club

Bondi Beach Club
MENTAL MONDAY
student night

Discotheque
CHIC BEAT
funky house, r'n'b classics

Evolution
MONKEY MAGIC
stage based student night

Flares
LATE NIGHT LAUNDRY
student night

HiFi Club
SWEET REVIVAL
r'n'b, hip hop & soul with
DJs Benji Boko, Martin R & Mark Poppy Luton

Oceana
RENDZU
funky house & dance,
r'n'b, hip hop & disco

Queens Court
THE PINK POUND
chart & dance music

gigs

Brudenell Social
Club
TRANS AM

Doctor Wu's
OUT OF THE NORM

Joseph's Well
THE ANTI-DEPRESSANTS

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5th Mar: **THE RAPTURE***
6th Mar: **FORWARD
RUSSIA***
8th Mar: **LCD
SOUNDSYSTEM***
18th Mar: **IDLEWILD***
22nd Mar: **STIFF LITTLE
FINGERS***
19th Apr: **THE PIPETTES***
9th May: **KLAXONS***
14th May: **THE TWANG***
3rd Jun: **MARILLION***

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BBC
ONE

6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Beat the
Bailiff. 10.00 Escape to the
Country. 11.00 Living in the Sun.
11.45 Cash in the Attic. 12.15
Bargain Hunt. 1.00 BBC News;
Weather. 1.30 Regional News and
Weather. 1.40 Neighbours. 2.05
Doctors. 2.35 Diagnosis Murder.
3.20 BBC News; Weather;
Regional News. 3.25 CBB: Arthur.
3.45 Shaun the Sheep. 4.00
Whizz Whizz Bang Bang. 4.30
50/50. 5.00 MI High. 5.30
Newsround. 5.35 Neighbours.
6.00 BBC News and Weather.
6.30 Look North; Weather.
7.00 Mission Africa.
7.30

Holiday 2007. Travel
show presented by
Laurence Llewelyn-Bowen.
With reports from New
Zealand, Bath, the Amazon
in Ecuador, and Petra in
Jordan.

8.00 EastEnders. Are May and
Rob ready for Dawn's
resolute return to the
Square? Shirley takes
Deano on a night out that
he will never forget, and
Sean helps Chelsea deal
with Tanya.

8.30 Panorama. Tears, rows
and recriminations as
reporter Justin Rowlatt, his
wife and three kids spend a
year without their car, their
tumble dryer and their
cheap flights abroad.

9.00 Crimewatch.
10.00 BBC News; Regional
News; Weather.
10.35 Crimewatch Update.
10.45 Sleep Clinic.

Documentary series about
the sleep clinic at Papworth
Hospital. Laila falls asleep
all the time and collapses
when she laughs. And
Geoffrey's legs kick and
twitch away all night.

11.15 Film 2007 with
Jonathan Ross.
11.45 FILM: Last Embrace
(1979).

1.30 Sign Zone: The Wild West.
2.30 Sign Zone: What
Makes Britain Rich? 4.00
Sign Zone: Wanted Down
Under. 4.45 Joins BBC
News 24.

BBC
TWO

6.00 CBeebies: Fimbles. 6.20 The
Story Makers. 7.00 CBB: Astro
Boy. 7.30 Wonderful World of
Weird. 8.15 ChuckleVision. 8.40
Tweenies. 9.00 Doodle Do. 9.30
Something Special. 10.00 Nina and
the Neurons. 10.15 Underground
Ernie. 10.30 Schools: Watch.
11.00 Maths Challenge. 11.30
Shakespeare: The Animated Tales.
12.00 The Daily Politics. 12.30
Working Lunch. 1.00 Schools:
What? Where? When? Why? 1.15
Something Special. 1.30 Animal
Park. 2.15 Castle in the Country.
3.15 Sudo-Q. 3.45 Flog It! 4.30
Ready Steady Cook. 5.15 Weakest
Link.

6.00 Eggheads.
6.30 Masterchef Goes Large.
7.00 The Trees That Made
Britain.

7.30 Nation on Film. David
Jason narrates the story of
1920s trail-blazing pilot
Alan Cobham and his
mission to get the British
public airborne, using rare
footage of his crusade.

8.00 University Challenge.
8.30 Masterchef: The Story
So Far.

9.00 The Retreat. To defuse
tension within the group,
they're taken to Morocco to
experience Islam in action.

10.00 Ideal. Sitcom about a
small-time dope dealer.
With a kidnap victim
stashed in the flat, Moz
tries to deflect a succession
of unwanted guests.

10.30 Newsnight.
11.20 21st Century Bach. JS
Bach's 'Great' Fantasia and
Fugue in G Minor (BWV542)
is played by John Scott
Whiteley on the 1737
Muller organ at Haarlem.

11.40 FILM: The Clandestine
Marriage (1999).

1.05 Seven Days. 1.50 The
Witness. 1.55 The Witness.
2.00 BBC Learning Zone:
Languages and Travel: The
French Experience: 17-20.
3.00 Eurograffers: France.
3.30 Working with the
French. 4.00 Make French
Your Business 1. 5.00 Make
French Your Business 1 and
2.

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6.00 GMTV. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle
Show. 10.30 This Morning. 12.30
Loose Women. 1.30 ITV Lunchtime
News; Weather. 2.00 Midsomer
Murders. 3.00 Emmerdale
Confidential. 3.30 Dancing on Ice
Exclusive. 3.55 Kavanagh QC.
5.30 Dale's Supermarket Sweep.

6.00 Calendar.
6.30 ITV Evening News;
Weather.

7.00 Emmerdale. Jimmy, Carl
and Matthew are grilled by
the police. Rodney
scuppers Del and David's
romantic moment. Bob's
babies prove to be a good
selling tool.

7.30 Coronation Street. The
Connor brothers want
answers from Sonny. Tracy
lets David know that she's
still in charge. Ashley
questions Claire's
involvement with Casey.

8.00 Speed Guns Misfiring:
Tonight. Could a speed
gun widely used by police
be seriously flawed? Mark
Jordan meets the motorist
who claims he can prove it
is error prone, and others
who have challenged its
readings.

8.30 Coronation Street. Sean
is forced to come clean to a
devastated Michelle. David
and Tracy's games reach
match point. Jamie warns
Liam not to mess with
Leanne.

9.00 Cold Blood II. New. DS
Granger investigates the
death of a prisoner which
appears to be a clear-cut
case of murder. But Jake
Osbourne fears there is a
lot more to the case than
meets the eye...

10.30 ITV News; Weather.
11.00 WAGS Boutique. June
Sarpington tries to keep the
peace between the two
teams as the rivalry
reaches fever pitch.

12.00 Champions League Weekly.
12.30 ITV Play: Glitterball. 3.50
Dial A Mum. 4.25 Dial A Mum.
5.00 ITV Nightscreen. 5.30 ITV
Early Morning News.

4

6.10 The Hoobs. 6.35 The Hoobs.
7.00 Freshly Squeezed. 7.30
Friends. 8.00 Everybody Loves
Raymond. 8.30 Everybody Loves
Raymond. 9.00 Frasier. 9.30 Why
Is There So Much Rubbish on Telly?

11.30 21st Century Bard. 12.00
News at Noon. 12.30 Supporting
Acts. 12.40 FILM: Where the
Sidewalk Ends (1950). Film noir,
starring Dana Andrews and Gene
Tierney. 2.25 A Place in the Sun.

3.30 Countdown. 4.15 Deal or No
Deal. 5.00 Richard and Judy.
6.00 The Simpsons.
6.30 Hollyoaks. Amy is back in
school and tells everyone
she has a new sister, not a
daughter.

7.00 Channel 4 News.
7.55 3 Minute Wonder:
Preparing for the
Worst.

8.00 Dispatches: Greenwash.
Environmental campaigner
George Monbiot
investigates the British
government and leading
corporations' misleading
policies on climate change.

9.00 Silver Surfers. The Bafta-
winning Only Human series
examines how the internet
has revolutionised the
lifestyles of thousands of
love-seeking British
pensioners.

10.00 ER. Thanksgiving sees
Abby called to a bus crash
by the side of a ravine,
while Pratt consults Weaver
about his brother, and
Neela goes home with
Gates.

11.05 The Sopranos. Tony
considers an associate's
request to retire, and
shares a recent windfall
with Carmela.

12.10 4 Music: Bob Dylan: Video
Exclusive. 12.15 4 Music: Live
from Abbey Road. 1.20 4Music
Presents... Jet. 1.50 4 Music:
4Play: Jack Savoretti. 2.05 4
Music: Bob Dylan: Video Exclusive.
2.10 World Cup Skiing. 4.00 Lisa
Looks Back. 4.15 All About Us:
Living and Growing (Sex Ed 9-11).
4.30 Music Search. 4.45 Music
Search. 5.00 Animated World
Faiths. 5.15 Just Write. 5.30
Puzzle Maths.

five

6.00 Tickle, Patch and Friends.
6.25 Old Bear Stories. 6.35 Bird
Bath. 6.45 Hi-5. 7.20 Miss Spider's
Sunny Patch Friends. 7.45 Make
Way for Noddy. 8.00 Fifi and the
Flowerbots. 8.25 Thomas & Friends.
8.40 Titch. 8.50 Mio Mao. 9.00
The Wright Stuff. 10.30 Trisha
Goddard. 11.30 five news. 12.00
Home and Away. 12.30

BrainTeaser. 1.40 FILM: Shadow of
a Doubt (1995). Drama, starring
Brian Dennehy and Bonnie Bedelia.
3.40 five news update. 3.45 FILM:
Mystery Woman: At First Sight
(2006). Murder Mystery, starring
Kellie Martin and Nina Siemaszko.
5.30 five news.

6.00 Home and Away. There
is shock in Summer Bay as
Amanda's life hangs in the
balance.

6.30 Out of Practice.
7.00 five news.

7.15 The Gadget Show. Jason
Bradbury, Suzi Perry and
Jon Bentley head out to the
wilds of the Yorkshire
Moors to test some of the
best outdoor gadgets on
the market.

8.00 Monster Moves.
9.00 The Woman Who Lost
30 Stone: Extraordinary
People. Documentary
about Connie Jackson's
quest to totally transform
her body through surgery
and rid herself of baggy
excess skin after losing 30
stone.

10.00 Prison Break. Sucre and
Michael attempt to take off
with the money, but their
plan leads them into deep
water. Lincoln risks an
ambush when he goes to
find JJ.

11.00 Disorderly Conduct. US
documentary series
featuring footage of real-
life car crashes, drug busts
and high-speed pursuits.

12.00 Tim Marlow with... Gilbert
& George. 12.50 USPGA Golf.
1.20 French Football - Le
Championnat. 2.30 Now Is the
Time: Night of Combat - Kick
Boxing. 3.20 Boxing Classic. 4.10
Boxing: Fight of the Week. 5.10
Race and Rally UK. 5.35 Adventure
Triathlon.

Leeds East Asian International Relations Conference

10th March 2007, University of Leeds

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'Regionalism in East Asia- Can it Work?'

afternoon session: *China Focus*, three distinguished speakers

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Sex, Magick and Murder Channel 4 11:05pm

When you title a programme Sex, Magick and Murder (and deliberately miss-spell a word for effect - K is a cool letter mind) you better damn well deliver! Exclamation shows my anger. This documentary is actually about some parish councillor who

dabbled in black magic, owned some guns and watched a bit of porn. Just your typical areas of interest surely? I have a feeling this programme won't live up to its title and will in fact be shit.
Laurie Whitwell



Tuesday March 6th

BBC ONE

6.00 Breakfast. **9.15** Beat the Bailiff. **10.00** Escape to the Country. **11.00** Living in the Sun. **11.45** Cash in the Attic. **12.15** Bargain Hunt. **1.00** BBC News; Weather. **1.30** Regional News and Weather. **1.40** Neighbours. **2.05** Doctors. **2.35** Diagnosis Murder. **3.20** BBC News; Weather; Regional News. **3.25** BBC: Arthur. **3.45** Shaun the Sheep. **4.00** Whizz Whizz Bang Bang. **4.30** 50/50. **5.00** Blue Peter. **5.25** Newsround. **5.35** Neighbours. **6.00** BBC News and Weather. **6.30** Look North; Weather. **7.00** Watchdog. **7.30** EastEnders. Dawn decides to confront May but is shocked by her reaction. Carly forces Deano to choose between Shirley and her and Mo gets a visit from Customs & Excise. **8.00** Holby City. Jac realises she's getting nowhere fast and decides to raise her game. Kyla and Harvey reach an understanding. **9.00** Life on Mars. Drama series about a cop who wakes up in what seems to be 1973. After a bomb warning, A-Division go on red alert, but it doesn't fit with Sam's understanding of IRA methods. **10.00** BBC News; Regional News; Weather. **10.35** ONE Life. An exploration of the world of self-storage through the eyes of the industry's customers, revealing what lies behind the locked doors. **11.20** FILM: Still Crazy (1998). Comedy about a defunct 1970s rock band who must set aside their many differences as they attempt to stage a reunion tour in the 1990s, starring Timothy Spall and Bill Nighy. **12.55** Sign Zone: See Hear. **1.40** Sign Zone: Seaside Rescue. **2.10** Sign Zone: An Island Parish. **2.40** Sign Zone: Dr Alice Roberts: Don't Die Young. **3.10** Sign Zone: Wanted Down Under. **3.55** Joins BBC News 24.

BBC TWO

6.00 CBeebies: Fimbles. **6.20** The Story Makers. **7.00** CBBC: Astro Boy. **7.30** Wonderful World of Weird. **8.15** Shaun the Sheep. **8.40** Tweenies. **9.20** Lunar Jim. **9.30** Something Special. **9.45** Numberjacks. **10.00** Nina and the Neurons. **10.15** Underground. **10.30** Schools 11.10 Star Trek: The Next Generation. **12.00** The Daily Politics. **12.30** Working Lunch. **1.00** Coming to England. **1.20** Primary Geography. **1.30** Animal Park: Wild in Africa. **2.15** Castle in the Country. **3.15** Sudo-Q. **3.45** Flog It! **4.30** Ready Steady Cook. **5.15** Weakest Link. **6.00** Eggheads. **6.30** Masterchef Goes Large. **7.00** Sleep Clinic. **7.30** Are We There Yet? **8.00** Natural World. Documentary about two orphaned cheetah cubs as they are looked after for a two-year period by Simon King before their release back into the wild. **8.50** Wild Dive: HMS Scylla. Monty Halls dives the wreck of an old battleship that was sunk in 2006 to create an underwater wildlife haven off the coast of Plymouth. **9.00** Blair: The Inside Story. The final part of Michael Cockerell's series telling the inside story of Tony Blair's final years in office. It is a period dominated by a range of crises. **10.00** The Children of Helen House. Sister Frances supports one grieving mother as she tries to come to terms with her daughter's death. **10.30** Newsnight. **11.20** BBC Four on BBC Two: WH Auden: Tell Me the Truth about Love. Documentary exploring the theme of love in the life of the acclaimed poet. **12.20** Seven Days. **1.05** Joins BBC News 24. **2.00** ReviseWise at Home: KS2 - Science. **4.00** ReviseWise Challenge at Home: KS2 Science.

itv 1

6.00 GMTV. **9.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show. **10.30** This Morning. **12.30** Loose Women. **1.30** ITV Lunchtime News; Weather. **2.00** Midsomer Murders. **3.00** Emmerdale Confidential. **3.30** Dancing on Ice Exclusive. **3.55** Kavanagh QC. **5.30** Dale's Supermarket Sweep. **6.00** Calendar. Regional news, interviews and features, including local weather. **6.30** ITV Evening News; Weather. The latest national and international news. **7.00** Emmerdale. Del discovers David's plan. Viv is irritated with Eddie. The King brothers begin to see each other as suspects. Emily says she'll always be there for Sam. **7.30** UEFA Champions League Live: Liverpool v Barcelona. Benitez's team put themselves in a great position to knock out the holders after winning the first leg 2-1, but with Ronaldinho and Deco in the Barca side, anything could happen. **10.00** Confessions of a Chef. A look at the unpalatable methods chefs use to take their frustrations out on customers, including how a disgruntled Keith Floyd cooked and served a beer mat to one difficult diner. **10.30** ITV News; Weather. The latest national and international news, plus national weather. Including local news programmes. **11.00** UEFA Champions League Highlights. Jim Rosenthal presents action from Liverpool v Barcelona at Anfield, Chelsea v Porto at Stamford Bridge, Valencia v Inter Milan, and Lyon v Roma. With Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink. **12.00** ITV Play: Glitterball. **3.40** Families Forever. **4.35** The Jukes and Lulu Show. **5.00** ITV Nightscreen. **5.30** ITV Early Morning News.

4

6.00 The Cube. **6.10** The Hoobs. **6.35** The Hoobs. **7.00** Freshly Squeezed. **7.30** Friends. **8.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. **8.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. **9.00** Frasier. **9.30** Ballet Changed My Life: Ballet Hool! **10.30** The Play's the Thing. **11.30** 21st Century Bard. **12.00** News at Noon. **12.30** Seaside Secrets. **12.40** FILM: The History of Mr Polly (1949). Drama, starring John Mills and Sally Ann Howes. **2.25** My Place in the Sun. **3.30** Countdown. **4.15** Deal or No Deal. **5.00** Richard and Judy. **6.00** The Simpsons. **6.30** Hollyoaks. Jacqui takes Aleksander home and introduces him to the McQueen family, but a suspicious Mercedes makes them sleep on the sofa. **7.00** Channel 4 News. **7.55** 3 Minute Wonder: Preparing for the Worst. **8.00** You Are What You Eat: Gillian Moves In. Nutritionist Gillian McKeith offers health advice. Gillian revisits Kim McDonald and Fiona Derin after a year to see if they've managed to stick to a healthier lifestyle. **9.00** Never Did Me Any Harm. Father-of-two Shaun Hart wants his kids to experience hard graft for a fortnight. **10.00** Interview With a Poltergeist. Documentary examining the baffling and controversial case of the Enfield Poltergeist, which was alleged to have haunted 11-year-old Janet Hodgson for several months in 1977. **11.05** Sex, Magick and Murder. **12.10** Corinne Bailey Rae: Live in New York. **1.00** Five O'Clock Heroes: Video Exclusive. **1.05** The Charlotte Church Show. **1.50** My Name Is Earl. **2.15** Distraction. **2.40** The War at Home. **3.05** The Jamie Kennedy Experiment. **3.30** One-Eyed Jacques. **4.00** Lisa Looks Back. **4.15** All About Us.

five

6.00 Tickle, Patch and Friends. **6.25** Old Bear Stories. **6.35** Bird Bath. **6.45** Hi-5. **7.20** Miss Spider's Sunny Patch Friends. **7.30** The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. **7.45** Make Way for Noddy. **8.00** Fifi and the Flowertots. **8.15** Peppa Pig. **8.25** Thomas & Friends. **8.40** Titch. **8.50** Mio Mao. **9.00** The Wright Stuff. **10.30** Trisha Goddard. **11.30** five news. **12.00** Home and Away. **12.30** BrainTeaser. **1.40** FILM: Terror in the Family (1996). Drama, starring Hillary Swank and Joanna Kerns. **3.40** five news update. **3.45** FILM: Wild Hearts. **5.30** five news. **6.00** Home and Away. Peter and Amanda decide to put their feelings aside for Drew's sake. **6.30** Out of Practice. **7.00** five news. **7.15** The Singing Estate. Second in a four-part series following conductor Ivor Setterfield as he attempts to transform 40 non-singers from a council estate into a classical choir. The choir travel to Italy. **8.00** The Amelia Earhart Conspiracy: The True Story. Documentary searching for the truth behind one of aviation's biggest mysteries. **9.00** CSI: Crime Scene Investigation. The team struggles to identify the killer of an elderly cancer patient. **10.00** CSI: Miami. When a 'wives weekend' ends in murder, the team is faced with three women whose separate trysts with the victim make them prime suspects. **11.00** Law and Order: Special Victims Unit. Stabler's home and work lives mix uncomfortably when his daughter witnesses a gory crime scene. **12.00** The FBI Files. **1.00** NBA Action. **4.05** Motorsport Mundial. **4.30** Race and Rally UK. **4.55** World Supercross Grand Prix.

club

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student night

Cockpit
SLAM DUNK
punk, ska, metal, rock

Flores
THE HUSTLE

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eclectic

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Television

Wednesday March 7th

club

Boja Beach
Club
STUDENT REVOLUTION
student night.

Cockpit
PANIC
indie, 60s rock'n'roll &
garage, new wave,
punk with Rob Hender-
son, Helena Gee & Dan

Creation
MILKSHAKE
student night

Fab Café
THE SCORE
psychedelic funk soul

Flares
THE HUSTLE

HiFi Club
MOVEONUP
Northern Soul, Tamla
Motown, funk

Mission
MISSIONARY
student night, house &
dance, drum & base

Mook
MIND THE GAP
electro, electropop,
house & punk-funk

gigs

Adelphi
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Cockpit
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WASP*
14th Apr @ Rios Leeds

KINGS OF LEON*
16th Apr @ Blackpool
Empress Ballroom

MAGNUM*
25th May @ Rios Leeds

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Louise Redknapp, already thin enough to hide behind a cocktail stick, attempts via a hardcore diet and fitness regime to reach the American size 0. I'm not sure what this is supposed to prove. We all know there's only one celebrity cool enough to pull

off the 2D look and that's Tony the Tiger. He'll give a mean paper-cut to anyone who dares say otherwise, so watch out Redknapp.

Clare Pidsley

The Truth About Size Zero ITV1 9:00p.m

BBC ONE

6.00 Breakfast. **9.15** Beat the Bailiff. **10.00** Escape to the Country. **11.00** Living in the Sun. **11.45** Cash in the Attic. **12.15** Bargain Hunt. **1.00** BBC News; Weather. **1.30** Regional News and Weather. **1.40** Neighbours. **2.05** Doctors. **2.35** Diagnosis Murder. **3.20** BBC News; Weather; Regional News. **3.25** BBC: Arthur. **3.45** Shaun the Sheep. **4.00** Whizz Whizz Bang Bang. **4.30** Comic Relief Does Fame Academy on CBBC. **5.00** Blue Peter. **5.25** Newsround. **5.35** Neighbours.

6.00 BBC News and Weather. **6.30** Look North; Weather. **7.00** Comic Relief Does Fame Academy.

8.00 Casualty. A tragic bomb explosion in Holby makes Greg question the choice he has made about Cyd. Nadia and Kelsey jostle for the limelight when a news anchor is injured.

8.50 The National Lottery Draws.

9.00 New Street Law. Drama series about two rival barristers' chambers in Manchester. Jack and Frank co defend 2 girls accused of murdering a class mate, while Charlie defends a high-class hooker.

10.00 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.

10.35 Comic Relief Does Fame Academy.

11.05 FILM: In the Bedroom (2001). The story of a high school graduate who embarks upon a love affair with an attractive older woman, incurring the jealous anger of her estranged husband - with devastating results, starring Sissy Spacek and Tom Wilkinson.

1.15 Sign Zone: Jimmy's Diaries. **1.45** Sign Zone: The Madness of Modern Families. **2.15** Sign Zone: A Very English Village. **3.05** Sign Zone: Wanted Down Under. **3.50** Joins BBC News 24.

BBC TWO

6.00 CBeebies: Fimbles. **6.20** The Story Makers. **6.40** Balamory. **7.00** CBBC: Comic Relief Does Fame Academy on CBBC. **7.30** Wonderful World of Weird. **8.15** Shaun the Sheep. **8.30** CBeebies: Brum. **8.40** Tweenies. **9.00** Doodle Do. **9.20** Lunar Jim. **9.30** Something Special. **9.45** Numberjacks. **10.00** Nina and the Neurons. **10.15** Underground Ernie. **10.30** Star Trek: The Next Generation. **11.15** Small Town Gardens. **11.30** The Daily Politics. **1.00** Ground Force Revisited. **1.30** Working Lunch. **2.00** The Flying Gardener. **2.15** Castle in the Country. **3.15** Sudo-Q. **3.45** Flog It! **4.30** Ready Steady Cook. **5.15** Weakest Link.

6.00 Eggheads. **6.30** Masterchef Goes Large. **7.00** Top Gear. This week they build their own stretch limos out of the most improbable cars.

8.00 Dragons' Den. The ideas include an eco-friendly river boat and a revolutionary wine decanter.

9.00 Party Animals. Drama series set in the high stakes world of party politics. James visits Ashika in Sedley as she prepares for her first big public debate.

9.50 Don't Watch That Watch This! Satirical pastiche using fake footage. Bill Oddie is spying on the wildlife, and Rolf abandons Animal Hospital for a session on a lion skin rug.

10.00 Never Mind the Buzzcocks.

10.30 Newsnight.

11.20 BBC Four on BBC Two: Carry On Campus. Nigel Planer narrates a documentary taking a fond look at the growing pains of the university through the eyes of the writers who immortalised it in the campus novel.

12.20 Seven Days. **1.05** Joins BBC News 24. **2.00** BBC Learning Zone: Schools: Key Stage 3 Bitesize Revision English 3. **4.00** Key Stage 3 Bitesize Revision Maths 3.

itv 1

6.00 GMTV. **9.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show. **10.30** This Morning. **12.30** Loose Women. **1.30** ITV Lunchtime News; Weather. **2.00** Midsomer Murders. **3.00** Emmerdale Confidential. **3.30** Dancing on Ice Exclusive. **3.55** Kavanagh QC. **5.30** Dale's Supermarket Sweep.

6.00 Calendar.

6.30 ITV Evening News; Weather.

7.00 Emmerdale. Bob and Viv fear that Emily has stolen the twins. Eli hits a water pipe while digging. Paddy decides to enroll in a model-making class.

7.30 Coronation Street. Jason's an eye-witness to Tracy and David's arrangement. Supportive Steve gets blown out by Michelle. Sean's guilt forces him to send Sonny away.

8.00 The Bill. It's June's last day before retirement and with her ex-husband Jim around, it's going to be an awkward one. Then, after uncovering a robbery, the pair are held hostage at gunpoint.

9.00 The Truth About Size Zero. Louise Redknapp confronts the size zero trend by dropping two dress sizes in 30 days. She visits the Rhodes Farm Clinic for eating disorders to see how it impacts on young women.

10.30 ITV News; Weather.

11.00 Benidorm. The Oracle loses his temper when the Garveys beat him at a quiz night hosted at the pub. As Mateo attempts to get him off the stage, The Oracle blurts out the truth about him.

11.30 The Abbey. Reece Shearsmith and Morwenna Banks star in a comedic take on rehab. The Abbey is full of all kinds of addicts trying to escape the spotlight.

12.00 ITV Play: Glitterball. **4.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show. **5.00** ITV Nightscreen. **5.30** ITV Early Morning News.

4

6.00 The Cube. **6.10** The Hoobs. **6.35** The Hoobs. **7.00** Freshly Squeezed. **7.30** Friends. **8.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. **8.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. **9.00** Frasier. **9.30** Ballet Changed My Life: Ballet Hoot! **10.30** The Play's the Thing. **11.30** 21st Century Bard. **12.00** News at Noon. **12.30** Supporting Acts. **12.40** FILM: The Bridal Path (1959). Comedy, starring Bill Travers and Fiona Clynne. **2.25** A Place in the Sun. **3.30** Countdown. **4.15** Deal or No Deal. **5.00** Richard and Judy.

6.00 The Simpsons. **6.30** Hollyoaks. Jacqui is unconvinced that she and Aleksander are having a relationship. **7.00** Channel 4 News. **7.55** 3 Minute Wonder: Preparing for the Worst. Pat worries about a repeat of the North Sea surge that killed hundreds in 1953.

8.00 Relocation, Relocation. Phil and Kirstie revisit Gill and Sara Currie after eighteen months to see if their move from Twickenham to run a village pub has been a success.

9.00 Grand Designs. A couple have to rebuild their uninsured cottage in the New Forest after it is destroyed by a fire.

10.00 Desperate Housewives. Alma Hodge pays Orson and Bree a visit. Susan visits Mike in jail. Gabrielle accuses Carlos of sabotaging her new relationship.

11.05 Curse of the Ice Mummy. Documentary examining the bizarre deaths of seven individuals all linked to the excavation of an ancient mummified body.

12.05 My Chemical Romance: Video Exclusive. **12.10** Goalissimo! **1.10** World Cup Skiing. **3.15** Trans World Sport. **4.10** Grudge Match. **4.20** Hitler's Holocaust. **5.25** Countdown.

five

6.00 Tickle, Patch and Friends. **6.25** Old Bear Stories. **6.35** Bird Bath. **6.45** Hi-5. **7.20** Miss Spider's Sunny Patch Friends. **7.30** The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. **7.45** Make Way for Noddy. **8.00** Fifi and the Flowertots. **8.15** Peppa Pig. **8.25** Thomas & Friends. **8.40** Titch. **8.50** Mio Mao. **9.00** The Wright Stuff. **10.30** Trisha Goddard.

11.30 five news. **12.00** Home and Away. **12.30** BrainTeaser. **1.30** FILM: Recipe for Revenge (1998). Thriller, starring Kim Huffman and Alex Carter. **3.30** FILM: Columbo: Murder, Smoke and Shadows (1989). Crime, starring Peter Falk and Fisher Stevens. **5.30** five news.

6.00 Home and Away. Brad's claim that he is being set up looks doubtful when drugs are found in his car. Matilda and Belle trick Ric and Lucas. Brad loses his job.

6.30 Out of Practice. **7.00** five news. **7.15** Lemur Island. Wildlife series following the lives of two warring troops of ring-tailed lemurs in Madagascar - the Graveyard Gang and the Tornado Troop.

8.00 Child in a Million. Documentary series. Featuring seven-year-old Kyle, who has a rare immunodeficiency disease, and 17-year-old Leanne, who suffers from pulmonary hypertension.

9.00 FILM: The Patriot (2000). American Revolution drama about a widowed farmer with a brutal military past whose new-found pacifism gives way to a decision to fight again when his soldier son is captured, starring Mel Gibson and Heath Ledger.

12.05 PartyPoker.com European Open III. **1.35** NHL Ice Hockey. **4.25** Football Argentina.

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Crufts BBC2 8:00p.m

Beg, sit, stay, lie-down, come. These bitches do what they're told. Check them out as they jump through hoops, dance, and do their little turn on the catwalk, yeah the catwalk, yeah, at Crufts 2007. Bet doggy-biscuits on which pedigree is getting too chummy

with the judges and providing leg-humping services behind the scenes for extra points. On a vaguely related topic, I ate a dog-treat once. It was nice.

Clare Pidsley



Thursday March 8th

BBC ONE

6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Beat the Baffler. 10.00 Escape to the Country. 11.00 Living in the Sun. 11.45 Cash in the Attic. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.30 Regional News and Weather. 1.40 Neighbours. 2.05 Doctors. 2.35 Diagnosis Murder. 3.20 BBC News; Weather. Regional News. 3.25 CBBC: Arthur. 3.45 Shaun the Sheep. 4.00 Whizz Whizz Bang Bang. 4.30 Comic Relief Does Fame Academy on CBBC. 5.00 Blue Peter. 5.25 Newsround. 5.35 Neighbours. 6.00 BBC News and Weather. 6.30 Look North; Weather. 7.00 Comic Relief Does Fame Academy. 8.00 EastEnders. Pat and Shirley come to blows, while Carly and Denise realise that it is time to let Kevin go. 8.30 Comic Relief Does Fame Academy. Has your favourite student lived to sing another day? Has your vote made the difference? Which celebrity student has been expelled from the Fame Academy? 9.00 Hotel Babylon. Drama series set in the sexy world of the luxury five star hotel. Rebecca is in for a shock when her friends arrive and Charlie might regret choosing his newest member of staff. 10.00 BBC News; Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Question Time. Topical debate chaired by David Dimbleby. 11.35 This Week. A political review of the week presented by Andrew Neil and his resident helpers Michael Portillo and Diane Abbott. 12.25 Sign Zone: Panorama. 12.55 Sign Zone: When Love Comes to Town. 1.25 Sign Zone: Holby City. 2.25 Sign Zone: Mission Africa. 2.55 Sign Zone: The Children of Helen House. 3.25 Sign Zone: Wanted Down Under. 4.10 Joins BBC News 24.

BBC TWO

6.00 CBeebies: Fimbles. 6.20 The Story Makers. 6.40 Balamory. 7.00 CBBC: Comic Relief Does Fame Academy on CBBC. 7.30 Wonderful World of Weird. 8.15 Shaun the Sheep. 8.30 CBeebies: Brum. 8.40 Tweenies. 9.00 Doodle Do. 9.20 Lunar Jim. 9.30 Something Special. 9.45 Numberjacks. 10.00 Nina and the Neurons. 10.15 Underground. Ernie. 10.30 Schools: Look and Read. 10.50 Words and Pictures. 11.00 Primary Geography. 11.10 English Express. 11.40 Seasonal Snapshots. 12.00 The Daily Politics. 12.30 Working Lunch. 1.00 Mind Your Own Business. 1.45 Animal Park. 2.15 Castle in the Country. 3.15 Sudo-Q. 3.45 Flog It! 4.30 Ready Steady Cook. 5.15 The Weakest Link. 6.00 Eggheads. 6.30 Masterchef Goes Large. 7.00 My Life as a Child. 7.30 Rick Stein's Food Heroes: Another Helping. 8.00 Crufts 2007. 9.00 Fear, Stress and Anger. Martin is getting more stressed than usual. Julie suggests they seek advice from their friends Duncan and Sarah on what they should do to reduce the anxiety levels. 9.30 Dead Ringers. 10.00 The Graham Norton Show. 10.30 Newsnight. 11.20 Desi DNA. Asian arts and lifestyle magazine including a look at British Muslims who believe it is time to tackle the spin behind the headlines that distort the public face of Islam. 11.50 Seven Days. Drama series about renegade CIA operative Frank Parker. Sent back in time to kill a codebreaker, Frank finds himself struggling to save the marked man. 12.35 Joins BBC News 24. 2.00 BBC Learning Zone: Schools: Key Stage 3 Bitesize Revision: Science. 3.40 RE Clips. 5.00 German Shorts.

itv 1

6.00 GMTV. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV Lunchtime News; Weather. 2.00 Midsomer Murders. 3.00 Emmerdale Confidential. 3.30 Dancing on Ice Exclusive. 3.55 Kavanagh QC. 5.30 Dale's Supermarket Sweep. 6.00 Calendar. Regional news, interviews and features. Including local weather. 6.30 ITV Evening News; Weather. The latest national and international news. 7.00 Emmerdale. Sam is mortified when he calls Emily by the wrong name. Paddy discovers Rita's a nude life model. Bob is surprised at how well Eddie takes his resignation. www.itv.com/emmerdale. 8.00 The Bill. June and Jim are freed. Back at Sun Hill, Jack hosts a leaving party for her. As the celebrations are in full swing, she slips away - but with whom, Jim or Rod? 9.00 Bonkers. Starring Liza Tarbuck and Mark Addy. Tim is unmasked as the gigolo of suburbia. Debbie confides in Helen before the wedding - but Tony is desperate to win her back. 10.00 Benidorm. Mick is forced to buy ice creams and sunbeds at the beach. Kate finds something nasty in the pool, and the Garveys are confronted by a woman who has been taking photos of Mick. 10.30 ITV News; Weather. 11.00 Soccer Night. Andy Townsend, Peter Beagrie and special guests discuss the region's football, preview the weekend's fixtures and look at the progress of local clubs. 11.30 Last Orders. Pub regulars discuss the latest events on the political landscape. 12.00 ITV Play: Make Your Play. 4.10 Make Me Perfect. 5.00 ITV Nightscreen. 5.30 ITV Early Morning News.

4

6.10 The Hoobs. 6.35 The Hoobs. 7.00 Freshly Squeezed. 7.30 Friends. 8.00 Everybody Loves Raymond. 8.30 Everybody Loves Raymond. 9.00 Frasier. 9.30 Ballet Changed My Life: Ballet Hoo! 10.30 The Play's the Thing. 11.30 21st Century Bard. 12.00 News at Noon. 12.30 FILM: For Whom the Bell Tolls (1943). Drama, starring Gary Cooper and Ingrid Bergman. 2.55 Room for Improvement. 3.30 Countdown. 4.15 Deal or No Deal. 5.00 Richard and Judy. 6.00 The Simpsons. 6.30 Hollyoaks. Jacqui is wracked with guilt when Carmel insists on organising a lavish wedding for her and Aleksander. Amy secretly goes with Michaela to Josh's party. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 3 Minute Wonder: Preparing for the Worst. 8.00 10 Years Younger. Reality makeover show. Nicky and the team meet 38-year-old holistic beauty therapist Gill Collyer, whose hectic family life has prematurely aged her. 9.00 The Great Global Warming Swindle. Provocative documentary that sets out to challenge the widely accepted view that man-made carbon dioxide emissions are responsible for global warming. 10.35 FILM: The English Patient (1996). Romantic drama, set at the end of World War II, in which a badly burnt - and unidentified - pilot recounts to the nurse tending him a doomed love affair with a colleague's wife, starring Ralph Fiennes and Kristin Scott Thomas. 1.30 FILM: The Tie That Binds (1995). Drama, starring Daryl Hannah and Keith Carradine. 3.15 Dispatches: Greenwash. 4.10 Hitler's Holocaust. 5.10 Countdown. 5.55 Inuk.

five

6.00 Tickle, Patch and Friends. 6.25 Old Bear Stories. 6.35 Bird Bath. 6.45 Hi-5. 7.20 Miss Spider's Sunny Patch Friends. 7.30 The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. 7.45 Make Way for Noddy. 8.00 Fifi and the Flowertots. 8.15 Peppa Pig. 8.25 Thomas & Friends. 8.40 Titch. 8.50 Mio Mao. 9.00 The Wright Stuff. 10.30 Trisha Goddard. 11.30 five news. 12.00 Home and Away. 12.30 BrainTeaser. 1.40 FILM: The Big Valley: Flight of the Lost Souls (1968). Western, starring Barbara Stanwyck and Linda Evans. 3.40 FILM: Out of the Woods (2005). Drama, starring Jason London and Meredith Salenger. 5.30 five news. 6.00 Home and Away. Morag is suspicious about Ash. Kim is concerned when Rachel brings Lee's baby home. Colleen is on a roll with her Christmas pageant plans. 6.30 Everybody Hates Chris. Sitcom based on the early life in Brooklyn of comedian Chris Rock. On his first day at school, Chris squares off against a bully but also makes a friend. 7.00 five news. National and international news with John Suchet. 7.15 Live UEFA Cup Football. Live European football action as Newcastle United take on AZ Alkmaar in the UEFA Cup. Colin Murray presents the programme, while John Helm provides commentary. 10.00 FILM: The Punisher (2004). Action thriller. A vengeful FBI agent is determined to wreck the life of a Florida druglord who killed his wife and children. Based on the Marvel Comics hero, starring Tom Jane and John Travolta. 12.25 Football Night. 1.25 Quiz Call. 4.00 Football Argentina. 5.00 Dutch Football.

club

Discotheque
THIS IS MIGHTY
90s pop, indie, dance

Doctor Wu's
ABSTRACT SOUL
jazz & soul

Fab Café
rock & indie

Flares
COPACABANA

Halo
ROCKSTAR
indie, rock with Chris Martin

Hifi Club
THE HARLEM BUSH CLUB
live jazz, funk, soul & hip-hop

Mission
HOMO
dance tunes

Sports Café
SOUL NIGHT
60's r'n'b, northern soul, reggae & ska

The Subculture
GIGANTIC
electro, rock

Warehouse
TEQUILA
student night

Wire
FUZZY LOGIC
guitars with DJ Debsstar

gigs

Carpe Diem
AFTERMATH

Cockpit
MANDO DIAO

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OBSERVATIONS



Suzan Zaidky

should be resurrected. If we were all rational people then the past would be the past we could move on and be quite content but alas the majority of the population are an obsessive little bunch. I for one cannot be bothered with it, if you've been around I can't be bothered with you. If your ex is still a friend then piss off.

Suzan is a fourth year law student



Zahra Bakir

As I boarded the packed train, I had a feeling I was not going to find peace on this journey. I scoured the aisles for a seat where I felt there would be minimal disruption so that I could get on with my work unencumbered. There were none. Each carriage was a suspect source of irritation.

I sat down at a table, arranged my belongings and began to read. Diagonally opposite me sat a grubby looking girl eating greasy food in a very unflattering way, making some really disgusting sounds in the process. I tried very hard to ignore her. Diagonally opposite me on the other side of the aisle sat a group of large and stern looking Afro-Caribbean women. I noticed one of them was glaring at me. As they chatted, she remained glaring - even when she spoke, she stared at me. Not many things in this world scare me - but she freaked me out. I kept thinking she was talking to me so I would apologise and ask her to repeat what she had said, but she just shook her head while continuing to eyeball me. I tried to put her out of my mind. But when the grubby girl pushed her greasy rubbish towards me and my book, I had had enough and decided to take action. I asked her to kindly place her waste in the bin, but she simply turned her cheek the other way. This rude display did not impress the other passengers, least of all me, and I decide to move.

Little did I know that in the next carriage more wonders awaited me. There were fewer people but the reason for this soon became apparent. A couple of seats down from me were sat two young men in their mid-twenties. Suddenly a wall of gas characteristic of a sewer hit me. I could hear the men laughing and thinking of a name for this gaseous abomination: 'the fartwa' and 'the never-ending fartoid' were samples of their imagination. I swiftly moved on to the next carriage.

Upon reaching it I took a good look around. Nothing of great concern here, I thought to myself. As I delved into my book once more I heard a series of screeches pronouncing words. It was someone trying to sing but very out of tune and very loud. I could see the whole carriage trying to find where this noise originated from. I finally identified the source: a young girl listening to an iPod, oblivious to the damage she was inflicting upon the rest of us. I made eye-contact with her, she got the picture, and it

was peace at last - until the phone-conversations started.

All at once at least three people either made or received phone-calls. Weird and wonderful languages are very interesting to listen to but not at 12:30 am and certainly not at that volume. Just as I was about to shoot myself, the driver announced that we had reached our destination and that this was our final stop.

As a regular traveller between London and Leeds, the cross-section of British society and their respective behaviours that I encounter is colourful to say the least. Some say a journey on a country's rail system exposes you to the state of its people. I say if that be the case, then God help us.

Zahra is studying for a Masters in Arabic translation

Jessica Parker



I hate computers. I hate the fact that I hate them, yet still find myself typing away and staring at a computer screen right now. Perhaps it's not so much computers that I hate, but the technology revolution that has left old fogies like me behind. Of course, my opening sentence is not only slightly exaggerated but plain inaccurate. I am not one of those pretentious so-and-sos who takes some sadomasochistic pleasure in handwriting all my essays in arty italics, on shabby bits of paper with a 'special' pen. And I would loathe to lose the sinister joys of Facebook or the instant information of Wikipedia. But that's my choice - I enjoy certain internet resources and don't utilise others. Even though there is a great deal of pressure to join one or many of the multiple online social networks and if you don't have an email address, it seems you can't possibly have an identity, the most you will suffer for it is perhaps the occasional odd look and being a little out of the loop. Now what I really hate (and this is in no way an exaggeration), is when bloody technology starts creeping in on your bloody degree.

Case study: oral presentations. Oral! (I'm not trying to get a cheap laugh here by highlighting a word synonymous with sexual favours). My point is - it's no longer how well you speak, how incisive your analysis is, how much research you've done or how much artificial eye-contact you make with fellow classmates. It's how pretty and professional your PowerPoint presentation is. Visual aids, they say. Bring the presentation alive, they demand. Make a pie-chart on your computer, they suggest. I really do just want to say f**k off. It's as if education didn't exist before computers. It's as if, since the computer revolution, all students and professors have lost the ability to read off bits of paper and must now enjoy the emboldened, over-simplified, size six-hundred font and head-ache

inducing arse that is PowerPoint. There seems to be a widespread belief that, were tutors to simply engage with their pupils through the medium of plain speech and personal interaction, all our heads would fall off.

Flick through any module handbook and there will be sneaky and vague references on how to enhance your mark in a presentation. What they really mean to flag up is the quiet threat that dare turn up with a hardcopy A4 handout, you will lose marks. I did just that and I lost marks. Quite a lot in fact (and I assure you, the presentation's content was of the highest quality - we're talking a First here). The following week someone did use PowerPoint and, surprise, surprise; they couldn't get it working. We wasted fifteen minutes of precious, lovely, learning time as each over-confident geek in the class took their turn at performing such technological wonders as selecting 'Restart', checking the mains and sighing intelligently, before giving up. Ha-ha! And then, the cheek of it all, the same tutor who docked my marks for not wasting class time said, "Don't worry guys - it's not your fault. It's the perils of modern technology! You won't lose any marks for this." Jesus Christ.

Now you may think I'm being lazy; "Can't she just shut up, learn how to use PowerPoint and get with the programme?" No, she can't. This student failed her first year IT module twice. Those five credits cruelly eluded me for two semesters. There was, it must be admitted, a certain lack of effort on my part. I attended at least one but no more than two of the lectures. But why should I? I don't remember applying to Leeds University to study IT. Just as an IT student who happens to hate epic poems shouldn't be forced to study the work of John Milton, an English and History student shouldn't be obligated to attend hours of lectures on website design, the intricacies of Toolmaster 7.4 and the magic of Accessibility Wizard.

It's a question of balance. I appreciate what computers, the internet and all that technology malarkey has done for humanity. The internet is a humming window to the world. Email is a fast and efficient means of communication. Online chess gives manic depressives something to do on a Saturday night. We all have our uses for technology and I have mine. I am happy with mine. I can cut, copy and paste. I can touch-type. I can check my Hotmail. I can purchase cheap books and DVDs through Amazon, book train tickets, find out about gigs, stalk fit people, watch illegally posted episodes of Shameless and, if you held a gun to my head, I might even stretch to reading Leeds Student online (joke! - would never do that). OK - I've changed my mind - computers are a wonderful thing. (Note the extreme inconsistency of my opinions). However, this eleventh commandment to now use computers in class presentations is an infringement on a student's right to attain good marks on the basis of their intelligence, their work ethic and their oral communication skills.

Jess is a second year reading English and History



Hind Hassan

Do you ever remember not having a mobile phone? I don't. Yet it was only perhaps six years ago that technological evolution began. Gone are the days when friends would arrange to meet for lunch at a particular time and place in person or on the old fashioned corded dog and bone. I yearn for those days, but why I hear you all cry out. Why would one, so clearly progressive in all other aspects of society hold such reservations against a harmless lump of plastic? Well, putting ridiculously unaffordable phone bills aside I am now obliged to respond to text messages and phone calls as there are only a certain number of excuses I can concoct: my battery died (for three months?) I lost my phone (but you have the same number?) I had my phone on silent etc etc.

I remember on one occasion a rather annoying male who has a habit of calling me and my friends every half an hour to talk about himself continuously rang my phone. I was quite irritable at the time and was most definitely not in the mood to listen to such a self obsessed individual so I cut him off, numerous times, thinking I could say I was having technical problems with my phone. Unfortunately I turned round to find him stood behind me watching my every move.

Furthermore people are more inclined to cancel on you. Back in the pre-mobile days man and woman would go the extra mile to stick to pre-arranged rendezvous due to the acknowledgement that they most probably won't get through to you in time to inform you of the change of plans - not anymore. You've put your best skinnies on just about to exit the door when...you hear your message tone (cowards).

Am I the only one who finds nothing more tedious than texting? It's so monotonous. Really, if you have something to say that takes four text msgs of shrt wrds 2xpln then why don't you just pick up the bloody phone and call me. The one argument that could perhaps hold true is that they are useful for emergencies but I still rebuke this wholeheartedly. When does anyone actually answer when you desperately need them to do so? Never.

Then there's bluetooth. In theory it is an efficiently way to transfer data...on my travels to the Middle East I discovered it was also a useful way for men to get their mojo on. Apparently, this discovery of covertly contacting females has caused a great deal of stress for the religious police in Saudi Arabia. I feel their pain.

The one good use of the cordless portable media phone thingy is throwing it in the direction of that annoying cow who won't shut up about her pony from daddy dearest. I long for those mega pixel, ring tone, mp3 Bluetooth free days of the pre historic age but alas I fear that we have come too far to reverse the further progression of such a social disease.

Hind is rent a quote for the BBC

DIARY

CINEMA

VUE: The Light
Arthur and the Invisibles (U) (93 mins)
Sat/Sun 10:10, 12:25, 14:45
Because I Said So (12A) (102 mins)
Fri-Thurs 13:20, 15:30
Sat/Sun early extra 11:00
Blood Diamond (15) (2h 23)
Fri-Thurs 21:20
Charlotte's Web (U) (1h 37)
Fri/Mon/Wed 13:00, 15:20, 17:45
Sat 10:30, 13:00, 15:20, 17:45
Sun 10:30, 13:00, 17:45
Tues/Thurs 13:00, 15:20
Charlotte's Web (Subtitled) Sun 15:30
Tues 17:45
Click (12A) (1h 47)
Tues + Thurs 11:30
Epic Movie (12A) (1h 25)
Fri-Thurs 12:15, 14:20, 16:30, 19:00
Freedom Writers (12A) (2h 3)
Fri-Thurs 14:25, 17:25, 20:10
Late Fri/Sat 23:00
Sat/Sun early extra 11:25
Ghost Rider (12A) (1h 50)
Fri-Thurs 12:30, 15:10, 17:50, 20:30
Late Fri/Sat 23:10
Sat/Sun early extra 10:00
Hot Fuzz (15) (2h 1)
Fri-Thurs 12:35, 14:30, 15:25, 17:15, 18:10, 20:00, 21:00
Late Fri/Sat 22:50
Sat/Sun early extra 09:55, 11:40
Letters From Iwo Jima (15) (2h 20)
Fri-Thurs 18:15
Music and Lyrics (PG) (1h 44)
Fri-Thurs 14:35, 17:10, 19:45
Late Fri/Sat 22:20
Sat/Sun early extra 12:00
Nehlle Pe Dehlla (12A) (3h)
Fri-Thurs 12:05, 15:00, 17:50, 20:45
Notes on a Scandal (15) (1h 32)
Fri-Wed 20:15
Late Fri/Sat 23:40
School For Scoundrels (12A) (1h 41)
Fri-Thurs 21:10
Late Fri/Sat 23:45
The Good Shepherd (15) (2h 47)
Fri-Thurs 13:25, 17:00, 20:40
Sat/Sun early extra 09:55
The Illusionist (PG) (1h 49)
Fri-Thurs 12:15, 14:40, 17:00, 19:20, 21:40
Sat/Sun early extra 10:05
The Last King of Scotland (15) (2h 3)
Fri 14:15, 17:05, 19:55
Sat/Sun 17:05, 19:55
Mon-Thurs 14:15, 17:05, 19:55
The Number 23 (15) (1h 38)

Fri-Thurs 13:30, 15:55, 18:20, 20:50
Late Fri/Sat 23:20
Sat/Sun early extra 11:10

VUE: Kirkstall Road
Arthur and the Invisibles (U) (1h 33)
Sat/Sun 10:00, 12:20, 14:50, 17:05
Blood Diamond (15) (2h 23)
Fri/Sat 16:50, 20:00, 23:20
Sun/Mon 16:50, 20:00
Tues 16:50
Wed/Thurs 16:50, 20:00
Blood Diamond (Subtitled) Tues 20:00
Charlotte's Web (U) (1h 37)
Fri-Thurs 13:10, 15:40, 18:20
Sat/Sun early extra 10:50
Epic Movie (12A) (1h 25)
Fri 14:20
Sat 09:50, 12:00, 14:20
Sun 09:50, 14:20
Mon 14:20
Wed/Thurs 14:20
Epic Movie (Subtitled) Sun 12:00
Flushed Away (U) (1h 25)
Sat/Sun 10:20
Ghost Rider (12A) (1h 50)
Fri-Thurs 13:40, 16:10, 18:40, 21:15
Late Fri/Sat 23:50
Sat/Sun early extra 11:10
Hannibal Rising (18) (2h 1)
Fri-Thurs 21:30
Hot Fuzz (15) (2h 1)
Fri-Thurs 14:30, 17:30, 20:30
Late Fri/Sat 23:30
Sat/Sun early extra 11:30, 14:30, 17:30, 20:30
Material Girls (PG) (1h 38)
Fri-Thurs 14:00, 16:30, 19:00
Sat/Sun early extra 11:20
Music and Lyrics (PG) (1h 44)
Fri-Thurs 13:30 15:50 18:30 21:00
Late Fri/Sat 23:40
Sat/Sun early extra 11:00
School For Scoundrels (12A) (1h 44)
Fri-Thurs 20:45
Late Fri/Sat 23:10
The Good Shepherd (15) (2h 47)
Fri 12:30, 16:00, 19:30, 23:00
Sat 19:30 23:00
Sun 19:30
Mon-Thurs 12:30, 16:00, 19:30
The Illusionist (PG) (1h 49)
Fri-Thurs 14:40, 17:15, 19:45
Late Fri/Sat 22:40
Sat/Sun early extra 12:10
The Number 23 (15) (1h 38)
Fri-Thurs 15:20 17:50 20:15
Late Fri/Sat 22:50
The Reef (U) (1h 18)
Sat/Sun 10.30, 12.40

Hyde Park Picture House
FRI Babel (15) 18.30
The Last King Of Scotland (15) 21.15
SAT Zoom (PG) 11.00
The US Versus John Lennon (PG) 16.15
The Last King Of Scotland (15) 18.15
Babel (15) 20.45
SUN The US Versus John Lennon (PG) 16.15
The Last King Of Scotland (15) 18.15
Babel (15) 20.45
MON Blood Diamond (15) 18.00
Black Book (15) 20.45
TUE The Big Heat (15) 18.30
Black Book (15) 20.30
WED The US Versus John Lennon (PG) 16.00
Black Book (15) 18.00
Blood Diamond (15) 20.45
THU Black Book (15) 18.15
Blood Diamond (15) 21.00

Highlights

3rd
Andrew Newton - Comedy Hypnotist
City Varieties, £10, 8pm
Looking for something a bit unusual? Then why not try this? More than just your average comedy routine... and who knows what you could find out about yourself!

Sing Yer Heart Out For The Lads
West Yorkshire Playhouse, £13-£22, 7.45pm
Roy Williams explores Britain's obsessions with football, race and national identity and asks what it means to be British in the twenty-first century.

4th
An Evening with Rabbi Lionel Blue
West Yorkshire Playhouse, £14 (£12), 7.30pm
Known to millions through his broadcasting on BBC Radio, he uses a selection of stories, incidents and conversations whose dotty inconsequential flavour will appeal to people from all religious backgrounds or from none.

6th
RAG Fashion Show Oceana, 7pm, £10 inc. afterhours party
Raising money for several different charities and showcasing the talents of Leeds Uni students. Tickets available from RAG office. Drinks offers from

£1.50 with live band: Slice.

7th
Leeds Handball Fives Devonshire Halls 2pm-4pm (meet Parkinson Steps: 1.30pm), free
Fives is an 'olde English' game of Handball, played much like squash but with leather gloves. A new club recruiting new players - anyone can have a go. All future sessions are free too!

8th
Are you Experienced? City Varieties, 7.30pm, £15
According to their website "this is the Jimi Hendrix experience you've been waiting for!" Go along and check out the hype for yourself.

Try Something New

2nd
Climbing Meet Arc reception, 2.45pm-4.15pm, £3
Try out the new University climbing wall with a fully qualified instructor.

3rd
Car maintenance Meet Arc reception, 11am-1pm, £4.50
Ever wanted to know how to change a tyre or jump start your car? Find out with this very useful session.

4th
Fancy Dress Badminton Sports Hall 1B (meet at entrance to go in as a group), 11.30am-2.30pm, £2
The theme is Superheroes for this first ever fancy dress badminton tournament. Beginners and experts equally welcome. Competition is handicapped so everyone stands a chance of winning.

5th
Climbing Meet Arc reception, 5.45pm-7.30pm, £3
Another chance for a qualified instructor to teach you the basics on the new Sports Hall climbing wall.

5th-8th
Leeds Student Amnesty International Events
5th - Rally to end the destitution of asylum seekers on grassy area outside the

union.
7th - 6-8pm: Rupert Beckett Lecture Theatre talks by the Refugee Council and Lassn, a local refugee council. Refugee council will be focusing on personal stories while Lassn will be talking about destitution of asylum seekers in the UK.
8th - Debating soc and Amnesty will be debating over whether the UK should close their borders - drinks afterwards in the union!

6th
No Hands Massage ARC Conference Hall, 5pm-7pm, £3
A unique approach to massage which uses the lower arms to apply firm smooth massage techniques. Good for beginners but also those who are looking for new ways to develop their massage skills.

Urdu Language Taster Meeting room 5, 5pm-6pm, £1
An official language of both Pakistan and India, this language is spoken by 160 million people worldwide. Add a new dimension to your language learning.

7th
Mountain Bike Ride Outside Union, 1.30pm-4pm, free
Beautiful countryside and adrenaline heights combined with improving physical fitness. Taking in the Meanwood Valley and other local trails, LUU cycling club can help you get the most out of riding in Leeds, whilst giving you the skills and confidence to be a better rider. Bikes and equipment provided. The first ten people there with a bike and helmet get a free gift!

Stress Management Meeting room 3, 5pm-7pm, £2
Feeling stressed with Uni work, life or jobs? Let our resident expert teach you how to manage stress by developing a range of coping strategies and techniques.

Do you have a one off event you want include in the LS2 diary? email details to: listings@lsweb.org.uk by Tuesday.

EMILY ISRAEL'S...

Dear diary,
Having 'borrowed' her hairdryer before accidentally dropping it from my third flight window, having architected its slender miss of Jim's head but unfortunately not the concrete ground, it was fair to say I owed Naomi one. She's not the kind of girl to cling to a debt, to leave it hanging like an indefinite noose around her offender. You will never hear from her in years to pass, 'But you have to give me your kidney! Remember the time when...' Well, providing she is immediately repaid...
"O.K. O.K. Just buy me a new one, all right?"
"Of course I will. And I'm really,

really sorry.'
"Don't worry. Actually, there is something else you could do for me..."
Sometimes you have to perform illegal acts to prove the strength of a friendship, and in the process extinguish your own guilt. She asked me to stalk a boy. She didn't even know his name. He was the one who swept opposite her every Wednesday in Roger Stevens at 12:55. She'd talk to him, but he was always so rushed. She'd follow him, but she didn't want to look like a freak, heading one way before turning at the sight of him. She'd tried to find him on facebook, but it's impossible to identify anyone on there when you only have a face. She had to meet him; this boy was the

man to have her babies. I had Wednesdays off... I'd be the best friend ever...
The occasion of the spy game came (I'd prepared meticulously for its moment, purchasing a long black coat to sweep in, and a hat to hide my plain head in), and we were in a thick of a moving people. Clinging to Naomi, I was on the brink of hyperventilation. In a repressed fluster, she indicated a dark body striding the other way. At the instant of his passing, she shoved me behind him. Much to my own amazement, I did not stumble, but instead discovered a composure as smooth as a Bond girl's. I should pretend to work for MI5 more often. My mission: To find out his name, what he did, what he liked and, most crucially,

where he lived. Always two bodies behind, I ghosted him to theatre 13. He opened the door for some girls (how gentlemanly!), but not for me. I figured this was a good thing, it meant I was invisible. Adrenaline soaring, I slipped into the back corner of the filled place, still in eavesdropping range of him. A professor walked in as I took an inconspicuous seat. Numbers became projected in the room. Maths! Over its course; graphs and differentiation and numbers and combobulimatisation (maybe I invented the last word). In short, I didn't understand. For an hour I sat in an utterly bored stupor. My only breaks were the whispered asides of Naomi's guy, "The only time pie is acceptable is at a bakery convention".

Her man was obviously a humorously handsome genius. After a seeming infinity (a concept that can, or is it can't be proven?), I left in the shadow of his departure. He was smiling adorably (as a spook, you can tell when people are smiling, even if it's their back that stares at you). Outside, a girl was waiting. She puckered her lips at the sight of his exit. He willingly embraced them. I had felt so smug, so uncaught, so confident, until then. Dejected, I concluded there was no point in continuing the façade. I text Naomi the inevitable truth. 'He's handsome. He's courteous. He's funny. He's clever. No he's not gay but yes, he has a girlfriend. Sorry. xxx'

'You what, ref?'

Sporting comment

Graham Clarke looks at the man with the hardest job in the sport: the ref

One minute, they are perceived as working with the arch enemy on the pitch, the opposition team, then the next they give your team that one chance they need to get back into the game or even clinch victory right at the end of the match. So how is it that referees' treatment is so different between the games of football and rugby? Alright, referees aren't the most loved people in the world but they are there to do a vital job, and that is to ensure the game is conducted in a fair and sporting manner.

We can take last Sunday's League Cup final as a prime example of referees' treatment in today's game. After Howard Webb failed to give what was a blatant foul by John Obi Mikel on Arsenal's Kolo Toure, all hell broke loose as Mikel and Toure decided to bring out the fists and settle things man to man. Whilst this occurred, Mr Lampard and Mr Fabregas tried to step in and do the referee's job for him, only to end up brawling with each other instead. Where was the ref, I hear? Well, the easy answer to that is he was being ignored; his whistle seemed inaudible for at least a minute before calmness was finally restored, and even then Mr Adebayor, who also received a red card for his part in the mêlée, was still kicking off. Adebayor's protests showed just how he was determined

and, as you would expect with rugby being a rather physical game, tempers were expected to flare up. Low and behold, this did happen, and the resulting confrontation between those involved for the Tykes and the Pirates was quickly sorted as, once the referee intervened, both players became aware of the official putting his foot down and listened his orders. The result saw Tykes' fly half Darren Edwards sin binned and the Tykes down to 14 men. Unlike Adebayor on Sunday, he did not refuse to go off: he took his punishment and went straight to the dug out, and the game resumed. Even after the sin-binning of Edwards, not one of the Tykes team went up to the ref and told him what they thought of him or his decision; they merely accepted it and proceeded with the match.

Whereas the lads involved with professional rugby on the whole respect and cooperate with their officials, those who play football seem to think that they are much bigger than the match official. This element of respect is the major difference between the two games. When do you see Johnny Wilkinson call a referee a "stupid w****r"? Answer: never and, if he did, he would be punished. It is not within the nature of the game. On the other hand, though, how often do you see the likes of Rooney and co

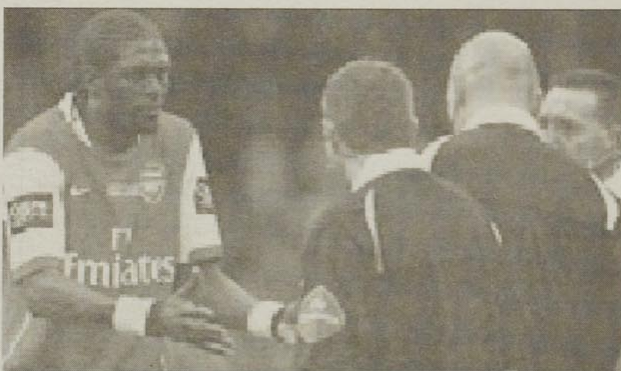
they should treat in a certain manner. In doing this, though, would it merely mean that, at the end of the match, we see 20 yellow cards and one red solely for dissent? However, it may make players respect the referee much more if he becomes more assertive.

One major difference between rugby players and footballers is that of egos, and this greatly influences how the different sports respect officials. With footballers having such high egos, it seems that they think they can get away with what they like, thus making the referee's life more

difficult.

In contrast, their rugby counterparts don't possess such egos, even high profile players like Wilkinsons, O'Driscoll and Robinson, who don't let their statuses go to their heads when they play the game. They never think that they are too big to be dominated: they respect the officials officiating the match. One would assume that rugby players, being the size they are, would merely manipulate referees and act like footballers, but this is the opposite way around, and it is something that needs to happen in

football before the referee becomes too much of a soft person and allows anything to happen. I ask you: how many people disrespected Pierluigi Collina? No-one. Why? Because he showed who was the authoritative power on the pitch: the referee and not the player. It would seem that footballers need to loose this ego problem that is abundant within the game, and the way of doing this is to bring them down to earth on the pitch to once again show them where they stand on the pitch, not above the officials but firmly below them.



Arsenal striker Emmanuel Adebayor is not impressed following his sending off in the Carling Cup Final

PHOTO: Google

not to follow the referee's orders; instead of leaving the pitch and proceeding down the tunnel, he had to be escorted off after several words with various people.

Now, in contrast with these events, let us look at an incident which took place in the Leeds Tykes EDF Cup match with the Cornish Pirates a couple of weeks ago. It may not have been a match devoured with all the glamour and glitz of a final but, to these two teams, it was a huge match

call referees "f*****g a*****s"? Answer: all the time. What happens is that a small percentage may receive a booking but, largely, the referees have to ignore it. How can the referee once again be reinstated as the main man on the park and enforce the fact that he overrides everyone else on the pitch?

One obvious suggestion is to be forceful with such language and put threats of cards into action; this may be a solution in trying show the players that the referee is a man that

YOUR SHOUT: Would you ever be a ref?

'Yeah, I love the game, and would do anything to carry on being involved with it.'

Patrick, Hartley

'I would, but I wouldn't want to deal with all the attitudes and egos of the modern footballers'
John, Birmingham



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300 Seconds in sport

'Shootin' Hoops'

By Paul Raymond

"There are advantages to being short-not too useful when you're trying to jump for a ball though!"

Nicola Snowden
Captain, Women's Basketball Team

LS: Hi Nicola. The Women's Basketball squad are through to the trophy semi-finals of the BUSA championships. Congratulations, how do you feel at this stage?

NS: Thanks! We feel really good. I mean we've had a really good season, the team have come back ready for it and we're playing together better now. So we've got high hopes, I think.

LS: Are you nervous, or positive, or both?

NS: Are we nervous? Yes! It's going to be a tough game. But yes, we're also positive. We've had a few problems with injuries and stuff but we've got our full team back now so we've got high hopes.

LS: In order to win this competition,

you'll have to be the best women's university team in the country. Do you think that's the case?

NS: It's going to be a close one! Just going by past results, it's pretty evenly matched.

LS: You've been involved in the Women's Basketball team since 2004 and you were club captain last year, how do you think the team has improved over that time?

NS: Well, we've got a lot of players from last year who've stayed on, and also some good new ones joined this year. When I was in my first year we had a really small team, and though we didn't do too badly, we didn't do great. But last year we got a lot of new players that were really good. We didn't get the trophy, in fact we came second from bottom, but it's taken a year for the team to get to know each other and to play together. Now we've been together for nearly two seasons and we're finally where we should be.

LS: So how is the team dynamic, how does the team gel together?

NS: Well there's a big social side to it, we've started going out with the guys a lot more now, which is a lot of fun. The girls are all a really good laugh, they're a



Point Guard of Honour: Nicola Snowden

PHOTO: Patrick Nixon

nice bunch.

LS: You sound like you're quite happy about the team; is there anything you'd improve?

NS: I don't think I would, I mean we work hard in training sessions, all the girls give 100 per cent all the time, they're a dedicated team. We could probably do with a coach. Angela Kings is coaching at the moment but she's a player-coach so if we could get an actual coach it'd be good, but she's doing a great job.

LS: Do you lead or does she?

NS: Well she does the coaching and I'm just there to watch and give a different perspective if I think we should do things slightly differently. But we both think the same way, which is helpful!

LS: Where do you play?

NS: I'm a Point Guard, so my job is to bring the ball up the floor. Generally you have a shorter player who does that and then the bigger players are nearer the basket.

LS: You feel there are advantages to being short then?

NS: There are a few; you tend to be quicker and you can get a lot lower than the taller players can. Not too useful when you're trying to jump for a ball

though!

LS: How do you see your role in terms of focusing on competitions or training up new talent?

NS: It's a bit in the middle, I mean we do like to put a strong team out for all our competitions, and it's more based on "who turns up to training will play" as opposed to a really good player who doesn't come for three weeks - they can't expect to play in the game that week.

LS: Do you go out and watch professional matches as well?

NS: Yes, we go to watch the BBL matches. I'm a Sheffield Sharks fan, so I watch them every week. They're second in the country at the moment, but it's going to be a close race for the title I think.

LS: As close as yours?

NS: No, they'll probably stand a bigger chance!


LS: Are you involved in any other sports at all?

NS: No, I'm not. Basketball takes up a lot of my time, we train on Mondays and Thursdays and have games on Wednesdays, so it's quite intense.

LS: Do you ever get sick of it?

NS: Never!

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BIGBALLOTWEEK

5TH - 9TH MARCH 07



K, so you've only just recovered from us asking you to vote at the Student Executive Elections and now we are asking for your opinions again! March 5th - 9th sees another week of crazy voting activity to conclude the 06/07 elections. Here is an explanation of what's going on and how you can get involved....

THE REFERENDUM

Back in November LUU held its first ever Bi-annual referendum. Almost 3000 of you let your opinions be known on a diverse range of motions resulting in a range of changes for the Union and you, its members. Now its time to do it all again!

5 new motions made it onto the agenda for the next referendum. We need your views on whether you support or reject the proposals made in each of these motions. For details of the five motions check out luuonline.com or grab one of the many referendum agendas that will be floating around the Union.

It all kicks off on Monday 5th March with The Big Debate. At 2.00pm the Riley Smith Hall will open its doors for students to speak out for and against each motion and interrogate those behind the motions. This event will kick off as per the old Annual General Meetings with a quick look at the Unions annual accounts and a brief report on the Unions progress over the last year so if you wanted to know more about the state of the Union then its worth being there to have your say.

As soon as the Debate meeting closes polling opens in the Riley Smith Hall and the Union Foyer. Voting will open across campus on Tuesday and will be open all day Wednesday 7th before closing up at approximately 5.00pm on Thursday 8th. The results will be announced at the count which will be held at 2.00pm on Friday 9th March in the Information Area next to the LUU reception.



VOTE

MORE ELECTIONS!?!?!?

Just to make things even more hectic we are throwing in some elections for you at the same time! As well as you all being able to make your opinions known by voting on the referendum you can also cast your vote for who you want to represent you on the next Union Council. These are the people who will make decisions about how the Union should campaign and how your views and needs are best represented in the Union, the University and the wider community.

Finally we will be asking you to cast your vote on who should represent Leeds University Students and LUU members at the NUS national conference.

WHY, OH WHY?

LUU is a membership organization. We are run by the members and for the members. If you do not cast your vote then you are forfeiting your opinion. Many of you will use the Union shops and bars, be members of the clubs and societies, have use the Advice Centre or Joblink or any one of the range of services the Union provides. All we ask in return is that you cast your vote and have your say in how all these services are delivered. Voting should only take you a few minutes and can be a catalyst to big changes in your Union.



ON THE DEFENSIVE: Edinburgh attack during Wednesday's men's football first's tie at Weetwood, but the home team held on to achieve a hard-fought 1-0 victory after extra time.

PHOTO: SARAH GREENE

continued from back page

Minutes later a controversial decision sparked anger from the visitors as the ball struck a Uni defender on the arm inside the box, but the linesman, who was only metres away from the incident rose his flag immediately, then quickly put it down, leading to confusion but no penalty.

The game began to slow down as the teams tired, with both sides struggling to create any chances on goal, and with extra time looming, neither side wanted to risk an all out attack and possibly concede a goal on the break.

The full time whistle went, and as 90 minutes of football hadn't produced a winner, extra time would be played.

Not long into the first half of extra time, striker Phil Boardman netted what turned out to be the crucial goal, ensuring a miserable journey home for the travelling side.

The goal was well worked- Lewis Minnet threaded the ball through to Boardman on the right wing; Boardman finished the move with aplomb, coolly slotting the ball home.

For the remainder of extra time, Uni's midfield put the shutters up, calmly keeping the ball and running out the clock. Edinburgh became increasingly frustrated, conceding free-kick after free-kick, handing the game to Uni.



WEDNESDAY'S BUSA RESULTS

Men's Basketball v Glasgow	91 103	Men's Rugby League I v Salford	26 4
Women's Basketball v Glasgow	68 48	Men's Rugby League II v Manchester	Lost by Walkover
Women's Fencing v Manchester	119 129	Men's Squash v Loughborough II	0 5
Men's Football I v Edinburgh (A.E.T)	1 0	Women's Squash v Edinburgh	3 1
Men's Football III v Edinburgh IV	0 2	Men's Tennis v Stirling II	10 0
Women's Football I v Loughborough II	0 6		
Men's Hockey IV v Oxford	0 4		

WINS: 5

LOSSES: 7

Leeds United awarded council grant

By Ahran Symonds-Baig

Leeds United are to receive more than £33,000 from the City Council as they attempt to battle their way up from the bottom of the Championship and to survival.

The struggling club qualify for the grant as they no longer received "parachute payments" given to clubs relegated from the Premiership, which are designed to alleviate financial problems caused by relegation.

The City Council said it granted rate relief worth £33,625 because of the club's importance to the community.

The Elland Road business will benefit from a total business rate relief of £134,000 in 2006/07 - the maximum allowed under European Union state aid regulations, with 75 per cent paid for by central government, and the rest paid for by the local council.

Leeds City Council leader Andrew Carter said: "There is an option to award relief from business rates to

organisations which are important to the local community.

"Leeds United fulfilled all the requirements for this relief. It is a very unique and important amenity in this city. It attracts visitors and brings employment to the city and does a huge amount of work in promoting sporting activities among people of all ages, particularly with schools and children and young people. That is why we will continue to work with Elland Road to ensure it continues to play such an important role in this city's success now and in the future.

The prize on offer for clubs promoted to the Premiership from the Championship is an increase in revenue of approximately £33million- a very significant figure. In light of this, it is easy to see why many clubs push themselves towards financial ruin, gambling on obtaining the massive sums available with success.

Of course, even more money is available for teams qualifying for Europe, which is at the root of the problems facing Leeds United- having overspent massively chasing the European dream, they are paying for it now, both on and off the pitch.



We need a new Sports Editor to join our team for next year

If you're interested contact sport@lsweb.org.uk

Student Sport



SPORT THIS WEEK

- * 'Are you blind, ref?!'
- * 300 Seconds
- * Who's had a good week?

Student Sport

Friday, March 2, 2007

sport@lsweb.org.uk

Better late than never

★ Men's Football 1sts scrape through in BUSA Knockouts

By Joseph Hibbert

Leeds faced their toughest opponents of the season this Wednesday at home to Edinburgh in what turned out to be a fascinating contest. There was definitely a cup atmosphere in the air, both teams were up for the fight, and a decent crowd of Leeds students added to the sense of occasion.

With both teams closely matched, it was clear the midfield was going to hold the key to this contest, and this was evident right from the off, both teams beginning slowly and tentatively.

A slick passing move in the opening three minutes saw Lewis Minnet play a neat ball through to Paul Fines whose shot was excellently saved by the Edinburgh goalkeeper. The resultant Richard Sexton corner was whipped in deep but cleared

well by the visitors.

Leeds continued to try and stamp their authority on the game with the midfield linking up well with the nippy forward, Minnet, however the killer through ball eluded them every time. Edinburgh's backline did well to contain Minnet who has troubled defences all season long with his pace.

On thirty-five minutes an Edinburgh attacker was felled well inside the area, the referee pointed to the spot without hesitation. Contact was indeed made, however it was minimal, and the striker went down like a sack of spuds. The penalty went totally against the run of play, and it was well taken, drilled hard down to the right corner, but 'keeper Tom Draper acrobatically pushed the ball round the post and out for a corner, his fantastic save ensuring that the scores remained level.

Leeds went into the break narrowly on

top in the midfield battle but could tell that there was going to be a lot more to come from the solid and well disciplined Scottish outfit.

The away side dominated the second half, perhaps benefitting from some dodgy decisions from the young referee. Edinburgh caused problems down the left flank, spraying the box with deep crosses. However Uni's defence stood firm and withstood the attacks.

Against the run of play Richard Sexton missed a fantastic opportunity to take the lead for Leeds. A quick counter attacking move saw Sexton unmarked at the back post, the cross was whipped in from the left hand side, Sexton stretched but his touch saw the ball spoon agonisingly over the crossbar.

Continued on page 47



Hard Fought: Men's 1sts claim victory after tough fixture against Edinburgh

PHOTO: Sarah Greene

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