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Photo By Ben Bailey

SCAN

THE VOICE OF LANCASTER
UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

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Mr Menis

AND THE SCAN EDITORIAL TEAM



Spicy Students

By Ben Bailey
Editor

Several weeks ago, some graduate students began supplying a cross campus Indian food service known as 'Tiffin', which literally means an Indian light meal. The service, which was initially started within Graduate College and is being backed by the Graduate Student Association, has quickly spread across the University's undergraduate population as well.

The idea is to produce hot and fresh home cooked food, delivered in microwavable disposable boxes. This service provides Lancaster students with cheap Indian food that will save them money, the need to go out and buy food as well as any washing up. Current orders are placed at £3.50, although the more students that get involved the more the costs will reduce.

The meals arrive every evening in the Graduate Common Room between 7- 8pm. Students have to join the service for at least five days and pay in advance. The concept is widespread in Indian Universities and the students have been encouraged to put it into practice in Lancaster.

It is as yet unclear how the University Catering Services feel about the birth of the scheme. Nishit Pandya, one of the men responsible for the service said: "We on behalf of the GSA would like to continue this service for the benefit of the students."

"However if University Catering Services or anybody else can provide a better service at a similar or cheaper rate, we do not mind shutting down the service but only after a vote of consent from the students who are using this service."

To enrol, go down to the Graduate College Common Room any day between 7- 8pm and give your name, e-mail address and payment for the period you want to enrol. For further information please contact Nishit Pandya at n.pandya@lancaster.ac.uk

Union Council Get The Ball Rolling

By Anita Vukomanovic
News Editor

Union Council, the elected body of students representing the Student's Union met for the second time this term on Thursday 26th October. This was my first trip to Union Council, an experience that is open to all, but enjoyed by few.

The meeting started slowly with the ratifying of the minutes of the previous meeting which had met two weeks before. I wasn't sure what to expect going into it and when the debate started about whether to hold the next council in the same



Set In Stone

By Kate Sudweeks

Rumours that Lancaster University is to be left without proper representation on the City Council have been confirmed.

The early resignation of Alex Stone, the Liberal Democrat representative for the University ward, has caused some resentment among students as the date of his leaving on 2nd December will fall within six months of the next local elections in May. This will result in members of the University being denied the right to a by-election and thus the loss of representation.

An angry politics student said: "I'm disgusted, I feel he has exploited campus residents in order to get an easy seat on the council, and now he's running off without letting someone else take over."

However, Mr Stone has confirmed that leaving the Council is not his choice. His recent relocation to more than 1.2 miles outside the University means that he will live outside the electoral register and is therefore not eligible to continue as its representative.

"It's a real shame", Mr Stone told SCAN, "but it was a party decision that I would remain on the council until the last moment possible." This is due in part to his involvement in the 'Lancaster Says No' campaign against lifting the cap on student tuition fees. "It is an issue very close to my heart", Mr Stone said. Rest assured that students are not being left unrepresented, the campaign is currently being led by our other Liberal Democrat representative for the University Stuart Langhorn, who along with Alex Stone recently put an argument in front of the Council on behalf of Lancaster University students.

venue, I wondered if I would last the distance.

The sabbatical officers were then questioned over their acts for the previous two weeks. General Secretary, Graeme Poulton was questioned about the poster code, and he agreed to look into a matter of concern. Next, SCAN Editor Ben Bailey was questioned on why SCAN no longer features sabbatical officer columns and a debate ensued with the SCAN Editor defending his decision to give the sabbatical officers blogs on the SCAN website as opposed to taking up space in the paper. Some Council members voiced their concerns before Tim Roca Council Chair brought the Council's attention to the LUSU constitution point 26.4, where the SCAN Editor's decision is final.

There was then a trustees report in which LUSU

accountant Vicki Askham spoke about the new Value For Money audits that are taking place within LUSU and showed lots of graphs and charts on how the Union was financially strong. Phew.

The agenda moved on to NUSL (National Union of Students Suppliers Limited) and Jo Hardman LUSU Business Development Manager explained what NUSL is. The proposals for what items LUSU should send to the NUS Regional Conference were next. Suggestions of items to take included funding, Islamophobia, Postgraduate issues and NUS Extra cards. LUSU President Sooz Palmer pointed out that last year's LUSU President, Dwayne Branch, had forgotten to send the agreed motions to NUS and so Lancaster's issues got lost by the wayside. How things have moved on.

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ARTS 1PM, WEDNESDAYS, FURNESS BACK BAR

MUSIC 2PM, WEDNESDAYS, BOWLAND BAR

SPORTS 6PM, MONDAYS, FYLDE BAR

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Campus News In Brief

South-West Cashpoint

It's the news that every resident of Alexandra Park has been waiting to hear: a cash point is finally about to be installed by Cartmel Bar.

For residents living in South-West campus, this will bring an end to the seemingly endless walks to the cash points situated in both Alexandra Square and by the Sports Centre.

A cash point in South-West campus has been strongly campaigned for by many groups, including Lonsdale presidents and the Lancaster Conservative Future, who collected over 1,000 signatures in their petition.

It is hoped that the installation may also bring even more benefits to the Cartmel, Graduate and Lonsdale bars since South-West students will not need to leave the area in order to get cash. It is thus believed that more people will stay in the South West and therefore more money will be spent at the bars, increasing bar profits as well as making South-West campus more popular and improving the overall atmosphere. By Andrew Almond



Freshers Carnage Makes The Internet

Furness College became the focus of the world wide web recently as a result of the antics of some of their freshers. First year Furnessians trashed their own kitchen in one of the new residences, hurling objects out of a top window, including an vandalized ironing board.

Amazingly enough this was all filmed, and then the seven minute broadcast was placed on the increasingly popular internet video site, 'Youtube', under the title 'bored freshers'.

It is understood Furness porters arrived on the scene, and the University Dean is currently investigating. Disciplinary action is expected to follow.

Rowing For Charity

On Saturday the 30th of September, Lancaster University Boat Club rowed 100km in Lancaster city centre in order to raise funds for both Leukaemia Research and the development of LUBC's boat house. LUBC rowed 100km in 7 hours and 45 seconds, on average covering 500 meters every 2:05 minutes, and in the process burnt off 6303 calories.

On the day £823.70 was donated by shoppers, as well as £635, which was pledged by local businesses. The total funds raised will now be equally divided between LUBC and the Anthony Nolan Bone Marrow Trust.

The Boat Club LUBC would like to extend their thanks to all those who donated to this worthy cause.

Pervert On The Loose

County College Bar was surrounded by security last week after a middle aged man "groped" female students on campus. On Wednesday afternoon security gathered around the bar, waiting for the police to arrive, before the man was escorted off University premises.

An inside source said that the man had been refused service the day before, and a further source explained how the man had been seen in Grizedale Bar earlier this term. We are as yet to find out whether the students involved will press charges.

New Wing Replacement

ISS have launched Webmail- the new University e-mail system set to replace the existing system- Wing. To improve performance and reliability, the Webmail front end and mail store will run on new ISS hardware.

The new Webmail offers many new features missing from the old Wing front end, including: Multiple Message Selection (for Forwarding, Moving or Deletion), Quota Monitoring and a View HTML Images feature. Webmail is 'extendable' (new features can be added) and ISS has been running a feedback survey to find out what the 'average student' wants of an email program.

The Webmail development team (Ted) is paddling furiously to make some of the improvements you have asked for, available. And, in the 'next release', I am reliably informed that a spellcheck feature will arrive. In the following release, the much demanded 'anti-Spam' feature (thank any deity that comes to mind), is promised.

Students are encouraged to try using Webmail at <http://webmail.lancs.ac.uk> In spite of well over a thousand replies, ISS are still asking for your feedback, and they take all comments seriously. Don't forget to leave your email address if you want help or comments about your feedback.

Lectures Shut Down

Forget lecturers striking or building work going on at ear-splitting levels, the latest problem to beset campus is computers crashing.

Fylde LT1, George Fox LT2 and the North Spine Seminar Room have all fallen foul and it's causing problems on many courses. Marketing student Michael Herbert told SCAN, "I've had a seminar and 2 lectures cancelled in the last 2 weeks. It's really annoying". By Will Veitch



Police Call For Witnesses After Canal Stabbing

By Kirsten Smith

A 34 year old local Lancaster man was stabbed last Monday on the towpath of the Lancaster canal next to Moor Lane. The spot is a renowned meeting place for drug dealers and drinkers according to the police.

The victim, Keiron Cuffe of the Marsh estate was already known to police as a drug dealer with a criminal record that included a three year and nine month prison sentence, thanks to being caught by undercover detectives for dealing heroin.

Cuffe managed to drag himself to Moor Lane where he succeeded in flagging down a car. He was then taken to the Royal Lancaster Infirmary with a suspected collapsed lung and was later transferred to the Victoria Hospital in Blackpool where his condition, at first serious, was declared stable on Tuesday.

Police sealed off Moor Lane throughout Monday night and into Tuesday morning closely guarding the towpath. They are now appealing for witnesses, Detective Sergeant Jo Edwards stated that the police "Would like to hear from anyone who may have seen anything suspicious around that area

on the night in question." They are particularly interested in information concerning the areas surrounding the canal towpath, Shaw Street and Moor Lane. Anyone with information regarding the incident should contact Lancaster CID on 01524 63333.



Lancaster Student Wins Award for Excellence

By Lucy Ingham

Lancaster Student Paul Clark has received the prestigious Microsoft Award for Student Excellence 2006.

Clark, a Computer Science student, won the award for his final major project, which looked at how drivers' personalities affect traffic flow. Clark overcame tough opposition to win the award, which recognises the most outstanding project developed using Microsoft tools and technology.

Microsoft executives travelled to Lancaster to award Paul with a laptop, engraved trophy and £1,000 as well as a commemorative plaque for the University's Computer Department.

When asked about his success, Paul replied, "I was shocked that I won and it's a great thing to put on my CV." Paul's supervisor, Dr Simon Lock, was delighted at his success and stated that, "He deserved it because the project was excellent across all the categories - the programming, the background research, the writing up - and he went further than he needed to every step of the way."

Clark was also congratulated by the Head of the Computing Department, Prof Gordon Blair and the

Dean of the Faculty of Science and Technology, Prof Mary Smyth who added, "I think it's really marvelous that the department is allowing students the opportunity to operate at this level and allowing them to realise that they have got enormous skills that organisations like Microsoft recognise."



LANCASTER SAYS NO!

LANCASTER STUDENTS MARCH ON LONDON

By Ben Bailey
Editor

Lancaster University students participated in a national demonstration against top-up fees in London on Sunday 29th October. Lancaster students made up some of the 3,500 students who had joined together to march through the streets of London finishing in Trafalgar Square.

The march was instigated and organised by the NUS as part of their national campaign against the removal of the cap on top-up fees. Lancaster students marched in their vibrant red t-shirts adorned with the slogan, 'Lancaster Says No', which is the name of LUSU's priority campaign.

The march was intended to keep up the pressure

on the Government not to remove the cap on top-up fees and thus, in essence, not to let Universities charge whatever fees they want.

The 2004 Higher Education Act created a policy which introduced a funding system that allows institutions to charge a variable tuition fee. The 'cap', or limit that universities can charge for any given undergraduate course for full-time home students is £3,000 a year.

Students are already being prevented from going to university because they cannot afford the £3,000 fees per year. 15,000 UK students were deterred from going to university this year because of this increase in fees. Gemma Tummelty, NUS National President, said: "The decision to go to university is becoming an increasingly harder one to make. If the government is serious about access to education it needs to increase student support, not increase student debt. Access to

university should be based on grades, not bank balance."

If the cap on top-up fees is removed and universities are allowed to charge what they want, the prospective debt students face will soar.

The estimated debt for those who arrived at university in 2005, the year before fees were increased, is £13,500. Now Lancaster first years will finish three year degrees with a £9,000 debt in fees alone. For these students the predicted total debt when taking rent and living costs into account is £20,000. When one considers the average graduate salary is £19,000 this is a huge level of debt to be leaving university with.

LUSU President Sooz Palmer said: "Top-up Fees are not only a bad thing for new students, but for the potential students who have yet to make the decision. Toddlers will face one of the biggest barriers to education, since the average graduate debt is forecast to be £44,000 by 2023.

Miss Palmer continued, "It is important that we fight now. On 29th October we marched through London, fighting for those who will not be joining their peers at university this year, because they have been priced out of higher education by fees. We are fighting for those who are yet to make their decision on Higher Education and we are protesting against the continual increase of student debt and the financial burden that faces current students. The students that were marching alongside us are all united in a fight for

an education system that does not marginalise or restrict access."

The march went via the Houses of Parliament en route to Trafalgar Square. Some students started a sit-down protest outside Parliament, though police were on hand to move the crowds along as quickly as possible. The students congregated in Trafalgar Square where 3,000 red balloons were released- one balloon for every pound an undergraduate student faces in University fees this year. NUS President Gemma Tummelty addressed the crowd before students heard from keynote speakers such as Tony Benn and Ken Livingstone.

LUSU Education and Welfare officer Becky Heard, who was jointly responsible for organising the march as well as the 'Lancaster Says No' campaign said: "The march in London was important to show a collective voice. Seeing so many students united in Trafalgar Square opposing the removal of the cap on top-up fees made the long journey down worthwhile.

"I believe we sent a clear message to those in power that students are not happy with the new system and will continue to believe in and fight for an education system that does not marginalise people because of financial backgrounds. Education is a right, it should not be a privilege."

Additional Research by Jacob Cordingley



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SCAN Meets... Alan Johnson, MP

By Cat Smith
& Dan Hogan

SCAN recently had the privilege of meeting the Rt Hon Alan Johnson MP, Secretary of State for Education and Skills, the man currently in the middle of a hard-fought, nationwide campaign to maintain the £3000 cap on top-up fees. Although he doesn't perhaps provide the same bumbling amusement as his opposite number on the Tory front bench (Boris Johnson MP, no relation, interviewed in SCAN last month), Alan Johnson can still provide a few good laughs. As he entered the room, grinning widely and joking with the organisers, there was a ripple of anticipation amongst the assembled throng.

Unlike many of the other people in the room, Mr Johnson never went to university. Orphaned at the age of twelve, he was raised by his 15-year-old sister, leaving school without qualifications. After a brief period bent on rock stardom, Mr Johnson became a postman and eventually General Secretary of the Communication Workers' Union.

Now considered one of the 'rising stars' of the Government, he is widely tipped to become the next Labour Party Deputy Leader, high praise for a man who came across as extremely down

to earth, possibly as his background would suggest. A 'man of the people', he appeared enthusiastic yet not over-zealous and was particularly enthused about Sure Start Centres, the Government's flagship policy for helping young people from deprived backgrounds. He described these as "crucial for having equality in education" and showered praise on teachers, claiming that through "blood, sweat and tears", they were "driving literacy standards up."

By this point, Mr Johnson's real plan for improving standards in universities became obvious; this was not a stand-alone policy attempting to achieve the impossible overnight, but improvements at the core of the education system, from pre-school right up to university. Top-Up fees were clearly a large part of this, the aim being to "fill the £7bn funding gap opened up by the Tories when they slashed HE funding by 36%". Mr Johnson sees top-up fees, contrary to what many believe, as a way to widen participation in higher education. "People who pay £10,000 a year to send their kids to private schools are the ones who are angry. They want the perks of a private education back. If I thought it was going to damage working-class kids, I wouldn't have backed it."

After much quizzing, Mr Johnson assured us that the cap would stay as long as Labour was in Government. It would need "fresh legislation through both houses in order to be lifted", which he was sceptical would happen as long as Labour are in Government. "No Labour MP

would ever allow universities to charge £10,000 a year in fees."

Mr Johnson, presumably like all Labour politicians, believes that the greatest risk to an increase in top-up fees would be the election of a Tory Government. It was clear that Mr Johnson was worried that the Tories could bow to pressure from university Vice-Chancellors to create a marketised education system "where rich students go to rich universities and poor students go to poor universities".

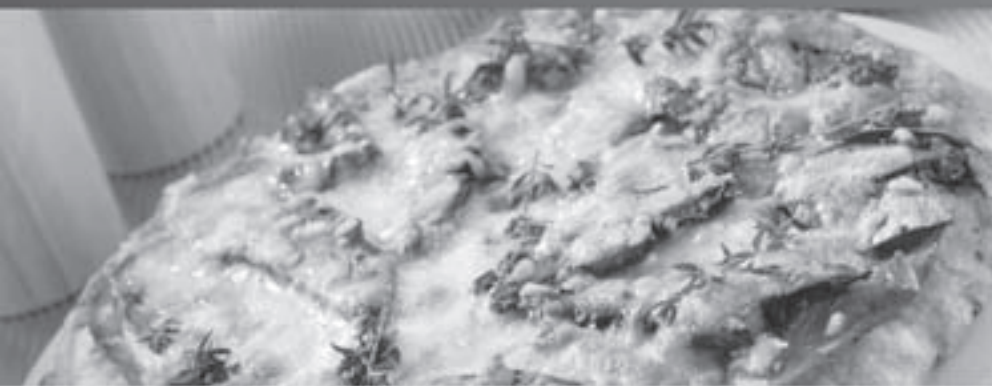
Mr Johnson continued to outline more plans for higher education. Apparently the next item on the Government's HE agenda is a loan system meaning that every student has enough money to cover their living costs and rent. This, Mr Johnson claimed, would help the thousands of students with relatively well off parents but small loans, those who end up perhaps struggling the hardest. This idea was greeted with rapturous applause.

The interview was drawing to a close. Mr Johnson had impressed us with his calm and witty demeanour, and had, believe it or not, answered all manner of questions, ranging from intellectual grillings to plain sucking-up. As various groups of students crowded for photographs, he quipped about life in the "media spotlight" and grinned happily at the enthusiasm of those around him, before

making hurried apologies and disappearing into the autumn night.



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DEAR SCAN

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

“SCAN disses dominoes.”

Dear SCAN,

I was shocked to find that in your edition covering all bar sports on campus, you neglected to mention the greatest sport of all, dominoes (or is it dominos?)

That ever-raging debate aside, your readers clearly need to be informed that dominoes is one of the finest sports on earth, is not a farce, a disgrace of a 'sport'; nor is it fluke; in fact you require immense skill to even be considered of a place on the dominoes team. Glad to have sorted this out, here's to an exciting dominoes season!

**Griff
Pendle Doms Captain**

“Councillor to leave uni stranded.”

Dear SCAN,

I have always identified with the Lib Dems, and I voted for them in the elections last year, but after reading in the Lancaster Guardian that our Lib Dem city councillor for the university is leaving 6 months early, I'm disgusted.

Alex Stone is timing his resignation so that there cannot be a byelection in the university, as it will fall within 6 months of the local elections that are coming in May. He has planned to resign for months, and could easily have done so earlier; so students could have a say on who they want to represent them on the City Council. For some reason, he has chosen to deprive us of a chance to elect a new councillor. I think it's outrageous that residents on campus are going to be left without proper local representation for 6 months.

I would love to hear why Alex Stone is depriving us of our democratic right to representation at a local level. Then again, since he has only been seen on campus a handful of times since being elected in 2003, I can't see how he could represent us anyway. I feel he has exploited campus residents in order to get an easy seat on the City Council, and now he's running off without letting someone else take over. I will never be voting Lib Dem again.

An angry politics student

“Accommodation Complaints.”

Dear SCAN,

I'm sure I'm not the only one who was in a state of shock when I was suddenly informed in Week 4 that I could sign up for campus accommodation. I remember being told this in December last year and thinking it was too early. The start of November is certainly taking the mick.

This pressure of having to choose housing options

for next year when we've only just got into our rooms this year has caused unnecessary arguments and tension between flatmates and friends, and all for the sake of trying to catch students and get as much money as possible from them before they have a chance to look at anywhere off-campus.

There are freshers out there who are still wondering whether University is right for them, nevermind what their plans are for the following year. And for those already finding it difficult to settle in, the added stress of a major decision such as this is enough to tip them over the edge and make them quit university all together.

How do you know who your friends are in Week 4? How can you contemplate living in a confined space with someone you haven't even met yet? The idea is ludicrous.

The college residence officers need to seriously consider the consequences of pressuring us to sign a contract after only 4 weeks. Sadly, it seems they are more concerned with the welfare of their pockets than that of their students.

A Disgruntled Cartmellian

“Lack of English liberalism.”

Dear SCAN,

One thing that struck me as odd at the university is the total lack of representation of any sort for an authentically English ideology - that of classical liberalism-. Much like society at large, there seems to be a polarisation between the Tories, Labour, and to an extent, the Lib-Dems (a party closer to neoliberalism rather than its classic form), as well as the occasional fringe societies focusing on socialism and Green politics etc.

Although it is likely most students have heard of Proudhon, Keynes, Marx et al, few are even aware of the existence of masterminds such as Carl Menger (father of the Austrian School of Economics), von Mises, von Hayek and Ayn Rand, and to a lesser extent, Milton Friedman (he is more popular). On the contrary, many are aware of J. S. Mill, Locke, de Tocqueville, Lord Acton and the like, yet again there is an ignorance of the ideals these men represented.

Given that universities are usually seen as hotbeds of intellectual activity (outside of the pub anyway), it's odd that an ideology which essentially combines social with economic liberalism is not even known, or at best, is known by name and little more. The Austrian School of Economics is one of the most controversial, and perhaps intelligent, movements out there, as are other forms of classical liberalism.

It's a total shame that these ideas have no formal representation, and instead people cling to partisan politics like sheep. Anti-capitalism is naturally something many students go through (which can be evidenced by the number of books on the topic in the campus bookstore as opposed to books by, say, Mises or Hayek), but to the extent that only one side of the coin is represented it renders itself

Letter of the week

“NUSSL Comes Before LGBT To Some”

Dear SCAN,

It was interesting for me to read that Scot Murray has had the time on his hands to campaign on the contracts controlling the County College bar.

Whilst I wish to reserve my opinion on this rather interesting matter; I was astounded to see Scot being accredited as the LGBT Officer of County when he has failed to attend the weekly LUSU LGBT Committee meetings since January.

Nor has he involved himself in any LGBT campaign or weekly social event for his college or union. In my view, he has consistently let those who he represents in County down and they are sorely missing out on what YOURlgbt* at LUSU has to offer them and are unable to have their voices heard. Clearly he has more pressing matters to attend to.

**Paul O'Rourke
LUSU LGBT Officer**

a bit tiring. Then to read a letter in an edition of Scan in which a post-grad fashionably calls Nestle an “evil” company, well the whole affair simply becomes a joke.

Therefore, for those out there who are not satisfied with the conventional “marketted” and “branded” politics of the parties, who believe in individualism and are likewise not enthused by the many left-wing groups out there, there is an alternative: classical liberalism. Make what you will of it.

I'll finish with three quotes by Ayn Rand.

“The moral justification of capitalism does not lie in the altruist claim that it represents the best way to achieve ‘the common good.’ It is true that capitalism does – if that catch-phrase has any meaning – but this is merely a secondary consequence. The moral justification for capitalism lies in the fact that it is the only system consonant with man's rational nature, that it protects man's survival qua man, and that its ruling principle is: justice.”

“I am not primarily an advocate of capitalism, but of egoism; I am not primarily an advocate of egoism, but of reason. If one recognizes the supremacy of reason and applies it consistently, all the rest follows.”

“There is a level of cowardice lower than that of the conformist: the fashionable non-conformist.”

Yours,

Anthony

“Blame LUSU or the referees?”

Dear SCAN

I am sure I am only one of the many footballers who feel let down by LUSU for what I first thought was their poor organisational skills. The six-a-side league was due to start on Sunday 5th November (at 4pm to be precise).

The first four teams scheduled to play all arrived early, warmed up and prepared to start the season. 4pm came and everyone was ready and raring to go, all that is except the two referees who had not made it on time. The teams continued to warm up and wait around but all to no avail.

By 5pm I'd had enough and reluctantly departed with my team to catch the end of the Chelsea match- the only bit of football we were going to get that day. The following day and the LUSU Athletic Union email around apologising stating that they booked the refs, though the officials had failed to turn up, having spent about £140 per team

for the season this was highly disappointing. It's a shame two referees could not remember to turn up. A couple of hundred footballers managed to remember.

Disappointed right-midfielder

“Debating with LUSU”

Dear SCAN

I would like to share with you and your readers what a difficult time we at the Debating Society are having at the moment with our attempts to organise the Princess Alexandra Cup. This is a large scale event involving 24 teams (minimum) from all over the country, and indeed, the world.

It seems LUSU are happy to allow the George Fox building to provide accomodation for the teams entering the Roses, but seem very reluctant to commit and confirm to us that we can use the building for the same purpose. I believe it goes without saying that accomodating 140 people all over the city centre would be so impractical it becomes unworkable. Not only this, but we have not been offered any other rooms on campus.

We need to keep all of these people in one small area, so accomodation in town is a non-starter. We managed to accomodate people on campus in the larger rooms in Fylde and Bowland last year, but it seems that the rules have changed this time around and we cannot do the same thing as we did last year and no alternative has been suggested.

It is somewhat odd that this is the same union that could procure £500 to allow us to send two teams to a European competition in Holland a few years ago, but cannot simply organise a small number of rooms that we desperately need.

**Jonathan Walsh
Vice President, Debating Society.**

To submit a letter e-mail:
scan@lancaster.ac.uk or post it
directly online at scan.lusu.co.uk All
letters must include name, address
and contact details but these can
be withheld upon request. Letters
are printed verbatim and should
be kept concise. All letters are the
personal opinion of the author and
should not be taken to reflect the
views of the SCAN team, LUSU
staff or officers.



By Weird Dan

Upside down. Boy you turn me, inside out. Round and round. Such were my very thoughts when, whilst picking daffodils on the Caton cycle path I came across a peculiar cluster of trees, indeed upside down, roots exploding into the sky. How weird, I thought. But it seems that this is no freak of nature. Rather, the scene is a controversial piece of artwork, created in 2000 by London based chainsaw sculptor Giles Kent.

Scanning the archives of *The Lancashire Telegraph*, it soon became apparent that the piece wasn't exactly well received by the local community. A former Lancaster Uni student deemed the feature 'completely irresponsible,' believing the council should "plant live trees not dead ones". "This used to be a favourite walk of mine", wrote Mrs. F. Secker of Morecambe, "not any more I am sorry to say". Mr. D. Dixon accused the piece of being unoriginal, claiming to have seen something similar on Time Team. *The Daily Mail*,

Weird Lancaster...

"Put your roots in the air" says Weird Dan

which usually supports subversive art projects(!) was quick to emphasise the cost to the public, an extortionate £7,000! However, tourism officer Ron Sands expressed "no regrets", observing the council's "duty to stimulate creative thought and debate." He also labelled some of the press

the press, even if such comparisons were mostly intended as derogatory. He sounded vaguely disappointed when discussing the vandalism, conceding that many of his recent proposals have been rejected due to the use of wood, leaving them more open to vandalism and decay.

"Things took a more sinister turn in 2001, when a chainsaw-wielding saboteur felled one of the trees. "We'll have no upside down funny business here!"

attacks 'unfair and narrow-minded.'

Things took a more sinister turn in 2001, when a chainsaw-wielding saboteur felled one of the trees. "We'll have no upside down funny business here", the act seemed to scream. "We'll have no southerners up-ending trees."

I gave Mr. Kent a call. He told me he had angry locals approaching him as he was working, complaining about the 'blot on the landscape' and questioning its value as art. It came as a surprise to him. His previous pieces, he said, had been described as "really pretty." He confessed it was quite pleasant to cause a stir, and was flattered to be compared to the likes of Emin and Hirst in



DO YOU HAVE A WEIRD STORY ABOUT LANCASTER?

If so, email Weird Dan at shakethosebuns101@hotmail.com

What the papers should say...



Riots in Birkenhead as Chomps go up to 15p!

The Merseyside Echo, Page 1

Jamie Oliver spotted in the frozen section of Tesco Metro in Islington clutching a Bird's Eye tikka masala.

The Kitchen Sink, Page 5

In a freak series of events it appears that Saddam Hussein has not after all been captured. Guards accidentally tore off his mask to reveal old man Wilkes from the Tennessee amusement Park. Mr Wilkes was reported to have said: "I would have got away with it, if it hadn't been for you pesky kids."

The Baghdad Times, Page 2

After an announcement from Downing Street stating that henceforth Tony Blair MP will be known only as Mr T, all but one of the Labour cabinet resign. The only remaining Blairite? A certain Mr G Brown, who was quoted as saying he would "stick by Mr T until the bitter, bitter end".

The Socialist Scrounger, Page 2

Hasselhoff caught with trousers down while filming internet-only interview with comedian Alan Carr!

Hotter, Page 17

Burn the cool kids

By Hannah Lickert
Features Editor

Wherever there is culture, there is always counter-culture. The two are usually politically or ethically charged, and there is never a shortage of followers for either. However, for some, even the counter culture is too mainstream, and they have to create a counter-counter-culture. These people think they are cooler than anyone else. They think they're above the clichés, the myspace persona, but chances are, they've got "emo" tattooed on their soul.

A typical feature of these select individuals is their assumption that they have *The Opinion* on music, films, books, art, or anything else that defines culture. Thought *Napoleon Dynamite* was cool, bought a 'Vote for Pedro' t-shirt and considered yourself the height of everything edgy and underground? The counter-counter-culturist is so cool, they didn't like *Napoleon Dynamite*. They laughed derisively at all those foolish people, deluding themselves into a false sense of alternativism (yes, I did just make that word up). Even the hardcore fans who delved deeper into the obscure and bought t-shirts saying "Tina you fat lard, come get some dinner" cannot escape the knowing snorts of the CCCs.

The urge to be misunderstood is intrinsic to this counter-counter-culture, and is perfectly summed up and rightly mocked in a t-shirt I saw

in *Cracked* magazine: "This is a band shirt, but you're not cool enough to know them." A CCC will walk around with a t-shirt that has the logo of some deeply underground band and a smug smile all over their self-important face, knowing that 99% of the people they walk past will have no idea what their t-shirt means. If asked, the answer will invariably be something like "Oh, they're this band called Noah's Goatshack, they're kind of like an early *Dinosaur Jr* if J Mascis had been Phil Lesh and Nico's lovechild," to which you can only reply, "Oh right cool. You like music, then."

The problem for the average CCC is that they can never like a film or band for very long, for as soon as it strays into the dreaded mainstream, it is dropped from their Bible of Cool like an acid-covered hedgehog and never spoken of again. They live a hypocritical life, as although they will sit and watch a film, lamenting its unsung praises and railing against the rest of the world for not having seen it, if anyone but them gets their hands on this supposed gem of cinematography, instead of being applauded for bothering to watch it, they are suddenly unworthy of its genius, and couldn't possibly appreciate or understand it.

By now, you'll probably be thinking "wow, these guys seem like real dickheads," or possibly, "J Mascis is far too old to be Nico's son." To avoid thinking like the latter, just remember: be real. Be genuine. The CCCs work so hard at liking what they think they should like, they deny themselves their true desires (which is to walk around saying "Gosh!" and "Fucking idiot!" like the rest of us), and ultimately warp into the uber-douchebags that we all know and love.

The EnvironMentalist

By Tom Roberts
LUSU Environmental Coordinantor

Halloween saw the publication of a scarily frank report on climate change: the Stern Review. It focuses upon the impacts and risks arising from uncontrolled climate change, and on the costs and opportunities associated with action to tackle it. To its credit, the review, authored by economist Nicholas Stern, takes a solutions oriented approach into the heart of Whitehall. Whether the economic forecasts he bases his predictions on are too overly optimistic, and just how feasible international cooperation on the issue will be remains to be seen.

Green Lancaster, initiated by LUSU and with assistance from the University aims to promote greater environmental awareness and positive action on environmental issues.

In keeping with tackling climate change, Green Lancaster is focusing on three main areas: hands on energy conservation – switching off unnecessary appliances and lights and installing energy efficient bulbs (many of you will have been given one of these); tips on recycling (look out for the jute Green Lancaster bags your ideal shopping companion); and sustainable travel.

The initiative will also launch a website early next year acting as a green portal and guide to the university and city.

greenLANCASTER

SCAN DOWN THE PAN

SCAN Features peruse some of the University's toilet facilities

**By Hannah Lickert
& Simon Fogg**
Features Editors

Fylde Men's

These are pretty nasty; the floor is almost always wet. A foul smell lingers and people from Fylde don't seem to know how to flush. However, this was all forgiven when I read the 'insert baby in slot for refund' label on the condom machine. I'm sure I'll keep that in mind.

Fylde Women's

These were evidently designed by a woman, as a man would have put about half the number of mirrors in—clearly underestimating the vanity of women on a night out, or any other time for that matter. Four above the sinks, one long one above what seems to be a shelf to line up your make-up on, plus a full length one by the door for that all-important final glance before you walk out with your skirt tucked into your knickers. However, these toilets have something of the set of the first Saw film about them, being cavernous, cold and harshly lit. Plus cold toilets equals cold seat which equals shouting "Ooh it's cold" over the top of the door.

Furness Men's

These always piss me off because I have to interrupt my bar crawl and walk away from the bar and through a locker room to actually reach the toilets. Assuming that the locker room isn't full of jocks in various states of undress, the actual toilets are pretty clean, despite the various stickers advertising university societies that no one wants to join. One could also learn to develop a fondness for one particular cubicle where some clever boy has written 'push lad!' in perfect view. Cheers man, hadn't thought of that.

Furness Women's

A generally unpleasant experience that detracts marginally from a visit to my favourite hotbed of socialism. Its redeeming feature is its heat, which unfortunately intensifies the stuffy smell that comes from it being combined with a locker room. The doors are very creaky, and it has that typical university toilets décor of ripped stickers and posters, mostly advertising student politics. I'm sure many a visitor has been inspired to protest against top-up fees while reading a sticker on the mirror that says "ncaster says N!"

Library Men's



These are cleaner than usual, but quite small so I wouldn't want to be in there during a busy period. The graffiti was ok, with the library dwellers often choosing to partake in customer surveys rather than the usual 'dave is a c*nt'. There was a y/n poll concerning splashback, and also one for 'should this wall have graffiti on?' Most voted 'yes', except for one soul who obviously appreciated the irony of voting 'no'.

Library Women's

I entered these library loos expecting to come out with an extensive list of quotes from the cubicle walls and a mouthful of criticism for the hygiene levels, but some thoughtless bastard has bothered to clean and repaint the whole room. I inspected the walls and doors carefully, and a Bible quote was just visible in the left stall, but Abraham 1: I aside, it

was disappointingly pleasant and tidy. I took my first picture, and wondered if there was some kind of record to be set for Most Toilets Visited in a single day.

Biology Men's

These are pretty bog standard, but with no graffiti and lots of cold air from the open window. However, my attention was snagged by a large, locked cabinet. One can merely speculate what is inside. It might be cleaning supplies and toilet roll, or it could be some fantastic treasure. I choose to believe the latter.

Biology Women's

I've never been in this building before, but as we couldn't be bothered to walk to Grizedale, the second floor Biology toilets got the pleasure of my investigative company. With no distinguishing

features other than a chair in one corner (in case all the stalls are occupied?), I thought this would be an excellent photo opportunity. Unfortunately, as is bound to happen when you go round public toilets taking pictures, someone walked in just as the flash was going off. Thanking God that there was no-one else in there with me at the time, which doubtless would have resulted in some sort of LUSU investigation, I garbled "Hi there!" to the poor shocked woman who doubtless thought I was some depraved toilet-fetishist, and fled downstairs to a less-flustered Simon.

Bowland Unisex (Er, Men?)

If you're in the English department and want to have sex, this is probably the most viable option. Indeed, as we were discussing the merits of this facility the door slightly opened, only to be closed immediately as our two voices became apparent. Despite the obvious complications of a unisex facility, it was particularly clean, and had both a full length mirror and a socket for your shaver. Therefore, if you're late for an English seminar where being clean shaven is mandatory, you no longer have to worry. That was quite a thoughtful investment. There was me thinking that most of the department's funding went to the Management School instead.

Bowland Unisex (Er, Women?)

For that Ally McBeal experience, albeit minus stylish chrome sinks, head on down to the English and Creative Writing Department in Bowland. I was felt positively wicked walking through that door with my male counterpart, and we were sure that anyone who saw us go in assumed the naughtiest. However, the most devious thing either of us did was steal a toilet roll, and we left giggling and pondering the giant, inexplicable column in the centre of the room.

Alexandra Square Men's

Currently closed while University House gets its hair done. This place is alright if you need a piss and every other toilet in the world is out of bounds. Also, the condom machine once stole my quid. Enough said.

Alexandra Square Women's

Winning my award for "Most Likely to be Frequented by Doggers," these cold, uncared-for cubicles are for the truly desperate and lost. They currently cannot be accessed due to building works in their corner of Alex Square, but don't worry, I'm sure the contractors are giving them the love and attention they need. By which I mean rebuilding them.

ECO-WARRIORS AND OTHER ANIMALS

Mark Twain is away...

Recently, left-wing types have been moaning about what can only be described as an alarming report in which a leading economist predicted what in essence would be the end of the world. Although briefly put off my foie gras, the residual feeling was one of annoyance. Why was I, a man with a measured disregard for such issues, actually doing more to help the planet than my so-called eco-warrior buddies?

I scratched my head and paused my stereo. I had noticed about the house a large pile of milk cartons and baked bean tins, populated until recently by a family of voles. What was it for? The idea that this was to form the basis of a large collage was rubbished by the fact that none of my housemates studied Art or possess any children. Hmm.

And was it polite in liberal households to leave lights on at night so that those in hemp slippers didn't stub their toes? I needed a cup of tea.

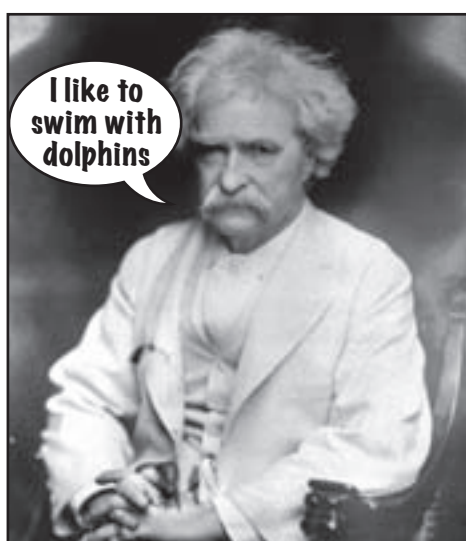
After wandering down to the kitchen in my shorts and vest and absent-mindedly boiling the kettle three times I was finally refreshed. And though the night was cold, the gas central heating helped to warm my shivering self. I thought on.

I had read about climate change and global warming.

I understood the benefits of lagging the roof and turning the thermostat down two degrees (on my wallet if not the world) but, really, what could I do? I'm only one man.

My girlfriend decided the best thing to do, beyond breaking up with me, was to take a high-speed train down to London and walk through the streets complaining. This was far from normal behaviour but I let her have her day in the sun. After all, it meant I wasn't moaned at for having the radio on in every room, on the off chance that I would go in there and need to be entertained.

On her return we both concluded that, if not turning the corner, we had at least helped the country out of its chair. We flew to Venice for the weekend to celebrate.



Forget Santa, Elections Are Coming To Town

Democracy Is A Precious Gift. Use Your Vote!

**By Greame Poulton
& Rachel Lewis**

The Dudes Who Run The Elections

Elections, you either love them or hate them. Either way it is that time of year again, where people will be donning ridiculous outfits or promising the world in exchange for the most valuable asset you have at University, your vote.

The Students' Union and the colleges are run by a body of students elected as officers to deal with specific aspects of your University life. It is for that reason that we hold elections. Elected students are there to represent you. This ranges from organising demonstrations against top-up fees outside the Houses of Parliament to liaising with the University over issue affecting the student body. Elected students represent your needs and views.

The elections that are taking place in Week 8 are imperative to the efficient and smooth running of the Students' Union. Positions range from Green to Postgraduate representatives and there is surely a position to suit you. A Non-Sabbatical officer is a part-time student officer who works on a voluntary basis to represent or provide support to other students. These positions are voted for by a cross campus ballot and therefore represent every student here at Lancaster. A Non-Sabbatical, along side doing the specific job they are elected to do, will also sit on Union Council, an entirely elected body who represent the student population of Lancaster University and acts as the governing body of the Students Union.

On a college level, there are elections for the JCR executives and the

GSA executive. These are similar to the Union representatives but work within the college level which make their input more specific to your University life. JCR/GSA execs are responsible for Intro Week, social events and the end of year Extrav as well as providing support and representation on a college level; this usually involves liaising with the college SCR and helping improve college facilities. For more information on the positions on offer and their role on the JCR/GSA see your current JCR Executive and look out for details of your college's election events.

The election process has five main stages; Nominations, Hustings (Question Time,) Campaigning, Voting (Thursday week 8) and finally Results. When signing up for any position you have to be nominated and seconded by two members of your college for JCR/GSA elections or two full members of the Union for Non-Sabbatical elections. The next step is Question Time; this is when you tell everyone why you are the best candidate for the position.

If you are not running for a position your role at question time is to ask the candidates anything (within reason) that you want to know about their manifesto. After Question Time every candidate will be running an individual campaign, these campaigns consist of speaking to as many students as possible, trying to win them over in a transaction of promises and their vote. Voting for all these positions is Thursday Week 8 from 10am to 6pm in your college porter's lodge and from 6pm to 8pm in the LUSU foyer. Please, remember to bring your library card. Results will be published by your JCR Exec in due course.

Whatever your views on the up and coming elections, remember it is your democratic right to a vote so please use it!



COLLEGE JCR / GSA ELECTIONS QUESTION TIME

MONDAY WK8	TUESDAY WK8
CARTMEL - BAR	LONSDALE - BAR
FURNESS - FARADAY LECTURE THEATRE	GRIZEDALE - BAR
GRADUATE - GSA COMMON ROOM	BOWLAND - BAR
COUNTY - BAR	PENDLE - BAR
FYLDE - BAR	



NON-SABBATICAL ELECTIONS 2006

What is a non-sabb? -

A non-sabb officer is a part-time student officer who works on a voluntary basis to represent or provide support to other students.

ELECTIONS TIMELINE

• Nominations open

Monday week 5 [See LUSU foyer and www.lusu.co.uk/elections for more info]

• Nominations close
Monday week 7

• Question Time

Monday week 7
Cavendish Lecture
Theatre - 7pm

• Candidates Meeting
Monday week 7
LUSU Foyer - 6pm

• Campaigning begins

Check website for more information
www.lusu.co.uk/elections

• Voting

Thursday week 8,
in porter's lodges.
Bring your library card

How to Vote -

For your first choice, put a number 1 by their name. If you have a second choice, put a number 2 by their name. Don't forget, you can vote for RON if you're undecided.

• Results

Announced Friday
in LUSU foyer

24 Hours In A Prison Cell

By Ian Chamberlain

I woke early on a surprisingly moderate Autumn morning, though my feet were wet after a rainy night spent in a 20-year old canvas tent which had several holes to prove its age. As I clambered out, I first looked up to the sky and noticed the sun tantalizingly flickering through the clouds. I then looked across Loch Long, a truly beautiful sight of water with mountainous green hills beyond. Reasons to be hopeful, I thought. I certainly felt optimistic.

I had travelled up with two friends from Lancaster the previous day. We had come to an area of Scotland about 35 miles North-West of Glasgow to spend two days at Faslane Naval Base, home to the UK's nuclear-armed submarines and part of a joint UK-US nuclear weapons capacity known as Trident.

The previous day we arrived at Coulport where we were to camp for two nights. Darkness had already fallen. On our way we passed the naval base and I was truly stunned by the magnitude of the place. The stretch of lights, for what seemed like miles along the edge of Gare Loch, first convinced me that I might be observing a small village until I was struck by the 12-foot fences along its perimeter. The juxtaposition of the natural beauty which surrounded us and the startlingly ugly naval base goes some way to explain the mixture of emotions I felt during my trip to Scotland.

When the others had woken, we gathered our things and traveled to the North gate of the Faslane base. Forty-five of us from a peace group called Candle met there at noon. The group represents people from across Cumbria and Lancashire who wish to bring nuclear weapons to the attention of the general public and to demonstrate why they are a cause for conflict and poverty in the world. Many of the people involved in Candle have worked tirelessly for years to end the development of nuclear weapons through letter-writing, campaigning and protesting. But our presence also represented a great number of people who, like myself, had not been involved in such efforts before.

It was an odd feeling to be so close to a nuclear base. For years, in the back of my mind, I've thought "yeah, we've got nuclear weapons somewhere", but here was the reality. The area represented



the potential for terrifying and unimaginable destruction, and here we were, just meters from the main gate. It was real and forced me to think long and hard about the unimaginable.

"We were arrested and held for the next twenty-three hours in police custody and spent sixteen hours overnight in solitary confinement at Clydebank Police station."

We established a bright display of banners and flags which made our voice clear to those who entered or exited the base and to those who passed by. We sang, danced, knitted, ate food and talked. Our activities were punctuated by several Quaker meetings for worship. This, in its most practical sense, consists of sitting in silence and allowed us to remind ourselves of why we were there.

We decided that at 2pm we would protest around the roundabout opposite the North gate. As we

proceeded around we all sang anti-Trident protest songs. Eight of us, including a Lancaster University lecturer and a city councilor, left the main group to form a blockade of the gate. We were holding a chain which carried a large banner with the words 'Not In Our Name'. The police very quickly withdrew the chain from us and forced myself and some of the others to the ground.

We had blockaded the gates for over an hour by the time the police had removed us one-by-one. We didn't spend the second night at the camp site. Instead, we were arrested and held for the next twenty-three hours in police custody and spent sixteen hours overnight in solitary confinement at Clydebank Police station.

After we were released there was a sense that we had managed to send out a strong sign that there are people who won't sit back whilst the government makes an immoral decision to renew nuclear weapons without our consent.

It's unfortunate that much of the media isn't assisting the debate unless protesters get arrested and that most people in the UK aren't even aware of Trident, but individuals can and are making a difference. So this is my simple message: whatever your views, please engage with the debate and make your voice heard.

CANDLE INFO

Candle spent the 31st October and 1st November at Faslane and are one of a hundred other groups who will provide a permanent presence at the base for a year, ending 1st October 2007.

The government pays £800 million of taxpayers' money per year to keep sending Trident submarines out on patrol.

The government wishes parliament to agree to spend £40 billion on new nuclear submarines and warheads to ensure that this country continues to have nuclear weapons until at least the year 2055.

More information about the year-long blockade is available from <http://www.faslane365.org/>

For more information about Candle, please contact candle@faslane365.org

RANDOM UNIVERSITY EMPLOYEE OF THE FORTNIGHT!

By Hannah Lickert
Features Editor



Who are you?
Dave Orr

What do you do?
Designated Premises Supervisor of Fylde

Where are you from?
Manchester

What do you love most about Lancaster University?
Colleges

What do you hate most about it?
The weather

What image or idea most accurately sums up your life at the University?
Students enjoying themselves

How do you like to socialise/spend your spare time?
What spare time?

If you (God forbid) died tonight, what would be your biggest regret?
Not going to Uni until I was 28

What is your favourite sound/noise?
The ding of the bell at closing time.

Favourite word?
Carlsberg Export

Fat Elvis or thin Elvis?
Thin

Johnny Depp or Orlando Bloom?
Johnny

Keira Knightley or Penelope Cruz?
Penelope

Would you rather be trapped in a lift with Hannibal Lector or Tony Blair?
Hannibal Lector

Tim Henman: talented sportsman or utter looser[sic]?
Talented looser



Town Centre

By Hannah Lickert

Features Editor

Living in town is like having sex with Noel Edmunds: it has its benefits. While the latter only provides a story to tell your children or a spot on Deal or No Deal, living in the historic city of Lancaster is slightly more profitable.

These days, when I want to go out, instead of waiting in the freezing cold of South-West for a taxi, or tramping all the way to the underpass for a bus, I can now get from my front door to the John O' Gaunt in as much time as it took me to walk all the way down the stairs from my top floor flat in Lonsdale.

Town shopping is also far more satisfying when you know you don't have to schlep it all the way back to campus. The Wednesday/Saturday markets provide cheap fruit and veg, as well as such back-of-the-lorry bargains as 6 Dairy Milks for a pound. You can get two for that price in Spar, and you don't get the ingredients written in Arabic.

It's nice to walk through town and know that you live there. I was procrastinating one day and decided to go for a walk, and I found two new pubs, a museum, an abandoned warehouse and the football grounds. If you tried this on campus, you'd probably find nothing more than empty beer cans and a couple of squirrels.

Living in a house in town also makes you feel like a proper grown-up, even if your parents are still paying your tuition fees. Suddenly, the communal rooms become a space you can decorate however you like, whether this means fairy lights and posters, or empty Domino's boxes and overflowing ashtrays.

While the location is rewarding during the day for its proximity to shops and amenities, the night holds its own obvious attractions. A two minute walk to the pub or cinema is only bettered by being able to walk to the kebab house in dressing gown and slippers.

In short, you want to live in town. Not Bowerham, not Greaves; these places merely count as "off campus." You have to catch a bus to both uni and town if you live in Bowerham, and where's your local? A mile down the road, that's where. I pay £50 a week for my four-bedroom house, and that's including all bills. I think we know who the winner is here.



Greaves

By Rachel Butler

I live in a Victorian terraced house in Greaves. It looks like most other student houses in Lancaster with three bedrooms and a bathroom upstairs, then a lounge, kitchen and another bedroom downstairs. It also has a cellar where you can store things and a yard out back.

Greaves is a good location and seems to be quite safe. It takes ten minutes to walk into town and the taxi fare is about £2.50. I avoid buses because we can only get the '3' which is either late or doesn't stop. Bus fares are ever rising and as my shoe collection is ever expanding, I can't afford them both. Instead, I bomb up the A6 to uni on my bike which is free, healthy, and only takes 5/10 minutes (until you reach that godforsaken mountain the campus is on).

We got our house through private landlords. Over the summer they did some fixing and redecorating, replaced all our beds and provided mattress covers. They don't mind if rent is a few days late either. We have to pester them if we need anything done, but that's normal, so as landlords go they're okay.

We have 'grown ups' living in the houses each side. They've never complained about us and we've never been bothered by them so that makes them good neighbours. There are a few local shops and businesses dotted around, but our most frequented are Spar, Bargain Booze, the chippie and the Chinese. There's also a picturesque green park across the road. What more could you want?

Our house is of a good standard; nicely decorated with a new kitchen and good old 80's bathroom suite. The bedrooms are all reasonably sized; three are double and the box room isn't that boxy. As

far as I am aware, the house doesn't smell... but we do have a slight damp problem in the bathroom. However, damp and student housing go together like dissertations and stress. The same goes for slugs in the kitchen and the odd mouse – they're inevitable.

The standard of living is as good as we make it. If we don't wash up, vacuum, or put things away then yes, we live in a shit hole. If the taps leak or the roof caves in, it's up to us to sort it out. However, living off campus makes us feel more independent and house proud so we care more about what we're living in. Plus, you can keep pets. I have four giant African land snails myself (although I told the landlord they were a hamster).

I can now claim to have time management because I have to think about when to leave the house and allow extra time for disasters (flat tyre, lorry knocking me off the road etc). I'd love to say I'm more organized too as I can't just nip back to halls to get a textbook or whatever – I have to think and plan what I'm going to need for the day. All useful life skills.

It's good to be able to separate living and university. Living off campus gives you space and independence, yet if you are going to moan about anything, it will be travel, the responsibilities and not being able to reach people quickly.

Primrose

By Anna Clarke

When asked to write an off-campus housing feature, my immediate thought was that this was my duty – nay, my calling in life – to warn my fellow students about the perils of moving off campus. This is an article about how I spent the whole of my second year living in fear of pneumonia and hypothermia in a poor excuse for a house in Primrose.

I went into this 'living off-campus' thing with total enthusiasm. I viewed the house once, but my excitement blinded me, and I took the first step towards my downfall: I signed the lease. Over the

summer before I moved in, my natural positive tendencies mentally redecorated the house and stripped it of its 1970s carpets, and in my head it

had become a palace of pine flooring and tasteful wallpaper. So imagine my disappointment when I moved in and the kitchen was orange and the carpets were still a mess of blue, green and orange swirls!

But this is all superficial, and I imagined I'd get used to the 'it-hasn't-been-decorated-since-before-my-birth' look. After sending my mum on a frantic mission into town to buy a replacement lampshade, curtains, and extra shelving, I began to unpack. And found a condom on my floor. And some snotty tissues under my bed. And mould along the wall, in the fridge and in my housemate's bedroom. However, I remained positive, laughing at all of this and I slowly got used to the house.

The place was still plagued with problems all year – mould reappearing regularly in almost every room, the oven breaking, the windows not shutting properly so heating the house was, essentially, a waste of money, the boiler breaking in the middle of winter, the toilet leaking, the fortnightly power cuts. If asked, I wouldn't hesitate to tell people to either look extremely carefully round a house before signing a lease (check for recent covering-up-the-mould paint jobs), or just stay on campus. LUSU are fairly helpful, but the landlords themselves seem reluctant to spend much money on having work done, so if a house is bad, it will probably stay bad. On the plus side, if you do end up in a dive, house parties will be awesome because any mess made will blend in nicely with the carpets, and if anything breaks, chances are the landlord won't even notice!

Skerton

window. Before we can cross the bridge and leave the area we must brace a small underpass decorated with poorly spelt graffiti by some chap named 'Joker', and the usual '(delinquent) loves (slut) 4eva'. This is where the school children spend their school hours; harassing pedestrians and cyclists.

There are several shops nearby which will probably go out of business very soon, as in my opinion this isn't the best location to sell office furniture or remote control cars. There is a Chinese takeaway called 'Top Wan' (suspiciously like wang) as well as a pub that I would never dare to set foot in. Perhaps the best thing in the area is a Polish delicatessen named 'Mniam Mniam' (Polish for yum yum?). We now have a fondness for Poland, so are more than happy to buy chocolate bars and savoury sauces with labels that we can't visually comprehend.

Due to the fact that one of our housemates last year was a massive bastard, the rest of us were late looking for housing this time around. Thankfully, Skerton is actually the perfect distance from town, and the bridge over the river would be beautiful at night if it wasn't too cold to go out and appreciate it. I drive to campus which means I don't have to brace the multitudes of chavs to such an extent, but it does mean that I get stuck in perpetual traffic on the horrific one way system. We're also right near the bus station, which is quite handy, as well as Asda and whatever else is on the road to Morecambe.

There are a few students living in Skerton, but we are outnumbered by colourful locals. I don't see Skerton being the first choice for those going into their second year, which I can't say I understand because we've been at least a month without a stabbing.

By Simon Fogg

Features Editor

When I tell people that I live in Skerton I get mixed responses. Some respond with 'oh yeah, that's where all the chavs are', some with 'didn't they vote in the BNP?' and others just don't know where it is. I say 'yes it is', 'probably', and 'just over the bridge from Sainsbury's'. Skerton resides on the other side (wrong side) of the river, which is far too close to Morecambe for my liking, but it's not actually that bad.

I do occasionally get waylaid by chavs, but like woodland creatures they seem to be more curious than threatening. However, they do enjoy shouting profanities and launching projectiles at our ground floor windows. Nonetheless, I would say that the much larger threat comes from the Mormons who patrol the streets and accost my friends when they come home from lectures. They're far too friendly to be told to fuck off, which makes them even more dangerous.

I live on Lune Street which is directly opposite a school. This has proven to be a tad annoying as the children are rarely respectful to the residents, and enjoy loitering near our house in their thousands. We have found a hypothetical solution though, and it includes a paintball gun and our top floor



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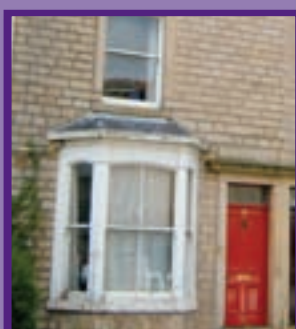


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This year, Christmas in Lancaster is set to be bigger and better than ever before. The city has seen a host of new arrivals to the shopping ensemble that makes up Lancaster's city centre. With both quirky local independent shops as well as national high street chains, the choice for Christmas shopping is always improving.

The Christmas festivities officially kick off on Sunday 19th November as Santa rocks up to the grotto, and the traditional Christmas Lights switch on. Once again this year, the Cairngorm Reindeer team are here to pull Santa's sleigh as he proceeds around Lancaster's streets to the switch on the Market Square illuminations.

The reindeer will then be rested in the square giving members of the public an opportunity to see the reindeer at close quarters, before they once again proceed through the streets to return home - presumably to Never Never Land, or wherever it is that they dwell for 99% of the year - when not showboating in Lancaster city centre. The Bay Radio will be in attendance all day in the Market Square to entertain the crowds during the build up to Santa's arrival.

The majority of Lancaster's shops and stores will be open from 10:30 to 4:30 with free parking in all Lancaster City Council car parks. Hurrah!

Lancaster will then be providing Sunday shopping through to Christmas Eve and late night shopping until 9:00pm on Thursday 23rd and 30th November, as well as 7th, 14th and 21st of December. Once again all Lancaster City Council car parks will be free from 6 pm. My word, the Council certainly are getting into the spirit of the season.

Sunday 26th of November sees Slyneda's Cancer Care Light Up A Life appeal dedication taking place in the Market Square, with a candlelit procession through to Dalton Square at the end of the afternoon's celebrations.

The weekend of Friday 1st to Sunday 3rd of December sees the welcome return of Lancaster's Christmas Continental Market. In years gone by the City's streets have overflowed with all manner of excellent products from all over the Continent. This is all complemented

by the best of Lancaster's own Charter Market as well as the local Farmer's market.

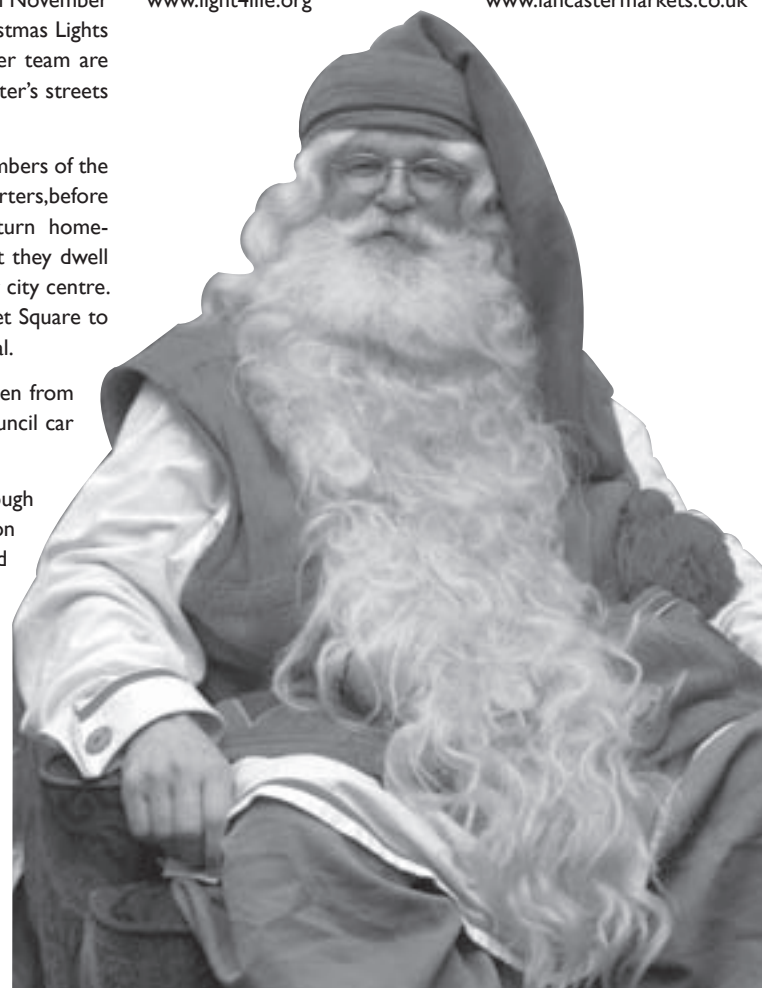
Hopefully, there's something for all during the fantastic build up to the Christmas festivities in the City.

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SPECIAL

Top Ten Christmas Presents

Why Don't Penguins' Feet Freeze? And 114 Other Questions

By Mick O'Hare

Written in the same vein as *Does Anything Eat Wasps?* and other books that you buy for people who you don't know but feel obligated to show your affection for in the form of books they'll never read, this will also appeal to "pub bores" and irritating uncles. Even better, if your uncle spends all his time at the pub harassing the locals, then you've found the perfect present for him.

Oxfam Unwrapped

The gifts for people who care (or want to impress their friends), you can now give toilets and trees as presents without the social stigma that carried before. Seriously though, this is a commendable project that tackles pointless consumerism at Christmas while helping people in developing countries.

Zombie Survival Guide: Complete Protection from the Living Dead

By Max Brooks

If, for you, the big question of a zombie invasion is not if, but when, then this book has everything you need to lay those flesh-chomping bastards down. Although it does rely heavily on guns, something most Britons don't (or at least shouldn't) have to hand, it is an entertaining read, far superior to the likes of books speculating on the reaction of Antarctic birds' extremities to sub-zero temperatures.

LOST: The Complete Second Series on DVD

Did the last series leave you frothing at the mouth at the complete lack of answers the season finale gave you? Well look no further for

more aggravation and dubious plot lines, this has both of those in abundance. And no, the fat one doesn't get any skinnier. Not even a little bit.

Deal or No Deal Board Game

As if seven times a week wasn't enough (oh Noel, you're spoiling us!) this genius board

game is just as fun as the show we all know and love, as long as you don't mind not winning £250 000. It has a talking telephone banker, dispelling all rumours that Noel Edmunds says "Mmhm. It is cold today, yes...this is a new shirt, thank you!" into a dead receiver.



Family Guy: Series 5 DVD

Family Guy might actually be the best thing ever. Although the show has received criticism recently for relying on cutaway gags, it still ranks as one of the funniest adult animated comedies around. This is the latest dvd boxset, and is a must for anyone who appreciates the beauty in being offensive, and mocking pop culture.

PSP

It's like a Playstation 2, but smaller. Go buy one. There's a great selection of games available, as well as movies that this beast can play. Plus, it's all reasonably priced (for a games console). Nothing beats being able to play *Grand Theft Auto* on the move, so this is sure to be a top seller for Christmas.

ipod

Most people already have one of these, so if you don't, get one now. It holds more songs than your crappy computer, and the new versions play various other types of media as well. The fact that they're notorious for breaking is irrelevant, because they look so cool; just expect to be mugged for wearing the distinctive white earphones.

George Foreman Grill

The ideal gift for the student in your life. This 'lean mean fat inhaling fuck machine' cooks everything, and also drains off the fat...so you can either discard it, or eat it later. I cannot emphasise how much you need one of these, your kitchen will be lonely if you don't buy one.

A puppy

Everyone's favourite Christmas gift. These are great because they require little to no care, and when you get bored with them, they're easy to dispose of (if you also purchased the George Foreman grill). On a more serious note, don't buy a puppy.



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Books

BOOKS
THE LYING APE
 AUTHOR: BRIAN KING
 BY KY ADDYMAN

Falsehoods. Half-truths. Fictions. Inventions. Omissions of reality. No matter what you call them we all lie, all the time. This is the premise of *The Lying Ape* and it is an interesting one at that. Through a series of personal anecdotes, academic interviews and prolific examples, King exposes the rather surprising truth that on average we lie six

times a day, for a host of reasons ranging from the utterly benevolent to the completely malevolent.

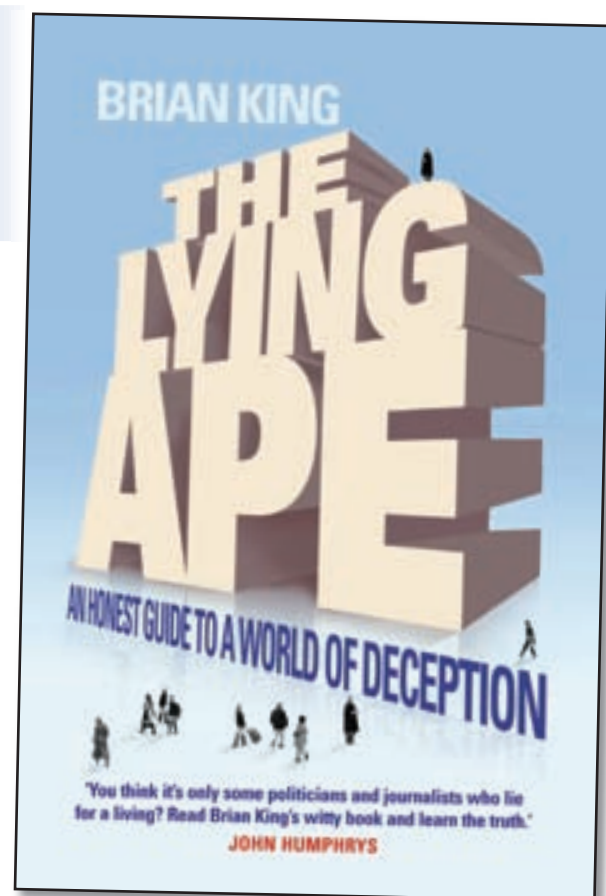
Presented in a cohesive and amusing fashion, King's argument is both convincing and entertaining, and provides a wealth of enjoyable stories. For instance, the couple who flew to Bulgaria solely to send a postcard back to Britain to convince the police of the existence of a fictional foreigner who was supposedly driving their car when it was caught speeding.

The Lying Ape although light-hearted has an under current of significance, consistently pointing out the massive gap between what we say and what we mean.

At times you can't help but feel that some grand betrayal or discovery of some hurtful untruth has twisted King to hold this rather bitter and cynical view that we are all constantly surrounded by deceit. Ultimately however, the hopeful, if not slightly obvious conclusion is reached that it is the intention of the lie, which is important

and without the well-meaning mistruths we all tell the world would be a very dull place indeed. Although those who set great store in the innate goodness of human nature may find *The Lying Ape's* arguments hard to believe, the more morally pragmatic will find King's book an indispensable guide to navigating the tangled web we've woven.

Take my word for it when I say *The Lying Ape* is clever, supremely readable and incredibly witty. After all would I lie to you?



In The Beginning...

BOOKS
HOW TO READ THE BIBLE
 AUTHOR: RICHARD HOLLOWAY
 BY CATHERINE FEARN

Forget the images of scholarly reading the title suggests as Richard Holloway has written a surprisingly informal and liberal guide to reading the Bible.

Concise and compact, for academics who grapple with the inconsistencies of Biblical tales, Holloway's book serves as a not so stupid idiots-guide and to great relief avoids using sermonising language to do so.

Putting aside his background in the Christian Faith, the former Bishop is not afraid to reproach the holy book, refreshing for those are sceptical about its teachings. Wherever possible Holloway refrains from being judgmental about any of the view points he explores, and continues the study of scholars before him who over the centuries have tried to account for contradictions found in the good book.

Describing the narratives of the Gospel as being more theologically sound rather than historical, he is led to believe that there are three ways to read the Bible, firstly as seeing it to be a literal dictation from God, secondly as a "human construct prompted by God" and thirdly, for the more sceptical unbelievers amongst us, as an entirely human construct. The different angles open up the Bible to the suggestion that at times it is inaccurate, and contains instances of dubious authenticity.

Raising the kind of philosophical questions readers of the Bible may encounter, many will have thought things like, Why would a benevolent God send plagues, quakes and quack to terrorise his people? Did three wise men really visit Jesus? and when (if

ever) is the apocalypse going to be delivered?.

Holloway is unable to provide definite answers for his readers but his book does provide an insightful and sometimes radical interpretation of the most influential book ever to be written.



Dirty But Clean

BOOKS
VERNON GOD LITTLE
 AUTHOR: DBC PIERRE
 BY RACHAEL DUNN

Vernon God Little is about a sixteen year old boy who may or may not have massacred his fellow high school friends. An odd topic for a novel but a very modern and real subject when looking at the atrocities committed by contemporary Americans teenagers.

Though DBC Pierre is not here to make a social commentary on the state of America, instead we have a satire of some marginalised Americans.

Vernon Little, as he is known to his friends, is a no-hoper in the eyes of many. He lives in a small town near the US/Mexican border with his Mom, who seems more bothered about keeping up with her friends than Vernon. His only friend is another outcast in school named Jesus.

Vernon states that it was he who killed their fellow pupils while he

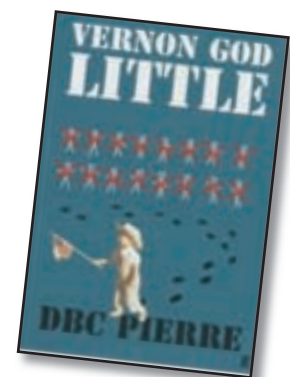
was only an onlooker, although throughout the book the incident is shrouded in mystery with Vernon continually justifying his case and digging deeper holes as he goes.

One critic called Vernon "a rebel for the *Eminem* generation". This comparison can be drawn as Vernon is extremely negative about the whole of his life saying everyone is twisting the knife, only to make his life more of a misery. Like *Eminem*, Vernon can be seen as 'trailer-trash', living in a world where no one cares about him and he sees no way of getting out.

The novel is told through Vernon's eyes, allowing the reader to see how he views the world. He gets arrested for his part in the murders, yet, he seems more interested in describing the female officer and her eating habits than why he was arrested. The writing style can get a bit heavy at times as the

thoughts of a very incoherent negative teenager are extremely colloquial. The suspense bulds regarding whether Vernon did commit the murders, pulling the reader in and as you want to read more and understand the character.

This book seems to be poking fun at trailer-trash America, and a society who seem obsessed with money, consumer goods and fame. This is a very comical book making it a thought provoking and enjoyable read.



BOOKS
AS I AM: ABBA BEFORE AND BEYOND
 AUTHOR: AGNETHA FALTSKOG
 BY BETH HARPER

Most biographies are quite small and contain only a few pictures, and if you're anything like me, a quick glance at the

pictures and short peruse of the more interesting chapters often seems adequate reading.

This biography however, is

substantial with beautiful depictions throughout, as well as detailing the story of Agnetha Faltskog's time in one of the most successful bands of all time.

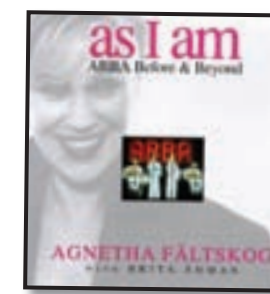
When ABBA split up, Agnetha went on to pursue a solo career but it came to a rather abrupt end.

After that she became a recluse, shying away from the limelight she once held. In this open memoir she tells all about the band, her personal life and the truth behind the ABBA split.

Agnetha is the first of the band to tell her side of the story and set the record straight

about what really happened backstage.

ABBA fans will love this picture gallery tour of the multi-national, chart-topping four-piece whose music is still appreciated today. For everyone else, stay away, and leave the dodgy X-Factor wannabes to it.



Film

DVD
PRISON BREAK (15)
By PETRINA MAYNARD

Prison Break is one of the best TV shows to come out of America in a while; full to the brim with plenty of action, eye-candy and packed with tense encounters. First arriving on screens in 2005, 'Series One' is pretty old. However publicity in England has been low due to the fact that it was realised on Channel 5.

The premise is that Michael Scofield (Wentworth Miller) is a successful business man who attempts a robbery in order to put himself in prison! Crazy, you may think, but he plans to rescue

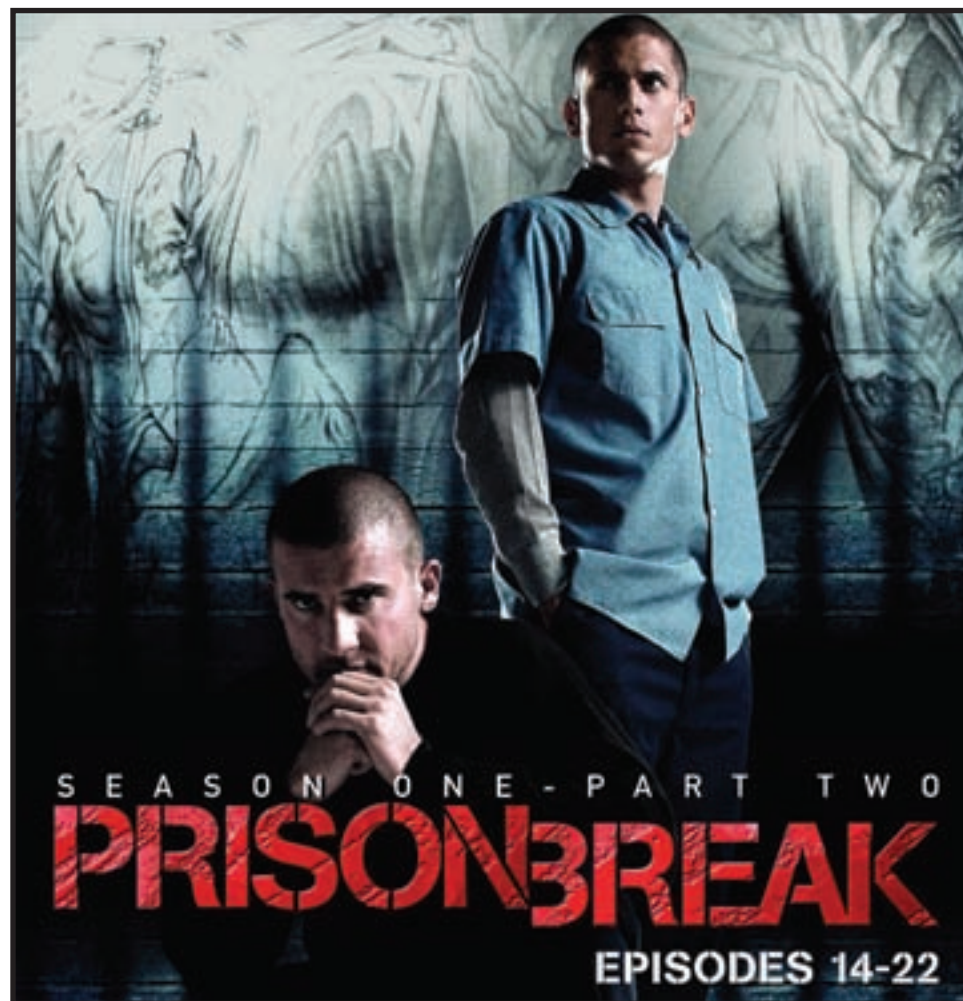
his brother Lincoln Burrows who has been imprisoned for a crime he did not commit.

Imprinted with an impressive tattoo of the prison's blueprints it's up to Michael to find a way out before he gets caught. Obviously he can't break his brother out of prison without the help of other prisoners. So as more and more people find out about the plan can he free himself, his brother and the 8 or so others who have now pinned all their hopes of freedom on him without getting found out, entangled in prison rivalry or killed?

The first season is divided into 22 heart stopping episodes, with

twists and turns in each. However, all the action is not set inside the prison and the programme takes on a similar structure to Lost or 24. Some episodes concentrate on Lincoln's family and others tell the story of the key characters. Other episodes also look at subplots and explore the reason why Lincoln is in prison, did he really commit the crime or has he been set up by powers as high as the president?

Do not assume that this will be light viewing as some episodes contain particularly graphic or violent scenes. However this is an excellent series, highly recommended - a must see!



FILM
THE NIGHT PORTER (18)
By BETH HARPER

When given this film to review I wasn't told much about it apart from the fact that it was apparently quite a sexy film.

So there I was with my mates expecting to see some soft-

core porn. It would suffice to say, we were misinformed.

The first sign of any nudity was in a concentration camp scene; the second was a male ballerina in a nude thong dancing in front of Nazis and the rest was a sadomasochistic sexual relationship between a Nazi and his captive.

The Night Porter is a rather twisted film set 13 years after World War II. Max is an ex Nazi

who works the night shift in a hotel to hide the shame of his previous job. His old colleagues are trying to destroy files and witnesses in preparation for their war trial.

One night after so many years his forbidden love turns up as a guest of the hotel. Their sadomasochistic love gets revived and Max must stop his old friends from killing her as she is the only living witness

that can testify against them.

While certainly controversial, the film tries to deal with extremely tricky and sensitive issues.

However, because it is an older film, the contentious issues seem quite tame compared to today's society. There is no narrative and little dialogue so it's quite difficult to understand unless you're really concentrating.

This film is really not one that you can watch with your friends if you're going to talk through the whole thing. It's also quite dated and the acting is quite laughable in places as everything is overacted.

If you like art house type films it may be worth checking out but if not you may find it boring and just plain weird.



Theatre

THEATRE
THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME
At THE DUKES
DIRECTOR: IAN HASTINGS
By RACHEL BAMBER

From the onset it was clear that Victor Hugo's interpretation of this famous novel was to be quite different to what I expected. Any prior knowledge I had of the story of Quasimodo stems from the Disney adaptation. However, this was not a tale of singing gargoyles and catchy dance

numbers - it relocated the darker elements of Hugo's original text.

The sound of tolling bells echoing throughout the normally cheerful bar area immediately created the sombre atmosphere that was later to be sustained by excerpts of chanting and sultry movement. The set, seeming sparse and unimaginative at first, was actually cleverly integrated

into the events of the play, with one set piece functioning as several props. The limited space in the theatre was utilised very well and the small cast were fantastic at bringing a wide range of characters to life using little more than masks and long coats.

There are a few minor things that could perhaps be improved. The gargoyle heads that featured at the side of the stage were an



excellent set piece, but were hardly seen as they were kept in shadow throughout the performance. The musical score also had a tendency to overpower everything else, drowning out sound effects when they were

most needed, particularly in the cathedral siege scene. It is also worth noting that sometimes excerpts of dialogue were quite difficult to hear, depending on the positioning of the cast.

I enjoyed the performance and would recommend others go and see it if they fancy viewing a complex and highly sexualised and politicised interpretation.

Crazy Kazakh

FILM
BORAT: CULTURAL LEARNINGS OF AMERICA FOR MAKE BENEFIT GLORIOUS NATION OF KAZAKHSTAN (15)

BY RICK JAMES



After reviewing the level of anti-Semitism in this film and deciding the amount was adequate, *Borat: Cultural Learnings of America for Make Benefit Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan* was passed by the Kazakh film board and is consequently being released. Set to be one of most memorable films of the year, this documentary follows Borat Sagdiyev, (Sacha Baron Cohen's) Kazakhstan's second most successful reporter as he travels to the United States in an attempt to learn about American culture. However, while watching television in his hotel room he stumbles across an episode of *Baywatch* and his trip takes on the more personal purpose of finding and proposing to Pamela Anderson.

Arriving in New York with his producer, Azamat Bagatov, his suitcase (containing a live chicken) and jar of gypsy tears (to protect him from Aids), Borat's initial reception is not a pleasant one. Introducing himself to strangers on the street, Borat gets his kisses rejected as well as being shouted at, threatened and in one case fled from. In contrast his kisses are warmly accepted at a gay pride event

“Pamela Anderson stalking me! I think she is obsessed. Already today she have sent three sexy love message through her lawyer saying I must not go closer than 30 mile from her house.”

later in the film. Borat only becomes wise to the fact it was a gay event however; when recalling to a former presidential candidate what happened with the two men he invited back to his hotel room. His 'knack' for interacting with people continues throughout the film, which is essential to the film.

At a rodeo, he receives riotous applause for his announcement, "we support your war of terror, may George Bush drink the blood of every man, woman and child in Iraq." This is then followed by boos and jeers for performing the Kazakhstan national anthem to the tune of star spangled banner. Though not on film, as a consequence of this, a group of men apparently went after the film crew demanding a lynching. In fact the making of the film also attracted the attentions of police on many occasions, with warrants for Cohen's arrest being issued.

It is a testament to Cohen's nerve that, even when situations have escalated to the point where he and

the crew are said to have been questioned by FBI officials, he still remained in character. An essential component of the humour is the unwitting reaction of the victims, which are in many ways more amusing than the written sketches themselves. The obvious culture barrier that presents itself to the real people that feature results in most conducting themselves with diplomacy, and even affording him tolerance when, for example he goes as far as showing them nude photographs of his son or returning to the dinner table with a bag of his own excrement. On some occasions he even manages to draw out comments sympathetic with his own bigoted views. This may go a long way to explaining why the *Ali G* movie (another of Cohen's creations) did not come close reaching the standard of the TV shows. Opting for a fully cast and scripted film, Cohen had no opportunity to infuriate and astound real people in his trademark fashion.

Despite being mostly improvised and unscripted this is not just a collection of sketches similar to those seen in previous television outings. It holds together extremely well as a coherent film with a good sense of progression, and will easily hold the viewer's attention for its duration.

Aside from the scorn of the Kazakhstan authorities,

some (not all) of Kazakhstan's countrymen, as well as nearly all those who thought they had agreed to appear in a genuine documentary, the film thus far seems to have escaped any scrutiny regarding its tongue in cheek anti-Semitism. It appears as though everyone is getting the joke, to the point where following the screening of the film at the Haifa Film Festival, even the audience cheered. This is unsurprising though as it cannot really be argued that a character who drinks out of the toilet and masturbates in the street is making anti-Semitism appear acceptable. It is also worth noting that Cohen himself is Jewish and also that the supposedly Kazakh dialogue in the film is actually Hebrew, although this is with the exception of 'Jagshemash,' which is most likely one of Cohen's own creations. Those who are easily outraged or perhaps just plain naïve may feel that this film is genuinely attacking Jews.

In contrast though, a fair amount of sympathy can be had for Kazakhstan in that as much Borat's

portrayal of the country is a grossly inaccurate one, the mention of the word Kazakhstan, for most us is only going to bring one thing to mind, isn't it? It is unfortunate that until now, Kazakhstan has kept rather a low profile in the western world and despite having a larger landmass than the whole of Western Europe, to most it has never been more than a country formed from the fallout of the Soviet Union. One thing for certain is that they probably wished Borat had not got there first when it came to enlightening us,

"It is modern, civilized nation, where all people are treat well, even the 'strange ones'. Last April

“Kazakhstan now very advance in technology. It our plan by 2010 to put a horse into orbit. So far the elastic band on catapult has manage to propel the horse to 300 feet. Unfortunately horse landed on school.”

we open the Almaty Disability Centre for them – it have over 300 cages for the retards to live in, and public viewing gallery where for 10 tenge you can look on them and for 20, you can throw potatoes. Why not! They like! Kazakhstan is also now very advance in technology, especially in the space races. It our plan by 2010 to put a horse into orbit. So far the elastic band on the catapult has manage to propel the horse to a height of 300 feet. Unfortunately the horse landed on a school. No problem... It was a school for Jews...Great success. 47 crushed. They break fall of horse. He was given medal and a cheque."

In an attempt to counter this the Kazakhstan government has been spending grandly on trying to promote Kazakhstan's true virtues in the face of the uncivilised, racist, primitive picture that Borat paints. It is hard to say which is more damaging though; the obviously fictional caricature that is Borat to Kazakhstan's image, or the ignorant, foolish and in some cases racist and homophobic remarks made by actual Americans in the film.

The Americans that feature in the film do not come over in a very positive light, but you can be certain that there are people in this country as well as every other who share the same unsavoury views. There is no such thing as bad publicity and the manner in which the controversy has surrounded the film has gone a long way to reminding people that Borat's Kazakhstan is a very different country to the real Kazakhstan. It is also hard to think of a country that will be mentioned more in popular culture over the next few months, which should at least prompt some to investigate further, hopefully allowing the true image to eventually prevail.

It will be interesting to see what Sacha Baron Cohen plans to do next. He rarely appears in front of the press as himself and instead favours 'hiding' behind his alter egos. In light of how popular this film is likely to become this could be a very wise decision indeed. By making Borat the centre of attention he takes nearly all the focus off himself, meaning the public craves for all things Borat and not Sacha Baron Cohen. This should minimise any unwanted press intrusion into his personal life. It also allows him to easily sidestep any tricky questions such as those requesting his view on Kazakhstan's denouncement of the film.

"Reports that Kazakhstan is unhappy with me is actually lying propaganda from evil nitwits, Uzbekistan – who as everyone knows is very nousey people with a bone in the middle of their brains. My glorious leader, Premier Nazarbayev is, in fact, very proud of my film and recently travelled to Washingtons DC to promote it. If there is one more item of Uzbeki propaganda claiming that we do not drink fermented horse urine, give death penalty for cleaning anoos with Kazakh flag, or export over 300 tons of human pubis per year, then we will not hesitate to commence bombardment of their cities with our catapults."

This is a story he has stuck throughout the promotion of the film which is not likely to further endear him to Kazakhstan as they strive to prove the opposite. Therefore when asked what is next in the pipeline, it was not surprising that we were not given much of an insight into any of Cohen's future projects, "I not sure exact when I will next make a movies, because for next 18 months my country's camera is fully booked for make other television programmes. Once I have camera, using my experience in Hollywoods, I producing some new moviefilms - 'Dirty Jew', 'Dirty Jew 2', 'Attack of the Jew Claw', 'Help there is a Jew in my kitchen', 'Where is my money, I think it was the Jews that take it'. I hoping that Mel Gibsons will come and direct some of these film."

The mass ignorance typified in Borat is displayed with a huge sense of irony. It is this ironic approach that plays on the humour and draws the loudest laughs. Most controversial film of the year? Definitely.

Burn Baby Burn

ALBUM
MILBURN: **WELL, WELL, WELL**
By JOE POLECHONSKI

Milburn must be sick of reading their reviews and interviews by now. On a rare occasion they may get past the first line without being compared to their mates Arctic Monkeys. Maybe you would think it would be lazy of me to do the same, but listen to any of the 12 tracks on 'Well Well Well' and the similarity between the two bands will be the first thing that you notice.

Listening to the album you'll find your mind wandering as you try to work out which song it sounds like, sometimes it's a slight similarity, others it's

obvious like 'Last Bus' which is almost exactly the same as 'Leave Before The Lights Come On' and as 'Stockholm Syndrome' breaks down you may even find yourself shouting "get off the bandwagon and put down the handbook" such is it's close resemblance to 'Fake Tales of San Francisco' from the other Sheffield lot.

Although they may sound like the Arctic Monkeys, making an album that's as good as 'Whatever People Say I Am...' is a different matter. It's not a bad album but it suffers from being hit and miss, the next track could be great or bland indie-by-numbers. The album would be so much better if they had a different singer. Vocalist Joe Carnell attempts the half singing-half talking voice that

Alex Turner pulls off so perfectly, but doesn't succeed. The result is a flat voice with a Yorkshire accent that often seems forced. It sounds a bit 'pub band' at times.

Despite its faults 'Well Well Well' does have a few great tunes like 'Send in the Boys' and 'Lipstick Licking' with the melody of the vocals and guitar magnificently wrapped around each other. Their greatest tune is aptly titled 'What You Could've Won' (although not about Jim Bowen on *Bullseye*), which contains the best moment of the album as Carnell cries: "all I wanted was a kiss" against excellent guitar work. Milburn have made a good solid album, it just lacks a certain something.



Mad Scientists Experiment In Leeds

GIGS
WE ARE SCIENTISTS: LIVE AT THE REFECTORY, LEEDS
By NICK GILMER

It's like this – a bunch of science-lovin' kids descend on a school gym-come student union in the town which homes some of the biggest and best bands spawned from the New Yorkshire class of 05/06. We Are Scientists were everyone's favourite band back in February. When they hijacked the Arctic Monkeys Brit Awards acceptance it should have propelled them to further fame with the Gerard Way led

re-emergence of emo, but instead they've kept that happy medium between main stream success and underground edge which other bands just can't seem to find.

The scene could be straight out of the college ball in *The OC* a school gym, live music, 16 year old kids. Not surprising considering WAS all hail from California. They draw from the polar opposites of their diverse influences throughout the set; covering 'Against All Odds' (they

proceed to emo-up the dusty Phil Collins version) to start their set, and bringing it all to a close with a *Boyz II Men* inspired love in.

With songs as good as those which made it on to their 2005 debut 'With Love And Squalor', and with an age restriction of just 14, the crowd anticipates a youthfully exuberant evening in the company of Keith Murray and Chris Cain, ably supported by Michael Tapper on the drums. Had they not just released the best emo album since Weezer

got shit, its quite possible Keith and Chris could have gone into stand up comedy. Their all-American anecdotes are neither self-deprecating nor offensive. Just good, old fashioned fun. And to say these science students hadn't done their homework would be to do them a disservice as they name check Leeds favourites *Forward Russia!* to great applause.

They relied heavily on the songs from their debut, but threw a couple of surprises in to keep the kids happy as well. Taken from

their imminent B-sides, rarities and video release 'Crap Attack' the band gave the kids a taste of their lesser-known, softer side, with slower less guitar and more vocal driven songs.

Belting through their songs, naturally the singles get the best reaction, 'It's A Hit' and 'Inaction' in particular. WAS play the kids like true pro's, and the clamour when 'The Great Escape' was announced as "this ones named after a film, I think" would have made the kids' mothers rethink their curfews.

As the crowd started to disperse with conversations going: "What? No more? My dad said they should come back – it's called an *encore*". "They've played all their songs". "Aww come on then, mum's waiting outside", WAS return for one final sing song, a karaoke style version of the *Boyz II Men* classic 'End of the Road', sending the kids off into the night with the warm sort of glow a glass of milk and a cookie before bed just can't.

Science club, it appears – is fun.

Singles

Big Hand: Day & Night
By James Owen

Scottish ska band Big Hand have a fun and inventive sound that is reminiscent of *Madness* and *Reel Big Fish*. These five songs are fast paced, upbeat and contain syncopated guitar,

interesting bass riffs, harmonica, crazy trumpet and two high voiced male singers. 'Pirates' is a fun song with band members pretending to be, er, pirates(!) while 'Llorando Por Ti' is a Latin-tinged song with Spanish lyrics.

Christina Aguilera: Hurt (Snowflakes Remix)
By Will Veitch

It's lovely to hear Christina warbling away again. I find every nuance of her delivery so... necessary. And this is really accentuated in this touching

and subtle remix. Mark Ronson is everywhere these days and here he is again, co-writing this masterclass in pop. Go out and buy three copies. Then you can keep one, give one away, and still have a spare if you lose your copy.

Dorp: London Out There
By Vicky Roberts

Sounds like a bit of crazy dance in the background of a good song. It does actually work though. They've been said to have "grinding glam punk attitude, crushing electric

rhythms and incandescent riffs", which basically sums them up. Dorp would be good to have on your ipod or dance to in a club. I'd say they're worth a listen to.



Albums

ALBUM

MOBY: GO: THE VERY BEST OF MOBY

By WILL THACKER

Few can deny Moby the dubious accolade of being the foremost electronic artist of the MTV generation. 1999's seminal *Play* LP fused blues samples with electric sensibilities to the effect of multi-platinum record sales and widespread critical acclaim. Afterwards Moby became synonymous with releasing bad albums and veganism.

On this 'Best Of' collection, the strongest tracks are those which document 'Play';

a historic oddity of an album where its eighteen tracks were licensed for commercial use. 'Natural Blues' mixes a blues vocal track with measured production, while 'Why Does My Heart Feel So Bad?' covers the same territory with equal success. The dichotomy of soulful blues and soulless electronica affords these tracks genuine anthem status. Although, the techno fans that still exist will no doubt turn their noses up at the textured beats of 'Bodyrock'.

The compilation suffers when Moby himself lends his voice to the music. On 'We Are

All Made of Stars' the beat holds together adequately, only for Moby's monotone whimpering to fail to meet its end of the bargain. Throughout 'Go', layered sounds and light orchestra soar far beyond Moby's vocal capability. Elsewhere, the misplaced 'James Bond Theme' feels like a wasted exercise, while the title track serves only to justify *Eminem's* swipe that "Nobody listens to techno". Though the strength of half the tracks justifies a 'Best Of' release, by the end of 'Go', many listeners will be wishing Moby would do just that.



Grand Old Duke Of Folk

ALBUM

DUKE SPECIAL: SONGS FROM THE DEEP FORREST

By BETH HARPER

The Belfast-born Duke Special has already been praised by the likes of Jack White and Rufus Wainwright. Rufus was the first thing I thought of when I put the CD on for the first time; incredibly dramatic and not your average pop song. The Duke's voice is gorgeous and makes the songs what they are.

Apparently he's spent a long time trying to not sound like a work of musical theatre but on this album, he has embraced his lavish musicality and the result is rewarding. If you like unconventional yet harmless pop music, this is a good album.

However, be warned. The

opening track 'Wake up Scarlett' is misleading for the rest of the album. It begins big, with a full orchestra and an uplifting chorus but almost all of the other tracks are just him with a piano and a couple of backing instruments. It's quite disappointing because, although the piano pieces are still enjoyable, they're nothing compared to the first track and they all sound a bit samey.



I'm sure they'd make a bigger impact if there were more orchestrated tracks as well as smaller ones; the album becomes quite bland as there is not enough contrast. If Dawson's Creek was still on air I'm sure they would use Duke Special's songs; it sounds like that type of music. Give it a listen but you might find yourself just playing track one and pressing repeat.

Midwinter Metal Mayhem

ALBUM

UNLEASHED: MIDWINTERBLOT

By TIM CORBETT

There are few bands in the Swedish Death Metal scene as distinct as *Unleashed*, who, since their 1991 debut 'Where No Life Dwells' helped shape a genre which is now well established and internationally distributed.

Unleashed draw heavily on Nordic mythology to inspire their lyrics and ideology. They have always rejected the mainstream "Death Metal" scene and its protagonists such as *In Flames*. Like fellow Swedish band *Dissection*, *Unleashed* are one of the few bands to blur the lines between Death and Black Metal, indeed being cited often as an influence on the latter.

Their new album 'Midwinterblot' ('Midwinter Blood') might at first sound like a fairly typical Death Metal album, however distinct it may be from the usual repetitive ultra-melodic style of their Swedish counterparts. In its bare form it has very strong similarities to the Florida scene, yet many songs on the album still exemplify an ability to write original melodic riffs, while remaining very technical and powerful in their own right, upholding the strong reputation which the band has earned over the years.

Lead singer Johnny Hedlund's words on the press release may be exaggerated, "Get ready for one of the most impressive albums in the history of Death Metal", however this album does

feature some incredible songs like 'We Must Join With Him', 'Midwinterblot' and 'I Have Sworn Allegiance' which bear witness to the deserved prestige which this band has come to enjoy among its peers. This brutal example of immensely technical Death Metal will make its mark on anyone who dares listen.



Singles

Sean Lennon: Dead meat

By Penny Lawton

Lennon's gorgeous vocals are quite clearly an inherited talent from his dad, if a tad more of a drone. The dreamy nature of the music is underpinned by the sinister lyrics, telling of the addressee's impending revenge. In essence this is a humble pop song, but the swirling *Beatles*-esque instrumentals elevate the song into a credible listen. It's damn catchy too.



Klaxons: Magick

By Adam Simmons

Klaxons release another fantastic single; this time less glow sticks and falsettos and a slight move away from the rave tag. *Klaxons* here translate the experimentalism of *Liars* into an indie disco classic. Screeching synths are topped by manic mumbling while funk bass and drums ride underneath. B-side 'Hall of Records' sounds like *Franz Ferdinand* being forced



into *Fabric*, while the *Simian Mobile Disco* remix of 'Magick' is dumbfoudingly brilliant.

Mumm-Ra: Out Of The Question

By Adam Simmons

An opening guitar line of *Snow Patrol* stature that falls into a camp foppish vocal lead nightmare, 'Out Of The Question' fails to be the lighter waving stadium anthem it wants to be. Instead, it crashes in the middle of the road alongside *Captain*, *Guillemots* and *The Feeling*. Radio friendly pop-



fodder that doesn't even do that successfully.

Clearly Having A Whiley Of A Time

LIVE
BBC LIVE LOUNGE COMPILATION
BY PENNY LAWTON

Jo Whiley is rapidly being hailed the queen of live music and new bands. Her Live Lounge sessions have hosted some of the best bands in the business performing their own songs and often a cover. It isn't the 'Best' of the Live Lounge, but then again it never claims to be so.

The track choices are quite bizarre, and Natasha Bedingfield's rendition of 'The Scientist' doesn't stand a chance next to Coldplay's original. Which begs the question, why have both? In fact why is she on

there at all? The *Live Lounge* has seen some amazing artists, such as *The Killers*, *Jamiroquai* and *John Legend* to name but a few and they oddly didn't make the final cut.

You would be wrong, as I was, in assuming that this is a purely acoustic album, even though it is largely acoustic-based. *50 Cent* and *Dizzie Rascal* break up any ambience you might experience while listening, but *Mylo's* token appearance isn't worth bothering about, as if he didn't kill that song the first time.

The best tracks have to be the classic Jamie Cullum's version

of Pharrell's 'Frontin', Jamelia's gorgeous and soulful 'Numb', originally by Linkin Park, and 'I Believe In a Thing Called Love' by Lemar. Also, hats off to *The Kooks* with their luscious indie take on the summer hit 'Crazy' by *Gnarls Barkley*, proving that the covers are generally the better tracks.

At the other end of the spectrum, the worst track has to be James Blunt's awful, whiney attempt at Lemar's, 'If There's Any Justice'. No James, this is no justice. Also, a big well done to *The Automatic* who well and truly killed 'Goldigger' to the extent where I have turn it

off because of the fatally scary chorus. Seriously guys, no one likes to be shouted at.

This album had the potential to be truly amazing but the few bad choices in tracks question Jo Whiley's involvement in the CD, and knocks points off. However, overall pop-doing-indie and vice versa works beautifully. Definitely worth shelling out for.



Operation Desert Storm

ALBUM
SOUND TEAM: MOVIE MONSTER
BY WILL VEITCH

Like fellow Texans 'Trail of Dead and to some extent The Mars Volta, Sound Team, despite the almost self-produced look of their album, have unleashed a rock monster.

Layered hooks and lush guitars, all shot through with the heat of desert living, feature throughout their 11-track debut. Almost certainly bearded, the six piece hit the ground running with opener 'Get Out', which clocks in at just over a minute. Following tracks 'Born To Please' and 'No More Birthdays' are as catchy as they are rockin', the heavy-duty rhythm section rolls into the mainstream by Matt Oliver's accessible vocals.

The title track eases into your brain with its Chinese water torture percussion but when it breaks, after almost three minutes, the synths and

keyboards are almost heavenly. 'TV Torso', conversely, is dull. The lads are soon back on form though with 'Back In Town' (as pretty as a Mexican sunrise) and 'Your Eyes Are Liars' (even slightly prettier). Both are full of *Sound Team's* now trademark Southern sound and can hardly fail to delight your common or garden rock fan.

This is not to their detriment though, and *Sound Team* even manage a far-from-clichéd ballad,

'Afterglow Years', "We went out and met the queen of California". 'Shattered Glass', late on in the album, recalls *Bloc Party*, and asks you why you hadn't made this comparison before. Perhaps though this album deserves the credit of being able to stand on its own two feet. Whilst comparisons are inevitable, *Sound Team* have managed to cultivate an, erm, *sound*, all of their own across just 11 tracks, and that's good going.



Not So Great Britain

ALBUM
THE HOLLOWAYS: SO THIS IS GREAT BRITAIN?
BY SIMON BUTCHER

What does it mean to be British? As the patriotism of years gone by seems to be swiftly evaporating, a number of bands including The Rakes and Arctic Monkeys have answered this question with tales of drunken fights and prostitution. It is evident from the outset of The Holloways debut that they are no different. The album begins with the chimes of Big Ben and an ironic 'Land of Hope and Glory' guitar riff.

The opening track 'Great Britain' is a mix of clever rap style lyrics full of social observations about the failings of our beloved country and how it is "just another star upon the flag across the waves". The second track and new single 'Generator' is one of the best

songs to be released this year but is completely out of place on such a satirical album. It is a happy up beat song with positive lyrics, which will cheer you up on any rainy British day. Previous releases 'Two Left Feet' and 'Happiness and Penniless' do not compare whilst 'Dancefloor' has the band sounding scarily like a reformed *Busted*. It is often hard to take the cynicism seriously, as the music behind the words is so happy and upbeat.

Despite occasional thought-provoking lyrics that will make you laugh there is really nothing too special in this album and its social observations are made much better by other acts. Its main strength has to be

the violin and harmonica-led country music style, but this is spoiled by depressing lyrics that do not fit the mood. You can't help but think if they were a bit more positive the reviews they receive would also be more positive.



Singles

Captain: Frontline
By Joe Polechonski

Captain jump on the re-release bandwagon with a well deserved second outing for a shiny new polished version of 'Frontline', one of the best songs from album 'This Is Hazelville'. The song slowly builds, led by the contrasting vocals of Clare and Rik to a great pop chorus made perfect by a killer bassline.



Love Is All: Make Out. Fall Out. Make Up
By Adam Simmons

A cycle that is probably all too familiar for most of us, 'Make Out. Fall Out. Make Up' is a rough and lo-fi affair and all-the-better for it. Saxophones howl, the drums are pounded simple bass and organ harmonies under pin this meeting of *Roxy Music* and *The Raincoats*, nostalgic but none the less a rousing anthem to the morning



after the night before and the repetitiveness of it all.

Air Traffic: Never Even Told Me Her Name
By Will Veitch

Part *Something Corporate*, part *McFly*, *Air Traffic* are one of those bands whispered about by music people as someone "sure to be big". This is the sort of immediate, pop-rock sound that hits the small numbers in the charts and 'Never Even Told Me Her Name' is indeed a great little song. But the question



is can they keep it up over an album?

GIG LISTINGS

13/11 LULUMS Open Mic Night
@ Fibber McGees

13/11 Vega 4 @ Preston 53 Degrees

13/11 Underground Railroad + The Bleeps +
Superkings + Emenrio @ Yorkshire House

14/11 Art Brut @ Manchester Academy 1

15/11 Carl Palmer @ The Morcambe Dome

16/11 Amy Winehouse @ Manchester Academy 1

16/11 Pendulum @ Toast, Lancaster

16/11 The Convulsions @ Grad Bar

17/11 Spotlight Club @ Yorkshire House

17/11 Gomez @ Preston 53 Degrees

18/11 TBC + Advina + Steve Morgan @ Pendle
Bar

18/11 Sadie Hawkins Dance @ Yorkshire House

20/11 LULUMS Open Mic Night @ Fibber
McGees

23/11 Liz Wyatt Band and Anderson @ Grad Bar

24/11 Tool @ Manchester MEN

25/11 Untitled Musical Project + The Adventures of
Loki + TBC @ Pendle Bar

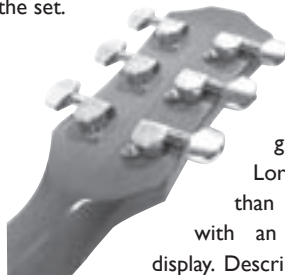
The Lancaster Scene

By Ian J Keyte

The J Stands For Genius

Ok, confession time. When I wrote my 'Lancaster gig-guide' for Issue 1 last month, I completely neglected to mention the wonderful Grad bar. A huge over-sight on my part, as it is indeed a regular host of brilliant live music. The entire SCAN editorial team, strikingly adorned in our t-shirts, descended on Grad bar to discover a bustling, lively atmosphere and the stage set up in readiness for the evening's entertainment, blues-funk outfit Funkydory.

The band were recording the show for a live album and the audience were jokingly instructed to clap loudly, regardless of whether they were having a good time or not. However, this instruction was unnecessary as the audience was treated to an impressive set, drawing both songs from the band's debut album 'Still' and a few well chosen covers, including a raucous version of Stevie Wonder's 'Superstitious', with which they opened the set.



Despite a few songs lapsing into over-long guitar solos, singer Lorna Reilly more than compensates with an impressive vocal display. Described as having "the

voice of an angel", she powers the band through their songs, predominantly with classy, seductive melodies, but also veers off into some slightly more masculine-sounding growlings. This latter observation provoked mixed responses from Team SCAN, as sports editor Ian Waterhouse perhaps unflatteringly commented: "If I hadn't walked past the stage to go to the loo, I wouldn't have known it was a woman". They were excellent.

Another highlight of the fortnight was the LAWMM gig at the Yorkshire House on Monday October 30th, headlined by Swedish alt-rockers Audrey. The bill also included local boys Uncle Jeff, who's set deteriorated from a promising post-rock start to middle of the road indie by the end. Luckily things soon picked up with another local band, Lancastrian folksters The Maud, who sound much improved since changing lead singer over the summer.

Audrey's label mates and fellow Swedes Musika 77 also impress. Lead singer Johann Krantz is permanently hidden behind a cascading mop of blonde hair and plays a guitar that's almost as big as he is, yet still manages to produce some gorgeous, shimmering lo-fi melodic rock, in the vain as Jeff Buckley or My Morning Jacket.

Audrey's headline slot was one of the best shows I've seen for some time. Sharing vocal duties between them, the Swedish girls effortlessly combine shoegazy post-rock, heart-melting melodies and glacial soundscapes, like some angelic combination of Mogwai, Bjork and Sigur Ros. It was impressive enough for me to add them to Keytey's coveted 'new favourite bands' list. All in all a good couple of gigs.

Name: Lynda Howard

College: Furness

Year: 3rd Year

Found: In her room.

Favourite tracks:

- 1) Dave Brubeck- Blue Rondo a la Turk
- 2) Radiohead- Karma Police
- 3) The Dead Texan- Taco de Marque

Looks for:

"I'm a bit of a geek. I listen to Classic FM in the car! Anything jazz or chilled-out does it for me."

Name: Helen Bowden

College: Pendle

Year: 2nd

Found: County Coffee Shop

Favourite tracks:

- 1) Arctic Monkeys - Mardy Bum
- 2) Scissor Sisters- I Don't Feel Like Dancing
- 3) Orson - Look Around

Looks for:

"Something you can dance to on the way back from ASDA."

Name: Graham Bell

College: County

Year: 3rd

Found: In Fylde Coffee Shop

Favourite tracks:

- 1) Suffan Stevens- Chicago
- 2) Babyshambles- The Blinding EP
- 3) Lupe Fiasco- American Terrorist

Looks for:

"Something acoustic, independent in sound and lyrically based.."

STUFF TO DO?...

...THINK PURPLE!

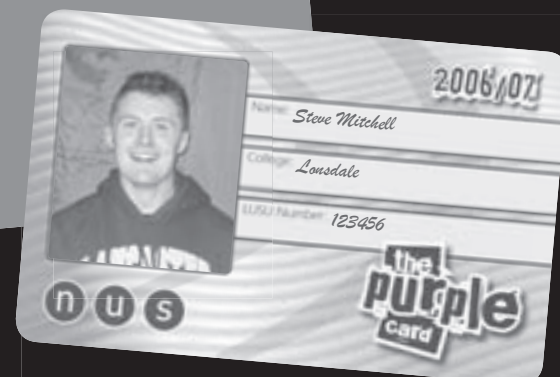
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B4 Midnight & £4 after

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sunday's 4 sleeping

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What's Happening In Your College?

BOWLAND

Thursday week 4 saw the ever generous and charitable populous of Bowland College hold a charity auction in aid of Breast Cancer Awareness week. Crazy Tim said that if we raised over £100 we could shave of his golden curls- we absolutely smashed through that target! Then crazy Parker of football captain renown said if we got to £300 we could wax his jungle of a chest, again we smashed through it and off the hair came (possibly one of the most wince worthy things I've ever seen).

Then the infamous Slevy (Darts Captain) said if we reached £400 he'd have a leg waxed-which also looked bloody painful! One of our lovely social secretaries Ms Natasha Monkman went all over town collecting, blagging and stealing all sorts of cool stuff from bars and shops which all together raised over £600 for Breast Cancer Awareness. It was an absolutely awesome evening, as I'm sure Tim, Graham and Sam will testify to.

A special mention has to go to Mr Ian Howard for organising an absolutely mint night out on Wednesday where about seventy Bowland boys took over Bombay Balti and then hijacked a private bus to Carleton to meet the large amount of Bowland ladies who hijacked their own bus after invading Cuba.

We remain large looming and intimidating on top of both the Carter Shield and the George Wyatt tables and are definitely not budging anywhere.

CARTMEL

The elections are on their way and our new JCR will be elected soon. We're hoping that we'll have lots of people signing up and partaking in hustings, which is always good fun. Just a few of our socials already lined up are an Indie/Rock night, a Body Shop party on 2nd December and we have a Costa Rican band playing for us. They are said to be the real deal and everyone is welcome!

We have also managed to book the ever-so-talented magician extraordinaire, David Lancaster as well as one of our Extrav DJs. It promises to be a grand night out and it'd be great to see as many Cartmelians as possible before we leave for the holidays!

COUNTY

JCR! JCR! JCR! It's time to start thinking about whether you want to run for a position on the JCR exec. We're looking for dedicated, enthusiastic people, who will put the colleges' interests above their own personal goals. We want people who'll give 100% to the job and then some more. I urge ALL of County to go to the hustings and listen carefully to what the candidates

have to say. This job is more than just a popularity contest. Make the most of your vote!

In other news: The Christmas Ball is coming up, there's a karaoke and a drum 'n' bass night in County Bar, and a trip to 5th Avenue in Manchester. Look out for posters around the college!

FURNESS

Most Furnessians are still recovering from the quality Furness fifteen hour bar crawl that took place over Lancaster this Saturday. Millions of us were out in our white t-shirts causing havoc at Lunchtime, and most of us were still out by the time we got to Sugarhouse at 10pm. No idea how many lasted until the Sugarhouse closed though!

Election fever is now hitting the college with nominations opening this week. As it looks like competition for the top jobs will be fierce, current President Johnny Huck said, "It's not a courtesy contest, it's more of a survival of the fittest."

In other college news, we'll be having our first welfare social this Friday. It has a 'Latex and Lube' theme and promises to be a slippery but safe party in the bar.

FYLDE

Fylde's socials have continued to be as vibrant as ever, with a spooky Halloween party on Friday. At the same time, a 'Pink Party' took place in order to raise money for Breast Cancer in Flat 66. Money was raised by auctioning off several Fylde footballers to the girls and boys who wanted to buy them...

Fylde took one more step towards the George Wyatt trophy last week by decimating both Cartmel's pool and darts teams. Dan threw some excellent darts in his match, whilst 'Girthy' didn't let the pressure get to him in the decider not to mention the performance of the 'swans'. Emma 'Billabong' was back on form this week, and Becky Stormer's cracking performance helped give Fylde Women's Darts a well deserved 5-2 win over Cartmel.

Fylde Social Sec Andy Saunders decided to prove people wrong and show that he really could organise a piss up in a brewery! Moorhouses Brewery in Burnley will be entertaining 30 Fylde students intent on drinking the place dry on Thursday 9th December. Rumours about Fylde students organising an alleged bunk up in a brothel are, as yet, unconfirmed...

GRADUATE

The winter spirit has begun to hit Graduate with good participation in a number of events the college has organised. The Celtic New Year went off with a bang, with revelers

singing and dancing to a bunch of hairy Yorkshiremen. For the first time in a long while a decent yard of ale competition was held. Participants stood on the tables outside Grad Bar. The winner was female a 5ft German student who had never done it before, but managed to beat her fellow British contenders.

Graduates are partaking in the organic box of veg delivery service, ideal for those who don't want to either get ripped off or want to venture into town on a wet or cold day. You have a choice of different size boxes, the veg is pretty local and of course it gets delivered to your door. For more info contact Growing with Grace: 01524 51723

With food in mind, Graduate College is holding its first 'Winter' dinner for a good few years, and everyone is off to Kendal for a good night out. Tickets are £26 and those who haven't got their tickets yet should come down to the College administrator's office. Hurry before they go.

Finally, as always, Graduate College is organising a big Christmas shopping trip to the St Nicholas Christmas Fayre on Saturday 25th of November and tickets are again available from the College. This event has artisans coming in from all over the North, plus lots of other attractions and is a good chance to buy those special presents. For more info contact gsa_assistant@hotmail.com

GRIZEDALE

A big thank you to everybody that turned up to our Halloween night. The attendance was amazing (estimated at 200 people) and the costumes were fantastic! Everybody seemed to be enjoying themselves and a big thank you to all of those who wowed us with your vocal skills during the Karaoke.

This years Grizedale Christmas Ball will take place at the Devieres Hotel in Bolton, and tickets go on sale next week. Book early to ensure a place!

Finally, don't forget that the 'vodka shots for £1' offer is still on for those of you who are out this weekend.

PENDLE

Pendle College donned their underwear on the outside of their clothing and ripped through campus on a Bra Crawl on behalf of a Pendle Student; Rob. The aim was to raise money to be donated to FORCE, a charity which donates money to the Oncology Ward at Wonford Hospital in Exeter where Rob is currently being treated. Pendle in total raised £250, this was aided by Fahim having his chest waxed and Fahad having his head shaved. Pendle College sends their best wishes to Rob.

If anyone does have any stories, concerning any college, please email scan@lancaster.ac.uk

COLLEGE ARTICLE OF THE WEEK...

LONSDALE

What a busy two weeks it has been for Lancaster University's favourite college - I can say that, not just because it has been busy, but also I learned from University Colleges and Residences that 25% of all freshers coming to Lancaster in 2006 put Lonsdale as their number one college choice- so we must be doing something right.

Anywy, so there I was on Tuesday, 31st October, Chelsea vs Barcelona on the big screen. The bar was busy and we had a general meeting scheduled to pass constitutional amendments. Following the first half and passing of the amendments we kicked off our Halloween social. It was great to see everyone making the effort in fancy dress - this year it was pretty impressive - even I made the effort. However one girl popped up to the DJ booth - I was trying to suss out what she had come as 'A darts player? That's not that scary', then she opened her mouth and said that the music would have to be turned down for she is playing a darts match.

If I'm correct, I believe was the captain of Bowland Women's darts team and what a gobby cow she was. I would have been happy to be more cooperative with the said captain if it wasn't for the appalling attitude problem that she presented at the booth. I explained - like it wasn't obvious - that there was a social on tonight (which had been publicised since the beginning of term) and that she'd have to just make do - like the Lonsdale ladies were. This was not good enough, so I took a bit of pity (although in retrospect I feel I should have just told her where to shove it) and turned down the music. Rather than receiving an ounce of gratitude I got "yeah, and some more" followed by a highly sarcastic "thank you" and then she walked off.

Now as far as I was aware Lonsdale's Women's darts captain wasn't overly pleased that there should be a social on the night of her darts match - but Vicki was understanding in realising that I have little control over the Gregorian calendar and the day which 31st October should fall on, and just dealt with it - as the other bar sports teams do every other year. Anyway, Lonsdale had the last laugh in the end, as we won the match - a fitting result in light of the Bowland captain's distinct lack of professionalism.

In other news is anyone interested in becoming the Editor or Purple Lonnie, the Lonsdale






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CABLE STREET STUDENTS' OPENING PARTY NIGHT



It is now becoming part of the Cable Street folk lore – the Academic Year Opening Party Night! It started with some 250 students being led conga style to The Sugarhouse Nightclub at 8.00pm.

There just happened to be Bucking Bronco in part of the bar area which proved extremely popular and very amusing as the evening gathered momentum. Cable Street's landlord and owner, John Sanderson, was literally dragged across the bar and forced to demonstrate his talents on the Bronco with hilarious results. Needless to say the event was videoed and appeared on Youtube the next morning!

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By 2.00 am there were some extremely 'merry' students endeavouring to make their way home back to Cable Street. The night being made even more memorable as they didn't have to pay for one drink throughout the whole night! How many Lancaster landlords would give 250 students a free bar in a Nightclub for 6 hours? Well it's apparently just one of the perks of having LPN as a Landlord and living at Cable Street!

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Battle Of The Bullshitters

Will England Retain The Ashes?

ENGLAND WILL NOT RETAIN THE ASHES

By Ian Waterhouse
Sports Editor

Such is the nature of the cricketing calendar that this Ashes contest begins only 14 months after England won back the cherished urn. Sadly, I fear that come January those 14 months may appear as just a small blip in a story of Australian domination.

The main reason for this conviction is clear: England have failed to learn from their mistakes. Exactly as happened the last time England went Down Under, a great proportion of their squad is made up of players who, if not unfit, have certainly failed to prove their fitness during the past county season. Andrew Flintoff, Michael Vaughan, James Anderson and Ashley Giles will all be on the plane, even though they have managed barely half a dozen matches between them.

Compared to the glorious summer of 2005, England's pace attack looks frighteningly inferior. Back then, a four-pronged strikeforce caused all the problems, but none of them can be said to have improved themselves since. Steve Harmison and Matthew Hoggard have come nowhere near reaching their form of that summer, Andrew Flintoff

has bowled only five competitive overs since July and Simon Jones is not even fit enough to make the trip. Their replacements, in the shape of Liam Plunkett and Sajid Mahmood, look inexperienced and lightweight at this level. And it takes 20 wickets to win any test match.

The form of the respective sides going into the five-match series also offers England little grounds for optimism. Many observers saw England's pre-Ashes victory in a 20/20 international as a catalyst for their 2005 success, providing belief that a seemingly invincible Australian side could be defeated, at a time when it was most needed. This time around, a similar opportunity presented itself in the form of a clash in the ICC Champions Trophy, but Australia prevailed at a canter.

Putting England's problems a side for a moment, let us consider the merits of their opposition. In Glenn McGrath, Shane Warne and Adam Gilchrist, Australia have three men for whom this Ashes series will probably be their last and will thus surely have extra enthusiasm. McGrath in particular, well rested after taking the Australian winter out from touring, is sure to be in bullish spirit.

The task for England looks to be a huge one, although I am sure that at least the Barmy Army will still believe that the urn will return.

ENGLAND WILL RETAIN THE ASHES

By Paul Collins
Sports Editor

Upon arrival in England in the summer of 2005, Glenn McGrath confidently predicted a 5-0 whitewash, and the Aussies retaining the Ashes yet again. Oh how we proved him wrong.

The media always focuses on the negative things; the loss of Michael Vaughan and Simon Jones, the question marks over fitness and form for some of the players who have actually made the trip Down Under, the poor showing at the ICC Championship Trophy recently, the list goes on. However, it is about time to look at the positives in the English team for what will undoubtedly be a tough, long winter.

Firstly, the team has come a long way in terms of experience since the Ashes in 2005. Remember then that Kevin Pietersen had never played a test match for his country, yet provided some memorable performances. Some faces have left the team, but Saj Mahmood, Alistair Cook and the entertaining Monty Panesar

can all boast youth and have actually played test cricket.

Australia have been a winning machine since the 2005 Ashes. England haven't played too badly. Think back to the magnificent test match win in India last winter, or even to this summer, when a Pakistan side were beaten in a 3-0 whitewash. Both those teams are world class, so when all is said and done, England, even through a time of changed faces, have played some good cricket. The Australians will need to be wary of England's motivated players, keen to show just how good they are. The Aussies are rightly the favourites, and are thus confident. However, whenever I read the quotes of their players and in the media over there, I get a strong sense of pure arrogance. Confidence is one thing. Arrogance is another, and we have seen so many times down the years, the overwhelming favourites falter, due to the fact their confidence turns to arrogance.

Key to the Australian team is captain Ricky Ponting, who seems to have scored century after century since leaving England empty handed. Once settled into a rhythm he is truly awesome. He does not though like playing swing bowlers, and tends to struggle playing against them early on in his innings. Step up Matthew Hoggard, a potentially lethal weapon against the Aussies main man.

The recent loss at the ICC Championship Trophy was insignificant. The conditions in the sub continent are very different to those in Australia. England can be confident of going Down Under and keeping



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Hockey Men Hit Form

Men's Hockey 1sts 2-0 vs Chester 1sts

By Simon Miller- Exemplary Hockey Player

Both teams entered this tie with a point to prove, and points desperately needed. Lancaster had had a poor start to the BUSA season losing to Liverpool and Manchester Met but Chester's record was equally dismal. Straight from the whistle it was obvious this was going to be a hard fought encounter as the first few tackles left players breathless on the floor. Lancaster started strongly, providing a period of intense pressure for the first 10 minutes of the match.

As the first half progressed, Lancaster looked the stronger side, using both their substitutes to keep the legs of the attack and defence as fresh as possible. The first real chance in the game though came from Chester, as their strong midfield broke through the defence leaving Lancaster keeper Dave Baylis, to make the first of two exquisite take-outs in the game. Chester contested the challenge, but it was ruled he'd taken the ball first despite leaving the centre forward a few layers of skin short on the knee.

Lancaster fought back, and for their efforts, won a penalty corner. Despite missing some key players, Lancaster pulled a classic out of the bag, with the ball being swept across the D to the far post where Tom Boulton was waiting to tip it over the keeper for the first goal of the match.

Lancaster remained in control for the remainder of the first half, winning several more penalty corners and only narrowly missing opportunities in open play. The half time whistle blew and both teams retired to their respective ends, Lancaster with the upper hand.

After an excellent opening to the second half complacency crept in and poor defending from Lancaster left the ball only just being scrambled clear. This should have woken the Lancaster defence up, but

within five minutes they conceded their first penalty corner. Chester chose to take the least complex corner they could, but struck wide of the post.

The final fifteen minutes were some of the most exciting played thus far this season, with Lancaster defending a narrow lead and Chester pushing hard to win a desperately needed point. Lancaster kept the pressure up, attacking the Chester defence at every opportunity and showing the holes in their midfield. But with ten minutes left on the clock, Lancaster started to wobble.

Then 5 minutes before the final whistle, Lancaster won a free hit, just outside the opposition's area. James Lloyd stepped up and swept a magnificent ball across the front of the goal, and a deft and intelligent touch from Jack Keating left, unmarked, Olly Hill to sweep the ball into the back of the net and seal the game. Lancaster were ecstatic as Chester's heads dropped, leaving the last few moments of the game to be largely uncontested. The final whistle blew and Lancaster had sealed their first win of the BUSA season.

Man of the match: Dave Baylis.

Men's Hockey 2nds 6-1 vs St Martins 1sts

By Sarah Wray

Lancaster Hockey Men's 2nds met St Martins' 1sts in what is always a competitive local fixture. Despite the obvious rivalry, the atmosphere was friendly, with both teams enjoying some banter throughout the game. There was some pre-match panic as the players realised that no umpires had been arranged, but Luke Morley from Lancaster Men's club, and St Martins' spectator Lindsay Fletcher, kindly stepped into the breach.

Once the match got underway, Lancaster were quick to open the scoring, with a goal from Andy Hardman. This seemed to settle

Lancaster, who had had a shaky start, and the defence worked hard to keep out St Martins' pressure. It didn't take long for Lancaster's Alex Borgoltz to score a fortuitous rebound, though the forwards were frustrated by a solid St Martins' defence, but Rowan Smith (pictured) scored for Lancaster before half time.

St Martins came back fighting, scoring an early goal off a well worked short corner. However, with some great passages of play, there was another goal for Alex Borgoltz and two for Dean Constantine. With the score now at 6-1 to Lancaster, the game looked over, but St Martins worked hard until the end, and were unlucky not to score.

This was a great performance for captain Will Veitch's team, who are trying a new formation this season. Asked to comment after the match, he only had "I'm knackered" to say. But with three out of three wins and sixteen goals under their belts, it looks like the hard work is paying off for Lancaster Men's 2nd team.

Man of the match: Alex Borgoltz



Smash,

Men's Tennis 8-2 vs Manchester 3rds

By Johnathan Mills

The Men's Tennis team faced Manchester University 3rds at Bowerham Tennis Club, with captain Jonathan Mills expecting their toughest match to date following two comprehensive opening victories.



And it proved to be just that right from the start. Mills and Tom Osborne played as the opening doubles pair, and were behind all match until levelling at 6-6 and going on to win 8-6. The second doubles pair of David Vance and Francisco Rodriguez also had a very tough and close match, eventually triumphing by the same 8-6 scoreline. This provided a great platform going into the singles.

The singles matches were played simultaneously, with Lancaster requiring two victories from the four matches to secure overall success. Experienced university player Francisco Rodriguez played as fourth seed, and comfortably won 6-3 6-0 in his first match of the season. Skipper Mills played as third seed and won 6-2 6-1 in a closer match than the scoreline suggested. David Vance provided an extremely impressive 6-2 6-2 win; he gets better and better with each passing game. Unfortunately, the team did not manage their third consecutive clean sweep as Tom Osborne, playing as first seed, lost 1-6 3-6 to their very strong top seeded player.

All in all, a thoroughly satisfying 8-2 win puts the men top of the table with three matches of the season having been played.

Tackled,

Mixed Lacrosse 26-6 vs Keele

By Paul Collins and Chris Mills

This game seemed intent on not going ahead after a number of the first team couldn't play, then the minibus not starting, even after pushing it up a hill and back down, then huge queues on the M6. In the end Lancaster arrived at their destination, Keele, in three cars, with 10 minutes to go.

Having no substitutes meant the visitors had to come out of the traps flying, in the knowledge that they would tire during the latter stages of the game. Keele, on the other hand, had ten subs. Barrigan opened the scoring within thirty seconds and after five minutes Lancaster was 5-0 up. The first quarter finished 9-0.

Keele came out in the second quarter determined to pull the game back and scored a quick goal soon after the start but after that Lancaster kept hold of the ball well, settled down, passed well and increased the lead through goals from Hay, Peterkin and Mills to finish the second quarter 15-1. In the third quarter, the fast and furious pace of the game was maintained and once more, the lead was increased. Keele pegged Lancaster back towards the end to score again through a couple of defensive frailties.

The final quarter saw the visitors play probably some of the best lacrosse of the season in terms of going forward and finished the game 26-6. The Keele captain praised the Lancaster team for its high levels of fitness and this result leaves Lancaster top of the northern league and the highest scoring team in the country. Man of the match was Chris Mills and female of the match was Caroline Babbidge.



Shot!

By Paul Collins

Sports Editor

As we are now at the half way point of the Michaelmas term, it seems an appropriate time for a George Wyatt Trophy update. The trophy, based on bar sports so far this term has seen one college dominate. Bowland. They currently sit proudly on top of the pool leagues both Men's A and B, and the Women's league respectively.



Furness College are making the leaders work in the Men's league, while Fylde are sitting pretty in 2nd position in the Women's league. At the wrong end of the tables are Pendle and Graduate, who both have ground to make up.

The story is fairly similar in both the darts leagues too. Bowland are on top. In the Men's league, the lead over second placed Furness is already a massive 11 points after three games.

The Women's league is looking close, with Bowland and Lonsdale both on 16 points and third placed Cartmel just 2 behind. Sorry old Pendle are not looking in a healthy position in both leagues, languishing in or around last place. Grizedale seem to be a fairly consistent mid table team.

Finally, in the dominoes league, Bowland are top yet again, 2 points clear of big rivals Lonsdale. Local rivals Furness and Fylde are battling it out in the mid table positions, with Fylde just ahead. Down at the bottom Grizedale have just the one point, though they do have games in hand to catch up.

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The Kabaddi Does...Dominoes!

By Paul Collins
Sports Editor

Kabaddi is an Asian sport combining wrestling with rugby, with the point being to capture members of the opposing team whilst chanting 'Kabaddi'. Whilst it may not be available at Lancaster University (yet), some other more unusual sports are. Sport Editor Paul Collins explores the sport of dominoes.

How does the game work?

Players take 7 dominoes each. The game consists of up to 4 players as there are 28 dominoes. The player with the highest double starts. Players take it in turn to lay down a domino, which must be of equal value to one of the ends of the dominoes laid out on the playing surface. Pick up an extra domino if you do not have one of equal value to lay down. The player who gets rid of his/ her dominoes first, wins.

Will there be matches this year?

Yes. Dominoes is an important part of the George Wyatt Trophy, which has already got underway. If you want to get involved, contact your college sports reps who will gladly point you in the right direction. Matches take place on a Monday night alongside the darts matches.

What skills are most called upon?

Memory, as much of the game is based on remembering what the opposition laid down last, and predicting what they will do next. Also, quick decision making is essential. In some cases a player can have 2 or more choices of domino to lay down, and the decision can affect the outcome of the game!

Is the sport open to both sexes?

Yes, it is a sport open to all. So get involved and help out your college in the George Wyatt dominoes league.

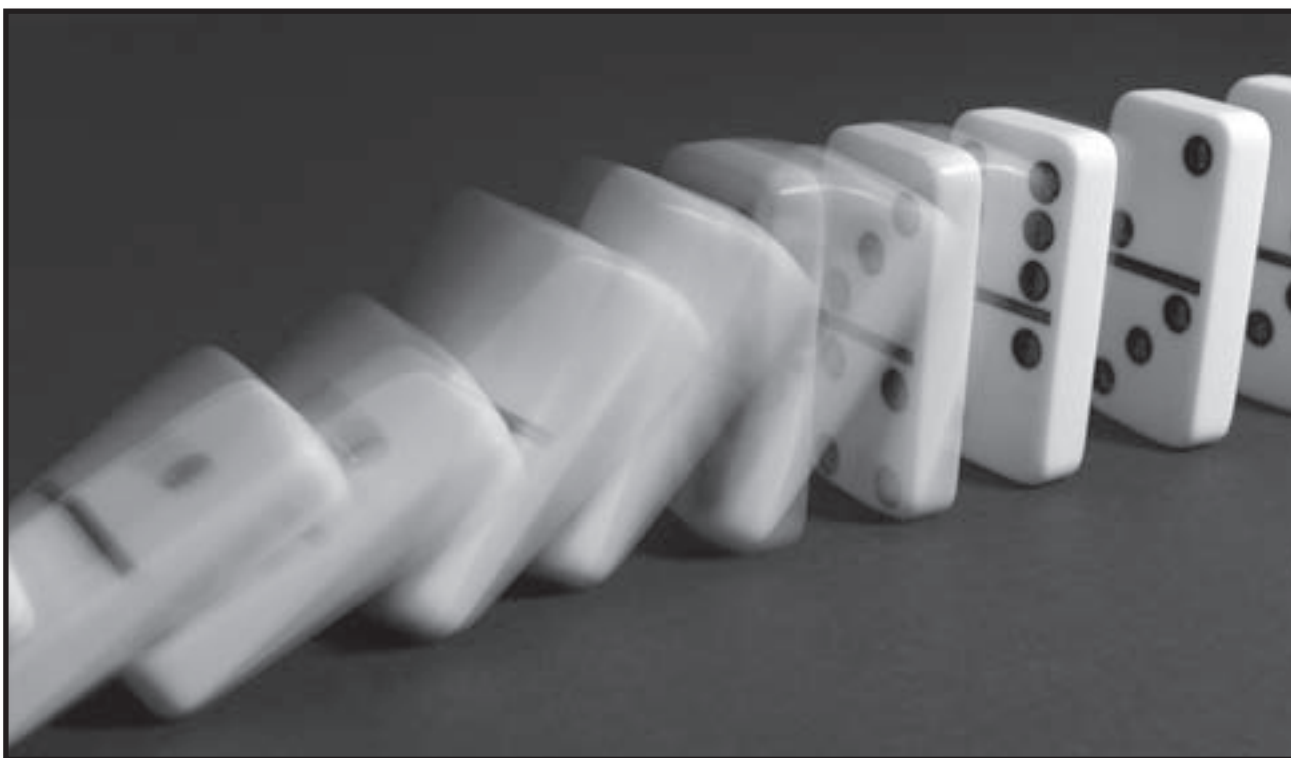
Sum up Dominoes in 3 words!

Spotty, addictive, cool!

Who should people contact to find out more?

Get hold of your college sports reps to find out about how to get involved in your college teams. www.lusu.co.uk has information on fixtures and results.

If you are a member of a club or society and would like to see it featured in this space, please contact scan.sport@hotmail.com



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Canoe Cruise On Successful Shrimps

By James Bowen

Lancaster University Canoe Club competed for the first time in their new carbon Kevlar Revenge canoe polo kayaks provided by grants from both the Athletic Union and the Friends Alumni Programme. They opened the season competing in the first tournament of the British Universities Polo League run by Friends of Allonby Liverpool Canoe Club.

The tournament, attracting university teams from throughout the UK and a number of new entrants including BUSA Champions Nottingham University, saw Lancaster University Canoe Club using their new equipment in a competitive competition against quality opposition. An early start at a wet and windy Queens Dock saw a mixture of new and existing members eager to improve on last years successful performances.

The first match was tightly fought between Lancaster and Liverpool with the teams evenly split but a late goal from Liverpool sealed the home side victory. After suffering from 'First game syndrome' Lancaster picked themselves up, reorganized and then played Birmingham 'A' beating them 1-0, GB Under-21 Canoe Polo player and Furness College fresher Edward Feltham scoring from a close range shot which hit the top of the net.

Next followed the relative newcomers to canoe polo – Bangor University. This match was an end-to-end contest with Bangor using their physical presence to influence the game. However, after conceding an early goal after a Bangor counterattack, Lancaster levelled the score and had other opportunities to win the game, but early season blues and a lack of recent match practice meant shots went narrowly wide. Lancaster must learn to dominate and close down games more easily against lesser opposition and finish more clinically.

In a tough match, Lancaster lost 3-2 to Friends Of Allonby Youth in a high-paced match, the only highlight for Lancaster being a Matthew Fear penalty which was awarded when he was fouled whilst aggressively attacking the Friends Of Allonby goal. The final game of the first tournament for Lancaster was Birmingham 'B' and they successfully did the double against Birmingham beating them 2-1. In a tight match, Lancaster came out on top with the winning goal from Nathan Bradley who scored mid-way through the second half.

The first tournament was not a bad effort considering two weeks preparation during which time players have been adjusting to the new faster, more maneuverable kayaks which make an enormous difference against the leading teams. Future tournaments at Merseyside will hopefully see a further improvement in results so that we can compete for a top five position at the BUSA Canoe Polo Championships 2007. Tournaments such as the British Universities Canoe Polo League provide excellent match training and always include a good mix of teams from all over the country.



By Ian Waterhouse
Sports Editor

Morecambe moved to within touching distance of the Conference play-offs with this 1-0 home victory over high-flying Gravesend & Northfleet. However, they needed a helping hand from the visitors in order to achieve the all-important breakthrough.

After an opening period in which the visitors had enjoyed the better of the chances, Morecambe were gifted the lead just three minutes before the interval in bizarre circumstances. The mercurial Adriano Rigoglioso whipped a left-wing corner into the six-yard box, where it was flapped straight up in the air by the visiting goalkeeper, before central defender Ross Smith finished the job by expertly heading into his own net under no pressure.

Until this point the Shrimps had enjoyed the majority of the possession, but without showing a cutting edge in front of goal. Gravesend on the other hand – spearheaded by Conference top scorer Charlie MacDonald who continued to cause more scares in front of the home goal with some incisive forward play.

After the break, however, the home side showed the kind of football that their fans had been waiting for, carving out a number of opportunities with swift breaks from the midfield. None of these chances was better than that passed up by Wayne Curtis midway through the half, as he placed his left-footed shot just wide of the post when clean through.

As the game reached its conclusion it

was Morecambe who were looking the more likely to score, laying siege to the visitors' area without ever getting the killer second goal. However, they were never made to pay, and with the central defensive partnership of skipper Jim Bentley and the impressive Chris Blackburn at the top of their games, the last minutes were passed without too many nervy moments.

Morecambe (4-4-1-1): Drench; Yates, Blackburn, Bentley, Howard; Thompson (Platt), Perkins, Stanley, Curtis; Rigoglioso (McLachlan); Twiss. Goal: R. Smith (o.g.) 42.

Next fixtures: 18th November: Cambridge United (a), 25 November: Forest Green (h).



Women's Football Flounder

**Women's Football 1sts
1-2 vs Liverpool John Moores**
By Deborah Dilworth

After the home defeat to Liverpool Hope, Lancaster wanted to regain some of their composure and were determined to start and finish their second away game of the season working as a team.

A 4-4-2 formation was again adopted for the game, which meant a few changes in the starting line-up but the sun was shining as the whistle blew for the start of the match.

Unfortunately though it was in the eyes of the Lancaster ladies for the first half which is always a disadvantage. In spite of this they started well, working together with fluidity, but a break away goal after a series of one-touch passes and diagonal runs meant Liverpool John Moores took the lead after just ten minutes.

A dubious refereeing decision not long later

resulted in a quick free kick for Liverpool, a pass back being harshly adjudged, and as Lancaster failed to organise themselves the ball was poked home and the score was 2-0.

For the second week in a row the girls had to try and recover from an unenviable position.

Recover though they began to, pulling a goal back just before half-time, meaning that spirits began to soar. A period of attacking play ensued, with both teams forcing strikes on goal.

To say Lancaster were disappointed when a well worked move between Sue Wynes and Emily Hyslop was disallowed for off-side would be an understatement, but they kept fighting.

The whole second half was keenly contested, with all the players working hard to give their side the edge. No more goals were scored though, and what should by rights have been a draw will go down as a disappointing defeat.

Special mention has to go to Lancaster's Player of the Match, goalkeeper Katie

Perry, who made all kinds of crazy saves to keep her side in it.

She played an absolute blinder and her team mates fittingly voted for her award unanimously!



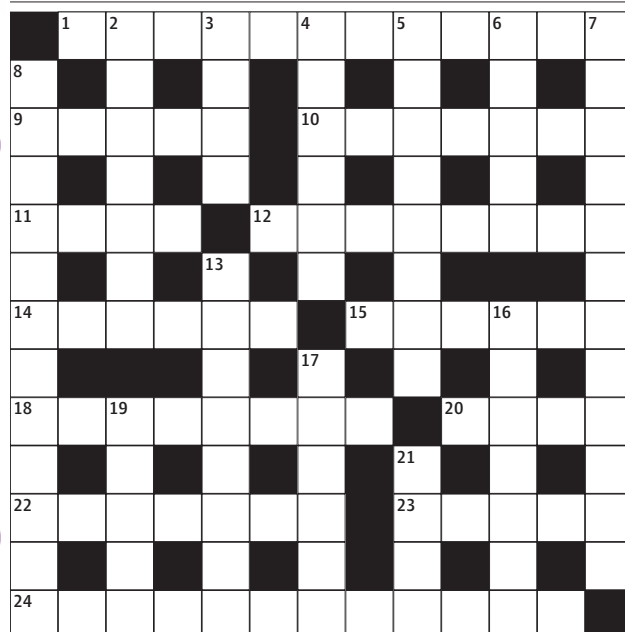
TEAM	OPPOSITION	DATE
Badminton Men's 1st	Keele Men's 1st	15/11/06 A
Badminton Women's 1st	York Women's 1st	15/11/06 A
Basketball Men's 1st	Chester Men's 1st	15/11/06 H
Basketball Women's 1st	Liverpool J M Women's 1st	15/11/06 A
Fencing Men's 1st	Bangor Men's 1st	15/11/06 A
Fencing Women's 1st	Central Lanc Women's 1st	15/11/06 H
Football Men's 1st	Central Lanc's Mens 1st	15/11/06 H
Football Women's 1st	Central Lancs Women's 1st	15/11/06 H
Golf 1st	Manchester 1st	15/11/06 A
Hockey Men's 1st	Manchester Men's 2nd	15/11/06 A
Hockey Women's 1st	Central Lancs Women's 2nd	15/11/06 A
Lacrosse Women's 1st	Durham Women's 2nd	15/11/06 H
Netball 1st	Manchester Met 1st	15/11/06 H
Rugby Union Men's 1st	Keele Men's 1st	15/11/06 A
Rugby Union Women's 1st	Durham Women's 1st	15/11/06 H
Squash Men's 1st	Manchester Men's 2nd	15/11/06 A
Squash Women's 1st	Liverpool Women's 2nd	15/11/06 A
Tennis Men's 1st	MMU Cheshire Men's 1st	15/11/06 H
Tennis Women's 1st	Leeds Met 1st	15/11/06 A
Volleyball Men's 1st	Chester Men's 1st	15/11/06 A
Volleyball Women's 1st	Keele Women's 1st	15/11/06 H

By Ryan Davidson

Anyone interested in joining the team should contact hannmilli@hotmail.com



Quick crossword no. 11,342



Across

- 1 It delays or prevents deterioration (12)
 9 Scope (5)
 10 Master of ceremonies (7)
 11 Bullet – hit hard – garden pest (4)
 12 Sadly inadequate (8)
 13 Golfer's attendant (6)
 15 (Show in) big top (6)
 18 Brain operation for some mental disorders (8)
 20 Rounded handle (4)
 22 Endure – urged on (anag) (7)
 23 Freight vehicle (5)
 24 Race with obstacles to be jumped (12)

Down

- 2 Ricochet (7)
- 3 Location (of building, dig etc) (4)
- 4 Relating to distinctive human group (6)
- 5 Seat with side supports (8)
- 6 Sluggish – unresponsive (5)
- 7 Stationary keep-fit equipment (8,4)

- 8 Misleading guise (5,7)
13 Parcel up decoratively as
with present (8)
16 Stun (7)
17 Force on others (6)
19 Move (5)
21 Irritating sensation on
skin (4)

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Solution No. 11,341

U	N	L	E	S	S		B	O	B	C	A	T
N		I	T	P			F	F	E	A	I	
W	I	N	S	O	M	E		F	I	N	A	L
I	E	P		R			A	T				L
S	P	R	O	G		S	A	L	V	A	G	E
E			A			O				U		R
	A	C	U	P	U	N	C	T	U	R	E	
A		O				A					F	
S	E	N	E	G	A	L		L	A	P	E	L
P		S		U			I		L		Y	O
E	Q	U	A	L		T	U	B	U	L	A	R
C		L		C		Y				O		A
T	E	T	C	H	Y		H	Y	M	N	A	L