



“Gap Yah!”

The rise of the Rah and other student stereotypes

Student Life, Page 24

scan

STUDENT COMMENT AND NEWS

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Week 9, Summer Term, Thursday 17th June, 2010

Lightning strikes twice as elections fail once more

- Error leads to re-run in two colleges
- CRO steps down following latest elections setback

Charlotte Urban
Emma Ashley

JCR ELECTIONS FOR Fylde and Cartmel colleges were postponed in Week Eight following an error with the initial set up for the e-voting process. Due to this, the elections in both colleges were re-run on Tuesday Week Nine.

An emergency Union Exec meeting took place on Thursday Week Eight, where it was decided that the Chief Returning Officer should be asked to step down from their position for this election. Subsequently, the CRO (Chief Returning Officer) decided to hand in their resignation, whilst the LUSU Vice-President (Academic Affairs), Danny Owens, will be Acting Chief Returning Officer for the remaining elections.

This action was taken in order to ensure that the elections run by the Students' Union are accurate and fair. The CRO is responsible for the conduct of elections; therefore the failure to execute a "fair transparent and robust mandate" has resulted in their resignation.

Stephen Smith, Chair of Elections for Fylde, said that the candidates were "disappointed, but very helpful and supportive." He stated that students taking part in the elections were using their time leading up to the second election wisely, by distributing more posters around campus to advertise the re-election.

"[There will be] further changes to elections over the next few months which should hopefully lead to the enhancement of democracy within our union." - Stephen Smith, Fylde JCR Chair

Smith also pointed out his concern that as a result of the postponement of the election, there may be criticism of e-voting when it is not the e-voting process which has posed the problem. According to Smith, it was an accidental human error that caused the problem with the online voting and "we have realised the need for additional checks when we run elections."

Although the problem with the initial election has resulted in a second taking place in Week Nine, those in charge have recognised the error and have ensured that the problems occurring during this elections have become apparent and will not happen again.

Smith suggests that there will be "training of officers" and "further changes to elections over the next few months which should hopefully lead to the enhancement of democracy within our union and a strong encouragement in getting involved."

Many are concerned that the lack of success for the first election will affect the turnout for the second election. This would have an obvious consequence on the number of votes for each candidate and cause controversy concerning the number of voters in the first election. However, the increased awareness in the wake of the controversy surrounding the postponement could lead to an increase in voters. Nevertheless, Smith is hopeful that there will be a 10% turnout, which is considered average for a by-election, therefore not affecting the candidates' votes.

The other by-elections held in Week Eight for LUSU Part Time Officers and for college JCR Executives went as planned.

Graduate and Lonsdale did not have any elections or by-elections this time round. The results for the other colleges are as follows:

Bowland Female Sports Representative was won by Alice Lamb. In the by-elections the position of Magazine Editor was won by Mel Morris, Equal Opportunities Officer was won by Emma Slaven, General Secretary was won by Lauren Heeley and one availa-

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Is this the best bar on campus?



Find out our poll winner on pages 8-9

Bailrigg FM vote down student media membership proposal at heated GM

Khairil Zhafri

UNION COUNCIL WILL vote this week on the proposal of a joint membership scheme between the three student media organisations: Bailrigg FM, LUTube.TV and SCAN.

The proposal, which has been agreed by SCAN and LUTube.TV, was voted down by Bailrigg FM in a General Meeting last Wednesday.

Since then, Bailrigg members in favour of the proposal have petitioned for an Emergency General Meeting to revoke.

According to Section 7.11 of Bailrigg's constitution "Emergency General Meetings [...] must also be called if the station director is petitioned to do so, in writing, by at least ten station members."

However, the Bailrigg Management Committee (ManCom) claims that there is no need to hold an EGM

as they believe not all of the ten petitioners were members of Bailrigg, the issue is not an emergency and there is not sufficient time to organise it.

A member of ManCom told SCAN that the information was "unreliable" and no such EGM was occurring. "I can confirm that the management team are working alongside LUSU and that this issue will be discussed further at Union Council," they added.

Union Council is the highest

policy-making body within the Students' Union. Its members may decide whether the joint membership scheme would still go through, with or without Bailrigg FM.

At last week's General Meeting only 11 members voted against the proposal while nine voted in favour. There were five abstentions.

Bailrigg FM's chief engineer Tony Chung and member Edwin Burrows argued against the proposal whilst LUSU President Michael Payne and

VP (Media & Communications) Liam Richardson argued in favour.

Richardson laid out the content of the proposal, which included reduction in membership fees to £3 for all three organisations and centralised membership system with membership card.

He said: "Fundamentally, I believe that the Students' Union should be providing people with opportunities. I think the student media is the most exciting opportu-

Stand up for what you believe in

It has been a privilege and an honour to serve students at Lancaster University. I hope they carry on fighting for what they hold dear in their hearts

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On October 2 2005 my life changed forever. I was homeless, without purpose, seeking a new challenge and wishing to form new friendships and alliances. I arrived at Lancaster University optimistic, enthusiastic and desperate to make my mark.

The first time I picked up a copy of SCAN, I wanted to get involved and write for the paper. I met the Editor, Jude D'Souza and realised that his job was not only a life ambition but a dream.

Bowland College became my home and I grew to respect the JCR and Presidents such as Blair Chalmers and Tom Halstead. Two contrasting individuals with very different styles but who truly cared for the college, the students they served and were conscious of their role and the people they could not afford to let down. Bowland was full of role models but those were the two who stood out.

Being elected onto Bowland JCR was an honour and my time as the Publicity Officer was a real pleasure. I knew that the college had high standards and was quick to write-off JCRs and individuals who failed to perform. Failure terrifies me and doing a great job and putting in maximum effort satisfies me more than anything else in the world. If the bar is not set high enough then the challenge is

not there.

My time on the JCR gave me experience, knowledge and a burning hunger to make a difference. Contemporaries such as Janie Coleman and later Tom Skarbek-Wazynski instilled in me the belief that other people cared just as much. The camaraderie, passion and friendship that I felt over the course of those two years will have a lasting impact. Those people I worked with and those people I served I am forever indebted to.

As a JCR member, I began to understand how the university worked and what the function of the SCR was. It was through this connection I first met Dr. Louise Banton, Bowland's Principal at the time. I have already spoken about role models but Louise deserves a mention. Her conviction, leadership and belief were inspirational. Here was a member of staff who cared about her college, her SCR and her students. She fought the university time and time again to stand up for the ordinary staff and students she so diligently represented. When so many others were quick to cower in the corner, back down at the first sight of trouble, or keep quiet for an easy life she gave no quarter. It is these unfortunately rare traits that I have grown to respect from a number of individuals. These role models reinforced my own belief that you can-

not sit and moan about authority or the conduct of others if you do not voice your concerns and do something about it.

I think many people would agree that I have never backed down from saying what I think, both in these pages or in various committees or meetings over the last five years.

Far too often, people are not resolute in their beliefs, or willing to stick their neck out and do the right thing. Sometimes I have crossed the line and gone too far. Sometimes my honesty has won me few friends and hurt people. Sometimes my words and actions have actually made a difference. I am proud that I have never backed down in my beliefs. I am proud that my views and my methods have been clear, honest and borne out of a desire to improve the lives of every member of staff or student who calls this great institution their home.

SCAN has had its critics this year the same as every other year. However, the ethos that I have instilled in this paper are the same virtues that I fervently believe in. Never shirk a difficult issue. Never back down when people in power disagree with your approach. Never act in a dishonest way; be truthful with what you know. Never cave in or back down in the face of intense pressure. SCAN has faced all of this and more but my team

have come out of it the other side older, wiser and more experienced. It has been an honour to lead them, to support them and to call them friends.

Similarly, as a Union Officer it has been refreshing to form part of a team who I know have done a great deal of good for LUSU. It has never been more solid or better equipped to improve in the future. It has been a pleasure to work with people who, like myself five years ago, have been elected and wish to serve, to give their all and to make a difference.

My own time here is now almost at an end. Lancaster has been a home like no other, a place where men and women can pursue noble causes or strive to enable positive change in the face of low skulduggery or inertia from those students or staff in positions of power.

Five years is a long time to be involved. It is easy to belittle the politics of this institution but I know that this is where the people I have come to respect and admire have stood tall. Whether they be friend or foe, I wish them luck for the future and I hope that they never ever lose sight of what great things can be achieved. Always fight for what you believe to be right and true. Always deliver for those reliant on you to make a difference. And always do what is best for Lancaster University, a place that I will always call home.



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Spiralling print costs lead to call for online coursework submission

- Colour printing costs to sky rocket
- ISS Director wants departments to change policy

Sam Newsham
News Editor

STUDENTS ACROSS CAMPUS are outraged that a proposed increase in printing charges will leave them more out of pocket than ever.

Although the full extent of the increase, to take effect from 1 August, is still under discussion, it is thought that the cost of colour printing could go up to as much as 21p per sheet.

"Printing charges are already extortionate, especially when you consider how much you're paying to be at university already," said Kate Macdonald, a second-year English Literature and Creative Writing student. "Printing costs are clearly just another way for the university to rob students of finance. It's high time [they] stepped up to the mark and allocated free academic printing credits."

There is growing pressure on departments from both LUSU and ISS to allow electronic submission of coursework.

"Work that is for academic submission should be at no cost to the student as it is a requirement in order to progress with your degree," said LUSU VP (Academic Affairs) Danny Ovens, who would like to see the system of paper submissions for coursework scrapped. "In some departments students have to hand in one or two paper



Print job pending: Massive rises are expected in the cost of printing

£26.50

The average estimated cost of printing for third years. It is £20 for first and second years

copies and an electronic submission. If academics are stuck in their ways of marking on a piece of paper then the department should brunt the cost."

"I don't believe that it is in anyone's long term interest to generate large amounts of laserprinted material," said John Gallagher, Director of ISS. "I

would support a general move towards greater levels of on-line work submission."

An advantage of electronic submission would be a reduction in carbon usage. According to rough figures calculated by Ovens, around a third of all sheets printed are for coursework submission. Submitting this work electronically would give a saving of at least 15 tonnes of carbon each year. With the university's wind turbine proposal having fallen through last month, it is hoped that electronic submission would allow the university to move forwards with their plans to become greener.

"I think that it is a good move to reduce wasteful printing and to promote environmental sustainability. This increase is a good incentive to discourage students from printing unnecessarily," said one first-year Accounting and Finance student.

The price increase will be introduced to take into account rising costs of ink, toner and paper, which have gone up around 30% in the past eighteen months. Previously the full cost of colour and A0 printing has been subsidised by black and white printing, but ISS can no longer afford to keep prices at their current level.

"[For some years] we've been able to not reflect the true cost of printing. ISS have been happy to subsidise the cost that would have been passed on to students," said Chris Dixon, ISS Head of Operations. "Some money somewhere needs to be found to cover the increase in costs but it's open to discussion where that will come from."

Discussions are taking place between Ovens, Dixon and Andrew Neal, the university's Chief Operating Officer, to determine the level of the price increase and the extent to which costs can be subsidised in the future by the university, ISS and students themselves.

The vast majority of printing across campus is black and white; in the academic year 2008-2009 there were 3,324,146 black and white sheets

printed compared to 336,595 colour sheets. The price of colour printing will increase so significantly in order to keep price changes to black and white minimal.

Despite wanting to keep increases as low as possible, Dixon pointed out that Lancaster students will still be paying less for colour printing than students at many other UK universities. Although the cost of black and white printing at Lancaster is comparable to most institutions, colour printing costs on average 22.5p per sheet.

"Work that is for academic submission should be at no cost to the student as it is a requirement in order to progress with your degree," - Danny Ovens, LUSU VP Academic Affairs

"Looking at the student printing account for the last year, the average print spend per annum for first and second year students is £20 and for 3rd year students is £26.50, ie between £6 and £9 per term," Gallagher added.

Many students at Lancaster still feel that departments should do more to ease the cost of printing. Policies currently vary from department to department, with some providing printouts for a fee and others requiring students to do all printing themselves.

"I feel that it is unfair that I have to pay to print off readings. I think my university fees should cover it," said Keziah Nassiwa, a final-year Media and Cultural Studies student. "In first year the department printed off a booklet with all our required readings and I think we had to pay a small fee for it but it did not cost as much as I have spent on printing in the last two years. We should have a department fee for printing that covers the required reading which should be subsidised from our fees."

Notice: Withdrawal of SCAN

ON THURSDAY WEEK 27, issue 15 of SCAN was withdrawn.

On Wednesday of the same week, tragic events unfolded in Cumbria and, though unrelated to SCAN's front page story, it was felt that some offence may be caused by the paper's content.

The front page story in question reported on a security incident that had taken place in Week 25. The headline, though lighthearted could have been misconstrued, and may have caused upset to some people after the shootings in Cumbria.

SCAN went to print on the Friday of Week 26, and was distributed around campus on the Tuesday afternoon of Week 27. The contents of the issue had been put together before the incidents in Cumbria, and there was no way in which the stories were linked or the

story could have been removed before printing. The story, though entirely unrelated to the Cumbrian tragedy and toned lightheartedly, could have been an unseemly and tasteless reminder of the breaking news. Therefore the decision was made to withdraw the issue in case of any inadvertent offence caused.

Vice-President (Media and Communications) and SCAN Editor, Liam Richardson was solely responsible for the withdrawal the day after the events in Cumbria. In a statement Richardson explained, "I made the difficult decision to withdraw SCAN, something I did not do lightly. Sometimes principles must come first and on this occasion it seemed right and proper to pay our due respects to those who lost their lives."

Bairrigg FM vote down proposal at GM

continued from front page

nity that we provide. More students should be able to do this."

At present, students who want to join Bairrigg FM and LUTube.TV pay fees of £10 and £5 respectively whilst SCAN does not require any membership. Under the joint membership scheme, Bairrigg FM would receive £5,500 from LUSU on top of the block grant and other funding that it has already been receiving.

Chung stressed that he did not oppose the idea of joint membership in general and welcomed the additional funding from LUSU. However, he was unhappy with the manner in which he felt the proposal had been rushed through Bairrigg FM and LUTube.TV.

"I do not believe that the time is sufficient to make the necessary changes and address the main concerns," he said. "There is no reason why we can't take some extra time to look at this proposal, make it acceptable for everyone and come back next year."

According to Chung, the proposal was brought to the station's management team three times and there were issues raised. He was concerned that rather than addressing these issues, the proposal was immediately elevated to the general meeting.

In principle, Burrows too supported the joint student media membership scheme. Indeed, he was one of the initial proposers of the concept last year. However, he had concerns about reduction of the members'

stake in the station under the proposal. He worried that by giving LUSU more financial influence, members will lose control over the station as the Union may be able to withdraw funding.

"The Union had made no effort to listen to the concerns and attempt to find a compromise," he told SCAN. "Instead it was [so much] more interested in trying to force through their flawed proposal that they hadn't bothered to consult members."

Payne, in response to Burrows' argument, told Bairrigg FM members at the meeting: "Everybody has a say as a member in this organisation. All we're trying to do today is to see if people agree with the basic concept. We can work out any organisational and logistical issues along the way."

In Focus: Two Years of Payne

Regrets? He's got a few. But then again...

After two years at the head of the Students' Union Michael Payne tells [Lizzie Houghton](#) why he never set out to be popular

AMONG THE ACTIVE bodies of the University, from societies and JCRs to the highest tiers of University Management, it's hard to find someone who does not hold a view on Michael Payne. In his two terms as President of Lancaster University Students' Union he has been a divisive figure and for that reason alone will probably linger in the memory longer than most LUSU presidents.

"I never set out to be popular, that was never my intention," he says looking back over his five years at Lancaster. "I came to do the job and you're not always going to please people."

Payne's term in office will be remembered for more than just being the first time a LUSU President has completed two terms. It has seen the biggest restructuring of the Students' Union ever, ranging from the largely unknown review of the Union's Constitution, to the internally divisive Part Time Officers review and Payne's *raison-d'être*, last year's Sabbatical Review. This saw a major change in the structure of LUSU's paid officer positions, now renamed Full Time Officers, and was the completion of a particular part of Payne's vision for the organisation.

"There was a very deliberate long-term plan, and it was a long-term plan that was in a sense agreed and supported with the previous LUSU President. [...] No amount of short-termism is going to achieve for students. It might make you popular, but you're not here to be popular, you're here to get a job

done."

Payne took the route into LUSU without ever having been part of a JCR Executive. Tied more to the Union than his college, he had his own very clear vision of how it should be operating. On the Sabbatical Review he says: "There was clearly a very strong feeling amongst students about how they wanted their representative structure in the Students' Union to look and quite rightly so. But what we should be very, very clear about is nobody had ever had that debate before, and while nobody's coming to the table with a vision, organisations won't move forward."

Payne's vision, and what came into being, varied around the proposed ad-

letic Union turned out in force, and so ensured themselves an officer wholly dedicated to sports.

"I wish I'd fought tooth and nail at every waking minute of the day to make sure the Vice-President (Student Activities) went through, because I think that was the right thing for the organisation," Payne says. "I think we're beginning to prove now that the role of the Vice-President (Finance, Events, Democracy and Societies) was a mistake and I accept that. I think it should have been the VP (Events and Democracy)."

The other contentious issue of the Sabbatical Review was the removal of a guaranteed women's representative on the Full Time Officers team. Payne had been part of a group who campaigned for the removal of the Women's Officer position back in 2007. At the time the proposal went to a referendum, open for all students to vote on. Although the majority voted for the removal of the position, the referendum didn't reach the required quota and so the result was discounted.

Successfully getting rid of the position earned Payne and LUSU a place on the Labour Students' 'It's Time To Get Angry' board at the National Union of Students' Women's Campaign Conference.

After the Sabbatical Review came the Part Time Officers Review. This was contentious in its own right, though the dividing lines were drawn between the Union officers, and there is still a feeling amongst some Part Time Officers



Rallied troops

dition of a LUSU Vice-President for Student Activities, responsible for Societies and Sports. At a General Meeting held to ratify the review the Ath-

that they weren't properly consulted before the Review.

"The Review wasn't a way of down-sizing or degrading Part Time Officers," Payne insists. "It was about making them more important, bringing them to the forefront and making them relevant to students. [...] It's not about personalities within the Students' Union, this isn't a private gentleman's club. It's about the students that sit outside of the organisation.

"I think you find one or two in 50 people who are really passionate about what they want to do. Whether people agree or disagree, I'd like to think people would struggle to argue about my levels of passion. I think I'm very passionate about what I do."

Having invested most of his time here at Lancaster into being an officer of the Students' Union, Payne has an institutional memory. Does he feel some student officers have found this

March 2008

Beats Andrew Payne to LUSU President with 62.7% of the vote

Nov/Dec 2008

Initial proposal for the Sabbatical Review includes VP (Student Activities). A packed General Meeting sees VP (Sports) brought in instead

Jan/Feb 2009

Save Our College Bars campaign heats up as Payne tells University it must engage with LUSU

Feb/March 2009

Students get set for another year of Payne as he wins as second term, increasing his percent of the vote.





intimidating?

"I'm not going to take my foot off the gas in terms of the level of commitment I have for the job simply because somebody may feel a little bit upset that I'm being a bit vociferous about my passion, because I think that's the right thing for the organisation.

"Look I apologise if anybody has felt in anyway intimidated as an officer or a student by the passion and commitment – because that's what it is – that I

have put into my decisions but I'm not about to change. I don't think it's my job to sit there silent whilst other people are contributing and have nothing to say."

Reigning himself in a bit he added that there are some "excellent people" involved in with the Union, who do not get paid by the organisation but do it out of their determination to make a difference to students' lives. He added, "Every organisation has real hidden

gems as well and people who work very hard."

The idea behind the Part Time Officers Review was increasing non-officer involvement in the Students' Union. The amount of reviews and changes could have made a difference to student participation in LUSU.

"I think it will be a perennial problem," says Payne. "How to tackle that problem is by investing time in people, and if you invest time in people

they'll invest time in you [...] You've got to get out there and talk to people, you've got to open yourself up to criticism and be there in the public eye."

Criticism is something Payne knows about well, both the constructive and unconstructive kind.

"You've got to have tough skin in a job like this, otherwise you won't last. [...] With change comes upsetting people and with that comes, inevitably, creating a group of people who will have a difference of opinion."

It's another popular criticism that Payne's main driving force of the past five years has been to build up a portfolio fit for a job in politics, and it's one that obviously annoys him.

"Somebody else can make a judgement call on that," he remarks when asked about any careerist intent. "I'm not going to sit here and defend myself against some ridiculous cheap pot-shot, which is exactly what it is. Anybody can look back over my work here, whether they agree or disagree and see that I worked very, very hard.

"Let's just pause on the word careerist: everybody's careerist. Everybody wants to progress their career. Just because somebody goes into being a representative or politics I don't think you can then start treating them in a different way to the way anybody else's career would progress."

Regardless of the motives his career at Lancaster has been a long one. He is the first President to have sat for two terms, and only the second Lancaster Full Time Officer to do so. Given the "very deliberate long term plan" involved in the restructuring of the Union, Payne decided to re-run for President in 2009.

"There's always a question that sits at the back of your mind when you're in a position like this one, and I don't think you'll find many positions where you're elected and you're there for a year. A year is a short amount of time at a university and there was an awful lot to be done."

Payne was aware that a second election was effectively a referendum on his first year in office. He believes the fear of rejection by the student electorate is part of the reason why more Full Time Officers haven't stood for re-election before.

The second year presented Payne with the opportunity for another Lancaster first: an officer standing for a Full Time Executive position within the National Union of Students. Driven on by the Fairer Fees and Funding campaign, Lancaster gained a reputation on the national union circuit. The NUS even used Lancaster's campaign slogan

for its own national drive to encourage students to vote strategically in the General Election.

Payne ran for the Vice-President (Higher Education). He came last out of six candidates, with even candidates from the political fringes faring better. The winner was a member of the National Union's National Executive Committee, Usman Ali. This fact alone meant the odds were stacked against Payne.

"I got to know the NUS well after two years as a president and I think there are problems with it, very real problems with it and I wanted to change it. I'm a firm believer that if you want to change something you have to throw your hat into the ring and you have to put yourself out there and take the risk."

Though he regrets not winning the position, Payne has a sense of why it happened.

"I think there's a model that the NUS has historically had; that someone has to pay their way by being an unpaid

"You've got to have tough skin in a job like this, otherwise you won't last. [...] With change comes upsetting people and with that comes, inevitably, creating a group of people who will have a difference of opinion."

Part Time Officer. And I wasn't going to do that. I think that's false, and it's not what I wanted to do. So it was VP (Higher Education) or nothing for me, and as the election goes it wasn't, and you move on."

Payne's most evident trait is his unwillingness to speculate on how his actions will be and have been judged. He seems to feel most people have already made their judgements, both personal and professional. The impacts of Payne's years in office will outlive the life of his presidency, but how has it all impacted on him?

"I don't think I've been any different as a person. I think I've been as approachable as I always have been. People are what matter to me in life. Fighting on behalf of people is what gets me up in the morning and what keeps me going and I just hope that the students think I have done that to the best of my ability.

"In some respects I probably have been a slightly different President [this year compared to last] but I think fundamentally the same Michael Payne sits here who sat here two years ago and five years ago."

October 2009

Payne follows up the Sabbatical Review with the Part Time Officer review

Nov 2009 - Jan 2010

With the government reviewing tuition fees, and a possible hike to £7000 a year, Payne and LUSU lead a series of protests, concluding in a silent demonstration outside University Court.

April 2010

An ill-fated NUS election campaign sees Payne come last for VP (Higher Education)

May/June 2010

Payne ends his two years by increasing JCR funding by 24%



NEWS

LGBTQ lobby for new nights

Mike Indian

LUSU HAS TAKEN the first crucial step towards making nightlife in the city more accessible to a LGBTQ students.

On Thursday Week 26, Union Council passed a motion which outlined the idea for discussions to begin between the LGBTQ Association, Social and Events Group and the Sugarhouse aimed at bringing in a series of nights for LGBTQ students.

The motion was proposed by LUSU Equality Campaigns Officer, Aidan Williams, and seconded by Sarah Newport, LUSU LGBTQ Officer.

It was passed by the Union Council with little opposition and only a few abstentions.

“It gained the support of a majority of the union officers,” Williams said.

Outlining the motivation behind the motion, Williams explained, “The reality is that Lancaster doesn’t have a single LGBT night. We are living in 2010, yet often this city can feel more like we are in the 1950s... it isn’t right or justifiable that students feel ashamed of their sexuality.”

Sarah Newport, LGBTQ Officer, said the eventual aim was to “create an event where people can see that we’re not scary, threatening or different, and everyone can just have fun.”

In order to reach this long-term aim, the motion resolves “to engage fully and frankly” in discussions with the Sugarhouse regarding the establishment of a string of LGBTQ nights at the venue.

Momentum behind the campaign built after the recent discontinuation of Lancaster’s only LGBTQ night, Out-rageous at Toast, which ran on the last Sunday of every month.

Discussions had previously taken place with the Sugarhouse on the possibility of LGBTQ nights being held there, but both proposers felt there was now considerable demand among students to put one back into place.

“As a mandated officer, I must uphold the wishes of my constituents, who made it very clear that they are in full support of this night,” said Newport.

She outlined the wide variety of groups involved in campaigning; including LUSU officers, the LGBTQ Association committee and the Lancaster and Morecambe LGBT group ‘Out in the Bay.’

However, Williams also stressed the considerable difference that the reinstatement of such an event would make to Lancaster’s nightlife.

“There is a consistent level of homophobia at Lancaster. I have myself been exposed to homophobia in Revs, and other students have been physically assaulted at Toast.”

When asked about the benefits of the Sugarhouse as a potential venue, Williams said he felt it was “most likely to take homophobia seriously” which was “something that is particularly important given the personal experiences of so many students.”

Newport also praised the LUSU-affiliated nightclub as “the safest, most accepting venue in Lancaster.”

Does Lancaster University

Chris Houden
Paul Hannah

WITH DRUG USE among young people and students being especially focussed on recently in the national media, SCAN conducted an investigation into local and campus trends.

According to a paper in the Home Affairs Committee Third Report released in 2002, entitled The Government’s Drug Policy: Is It Working?, “around four million people use illicit drugs each year in England and Wales.”

The report also found that “last year, 18.7% of 16-24 year olds admitted to smoking cannabis”, while “8.1% 16-24 used class A drugs.”

Legal highs such as laughing gas and softer drugs with lower classifications like marijuana are reportedly the most common habits of students and young people, something reflected by the views of students on campus.

At a recent campus social event, students were seen to be using legal highs in plain view. The President of the college JCR involved said that “I’ve not really come across much in the way of students abusing drugs but I did witness some students, both from other universities, inhaling laughing gas on a campus wide social. As the drug is not illegal I spoke to them and asked them to keep it out of sight and not make it obvious as there was little else I could do, which they happily obliged.”

He went on to add that in his opinion “the fear mongering around the student drug culture is typical though and I believe that students are mature enough to make the right choices.”

The newest media focus in the current ongoing storm over drugs in “broken Britain” is mephedrone. Lancaster itself had a brush with the drug, still

available as a legal high at the time, in Michaelmas Term of this year. Eight people were arrested for possessing an amount of white powder, which as it was unidentified could have potentially been a controlled substance. Due to the fact that so many controlled substances look alike the incident was treated very seriously by the authorities.

The deaths of Louis Wainwright, 18, and Nicholas Smith, 19, in March 2010 sparked concern about the synthetic stimulant, which was then legal.

On 16 April 2010, they became classified as Class B drugs, meaning that they are illegal to be sold and illegal to possess. The importation of these substances into the country has already been banned.

Use of mephedrone has, since the reclassification, seemingly diminished rapidly. Reports from investigative journalists have shown that since it became illegal the street value and dealing price have rocketed to the same levels as cocaine. Once it was readily available for £10 per gram, now it is up to £35 per gram unless buying quantities suitable for dealing, where it is available for £3 per gram.

The drug’s reclassification as Class B was a contentious issue, with many people arguing that it should remain a legal high because of its relatively tame effects and harmlessness.

According to the Independent, up to 27 people in the UK may have died from taking the drug. This breaks down to 18 deaths “potentially linked to mephedrone” in England, seven in Scotland and one each in Wales and Northern Ireland.

At present mephedrone has only been established as a cause of death in only one case in England. John Sterling Smith was found to have underlying health problems and had been repeat-



Mephedrone: Became a highly popular and readily available ‘legal high’ earlier

edly injecting prior to his death, before taking mephedrone.

One anonymous student stated “I’ve tried meph a few times. It was fun at first but the novelty wore off rapidly compared to drugs like MDMA. Now that it’s illegal I wouldn’t be doing it again.”

Other students go as far as to blame the media for the criminalisation of mephedrone and claims it is nowhere near as harmful as the tabloids make

out. One recent revelation which has emerged supports this, where two men reported to have died from the drug were found to have no trace of it in their systems.

One student agreed with this idea, commenting “the only problem with meph is the hype. Because the papers rambled on about it, it became a massive deal. They went on about how many people died from it in the few months it got tabloid press, but how many died

How the college bars react to drug use on premises

THE NINE COLLEGE bars on Lancaster Campus are unanimous in their approach to drug abusers caught in the act. Like almost all of the ruling social standards accepted by British society, they have clear and unswerving policy on drug use on their premises. In the process of compiling this article all nine of the bars were approached about any past incidents and their principles in place to deal with them.

Furness Bar- The member of staff spoken to in Furness stated that there hadn’t been any incidents in the five years she has been working there. There had been some marijuana found on the tables outside, but as they are not part of the licensed premises it was not a matter for the bar staff. The policy is displayed at “a good height for everyone to be able to read them”, although the policies and notices on display are easy to miss. Though there is no formal training on patrons’ drug abuse the licensee, Martin Hulland, only hires staff who have adequate training from other

bars or in other roles such as that of Assistant Dean.

Bowland Bar- Ian “Chomps” Thompson, the licensee, stated that while nothing had happened recently, he has had to eject someone from the bar who was smoking marijuana before. When asked what policies he would follow in the event of catching someone, he indicated the blatantly displayed policy notice at the bar and stated that he would follow the instructions every bar adheres to, barring the patron from every premises on campus and notifying the relevant authorities.

Grizedale Bar- Despite not being open all that long, the spokesman in Grizedale bar stated that there had been instances where people were suspected to be on something. He stressed that there had never been an instance where patrons had been caught doing drugs on the premises.

In the event of anyone ever being found dealing or using, the spokesman stated they would be forcibly removed and then barred. The staff in Grizedale also work in Pendle.

Fylde Bar- The licensee for Fylde stated that there had never been anyone caught engaging in drug use in Fylde bar, but that he had previously caught people in other roles outside of the University. Both the licensee and the barman on shift at the time of interview were very clear on their plan of action in the event of a patron being caught. They would immediately forcibly remove the patron, inform the porter and the security team, who would then inform the police, close the bar for the night and inform the University that the discovery had been made.

Lonsdale Bar- Seen a few people suspected of being on something but never caught anybody in the act. People probably are on drugs but they have too much respect for the college bars to do it in here. Their rooms are really close to the bar too so why would they do it here?

Pendle Bar- Never really seen anything. Only ever would really happen at a big event like Extrav. Usually quiet. Not a problem on campus compared to most universities.

Cartmel Bar- The staff spoken to weren’t really willing to consider talking about the investigation.

Graduate Bar- The staff member from Graduate College bar, who wished to remain anonymous, commented “I’ve worked in a few bars and seen a few people smoking weed just outside where we usually can’t see. The main problem that I see is people being far too open about talking about it.” They were forthcoming about the student scene, saying “I personally have been asked a few times while working if I can get hold of anything. Big events get a few drugs because it’s more of a club scene [coke]. Campus isn’t really the environment for drugs but town definitely is. I’ve been offered pills in Sugarhouse. Meat is a drug that sweeps across the board as it is so cheap. Overall I’d say that Lancaster isn’t that drug friendly compared to some places I’ve been.

County Bar- SCAN was unable to gain information from this bar.

Chris Housden & Paul Hannah

ty have a drug problem?



r this year before it was reclassified as a Class B substance by the Government

from drinking and fighting under the influence?"

On the subject of campus-wide policy, and authorities and support networks, PC Gary Wynne, Torri Crapper, LUSU Vice President for Equality, Welfare and Diversity (VP EWD), the college administrators and Acting Head of Security Mark Salisbury were all contacted for comments.

None of the college administrators found the time to comment or discuss

the policy of drug use in campus residences.

Similarly, Acting Head of Security Mark Salisbury, despite several correspondences, chose not to set aside time to discuss security arrangements and authority policies.

VP EWD Crapper said that "as far as I know incidents of students with drugs are referred straight to the police and we don't actually see many of them. This obviously depends on the drug used."

Crapper conceded that details of case could not be disclosed. "Unfortunately due to the confidential nature of LUSU advice it would be inappropriate to give you any facts on cases. What I can say is that we don't tend to see students with drug use problems."

The campus' dedicated police officer, PC Gary Wynne, was more forthcoming with information and downplayed reports that drug use on campus was prolific. He stated "there have been no reported drug incidents on campus at all since 2008 and since 2004 only six have come to light, not all of these are even students at the university."

PC Wynne admitted that, away from campus, "There are issues with drug use in the town centre, but this is to be expected from anywhere."

"The arrival of mephedrone has not led to an increase as far as I'm concerned. It is merely an alternative to other illegal drugs."

PC Wynne also commented on the recent mephedrone arrests at Sugarhouse, which have led to charges being brought against one student.

"The only reason that we're aware of any drug possession in The Sugarhouse is because of the professionalism of the staff. The Sugarhouse is a very well run establishment and the staff conduct searches to a very high level. The drugs found on the premises are in no way a reflection on the club itself."

PC Wynne conceded that perhaps a drug culture is inevitable. He stated "I am aware that people will experiment as youngsters. I would like to remind students that it is illegal to possess drugs. They are a danger to health and should consider that if they carry drugs then they always run the risk of running foul of the police and the courts. This could seriously affect their future job prospects and will come up on a CRB check. If you

won't stop for your own health then at least consider future employment."

However, the student consensus does not share PC Wynne's optimism. One student, who wishes to remain anonymous, says "For a while in Lent Term mephedrone was everywhere. You couldn't go out without smelling it or seeing somebody on it. A lot of people who I never would've thought would be on it got really into it over the space of a few weeks just because it was cheap and legal."

The student also commented "compared to most unis I go to visit, drugs are really hard to get hold of here. Sure there's people smoking weed and stuff but I don't think I've ever seen anything harder than that."

Another anonymous source added "when it was legal it was really easy to get meph on campus. Now there are still a few selling it but obviously not as many. Everyone knows a drug dealer, or someone who knows a drug dealer."

This was contested by another student who stated that "cannabis is really easy to get hold of. You can get cocaine if you make an effort looking for it. The town itself is fairly quiet for the drugs scene, but being a university obviously the drugs scene is enlarged."

PC Wynne has been instrumental in setting up a support network on campus. "If anybody wants to discuss any issues, drugs or otherwise, they can always contact me in confidence. Anybody is welcome to come along to the PACT meetings in the LUSU meeting room at 1pm every Wednesday."

VP EWD Crapper detailed "if a student did come in with an addiction they would be referred to the relevant organisation which can support them in coming off the substance however what we do offer can be found on our website."

Stagecoach agree to new north campus bus routes

Hannah Price

BUS ROUTES ARE to be changed in order to incorporate north campus.

After much petition from students and welfare officers alike, Stagecoach buses will now go around north campus, as well as south west. The changes will come into action when the Underpass is closed in early June for development.

The 2, 2A and X1 will be going around north campus, as well as around the rest of campus when the underpass is closed, with the X1 continuing on this route when the underpass re-opens. The X1 will be on trial for the whole of the next academic year, after which time usage of the service will be reviewed to see if demand is high enough to continue or expand the use of this route.

Torri Crapper, LUSU Vice-President (Equality, Welfare and Diversity) says that she is proud to have been a part of this campaign during her time in office. She added: "I am pleased that we have been able to get this win for students. We now have a more accessible campus for all students, rather than just a few".

However, she did have a warning for the students who are to benefit from these changes. "The thing we [students] need to do now is use the service...we need to show that it is important that we have this provision and use it so that Stagecoach can't say that it hasn't had the uptake they expected".



County student David Jackson said that "a bus service would be very beneficial to students living in the north part of campus. As County is the biggest college I believe that they do deserve this service and that there will be a high demand for it".

Both County and Bowland colleges are located at the north end of campus and have so far been able to take a bus as far as the underpass. This has proved troublesome for students with mobility problems, as well as those who have to carry heavy shopping from town. A number of family flats are also located in County College, and they have also suffered from this lack of service.

Stephie Barber, Local Operations Manager for Stagecoach explained that "buses went around the northern perimeter road until seven or eight years ago, when resources were moved to provide for south west. Following the redevelopment of accommodation in the northern part of campus, I have committed to having the X1 revert back to this route to see if we can build up a market for it. If it is a success then these services will most definitely continue".

The untold story of Mephedrone

ONE PHD STUDENT, Christopher Kay, has chosen to write his thesis on the emerging drug mephedrone, once a legal high, now a controlled substance. During the course of compiling this article, Kay agreed to answer some questions on the topic.

What made you choose mephedrone to look at academically?

About 12 months ago I noticed that the accounts presented by MDMA users suggested that this drug was becoming increasingly difficult to get hold of and was more likely to be "cut" with other substances. It also became apparent that the users I spoke to had started using a new drug called "mephedrone" which was said to have similar effects to MDMA, was considerably cheaper, readily available and (interestingly) at the time, legal.

Mephedrone attracted my interest from an academic point of view for several reasons; firstly (and most obviously) it was legal which, given the way the UK government has a history of criminalising drugs before their harms are truly known, was a rare sit-

uation to be in. Secondly, the methods through which mephedrone could be purchased were fascinating, whether over the internet with guaranteed next day delivery, or by traditional dealing. Thirdly the media reaction to mephedrone seemed almost akin to that surrounding the tragic death of Leah Betts from water intoxication in 1995 (which at the time was linked to the ecstasy pills she had consumed earlier that night). Finally, mephedrone was not the first "legal high" on the market yet it seems to have attracted the most attention.

How do you feel the drug culture of illegal and legal highs is progressing in universities?

There are some fairly generic claims which have been put forward surrounding the prevalence of illicit substance use (which can be both legal and illegal) by young people; but these are related to young people in general, not simply university students. A considerable amount of drug research has been conducted in social spaces usually frequented by young people (such as dance clubs), most of which has

looked at the use of illicit substances by the young people who engage in the night time economy. With regards to the progression of drug culture in universities I suppose it could be argued that there is more opportunity to use drugs now than there used to be. It is generally acknowledged that illicit substances are becoming increasingly available in the UK, especially with the emergence of legal highs which are available online. It has also been suggested that young people are delaying entering the work force owing to extended training (at college/university etc) which could mean an increase in disposable income. These factors combined could logically be used to argue that young people are more likely to use drugs now than they used to be, but this does not necessarily mean that they do. I would also highlight here that drug use is not simply the preserve of those classed as "young", indeed, I have spoken to some very interesting people who fall outside this age classification (by their own admission, I'm not saying they were classed as "old").

Do you feel that there's a large

drug culture at our Lancaster University?

That depends on what you class as "large", and how you define "drug culture"? A recent piece of research conducted by my supervisors Doctor Fiona Measham and Doctor Karenza Moore highlighted that club customers were considerably more likely to report lifetime, past month and fieldwork night drug use than bar customers. Given the fact that Lancaster only has four clubs (only one of which is a predominantly student venue), it would be a stretch to suggest that Lancaster has a particularly large club scene. With larger university cities like Manchester, Liverpool and even Preston on our doorstep (each of which with a considerably stronger night time economy than Lancaster) it would be difficult to suggest that students come to Lancaster for the nightlife. It is difficult to establish how big the drug scene is at Lancaster University at any point because of the influx of new people every year and the departure of others. Of course this is not to suggest that there isn't a drug scene at Lancaster. There is, this cannot be denied.

Setting the bars too high?

- Bars still struggling after a year of University management
- Students prefer cheaper off campus options

The votes were cast. The most popular bars are:



A year after the University taking control of the campus bars, **Jen Day** examines how successful the venture has been

COLLEGE BARS ARE continuing to struggle under the new centralised management, making significant financial losses. Whilst seen as an integral part of the collegiate system, student participation remains low and social spaces fail to be fully utilised.

In January 2009 the 'Save Our College Bars' campaign, led by the Labour Club, encouraged students to boycott University catering outlets to illustrate their displeasure at the centralisation of the bars. This centralisation has given the Director of Commercial Services, David Peeks, control over the bars, allowing him to raise drinks prices and rent out the bars for non-student events.

The campaign highlighted the importance of the bars, demonstrating that students value these social spaces and want them to retain their individuality, rather than becoming a commercial chain. However, the University stepped in because the bars were seen to be suffering financially and the new management system aimed to make the bars more profitable.

Despite this, LUSU President Michael Payne has said "it is clear to see from the financial information in the Gold Report that the college bars are not doing markedly better under this management system than they were under the previous system."

He added: "I don't think the colleges bars should be here to make money. I think they should be here as a service to students. I also don't think they should be here to drain money from the organisation or making significant losses."

However, the current figures show that significant losses are being made. Students are not taking full advantage of the bars, choosing instead to drink in their flats.

County bar's licensee, Jeremy Bethell, commented: "the bars do well when everyone needs a friend," referring to Freshers' Week. "People don't do social drinking anymore and are more isolated choosing to drink at home instead. The culture of drinking has totally changed," he added.

For many the bars are seen as too expensive in comparison with establishments such as Wetherspoons. Although there are promotions and discounts available, most students are unaware of what is on offer.

"The college bars are still one of the cheapest places to drink in Lancaster and I think a lot of people aren't aware of that," said Payne. "The University is trying to aspirationally benchmark itself against Wetherspoons and I think has done a fairly good job at that, but I think discounts and promotions need to be looked at."

"We've got a strong brand on campus that is utilised in the purple card and the University has taken that on board but I don't think those promotions are articulated in the right way," he added. "I don't think the promotions and discounts are on the right products."

With soft drinks costing almost as

much as a pint of larger the LUSU policy 'pause for a soft drink' appears to be being undermined. The centralised bar prices creates consistency across campus but also reduces variation between the bars. This means that not only are the prices the same but the drinks on offer are limited. For many the range of ales in Graduate College's bar is what makes it appealing, yet David Peeks has designs to limit the spectrum of drinks available if they are not seen as commercially viable.

"One thing that does need to be looked at in terms of pricing [...] is differential pricing," said Payne. "Should Bowland bar if it is a slightly less refurbished bar than Lonsdale, and therefore offering a different offer than what Lonsdale offers, which is a late night



Fighting for the bars

venue, be charging different prices to Lonsdale, as you would have in a town or supermarket [creating] healthy competition?"

Each bar has its own characteristics and investment from the University continues to update these social spaces to improve the facilities for students. The recent refurbishment of Grizedale bar and the current plans for the remodelling of Bowland bar illustrate the importance of the bars both to the University and the students.

Nonetheless, Payne believes that "There is a lack of strategic view about what should happen with the college bars. I think that people plan for the here and now and make head hot decisions that have no real strategic plan to them."

Even Furness bar, which has been voted the most popular bar by students, fails to be fully utilised.

Ian Thompson, Bowland bar's licensee, said "reducing the bar prices would encourage more students to use the bars, but then the bars are seen to promote binge drinking."

LUSU believe that the nine bar model can work but strategic measures that may not satisfy everyone will have to be put in place. The Bar Monitoring Group has discussed a number of promotions and initiatives this term in order to sustain the college bars.

The Vice Chancellor, Professor Paul Wellings, has publicly committed to there being nine bars on campus, asserting in the 2011 prospectus that Lancaster 'has its own thriving community based around the nine colleges,' of which the bars are the centre.

"It is absolutely vital that it is pointed out and remembered that the bars are within a college and the colleges are not within a bar," Payne commented.

Bar chat



Michael McDonald (Furness)

Favourite bar: Furness
“There is an easy going atmosphere where you can relax with your friends.”



Lauren Katalinich (Pendle)

Favourite bar: Furness
“There is a warm and homey feel about the bar. I like the quaint stools, the variety of beer and the folk music.”



Louise Whitehead (Bowland)

Favourite bar: Graduate
“Comfortable place where you can go to relax and they serve real ales.”



Ross Brown (Bowland)

Favourite bar: Graduate
“I like the good range of real ales and it feels like a proper pub.”



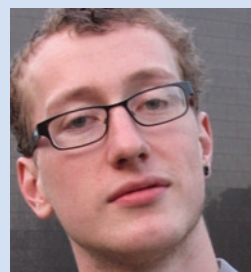
Alex Wilson (Grizedale)

Favourite bar: Graduate
“They serve really nice beer, there is a good atmosphere and they have live music.”



Peter Garnett (County)

Favourite bar: County
“It is a nice place to be. There is a good atmosphere, it is close to where I live and there is always room to sit down and have a chat.”



Jim Cooper (Pendle)

Favourite bar: Grizedale
“It is contemporary without being pretentious and serves a good range of cocktails.”



Adhina Zogrdfaki (Graduate)

Favourite bar: None
“I like to go to which ever bar my friends are at and enjoy their company in the various surroundings.”

Trev tops bar charts with students

Khairil Zhafri

LANCASTER STUDENTS HAVE chosen Furness College bar, Trevor, as the most popular on campus in a Facebook poll conducted by SCAN.

Out of 200 respondents, 39% voted for Trevor. Lonsdale's Mane Place and Cartmel's Winning Post came second and third with 17% and 14% of the vote respectively.

8% of the students in the poll voted for The Northern Oak of County College while 6% voted for the Pendle Bar. The Trough of Bowland, Grizedale Cafe Bar and The Herdwick (Graduate) each received 5% of the vote. Fylde College bar, the Windmill, came last with 3%.

Trevor's win could be attributed to its location in the centre of campus, while both Lonsdale and Cartmel bars appeared to have enjoyed support from members of their own college which are known for strong college spirit.

Graduate bar's performance in the poll has drawn cynicism from some of the respondents. Some of the comments left on the poll read, “How's Grad not doing better? And how have Cartmel managed to get so many?” and “Whoa Cartmel second... there's a surprise.”

On the Friday evening of Week 25,

SCAN interviewed a number of randomly selected students at all nine college bars to gauge some opinions. Most of the respondents in this interview favoured Furness and Graduate bars.

Louise Whitehead of Bowland College chose Graduate bar because it is a “comfortable place where you can go to relax and they serve real ales.” Fylde's Ian Van Mourile agreed with her, saying: “It is the only bar to serve a good selection of ales.”

Most of the students interviewed preferred college bars with an atmosphere akin to a “proper pub” such as Graduate, Bowland and Furness. Some, however, chose bars with modern interior as their favourites, such as Grizedale and Fylde.

There are also students who are indifferent about the different college bars. Adhina Zogrdfaki of Graduate College told SCAN: “I like to go to which ever bar my friends are at and enjoy their company in the various surroundings.”

Bowland and Fylde bars have undergone some refurbishment this year. According to an internal circular from the office of the Pro-Vice Chancellor for Colleges and the Student Experience, Professor Amanda Chetwynd, the refurbishment of Bowland bar and its social space is a part of the first phase of a major remodelling of Bowland

Main. The project, which also includes a relocation of the porters' lodge and college administration office, is due for completion in September 2011.

At the end of Lent term, Fylde Coffee Shop was closed and its operation has been moved into the bar. According to the same circular, the old coffee shop will be refurbished to provide “non-alcoholic social and meeting space for students.”

Grizedale bar was reopened at the beginning of Michaelmas term with a new and modern interior. The new bar was part of the £3 million project that includes refurbishment of the college's porters' lodges and administration office as well as reconstruction of new townhouse residences. The bar serves a range of drinks from its cafe and cocktail menus.

College bars have always been an integral aspect of student life in Lancaster. They not only serve food and drinks but also function as casual social space for the students. Many college events and activities organised by the JCRs centre around these bars.

Fylde bar, for example, regularly shows sport matches on big displays. Cartmel College holds its comedy nights in Barker House Farm which houses the bar while Lonsdale bar is known for its club music dance party nights.

Counselling Service and Nurse Unit make donation

Jen Day

THE COUNSELLING SERVICE and Nurses' Unit have donated £200 to the charity Stop the Traffik. The donation was made after they received over a hundred responses to their questionnaire about the mental health concerns for international students.

Stop the Traffik is a growing global movement fighting to prevent the sale of people, protect the trafficked and prosecute the traffickers. Set up in 2006, this organisation wants to raise awareness and understanding of human trafficking, as well as engaging with communities and professionals to create an environment where it is harder to traffic and exploit people.

Originally, Stop the Traffik was set up as a two year campaign to host Freedom Day on March 25th 2007, marking the bicentenary of the abolition of transatlantic slavery. It also aimed to petition and present a million signatures to the United Nations. By the time it reached 2007, however, the organisation had a following of 1.5 million activists. This project was funded by UKCISA (UK Counsel for International Student Affairs), whose purpose it is to promote and facilitate international student mobility to and from the UK. Their aim is to increase support for international education and raise awareness of the benefits of studying abroad, as well as encouraging professional development and high quality support for students.

The Counselling Service and Nurses' Unit promised to make a donation to the charity once a hundred students had filled in an online questionnaire. This questionnaire was devised by the Counselling Service aimed to enquiring about the mental health concerns of international students. The Counselling Service wanted to improve its services to suit the needs of international students.



Focus groups and literary research was also carried out in order to ascertain the specific needs of international students at Lancaster University. From this data, the Counselling Service is planning to set up a specific website for international students, focusing on the issues that matter to them.

The Counselling Service already offers one on one counselling where an extensive range of issues can be discussed in a private with a qualified counsellor. Themed groups, group therapy and wellbeing activities are some of the other service that they provide.

Nonetheless, with an increasing number of international students coming to Lancaster University, the Counselling Service wants to tackle the issues that will affect them most. These include language barriers, acclimatising to a new culture and dealing with being away from home.

The Counselling Service and Nurses' Unit want to thank everyone who participated in this questionnaire. They have stated that as a result, participants helped to improve the Counselling Service for international students.

Grad Bar ready for Real Ale and Cider Festival

Keith Morrison

THE GRADUATE BAR Real Ale and Cider Festival returns for its ninth year on Thursday 17 June. The festival will be taking place at the bar, known as The Herdwick, until Sunday 20 June. As in previous years the festival is free and open to all members of the University, so will likely be a busy summer event. The festival starts at noon and continues until 11:30 at night.

Gareth Ellis, the head of this year's festival, delivered the drink from the West Country himself. On offer is a wide range of approximately 35 beers and 15 ciders and perries from all around the UK. A full list of what is on offer will be available in the bar. Every day there will be a bar-

beque provided by All Fresh Foods catering.

Live music will be playing each night from 9.30. Thursday will feature blues music with Tin Pan Alley, while Friday brings a ten-piece reggae and ska band Reggiemental. Playing the final day of the festival on the Saturday will be a surf rock band, Rockitt 88.

A special Graduate bar quiz on Friday at five in the evening will also be held to boost attendance. The quiz will feature plenty of prizes with t-shirts, glasses and beer vouchers for Graduate bar on offer. Due to the festival running parallel with the World Cup the games that weekend will be shown in the bar. This includes the England game against Algeria, which kicks off at 8:30 on the Friday. Italy, Germany and the Netherlands are also set to play that weekend.

Lightning strikes twice

continued from front page

ble position for Social Secretary was won by Lauren Vandewalle.

In County, the position of Male Sports Representative was won by Matt Holdcroft and Female Sports Representative by Timna Freeman. Green Officer was won by Charlotte Wilkins, and the position of Women's Officer by Jennie Grayson.

In Furness nobody stood for the positions of Male and Female Sports Secretaries, so people will be co-opted later this term. Furness also had elections for Social Secretaries, to be run for as a pair; Kate Utton and Ellen Clayton were uncontested, and won the position.

For Grizedale the two Sports Representative positions were won by Chris Geoghegan and Corinna Kloess. In the JCR executive by-elections the position of Communications Officer was won by Daniel Willis; Female Education and Welfare Officer by Holly Johnson. The new Social Secretary will be Lily Hales, and the position of Vice-President was won by Emma Cheetham. International Officer was won by Velislava Dotseva.

In Pendle the positions of Male Sports Representative and Female Sports Representative were won by Ben Holden and Susann Kern. The position of Magazine Editor was won by Suzanne Kane, the position of Publicity Officer was won by Matthew Berry and the position of Disabilities Officer was won by Sarah Evans.

The results for the Part Time Officers are as follows: the two Student Trustee positions were won by Erin Royle and Ashutosh Kumar. The new University Council Representative is James Davies; Chair of Elections was won by Emily Blanchard; Chair of Student Media Board by Matthew Power. The position of Chair of Social and Events Group was won by Bex Hamilton; Welfare Campaigns Officer by Ros Ballinger; and Chair of Equality, Welfare and Diversity Council by Kevin Wong. Science and Technology Faculty Rep was won by Jonathon Hayton and the position of Chair of Sports Executive was won by Matthew Neve.

All that glitters is not gold

Mike Jals

THE UNIVERSITY HAS reason to believe that the death of several Mallards has been caused by gold poisoning. Investigations are underway to determine the quantity of gold that may in fact be located beneath the campus.

The Mallards have been congregating around the construction site for the MINA (Music Institute of National Arts) building. The project has been ongoing for eighteen months, is now a year behind schedule and an estimated million pounds over budget. However, Director of Facilities, Mark Swindlehurst was keen to stress that the inconvenient deaths of several Mallards was the primary reason for the delays.

"It's not our fault. The ducks are to blame. They keep dying on us and it delays everything. Any insinuation that our contractors spend their days drinking tea, making sexist remarks to young women or using a pneumatic drill at 6am every morning to make as much noise as possible is nonsense."

He went on to add: "We never even said the building would be ready by June 2011. We meant June 2013. It was a misprint. Honest."

The University, however, is now conducting a thorough investigation into how the Mallards have contracted gold poisoning.

The Pro-Vice Chancellor for Colleges and the Student Experience, Professor Amanda Chetwynd is convinced that the Bailrigg campus is actually the site of a gold mine.

"The Vice-Chancellor and I have decided that where there's gold poisoning there must logically be a gold mine. Numerous reports indicate that. My duties will now change to reflect this important institutional development. Let's be honest, we all know the colleges are screwed

and the student experience will be non-existent once my boss and his cronies hike up fees a few months from now. I think a change will do me good. I always wanted to be a gold prospector. Ever since I watched Gunsmoke as a child."

Plans are already afoot to import some specialist miners from Japan to locate the potential treasure trove. One of the seven miners, known only as "Doc", contacted SCAN to assure staff and students that his team would take to their task "like a duck to water."

Due to accommodation problems, the miners will have to stay in the Minor Hall for the duration of their stay. When asked why the seven Japanese miners will not be given rooms on campus, Hilary Simmons of the College and Residence Office responded via email that "[she] just couldn't cope with the demand."

Security concerns over the possibility of vast amounts of gold beneath the campus has meant the Vice-Chancellor has dispensed with the services of Acting Head of Security Mark Salisbury. Former MI5 agents who are highly qualified, used to hostile situations and competent in handling firearms will instead be seconded onto this new and dangerous mission. A senior University spokesperson shrugged at Salisbury's departure: "He was only ever here temporarily anyway."

The Vice-Chancellor, when contacted by SCAN, was in bullish mood over Lancaster's new found wealth:

"Osborne can make all the cuts he wants to this sector. We're not going down. We have more money than Cambridge or Oxford now. We'll buy Manchester United, swipe Virgin Rail from Branson and pump so much money into LUTube.TV they'll blow the BBC out of the water. In ten years Lancaster University will be bigger than Apple and Microsoft put together and our campus will be worth more than Silicon Valley.



Gold rush: The university could possibly have struck gold

However, redundancies will inevitably continue and modules will still be cut. Especially if you're in FASS."

The Management School are already seeking to cash in on this golden opportunity. The Faculty Dean is already planning special LUMS tie-in memorabilia as well as relocating the whole Management School to Morecambe: "We're world class, we need more money and we need more space. First Morecambe, then possibly Preston if we're feeling cheeky."

The issue was raised in Union Council but no-one had anything to say. Some Part-time Officers were spotted wearing Cartier gold watches on leaving the meeting however.

Outgoing LUSU President Michael

Payne did add some personal remarks: "There's nothing left to make [us] feel small, luck has left [us] standing so tall."

Bairrigg FM's constitution is to be amended as a result of the discovery. The amendment will state that a gold-themed song must be played on the hour, every hour, in place of the news. Though many at the radio station oppose this change, due to the funding they receive from LUSU there is little they can actually do about it.

Meanwhile, Director of Finance Sarah Randall-Paley is ecstatic about the potential discovery: "People are actually reading my financial report now [known as the Gold Report]. It's about time someone paid attention to it. I do have to come out with one every bloody month."

Second Life project should be set adrift after crazy spending

Emma Hughes

LANCASTER UNIVERSITY HAS invested £4,000 in land on Second Life, a virtual world where prospective students can experience the campus before they arrive.

The 'residents' will design an avatar, through which they are able to live and socialise on Lancaster University Island. It is mainly aimed at international students, who won't get a chance to visit before they enrol at the start of the year.

It could also prove beneficial if the university's estimation of a 30% increase in applicants is correct, as it would support the induction process and allow students to meet each other before they arrive.

The university hopes to use the site for teaching and research, something which has already been initiated in the Management School where PhD stu-



Virtual reality: The university want to further explore Second Life

dent Michele Ryan has used it as part of her research. Courses offering training in Second Life have also been set up, aimed at the teaching staff.

Julia Gillen, of the Literacy Research Centre, runs such courses and advocates widespread use of the program.

"It is fun and allows Lancaster students to communicate with each other on the island," she said. "Other universities have set up pretty elaborate simulations on it, for instance for medical courses. You'd need to devote an hour to learning how to use it, and you need a computer with the right graphics card, but other than that it's available to everyone."

Gillen also argues that more institutional support is needed to promote it, as students are unaware it is currently available and free to use.

However, the cost of maintaining the program is £1,200 per year, a sum that has, up until recently, been covered by research funding in support of Ryan's project. Lancaster University Island is currently empty, and the cost of hiring someone to create a replica campus, and the price of the virtual build itself, would be high. Now that the research grant has been exhausted, the maintenance will be paid for by the university itself, a move Danny Owens,

LUSU VP (Academic Affairs), criticised during a recent meeting of the Learning Technology Advisory Group.

"With all the cutbacks facing Higher Education and our university, the money could easily be spent on something more student facing and beneficial," he said.

It appears that the international students it is aimed at are also less than keen to embrace the new technology. Jessica Leng, of Fylde College, said, 'I'd rather use other social networking sites to meet people. I might use Second Life if the university use it to tell me things, like which text books to bring over from China, but otherwise I'd rather stick to something I already know.'

Second Life was developed by American internet company, Linden Lab, and launched in 2003. Since then, the software has been used for scientific research, educational support and as a site for virtual meeting places. Countries such as Malta and Estonia have also set up embassies on Second Life.

Just a quick text to say: Your lecture is cancelled

Alastair Shaw

AFTER A SUCCESSFUL trial period beginning in 2006, Lancaster University's Learning Technology Group (LTG) is re-evaluating a project named 'SMS from LUVLE'. The project aims to provide an easy and immediate mean of communication between departments and students in instances where a regular email would not be quick enough, such as last minute lecture cancellations or change of venue.

The LTG currently has a variety of possible projects to choose from and talks with various departments of the university are being held to make sure the best decision for both students and staff is made. LUSU VP (Academic Affairs) Danny Owens was keen to push this one for approval. He told SCAN: "If something should come out of these talks, it should be the 'SMS from LUVLE' project. With cuts going on everywhere within Higher Education, it's important we keep providing new services for the students." On a personal level he felt "it's a brilliant idea and I know it will be well received."

Having been tested about 500 times in 22 different departments, the original project was suspended



Text on demand: Students can opt into the new scheme (Photo: Ben Robins)

in 2008 when funding from the Centre of Enhancement of Learning and Teaching (CELT) budget could no longer cover it.

One of the main users of the original project was Professor of Econom-

ics and Dean of Graduate Studies, Geraint Johnes. When asked how he implemented this service into his module he said: "During the month or so leading up to exams, I would send students a text every couple of

days asking a question which was designed to provoke thought about some aspect or other of the course."

A strong part of the discussion is that it will be an entirely "opt-in" service, there is no obligation to sign up as it does not want to be seen as another way for the department to bombard students with alerts. Data protection is another central focal point, student's phone numbers will remain anonymous through all communications. The service also comes free of charge to student's phone bills.

Student opinions on the possible implementation of the service are positive. Reece Yates, an Earth and Environmental Science student from Lonsdale, said: "I think it's a good idea as long as I don't start to get over-loaded in my inbox every two minutes with useless things." He added that "it's good that you can choose to opt out of it as well, you aren't tied down to it."

Emma Carlin, a Geography and Sociology student also from Lonsdale, felt that "it's something everyone would use so long as there is a distinction made between specific course and module updates and general departmental events and opportunities." Her idea would be to "have a choice, one option that informs you just about your course and seminars,

and then another to inform you of careers or departmental services available."

As a lecturer who wasn't part of the pilot service in 2006, senior Management School lecturer Dr Anthony Hesketh felt: "I am in favour of using any technology which enables better communication between students and their tutors to improve their learning experience" but did point out that "all pointers on the exam are already on LUVLE" and that they would be "a little too lengthy to text them to you."

Equipment such as the servers and original service vendor required are all still available to the LTG. Development costs are estimated at £5,000 with an annual amount of approximately £12,226. Organisers hope for the project to be introduced at the beginning of the next academic year as only clearance from relevant departments and funding is required.

The LTG have several roles within the university, however their main service is developing and managing Lancaster's virtual learning environment (LUVLE) to support learning and teaching. The new service would be linked to the existing technology of LUVLE; students will have the opportunity to provide their mobile phone number through their LUVLE homepage and choose which modules they want to receive alerts from.

OFFERS, EVENTS AND GENERAL BROU-HA-HA!

Friday Week 9 - The England boys are on their way to Jules Rimet and Sugarhouse has gone FOOTBALL FURIOUS! Each bar will be themed as a different competing country and the collectables this time around are FOOTBALL STICKERS!! Get dressed up any world cup way you want, as a player, a ref, a country, tour the bars and collect the stickers which you can put in your very own annual!! And yes each and every England world cup song will be played on the night, including the John Barnes rap - *You've got to hold and give But do it at the right time You can be slow or fast But you must get to the line.*

Friday Week 10 - Well that's it another year winding up, what a week and tonight marks the end of the line So celebrate everything that these 3 years have given you with one last weekend at the Shagga, if you're hitting the M6 on Saturday morning then make the most of your remaining carefree time with the great Sugarhouse Sleepover, we've got the tunes, the beds and the late license! If that's not enough and you're sticking around well we sadly have to close our doors come Sunday morning which means this week's Play is the now legendary DRINK THE BAR DRY!! Everything must go, let's make it so!!

THE sugarhouse
www.thesugarhouse.co.uk



Tuesday Week 10
from 12-5pm in Alexandra Square

- Environmentally Friendly Event
- Live Locally Sourced Acoustic Performances
- Live Performance from our very own Dance Society
- Free Lunch when walking or biking onto campus before 12 noon
- Locally Sourced Catering from Souped Up, University Catering department and other local suppliers
- Free Locally Sourced tasters from the Conference Centre
- Bring, Buy and Swap Book Stall with Savvy Juice
- Free Smarter Driving Simulator
- Interactive Arts and Crafts Area

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scan:COMMENT



Liam Kay

Comment Editor

College members have a right to be angry with the JCR officers they elected who failed to represent them

Chaos and mayhem were the order of the day as many were left disappointed and bitter by this sorry ticketing mess

Time seemed to stretch endlessly; hour after hour passed by, the events of the day blurring into irrelevancy. The sun beat down upon the necks of the poor souls forced to wait in the scorching summer sun with seemingly no end to their mission. It seemed like days passed by with no conclusion reached. All hope was now lost.

They were of course waiting for County Extrav tickets. Or standing in line at Lonsdale. Or at a whole host of other college Extravs that were scarred by a mixture of ridiculous queuing and poor handling of the situation that arose. Whilst many JCR members were no doubt thrilled to see the Extrav tickets sell so quickly, the question to be asked surely is whether it is fair, especially during a busy exam period, that people can buy grotesque numbers of tickets, meaning tickets sold out before many could reach the desk and ensured some individuals waited for over four hours to gain tickets. Has campus lost its mind?

With people waiting for so long to get tickets, couldn't a better system have seen queues reduced and a fairer



chance for college members to be able to attend? After all these are the people who have voted in their JCRs with part of their remit being the organisation of the college Extrav. How can this be a college event if its members cannot receive tickets due to queues or being unfortunate enough to have an exam on the day tickets are sold?

The JCRs have to be better prepared

for the influx of students wanting Extrav tickets. Some colleges dealt admirably with the demand: Fylde, for example, used a raffle system to prevent long queues and ensure that people did not needlessly waste their day in line for a ticket that they would never receive. Others did not. The question is why had so many other Extravs, many that knew there would be a high demand, not be

more prepared for the circumstances that arose? Allowing there to be formidably large queues, a majority of non-college students and, in some cases, people buying astonishing amounts of tickets at the time have allowed the Extravs to descend into farce. Not even Chaplin could have prepared a better comedy than the Extrav spectacular we have witnessed in the last few weeks.

The colleges need to prepare better for next year's Extravs and make sure a repeat of this year's events do not return. Firstly, reserving half of the tickets on sale for members of the college would be an admirable step towards realising that the JCRs work for their college; they have no responsibility to other colleges and their students. News of particular individuals harassing JCR members who restricted ticket sales at the end to college members is disgusting but these events could have been prevented had college tickets been sold at an earlier date for college members to allow them to attend their own Extrav. If I vote for a JCR member, I expect them to serve the interests of myself and my fellow college electors.

There must also be a better attempt

to restrict the amount of tickets that can be bought by a single individual. News of students buying handfuls of tickets whilst queues stretched outside the bars is abysmal. Whilst some may argue that music festivals and other large-scale events have similar problems with demand, they also place restrictions on the amount of tickets that can be bought at any one time by any one individual. Imagine the outrage if Glastonbury allowed people to buy 17 tickets at a time?! Adding this to the raffle system formulated by Fylde College's JCR would reduce the need for time-consuming queuing and leave a system that was fairer, quicker and more efficient in dealing with the demand for tickets.

The problems with this year's Extravs have highlighted a whole host of problems with the way they have been organised. Whilst all the colleges involved have had flaws exposed in the system they have formulated to sell tickets, some have been able to adapt magnificently to the circumstances. One can now only hope that the Extravs themselves prove to be worth braving the ticket queues for.



Emily Robertson

We should be praising not criticising JCRs for organising sell-out events

JCR officers could not realistically predict a demand for tickets that had never before materialised

Extrav ticket sales have been 'the' talking point for the last few weeks, with everyone asking 'Did you get a ticket?' There has been great upset as many were turned away empty-handed and disappointed having queued for hours. Some are pointing the finger at the JCRs, others at those wishing to make a quick buck from selling on those sought after tickets. But one important thing is being forgotten in all the debate of who is to blame; the hard work of the JCRs and all those working to make Extrav 2010 the best yet.

Many have questioned the way in which JCRs dealt with the massive influx of students intent on getting tickets. Issues such as ticket limits and priority for your own college have been discussed. However, as far as I am aware being a first year student, these issues have never needed to be discussed before, with stories such as just strolling into county bar on the day of sales with little more than six people in front in the queue. I, and many of the

first year students who stood in that queue that was around county quad by 9am, two hours before tickets went on sale, would find this very hard to imagine, but I am told that was the case. Therefore the JCRs were simply not prepared for such a huge response and cannot be blamed, as this was a complete change from previous years.

The members of the Extrav committees and the JCR work on an entirely voluntary basis, and they have worked non-stop behind the scenes to make sure the rest of us (those who got a ticket) have an amazing night to finish off our academic year. They have been booking bands to entertain throughout the night, some colleges going all out to get some big names to go alongside campus bands. Some college line-ups are more than impressive, no wonder they sold out so quickly. There is the all-important choosing of the theme, the announcement of which so many of you eagerly waited for via Facebook and posters. The announcements were an art in

themselves, thinking particularly of Lonsdale's Hitler spoof and County compilation of all that is British. And at this moment Extrav committees all over campus will be painting and decorating away to transform their bars into their chosen theme for just one night, and all in the height of exam period and for nothing but the satisfaction that you all have a good night.

It is undeniable that many missed out on Extrav tickets unfairly due to no clear plan being in place, as it was previously thought that one was not needed. However I believe that the colleges tried the best they could in the circumstances to be fair to all. Lonsdale, being the first to be hit with hype, imposed an emergency ticket limit to stop all those at the front buying up tickets to sell on, although this also caused mass confusion as everyone scrambled for their friend's purple card numbers. Fylde had the innovative idea of handing out raffle tickets to those in the queue so that if you weren't going to get a ticket you

could go home, disappointed but at least you hadn't wasted an afternoon of precious revision time. County and Pendle made the controversial choice to save the last hundred tickets for their college students only, giving them priority. Many disagreed with this aggressively confronting the JCR members as tempers frayed, however I am told in previous years that all tickets went on sale at the same time so most students only went to their own college Extrav anyway.

The massive queues even before tickets went on sale, although frustrating to those who were unlucky, were a huge compliment to the organisers of Extrav. To see that many people wanting to come to an event they have carefully pieced together must be reassuring that they have done extremely well. This year's sales took us all by surprise and changes do need to be made to the process however amidst all this chaos we should take a moment to appreciate all the hard work and effort put in by the JCR.



Alex Harris
Comment Editor

Poverty fuels the fire of extremism

The English Defence League is a disparate organisation which has no desire to be politically credible

Thuggery is an unfortunate drawback of any democratic society. If you're in a culture which tolerates freedom of speech and expression, it stands to reason that you'll eventually get speech and expression which is sometimes potentially harmful. However, it's a point in our favour that we live in a country which is comfortable enough in its own democratic, multicultural skin that it allows demagogues a platform to voice their crazy opinions.

In the past year, the far-right activism in Britain has taken a worryingly violent turn. One group, the English Defence League was subject to a recent Guardian report and a BBC documentary, which detailed the group's rise in support. Only to call it a 'group' in any unified sense of the word would perhaps be disingenuous. What becomes increasingly apparent when examining the EDL is that there is no real common theme, and the demographics of its 'demonstrations' (which frequently become riots) range from misguided and overly patriotic teenagers to political hooligans who turn up to do nothing more than cause trouble and spew racist bile.

It's perhaps too easy to focus on the



racist elements of the EDL, although they are repugnant to anyone that can even spell the word 'morality'. The EDL needs to be distinguished from some other far-right groups such as the British National Party as a separate and distinct form of extremism. The BNP is a political party attempting to infiltrate British democracy by trying and thankfully failing to appear credible, whereas the EDL is a fairly disparate organisation with no real concern as of yet regarding political credibility.

One common theme that does seem to run throughout the EDL, however, is

desperation. In the BBC documentary, a member of the Stoke-on-Trent branch of the EDL named 'Gaz' is interviewed. In reflecting upon his career as a mechanic, he says that he dreamt of some kind of financial stability after his training, but that now he's "no better off than someone on the dole." When people are down and out they look for people who can provide answers. Very often, however, those answers are wrong ones and it is a failure of the major political parties that they have not provided working class people with the answers they desire and need, to the point where people begin uniting in favour of nihilistic causes.

It's this kind of spawn of poverty that seems to permeate throughout the histories of groups such as the EDL. After all, there are few white nationalists in Notting Hill or amongst the Chelsea socialite crowds. But on the other side of the tracks, people forced into poverty begin to seek answers to the question of their problems, and frequently stumble upon the wrong ones. Originally, the EDL was a much smaller organisation called the 'United Peoples of Luton', which was formed in response to a relatively small protest made by some Islamic extremists against a parade of troops return-

ing home from Afghanistan. The crowd became hostile. "It was a murderous atmosphere", said one onlooker. And the bitterness and anger that day eventually evolved into a political organisation.

Consider the demographics of Luton, for a second. Hardly the most prosperous town in the UK, it boasts a 25.1% child poverty level (4% above the national average, placing it 47th out of 48th amongst East of England towns in terms of child well-being) and an environment in which full-time workers are often paid over £1,200 less than the national average. Hard-working people struggle to find jobs and in the midst of economic recession and those with jobs are finding it tougher to keep them. During the last recession, it was named the 'repossession capital of Britain'.

The major political parties have failed to provide answers to people affected by economic instability in places like Luton for a long time. There is, of course, no kind of defense for racism and intolerance of people based their race or religion. But it must be acknowledged that the EDL do not exist in a vacuum and they should be properly seen as a distressing demographic phenomenon borne out of decades of poverty.

The Tories must alter their stance on Europe

State sovereignty is a misleading concept in light of globalisation, writes **David Sykes**

The Conservatives believe that Europe is a threat to Britain's sovereignty; this is true. The Conservatives also believe that the loss of Britain's sovereignty is a bad thing; this is untrue.

People tend to throw the term around with wild abandon, knowing that it is something important and something that they would like to keep. It is a part of our national identity, our national pride and our governmental authority. But British state sovereignty, while it is gradually waning away through our membership of the European Union, is rapidly being rendered meaningless and useless by globalisation; the loss of it may actually be of benefit for the 21st century individual.

Britain has undoubtedly been losing its ability to govern itself and to control and shape its future since it joined what is now the European Union in 1973. The laws, regulations and directives created on the European level and imposed upon the nation state can be nothing other than a limitation on national autonomy, as our government is unable to limit immigration from within Europe, are forced to comply to laws created by an external body, and have lost the power to control our own economy to the degree that was possible previously.

This inescapable truth has inspired the euro-sceptical element of the Conservative Party since the 1980s and is a position that has attracted a great deal of support. The rhetoric of being in defence of Britain, protecting identity, tradition, and nine-hundred years of history is a powerful argument that seems to strike a note among the patriotic and the easily angered.

State sovereignty however, is much like the Holy Grail, it is something that is forever being sought, but has never been claimed. Britain has never been completely free to control its destiny and it has never been able to govern over its citizens and territory without outside interference. Throughout history Britain has been bound by treaties and agreements with other states, and has even had monarchs practically being employed of other nations, but none of these have intruded on the territory of the state at as rapid a rate as globalisation.

Like it or not, borders have been broken down as people travel, communicate, and do business with people from all over the world. Events and disasters now have worldwide implications and, crime, pollution and economic fluctuations are no longer problems tied to a single area. States can only achieve anything if they work for it together, and if that happens one cannot protest if their state is no longer as independent as it may once have been.

Britain would be unable to have control over its destiny and would do little but float at the mercy of the tides of global forces if it were to go it alone. Membership of the EU gives the citizen, if not the state, far more power and autonomy than the archaic concept of the state can offer as it liberates them from a powerless authority, and gives them a role as global citizens of the 21st century.



David Guy

Cameron should let us all in on his vision for a 'big society'

For most of the Tories election campaign, David Cameron looked constipated. It was as though he wanted to push something out, but just couldn't. At times he talked about a need for change, and about his enthusiasm for wanting to be PM, yet it was clear that there was something he really wanted to say, but never did.

He looked especially eager to tell his audience, the cameras, anyone, about one big idea but the passion was muzzled. Yet the idea was attractive and radical, and it might mean that Lancaster sees a new breed of student arriving.

The phrase 'big society' was one made time and again by Cameron. It was rolled out, too, by journalists as a slogan to sum up Tory policy, yet no one seemed quite sure what it was. Maybe if he had said 'empowerment' or 'responsibility' then we would have been clearer about the idea, as well as more enthusiastic. Whether it was the fear of having the idea scrutinised by the electorate and media, or whether campaign team had reservations, it seems strange that more was not made of the Tories biggest selling point.

What the 'big society' means is rolling back state control and putting power into the hands of the people. It heralds the end of New Labour's paranoid centralising approach and puts trust in the people. Giving communities more power

through right to buy laws will see local pubs and post offices saved from closure, while charities will have the opportunity and funding to help the community or run public services.

This shift in trust is radical. Under New Labour a targets and efficacy culture arose, whereby public sector workers had to hit government set targets. Many workers, notably in the NHS and the police, invented ingenious ways to get around the system. This resulted in poor patient care and an unclear view of crime levels. Britain, under Labour, also saw a worrying section of new laws created. Impersonating a traffic warden, selling a grey squirrel and detonating a nuclear bomb were among the 4289 new laws brought in under Tony Blair. The criminalising of more and more people went hand in hand with a restriction of civil liberties designed to tackle the post 9/11 world of terror threats. It is this aspect of Britain which the coalition will address with the 'big society'.

Plans for 16-17 year olds to spend time in a national citizen service will see all college age students engaging in social contribution and voluntary work in the local community. The citizen service, it is hoped, will teach the importance of volunteering and how everyone is responsible for the upkeep of society. Importantly, the big society will put trust in people to change, through their own ini-

tiative, the society around them as well as nurturing responsibility and empowering ordinary people. For the university, this might mean a new generation of students who feel more capable, enthusiastic and more willing to get involved in societies, student politics and campaigns.

During the TV debates, Gordon Brown sneered at the big society as a "DIY philosophy". But rather than being knocked up in Cameron's garden shed, the Tory idea is an easy to grasp, reasonable sounding and workable one. The big society is trusting and the government does not need to tell it to carry around an ID card – or else.

There are, though, clouds of scepticism hovering above the project, which might explain Cameron's campaigning toilet face. The idea that workers will work better when set free of the whip may be a naïve hope and might have been the reason behind Labour's relentless endeavour to control more and more aspects of workers' jobs.

Trusting and "unafraid of dissent", this government might be, but it may not be prepared for an unenthusiastic uptake of it's offer for people to govern, as well as witnessing the negative results, whatever they might be, of a big society. There was a moment, during the campaign, when Cameron was pushed to say more. He said, "revolutionary". Given what went before it, it's undoubtedly that.

Rolling back state control and putting trust back into ordinary people will wipe away Labour's paranoid centralising regime



Michael Indian

The big question that lingers following the resignation of Laws is do public servants have to live public lives?

The relationship between government and citizen should be addressed

David Cameron's fledgling coalition has come to its first major hurdle after only a few weeks in office. The old beast of MPs expenses has reared its head once again, reminding us that the heralded era of "new politics" still has firm links with the old.

The resignation of Chief Secretary to the Treasury David Laws came after it emerged he was claiming rent for rooms in homes owned by his partner. According to the Daily Telegraph, the amount claimed was £40,000.

In terms of policy, the hammer blow could not have fallen in a more vital era. David Laws held the vital responsibility for spending cuts, the pledged mantra the coalition has pledged to use to reduce most of the record deficit the United Kingdom holds. Laws had been praised by many for the frankness in the setting out of initial cuts. There is no doubt that the latest damaging expenses revelation has tarnished the public perception of a man who needed to be perceived as trustworthy.

This represents the first test of the dynamic between the two governing parties and the working relationship of their leaders.

During the delicate power-sharing negotiations, David Laws emerged as a key figure among the Liberal Demo-



crat team. A former City highflyer, he was seen by many as a representation of how a marriage between the centre-left and centre-right parties could function. This importance was reflected in his appointment as the second top official in the Treasury and equal presence alongside Chancellor George Osborne in setting out the first in a long line of austerity measures to come. Consequentially, he held a pivotal role in the coalition and was one of the precious

points of contact needed for a long and happy political partnership.

However, his decision to stand down reflects the need to prove another relationship, that between government and citizen. With their lofty promises of change, Cameron and Clegg are now under pressure to prove they can deliver. Part of this new era is demonstrating transparency and firmness in the handling of their MPs and ministers.

Yet we must resist the urge to level that abhorrent charge at politicians that "they are all the same." In the case of MPs, the media (in particular the Daily Telegraph) has created a public furore over a few well-known cases of duck islands and moats. Already, new Chief Secretary to the Treasury Danny Alexander has had aspects of his own finances racked over. Ultimately, this issue boils down to the question; do public servants have to live public lives?

Far from being a sleaze ridden case from the Major years, is David Laws simply being a private man wishing to keep an area of his life undisclosed?

Reading through the media reports, his sexuality is inevitably mentioned. This particular disclosure should not obscure the significant issue, which is the fight for the restoration of public trust. In his resignation, Laws has done enough to justify that struggle.

What if I don't want to take minor subjects in my first year?

The benefits of studying three subjects as a first year are questionable, writes **Will McDonagh**

Billed as a unique opportunity on Open Days, the chance to take on additional subjects during your first year at University is used to attract students to venture to Lancaster. Yet in the height of the exam stress, with last minute revision cramming being squeezed in by all, I have grown to question the actual benefit of this rare offer.

The first year introduces us to our courses, giving us a taste of our degree, slowly easing us into University life. I understand that Lancaster is trying to give us an opportunity to spend a year embarking on something else we may be passionate about but would not have the opportunity to pursue at other Universities. We are able to sample different aspects of the curriculum, giving us the chance to possibly reevaluate our original choices. I for one have encountered numerous students who have made a change to their intended major after having the opportunity to study something they hadn't considered before.

However, this most definitely isn't the case for everyone. Which makes me wonder if the compulsory element for all students (with the exception of certain degree schemes, for instance Law students) to pick at least one minor, most often two, is a step too far, and is it possibly a hindrance when we have already carefully chosen a subject to study?

Having spent two years doing at least three A-level's the time came to go to University and centre our focus on one field, honing our skills and specialising overall in a certain subject, one that one would assume we either enjoy studying or need for a desired career. Yet many people I have encountered are spreading time and effort thinly over compulsory subjects they originally had no intention of studying – and are expected to pass these in order to continue with their original degree. Granted they only need to gain forty percent, but personally I feel it is too reminiscent of A-levels in structure.

Yet there is a clear divide. Some people, like me, have enjoyed the opportunity to study more than my intended degree, while others have not. Therefore my reasoning is that this opportunity is not an overall consented undertaking, and that is why I feel its compulsory nature should be removed to allow a more optional stance for prospective students. This way those eager to spread their first year studying more than one subject, keeping their options open if they are not completely sure about their chosen degree scheme, can do so, while those confident about their original choice and eager to progress can also do so with more modules on offer.

Overall Lancaster's unique opportunity should be more open and available to those who want it, but passable for those who wish to concentrate on their intended scheme. If most Universities don't offer this chance, then surely Lancaster should be more open to the wants of their own students instead of imposing what some perceive to be a good thing, while others clearly do not.



Michael Payne
LUSU President

The final thoughts and parting shots from an outgoing twice-elected Union President

A time to say goodbye and reflect on the past two years

As the term draws to a close and the University prepares for a new admissions cycle, we can all be proud of the many achievements of this institution, but we would be foolish to walk away believing the future was all sweetness and light for Lancaster University.

A shameful lack of competence in areas of the University that are crucial to the institution's sustainability, reputation and recruiting potential are a reality as everyone prepares for the planning period of summer.

The senior management team of the University must swallow their pride and accept mistakes made in the recruitment of some key, senior people within the University.

Institutional oversight and management of our ever expanding collaborative provision and the quality assurance of teaching, learning and student services must also be a primary focus for the University. It is not political instability that is the greatest threat to the sustainability of oversees partnerships and collaborations but the real possibility of failing to ensure and assure that required quality and standards are being met.

Cutting key student-centred services will also be a slippery slope for a historically collegiate University; aiming to increase revenue from necessary services (printing and car parking) will also only serve to anger students and staff, thus damaging an already tested student and staff morale.

Ill thought out redundancy strategies, which have little if any benefit to

the University must also be stopped immediately. Relationships and community are Lancaster's unique selling point and narrow-minded chair shuffling by middle-management cannot be allowed to undermine this. It is also interesting that when senior managers or leading academics talk about the need for redundancies or job cuts, they are never talking about their own jobs.

With success comes great responsibility; one particular pressure point for the University over the coming months will be student accommodation provision. It may well be true that we have one of the highest proportions of on-campus student residences in the UK but the University's strategy (or lack of) in this area could lead to serious problems. Filling on-campus rooms to the maximum, with further waiting lists in many colleges, along with a student housing market in Lancaster, which is full to the brim and already under significant pressure from new legislation and an increase in numbers from UCUM students moving to Lancaster, does not bode well for the university.

For all my misgivings with the University over the past two years as president, all I have ever strived to do is support the University in achieving the best it possibly can; in the coming months the University will ignore advice and warning from its community at its peril.

The University management team must also always remember that it achieves success through the dedication and passion of its staff and students. Senior managers must reflect on

decisions and accept when their judgement is wrong. Reflection is a key part of leadership, so here are a few reflections of mine:

To those academics who have questioned, constructively criticised and challenged senior management on their strategy and direction for the University; I applaud you. To those academics who have consigned themselves to the 'payroll vote' and allowed themselves, as rigorous intellectuals to be subdued by technocrats and managers with little if any experience of HE; you are an embarrassment to your profession.

To those who have ensured our campus is a clean, safe and enjoyable environment; students are forever indebted to you.

To college staff who have invested time in creating a vibrant and exciting student experience; students are eternally grateful.

To the hundreds of student officers I have had the pleasure of working with; you have led where others have criticised, you have stood in opposition where others have capitulated, but most of all you have made a real positive difference to your University and for that you should all be immensely proud.

It simply remains for me to say: I owe a great debt of gratitude to all of those who have supported and helped me over the last two years. Thank you to those who have criticised and challenged me. Good luck to those who I have worked closely with and farewell to those who have lacked independence of thought and courage in their convictions.

Letters to the Editor



Send your letters to scan@lancaster.ac.uk together with your name and college (even if you would like your letter printed anonymously). SCAN reserves the right to edit your letters for publication.

Security respond on replica firearms controversy

Dear Sir,

I am writing to you in your capacity as Editor of SCAN newspaper and in particular the recent edition which featured a student drama group using an imitation firearm as a 'prop' to add authenticity to a film they were making on campus. I would like to point out the following facts:

- The filming event performed by Against the Wall productions was not authorised by myself or any member of staff at the university.
- Permission was granted for several other film shoots to take place between 22nd April and 15th May. Following a Risk Assessment process and meeting with the Police several strict conditions were laid out and agreed. One of these was that any scene involving a replica firearm was only to take place indoors or in specified, thinly populated areas

on campus. Any variations to these locations contained in a schedule were to be communicated back by the group to Security and the Police when a renewed decision to permit or otherwise would have been taken.

- Lancaster Police have a log to show that they had been advised by the group that filming was to take place on campus involving the use of a replica firearm on the 17th May. No call was made to the Security Reception to warn about this event taking place.

- Despite assurance being made in another condition that 'adequate' signs were to be displayed by the group in prominent positions advising and reassuring campus onlookers what was happening- this was not properly carried out.

- Upon receiving a call from a member of the University Community the Security Receptionist on duty acted cor-

rectly by immediately contacting Lancaster Police and a patrol was deployed. It is normal for the Police to attend reports of this kind to be completely satisfied that all is in order.

- A member of the Security Staff attended the scene and spoke to members of the group within two minutes. At this time he was unaware of information he had read in the Security Reception informing Security staff about the series of scheduled filming events by students on campus and spread across a range of dates. He therefore made the connection en route.

- Within four minutes the Police had been cancelled prior to attending the University.

- Staff of local businesses in Alex Square, including the caller's premises were personally visited by Security Staff and quickly reassured by informing them about what was happening.

- Later the same day I received an apology from Against the Wall Productions for the standards of safety precautions carried out by the group.

- The first time details of this event appeared in writing was on the 27th May in an updated schedule of proposed 'film shoots.' This was eleven days after the event took place. Had the request been made in a timely manner and in advance my response and no doubt that of the police would have been to refuse permission.

In all cases of this type an opportunity has been taken to review practices and changes are being considered. I would like to reassure SCAN readers that all calls involving the use or potential use of firearms or weapons of any description are taken very seriously.

Mark Salisbury
"ACTING" Head of Security

Differing perspectives prove that readers still thrive on disputes

Dear Sir,

Thank you to the person a few issues back for writing in with your alternative perspective on the Management School placement situation- like many of the other departments, it seems that the true mask differs from the face underneath.

I wonder if this is universal: do any maths, or medicine, or law students wish to come forward and tell us about their departments and the difficulties they may or may not have faced? We've already heard from politics, management and music to name the most obvious and frequent three. It seems that there is a universal breakdown in communication throughout the university that needs to be addressed.

Aside from this, I would like to respond on the comment that both stories were printed in SCAN. Of course they were! Newspapers of all types thrive in dispute and sensationalism. Just look at the Mail for an example of this (remember Jan Moir?)... dispute sells. We read papers to hear the latest gossip, whether that's good, bad, or pure speculation.

It's up to the reader to be discerning and decide what to believe and if as many departments are going under as this year's coverage seems to suggest, I have no doubt that the majority of the sympathy will be with the student perspective.

V. Ellis
Cartmel College

The university should continue to innovate on environmental issues

Dear Sir,

Whatever happened to logic of the greatest good for the greatest number?

How come the noisy M6 and nuclear power station, visible from literally anywhere in this countryside, were authorised to be built yet not two wind turbines? Sight? Noise? Give me a break! These arguments are just pathetic and are a prime example of the attitude of a large part of this country's citizens who support wind energy but not in their own back yard. This is why this country will continue to lag behind the rest of Europe when it comes to arguably one of the most important issues facing our generation: sustainable energy. Just because a few object, the majority will suffer.

I urge the university to appeal and,

with luck, eventually win. Short-sighted, selfish residents should not be the reason why this university fails to be an innovator and leader when it comes to sustainable living. Furthermore, there are other options for investment.

Perhaps most importantly, saving energy, becoming more efficient: an area where this university has left large margins for improvement. Start with heating, sorting out some of the truly ancient single glazed windows on this campus. Then light and water. £5 million (originally allocated for producing renewable energy) would go far if invested in saving energy.

Perhaps even further considering the many advantages?

Jan Breuer
Bowland College

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Page 30



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Partying and protesting: The student movement

Jo Taylor
Features Editor

STUDENTS HAVE BEEN ranting and raving for donkeys years, and it doesn't look as though that's about to stop either. But what exactly have the students been moaning about for the past 50 years? Going back almost half a century, we can see where the start of these major student riots perhaps came from.

Although globally felt, the major-impact of the impact hit France, particularly Paris. The capitalist drive of the former president Charles De Gaulle affected the students of the 60s very heavily, as well as the rise in the standard of living which made parents more inclined to send their children to university. There were around 550,000 students in France in 1968, but not enough provisions to cope with the amount of students involved in the university system. There were not enough tutors per student, the old fashioned teaching style allowed little contact time between student and tutor, classes were overcrowded, lecture courses were impersonal, there was a lack of funding for scholarships, and students were fed up of traditional assessment techniques such as exams. It was the culmination of these factors that lead to overall discontent within the universities. Students were also segregated by sex resulting in illegal invasions onto the female campuses creating more problems, leading to an



Student Issue: Left; the largest student strike in American history. Top right: overcrowding in lecture theatres. Bottom right: the SDS protest

all round uninspiring situation for young academics.

In addition to this, students were also espousing left-wing causes, be it Communism, Anarchism or the rejection of the Vietnam War. Many saw the events as an opportunity to shake the old society on many social aspects, with the most important being methods of education. The French police, who had a history of

violence and brutality, went out and attacked students who were using their democratic right to protest. After over 20,000 protesters had shouted about their cause, a new law was finally passed. This law encouraged the decentralisation of universities via autonomy, and encouraged the much needed participation of students within the system.

Running parallel to this, a student ac-

tivist movement in the United States was fighting for a more democratic student society. The SDS (Students for a Democratic Society) was one of the main iconic representations of the country's New Left movement, and developed and expanded rapidly throughout the mid-1960s. The SDS wanted a participatory democracy, direct action, radicalism and student power, fighting against shoestring budg-

ets and organisational structure.

The 1960s also saw student activism become important in British universities. Here, like many other countries, the Vietnam War and issues of racism became a focus for many other local frustrations, such as fees and student representation.

Heading into the 70s, students began to fight for more involvement in Faculty committees, being the only way that students could influence teaching quality. The largest student strike in American history however, took place in May and June 1970, in response to the Kent State shootings and the American invasion of Cambodia.

The 80s saw a slight decrease in student issues, with campaigners fighting for smaller causes such as better accommodation, lower fees or even canteen prices. The 90s saw students pushing for better education funding and policy or leadership changes that engaged students as decision-makers in universities. Heading into the new decade, students today are worried about similar issues including youth voice, student rights, university funding, anti-racism in education, tuition fee increases, unemployment rates and supporting campus workers.

Students today are also concerned about their status and reputation. University goes are now-a-days seen to be booze-fuelled, promiscuous, tax-dodging bums. Whilst being partly true, this unfair label worries many. What does the future hold for students though?

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Work experience: A fast track to employment or a waste of time?

Thomas Hughes

EVER SINCE PRIMARY school I've been very interested in the sciences and engineering. It's this interest that brought me to Lancaster University in 2005 when I started a degree in Combined Science. This was a great degree to start off with as it gave me a diverse insight into three subjects I was very interested in – Physics, Environmental Science and Mechanical Engineering. By the end of my first year I knew Engineering was the discipline that interested me most, and this became my focus whilst on an amazing exchange year at Oregon State University in the USA.

Back at Lancaster, having switched to a Mechanical Engineering degree, it became apparent that if my CV were to truly shine I would need some industry experience before graduating. I started researching my opportunities in doing a year's internship between my third

I also did a mock interview with CEEC which was invaluable practice for the real thing.

and forth year. My attention was drawn to Airbus, a civil aircraft manufacturer whom I had always been fascinated by. It was an eye-opening realisation that



CEEC them out: A useful place to seek work experience and advice

I might actually be able to work for a company like them with the experience I had gained at University.

I applied to Airbus via their rather long-winded online form. It sometimes felt like I'd never finish this and the whole process (including much procrastination and self-doubt) took me over a month. I also applied to several other companies in case Airbus didn't make me an offer. Months passed by and I was convinced I hadn't got the job, when out of the blue I was offered an interview at Airbus in Bristol. Panic set in as I scrambled around my circle of friends in an attempt to put together a

reasonably professional looking outfit. I also did a mock interview with CEEC which was invaluable practice for the real thing. I prepared good answers to Airbus' key competencies; I can't stress how important it is to get a good handle on answering competency-based questions as these are the cornerstone of many modern interview processes.

I was very nervous for the interview but it was reasonably painless – although they hit me with a couple of technical questions that I hadn't been expecting. I did my best to answer them, but am not sure how well my (genuine) excuse of missing a lecture

on hydraulic schematics for the Airbus interview explained my inability to interpret one! Two days later I was woken by an early call telling me I'd got the job. I was delighted, but joy soon turned to mild disappointment when I discovered I would be paid little over minimum wage for the year. Given that I'd be expected to move to Bristol for the post it made the decision more difficult than I'd imagined.

Nevertheless, in September 2008 I found myself moving into a frankly rather odd house-share in North Bristol, preparing for my first days at a company I'd always dreamed of working for. The first few weeks were very difficult. I didn't like where I was living, knew nobody in the Bristol area and found the work quite underwhelming to begin with. I found asking for help difficult, and was initially given seemingly menial tasks. I wasn't really sure who to turn to for more engaging work. I tried to be pro-active in pulling myself out of the doldrums, and soon made friends via the interns e-mailing list at work, and made regular trips back up North to see my family and friends.

The work remained a very up-and-down experience. There were times when I really enjoyed it and got great satisfaction from solving a problem or discovering an issue in my analysis. However I was often left feeling bored or under-used and the monotony of a desk job soon started to drive me mad. I tried wherever possible to get involved

with other 'developmental' activities, i.e. anything to get away from the desk for an hour. This led me to some of my favourite experiences: flying to Glasgow to help out at a careers fair, helping children with reading at a local primary school, demonstrating engineering principles at the Bath and West Show and even travelling to the Paris Air Show. I also got involved with some interesting projects in my engineering

It became apparent that if my CV were to truly shine I would need some industry experience before graduating

work, doing testing on full-scale landing gears and my personal highlight; testing new control software on a flight simulator in Toulouse. Whilst there, I even got the opportunity to visit the A380 Final Assembly Line.

So here I am today in my final year at Lancaster, having just taken a job on a graduate scheme with EDF Energy as a nuclear engineer. Whilst I didn't take a graduate role with Airbus, the internship showed me that I don't want a solely office-based job, and that I want to travel with work. Fear of the unknown is not necessarily a bad thing. What I did gain from my internship is several great friends, a fascinating insight into the technology behind a modern airliner and a spectacular piece of work experience to add to my CV.

Alumni Relations Programme

Final Year Students

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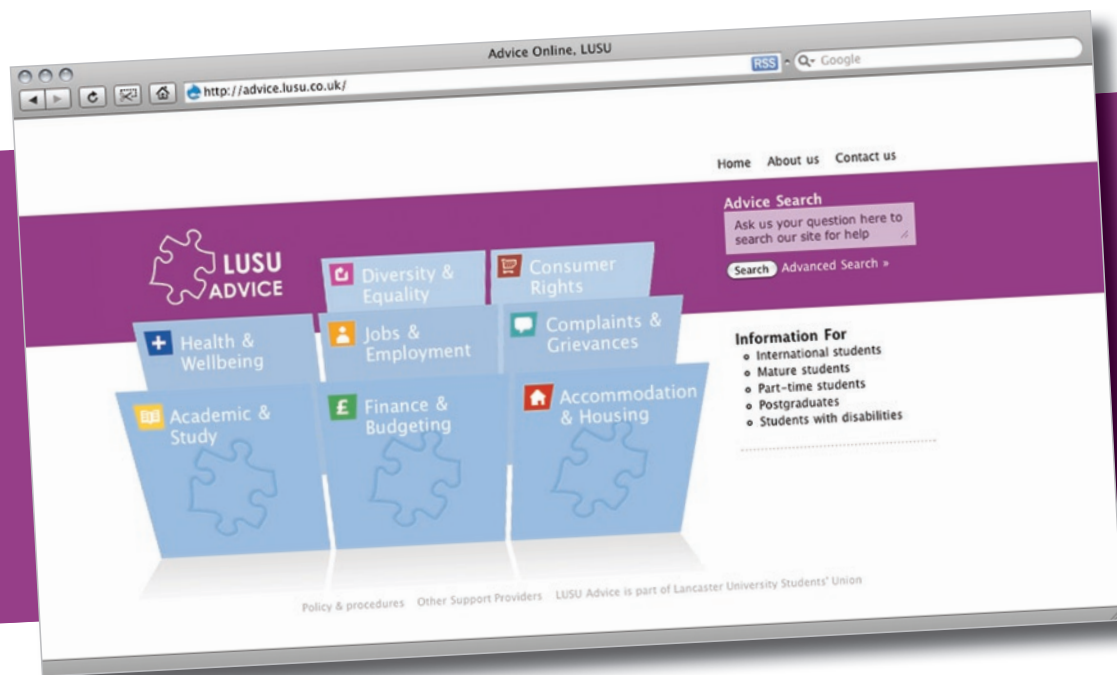
Groups and Associations - We have alumni groups in many countries. Our website gives details of relevant contacts.

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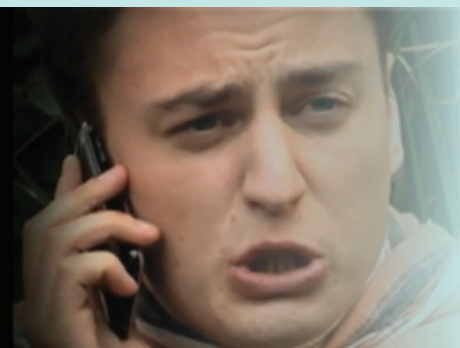
STUDENT STEREOTYPES

Everyone knows someone who can fit into the categories below, be it with the people you live with or students you know in lectures. Just be careful not to fall into the stereotypes yourself



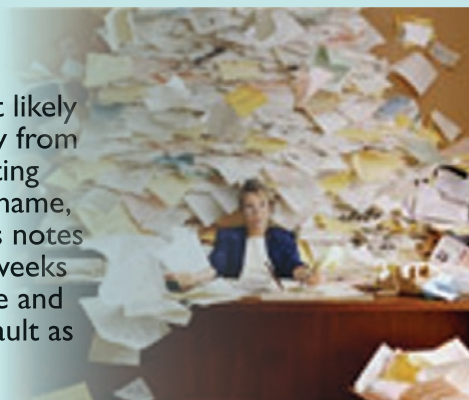
The Alcoholic
This is probably the type most students relate to. The party animal, the raver, the one that is always first one in and last one out; wasting their student loan becomes a hobby and a sport!

The Lazy One
Never in lectures? Always stealing notes? You qualify as the lazy student, being probably the most typical stereotype the "outside world" give us. But in all honesty, why care when you have your duvet?



The Rah
The rise of the "Rah" is quite strange. Guilty of a "Gap Yah", these hoodie wearing, backcombing rich kids seems to be springing up all over the place!

The Workaholic
Set for a first, the workaholic is most likely found in the library from open to close. Putting everyone else to shame, the workaholic has notes filed, essays done weeks before the deadline and probably has Foucault as bedtime reading



The Mooch
It's the person in your flat that you know took your last slice of bread and has been using your cutlery all year but no one ever says anything about it. You have to admire the cunningness of the mooch



Captain Bonny's world of food

Creating that international-local flavour!

AS THIS IS the last issue, I thought that it would be nice to review places that could entertain a good crowd of friends before they all go their separate ways. Also, a possible venue that would be ideal for a large family tuck in, aside from the other places I have already reviewed over the past year.

The first is Imran's (18 King Street), which is one of my favourite, and I must say most hospitable eating houses in town. Imran's specialises in Punjabi cuisine, and though some dishes are hot, it does have a wide range from the spicy to the mild. The twist on this place is that it is a buffet restaurant, so you pay one price of £7, which includes as much as you can eat and drink (though it is an alcohol free premises). It is ideal for vegans/veges etc, as well as having a nice selection of meat-based dishes. With a range of usual starters such as home-made samosas and fluffy spicy potatoes balls, as well as salad, then you feel that



the restaurant is out to please most tastes. Most I have spoken too, have praised this place, seeing it as one of the best but little known restaurants in Lancaster. It is quite sparse inside, and you do have to serve yourself, but that is the attraction, something a little different. When I sampled the delicacies from Imran's, my colleague thought the meat was a tiny bit stringy, but only in one of the dishes. One friend commented that the Lamb Jalfrezi was by her reckoning absolutely gorgeous with huge chunks of meat. For me as a vege, the Saag aloo (a mixture of spinach and potatoes) was pretty awesome with 'the Dhal' complementing it perfectly. Of course some will say that it doesn't offer the alcohol element, but when I went out with a crowd of mates, it seemed very natural to go to a good ale house afterwards, such as the Robert Gillow or the Sun Inn nearby. If you do need a pint with your meal then the Tapas bar, Latinos, on the other side of town (opposite the Town Hall) is your haunt. This place is actually the old Royal pub, but decided to be trendy, turning itself into a tapas bar. Unlike 1725 down

in the main square, it does have a much greater selection of dishes in their categories of meat, fish and Vege. Mixing and matching is of course the beauty of eating this type of food. What seems to be the icing on the cake for this restaurant is the big basket of bread one gets, so you can munch while waiting. Vege dishes such as roasted Camembert, Feta Stuffed peppers are a popular choice. For the meat eaters, the meat balls in the spicy tomato sauce are bit of treat, as are the pork and pepper kebabs. However, a new menu is in the midst of being constructed, and it is hoped that they will continue in the same vein. As with anywhere else, you do need to get in early. It does seem to have a habit of not opening until 5, and this place is definitely known for office outings, so either book or get in for first orders.

As already mentioned, this is a time for celebrating the ending of exams or going out with parents to be treated and spoiled. Over the year, I have tried to give a good range of destinations, with some a bit more quirky than others. If I was really pushed, then I would suggest that for a group night out, then either Imrans, tapas, or the Gregson might be a good choice, while for a family night out, then possibly the Plough (at Galgate) the Stork (at Conder Green) or the Borough. All of these are reasonable, and again, aside from the food, there is a range of good ale.

Campus icons

A glimpse into the life of Lancaster's famous faces

NAME: Davey Curnow-Garland

PROFESSION: Resident Tutor, Post Grad Student, Study Skills tutor

STARSIGN: Gemini



What is the best thing about Lancaster University?

It's got to be the view across the bay and the lakes, (though taking out the nuke plant would make it perfect!!)

Is there anything you'd recommend students do here before they leave?

Spend a tenner on a Lakes Rambler ticket, and spend a day soaking up the beauty and culture in the area.

Favorite bar on campus and why?

It's got to be Grad Bar. Cosmopolitan, but an old pub to boot and best pint of ale on campus!!

You were involved in One World Week, how long have you been involved with this?

8 years, on and off, though this year it had more of 'in the bar party element' which was different and effective!!

Why do you think you've been nominated as a campus icon?

Possibly because of the embarrassing pictures I have in my possession of the Scan editor from the recent national Doctor Who Convention! Daleks me dear.... Daleks! I say no more!

What is your best memory of all your time at Lancaster?

Too many to count, but the most funniest was seeing 7 students dressed as gorillas and one as a banana. They were dancing outside grad bar during the beer festival. As you can guess, the more ale the gorillas had, the more dangerous it became for the banana!

Any words of wisdom to give to graduating students?

I tell my students to bugger off and fly the Jolly Roger for a year: i.e., travel the globe, cause a bit of trouble saving the planet or sticking up for the little fella and get the odd job as a Bollywood extra or fruit picker!

My first year was amazing- let's hope the next two are even better

Fresher, Matt Haslam, reminisces about his first year at Lancaster

I ARRIVED TO campus on my first day to see a flood of banners urging us to 'Honk if you're from Lonsdale!' The Reps cheered when I leant over to pip the horn, which was when I realised that I definitely chose the right university to go to!

I was immediately made welcome when my House Rep came right up to the car to take me to the Porters' Lodge, this was a welcoming feeling that continued throughout Freshers' Week and still exists today. Arriving in my accommodation was just as I imagined it – quiet, nervous faces saying 'Hi'. We broke the ice at the table over a cup of tea, discussing what we were going to do with the 32 plates we had between us. I immediately got on with all my housemates, despite early concerns that I was living with two Manchester United fans. Fortunately, these concerns soon disappeared with the presentation of a bottle of Jim Bean whiskey and a Budweiser mini-fridge in the kitchen.

Freshers' Week was brilliant and our Kitchen/House Reps were so important in showing us the campus, the town and more importantly, the bars! We all still keep in touch with them and they've become great mates.

The biggest change I realised was that getting up for a nine o'clock lecture was the worst thing ever! I



clearly forgot that I got up at 7:00 everyday for the last seven years for school and sixth form. Waking up an hour and half later than this, at 8:30, required a coffee, red bull and many a Pro Plus. The other thing that struck me was the closeness of everyone in different years – there was no difference! At college, year 12 and year 13 would sit on different sides of the common room and anyone two or three years above would hardly ever talk to you. Compared to our first night, when four third year students came and sat in our kitchen to eat their jacket potatoes because it was

cold outside, I could tell the college life meant we were a big family and friendly community.

To summarise this first year: mornings don't exist, our livers are troopers, our wallets are generally empty and lectures are a great place to catch up on sleep (erm I mean learn things). You seem to become more proud of where you come from because of the diversity of people here and appreciate home and the food/laundry/money/transport privileges you have there. But we wouldn't change this first year for the world!

Recipes for disaster

Poppy Goodbrand puts our culinary skills to the test

Chocolate Chip Cookies

For the kind of cookies you get from a bakery, follow this simple recipe for these "to die for" cookies

Ingredients

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 3/4 cup unsalted butter, melted
- 1 cup packed brown sugar
- 1/2 cup white sugar
- 1 tablespoon vanilla extract
- 1 egg
- 1 egg yolk
- 2 cups chocolate chips



Method

1. Preheat the oven to 325 degrees F (165 degrees C). Grease cookie sheets or line with parchment paper.

2. Sift together the flour, baking soda and salt; set aside.

3. In a medium bowl, cream together the melted butter, brown sugar and white sugar until well blended. Beat in the vanilla, egg, and egg yolk until light and creamy.

4. Mix in the sifted ingredients until just blended. Stir in the chocolate chips by hand using a wooden spoon. Drop cookie dough 1/4 cup at a time onto the prepared cookie sheets. Cookies should be about 3 inches apart.

5. Bake for 15 to 17 minutes in the preheated oven, or until the edges are lightly toasted. Cool on baking sheets for a few minutes before transferring to wire racks to cool completely.

Looking back on the time of our lives

With her university experience coming to an end, Jo Taylor takes a trip down memory lane

WOW I HAVE finally finished university! It's so crazy to think because all of my life I have been waiting for this moment, and now it's here. Melodramatic or what?! Four short years ago, I packed my bags and left home in search of the sights and sounds of Lancaster, and I must admit that I wasn't expecting a lot, seeing as it is such a quiet little city. How wrong could I have been though?! Within hours of the parents leaving I was plunged into Fresher's week madness. The atmosphere on my first night was just electric: hundreds of new students, all my age, all looking to meet new people and have fun. I settled in straight away. That night seems so long ago now though, and looking back on my four years, I am overwhelmed with emotion. Half of me is happy to be leaving, the other half is not so ready to be entering the big, bad (real) world.

I chose Lancaster because it is far enough from home to provide delicious independence from my family, but close enough that an hour-and-a-half drive would shoot me straight into my parents' house to stock up on Mum-hugs, Dad-advice and bags full of food and clean washing. I looked forward to going to university because it would mean a chance to follow a course of



study which really interested me. The bonus would of course be that when, in four years, I graduated from university, I would feel more than ready to enter the real world. Do I though?! I have come to realise that I have grown up at uni. I am a completely different person

from the immature, wisdom-tooth-less 18-year-old who stumbled into Pendle College four years ago, nervous about meeting her roommates. I'm certainly not saying that after four years I know it all. In fact, I would guess that I know little to nothing about anything. It's OK

though, because all 21-year-olds are naïve. We've experienced a lot, but still not in the real-world sense; we have still been protected by the university umbrella. There's nothing wrong with being naïve though, it's part of the maturation process. At least now I can

realise that, and can embrace it.

Everyone knows students are lazy, and if I was anything to go by, they'd be right. Lancaster is the lazy student's haven, and I will certainly miss rolling out of bed in the morning and the lecture theatre being a mere 2 minute walk away. Everything is literally on your doorstep. What will I miss most though? This lazy lifestyle? My flat-mates? The Sugarhouse? The drinking games? Having the time to do what ever I want? I'll miss it all in fact. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time here, as I have been challenged both academically and emotionally. A year living, studying and working in Paris has been the highlight for me, and I miss those times already. The sense of having journeyed with my fellow students and friends is very strong. We have all loved, laughed and cried together on each and every challenging occasion. This journey is not over yet though... just this particular pathway has come to an end. Another one is before me and before all of us. Being at Lancaster has been a great experience, but I am now looking forward to the next step. We have to look back to look forward, and I shall look back with fond memories, and given the chance, I would do it all over again!

A his and hers guide to smelling great

Student Life Editor Lauren Ronsdale gives the low-down on what smells great on guys

We all smell, you smell, I smell, it's one of the big five senses, and no one likes a bad smell! If I were to choose my favourite smell, well nothing beats the scent of a full English breakfast, the sizzling of bacon, the odour of cooked potato cakes, though as Versace have yet to bring out an 'eau de Fry up', and even if they did no girl would wear it, looks like I'm going to have to stick to trying out the more mainstream fragrances available at this time.

As I perused the aisles, looking for a decent scent, I stumbled upon this little gem. 'Char-



lie Glam' with a very small price tag (£1.69) is fruity and smells like strawberry quality street tastes, absolutely sublime and I give it 4 and a half stars!

The body shop has many an interesting treasure to unearth, my personal favourite being body shops own 'Nevali Jasmine' (£8.50) which like Ronseal (sort of) does exactly what it says on the tin by smelling like Jasmine, and I give it a full 4 stars.

Usually I don't associate myself with Kate Moss, I'm not very fashion conscientious and her clothes don't really fit me, so I was slightly out of the loop when it came to guessing what exactly her fragrance was going to smell like. To my surprise for Velvet Hour (£19.90/100ml) the outcome was pleasant. Though a bit on the pricey side, this gains a reasonable three and a half stars from me, the smell reminding me of freshly picked



blackcurrants. And now for my "to avoid" section, and 'So superstar' is my recommendation. You know that smell of sweaty men, well this reminds me too much of a steamy changing room. It is awful, though definitely a must have if you're going for that just out of gym smell. I give it minus two stars and a very disgusted face.

To conclude, all peoples' tastes are different. If something smells bad to you, you know there is one person out there who will enjoy it. Something about peoples pheromones or their own natural scent, I don't know, go ask a smell psychologist about it (not sure what the study of it is called, stankology perhaps?) And as peoples tastes vary, I do advise you ignore me, my views are irrelevant, who knows better what you like to smell than yourself! Unless of course 'eau de fry up' does become the Number 1 perfume in the known universe, then I've either got excellent taste, I'm somehow psychic, or I am unknowingly a perfume god!

Chris Gandhi gives a guy's perspective on the very best of female fragrances

No one likes a bad smell. The term "Hanging around like a bad smell" is nothing anyone wants to hear about themselves. But the "smell of success" is incredibly important. However, what exactly is it? What 'eau is enough to wow any girl, win any promotion and still smell manly enough to be considered a lad?

First off, we trailed the aisles of Boots and Superdrug to find a great spray for any man. My favourite spray and shower gel set was "Lynx Recover" (£2.85 for the spray) It has a fresh and fruity fragrance and was different to the other sprays Lynx has to offer (especially better than the classics like "Africa") Plus, "Recover" is designed to snap you out of that post-Carleton hangover and get you ready for that 9 A.M lecture. A vibrant fragrance ready for summer and a definite 3 stars from me.

In my search for an eve-



ryday masculine scent, I chose Calvin Klein "Summer." (£24.95/100ml) Although expensive, this is an amazing fragrance. I love this scent! It's long lasting so it's good for daytime and persistent enough to be a night time scent as well. It's clean, strong but not too dominating. One for the ladies man, the business man and the lad about town, I give it 5 Stars.

Whilst both of the above smells are fresh and distinctive, there were some definite smells to avoid. Despite the promotions, there is no way that "Lynx Dark Temptation" smells like chocolate. It's strong, sickly and sweet. Plus, it's sticky which emphasises its sugary smell. It's not one I'd recommend. Similarly, I was

dismayed to find how many fragrances smelt like an average older man. In particular, FCUK's "1972" smells like it should have bell bottoms and a blazer. It's a step back rather than a step forward. Its dominant smell is straight out of the 1970's.

Something to also be careful of is quantities. Lots of smells are great in small doses but a large amount can go wrong. Diesel's "Masculine" (£10.20/100ml) has a lovely scent but too much borders on Windolene or Fairy Liquid. Beware, most fragrances are lovely and its



personal preference but there can be too much of a good thing. Beware lads, smelling good is very, very important.

Lecture break

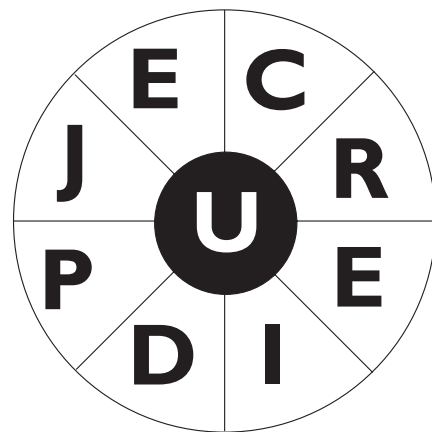
How to do Su Doku.
Fill the grid of that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9.

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The Wheel

Using the given letter no more than once, make as many words as possible of four or more letters, always including the central letter. Capitalised words, plurals, conjugated verbs, adverbs ending in LY, comparatives and superlatives are disallowed.

The golden age of American TV

Lauren Randall

AMERICAN TELEVISION HAS hit a purple patch. Be it series about warped islands, a mobster's psychiatric issues or Baltimore cops, they've developed sophisticated shows blurring the margin between film and television. Where does this leave British television, which always seems to be playing catch-up? Sure, we knock out a good period drama, but can we compete with the number of high-quality shows crossing the pond or are our styles just too different?

Firstly, US television seems to have oodles of money. Unless you're Doctor Who, British television isn't one to flash the cash. Modesty isn't a flaw but it does pale in comparison to the no-expense-spared attitude stateside. Money's spent on acquiring the best of everything. House has Bryan Singer (The Usual Suspects) championing it whilst Ridley Scott (Alien) produces

The Good Wife. And, naturally, their stunts are spectacular. Lost has that plane crash. Battlestar Galactica has realistic space dogfights. Even Desperate Housewives throws in a few stupendous set-pieces. Entertainment in the US is frequent, with capital letters and exclamation marks.

Money also means big-name actors. US television is a credible way of reigniting careers. Five-time Oscar-nominee Glenn Close is incredible in Damages, arguably the most complex character of her career. Kiefer Sutherland, always having a very bad day, got the role of his career by turning to television with 24, so popular it's getting its own film. Sadly our own actors don't seem as enamoured with home-grown shows, opting for stateside studios a la Hugh Laurie and Gabriel Byrne.

There's also more leeway in the States. Yes, there's all sorts of debauchery in Shameless but Channel 4 can't top the dirty habits of its US counterpart HBO, a breeding-ground



President's seal of approval: Hit television show The West Wing ran for six seasons and won numerous awards, and represents a creative peak for the American TV industry

for obscenities, nudity and violence. If you think The Office is hide-behind-your-hands embarrassing then you'd barely make it through ten minutes of Curb your Enthusiasm, depicting the cringe-making 'life' of social disaster and Seinfeld writer Larry David. Even Ricky Gervais admitted that his show wasn't as daring as David's. Networks like HBO remove the shackles and encourage audacious television. Unfortunately for us we have people ringing up Ofcom every other minute doing their best to clamp the handcuffs on.

Yet, for all their splendour, American television is perhaps not as ad-

vanced as it seems. Notoriously ruthless – removing shows like Firefly after one series – America demands instant success. Understandable really, with all that money, but still a little callous. Britain, meanwhile, couldn't be more different. We're so generous that we gave My Family ten years to try and get it right. I mean, really. It's not even as if we overegg the television pudding. Most acclaimed series last for a couple of seasons, like Extras and Life on Mars. That's another thing with. We don't particularly care about ratings. A generalisation I know but indulge me. Shows can attract few

viewers to begin with, usually by being on digital channels, but are given the necessary time to find their feet. Gavin and Stacey wasn't on BBC1 until after its second series and it's been one of the biggest and best hits.

Maybe the differences are positive. The gloss of The West Wing and Glee is aesthetically apt to the States, in the same way that the awkward realism of The Thick of It and The Inbetweeners is to us. We're able to recognise the grotty estates of Shameless and the David Brents in the offices. Maybe it works a little better that there's no definitive name headlining the shows. They don't seem to be struggling without one. Yes, there could be more risk but, at the same time, British television has been branching out and trying new things, like the impeccable mini-series Red Riding. At the same time homeliness and simplicity can be perfection too. Who says you need money to have a good time? As always, Britain seems to be doing it its own way, in its own time.

Leaving University...

...Before you say goodbye to Lancaster there's still time to get things sorted!

MONEY:

- do you owe anyone money?
- does anyone owe you money?

YOUR ACCOMMODATION:

- Is it in the same condition as when you moved in?
- Attend to anything that might cost you money

If you have any concerns, contact LUSU Advice and look out for the postcards with more information



24/7 Advice & Information for Lancaster Students

advice.lusu.co.uk



Living in a Cave

By Cal King



It makes sense that so much of Britain's TV comes from overseas; when we're left to our own devices, we make things like Come Dine with Me and that comedy programme - you know, the one where Jeremy Kyle makes fat people cry.

But luckily we live right next to Europe, the land of Versace, Ikea, and the Crazy Frog. The quality might be mixed, but those wacky mainland Europeans can be a lot of fun - and that's why I like to think I'm not the only man in Britain who, once a year, prints out a scorecard, locks his testicles away in a desk drawer, and sits down to watch the Eurovision Song Contest.

I'm not ashamed (I'm a little ashamed) to tell you just how much I love it; for one night of the year, I discover countries I didn't realise were actually in Europe (Israel, Azerbaijan, Spain), I marvel at how recently the 80's seem to have arrived in Moldova, and I gasp at the size of the Armenian entrant's breasts (really big).

It might all be cheesier than an episode of Glee, but that's the reason it's so much fun. We as a nation aren't above it all either; every year we enter, and every year the rest of Europe puts us in our place. This year Serbia fielded an entry with a singer that looked like a cross between an Afghan hound and H from Steps that had melted under the hot studio lights - and they still finished twelve places above us.

Each year the host nation puts on an interval show, which takes place while the votes are counted so the audience doesn't have time to realise how much of a pointless waste of life the whole thing is. Every year sees something bigger and weirder than the rest; last year, Russia confused everyone by lowering weird dancers-in-birthing-pools from the ceiling onto a fairly freaked out audience. This year it was Norway's turn, and they decided on a flashmob, with thousands of people all around Europe doing the same dance at the same time.

I was blown away by how wonderful and unstaged it all looked, but then stumbled across some YouTube videos of the rehearsals where I could hear someone off-screen barking orders as hundreds of terrified Lithuanian performing arts students danced falteringly, their stitched smiles masking their terror. One girl at the side stumbled slightly and fell to the floor, but did anybody help her? Of course not. This is Eurovision.

Ignoring the slightly sinister facts behind the big European Flashmob Extravaganza, it was really well done. Eurovision is known for being tacky and tasteless, but Norway managed to find a way to make the event look vaguely classy, and the big dance was a nice way of bringing all the competing nations together.

Finally, since I'm (hopefully) graduating in July, this is my last column. Thanks for having me, and to any Glee fans I offended, I apologise. And if you're a fan of Twilight... I'm not sorry.

The art and inspiration of a 21st Century world

Poppy Goodbrand

FOR TWENTY TWO final year students the Lancaster Fine Art Degree show running from 15th - 23rd June marks not only the end of their time at university, but the start of their professional artistic careers. The students will display their most poignant pieces, the results of three years of laborious and insightful work, inside the Peter Scott Gallery. A variety of contemporary aims and themes, pieces range from experimental portraiture to the deconstruction of traditional archiving, paying tribute to their ideology of the 'informed practitioner'. Indeed, as Amber Bowden, member of the marketing team behind Twenty Ten who will be exhibiting her paintings in the show explains:

"Individual artists engage with an extensive range of disciplines, from new media to taxidermy, with some students even challenging the borders between science and art."

As demonstrated by the exhibits, twenty-first century living has opened doors and influenced the students' practices giving room for great creativity and experimentalism; however aspects of tradition still remain pertinent,

bringing traditional values into modern day contemplation. Despite their work being conceptual, the students' personal development shines through; energetic and colourful, the pieces reflect the young artists' learning, passion and a variety of artistic techniques, strong surges of creativity that provoke emotions as well as admiration for their originality and beauty. As the students' coordinator and tutor Jane Rushton proudly asserts:

"In Twenty Ten we give you twenty-two, (mainly) twenty-odd year olds who go out into the world with the ability to make visually sensitive and intelligent art, who can reflect on their practice, articulate their aims and values, and understand its historical and conceptual context."

These are young artists that have not only strived to create credible and informed pieces of art but who have also worked extremely hard for the opportunity of presenting them to the public. With support from LICA (Lancaster Institute of Contemporary Arts), Lancaster Alumni and the local community the students raised £2000 in order to create and market the exciting exhibition, fund the private opening event on 15th June and design a professional catalogue representing each of the students with their personal statements and images of their work.



Experimental art: The exhibition features a vast array of creative styles

resenting each of the students with their personal statements and images of their work.

In addition to the show held in the Peter Scott gallery, each student will be displaying a unique body of work in the studio space next to the gallery where the spectator can gain an insight into their individual artistic worlds - each demonstrating their own experimentalism and together forming Northern England's up and coming contemporary artists.

The catalogue of the work will be on sale at the price of £2 and can be pre-

viewed online at: <http://www.lancs.ac.uk/fass/exhibitions/art2010.pdf>.

Twenty-Ten are:

Ellie Barrett, Rebecca Bishop, Amber Bowden, Mariandrie Chrysostomou, Sarah Churlish, Victoria Gray, Jenny Green, Shona Harrison, Katy Hatherley, Vicky Hughes, Anastazia Kalivitou, Sarah Marriner, Chloé McClellan, Christian Mills, Grace Owen, Bex Shindler, Meredith Stoakes, Kat Stoney, Judy Taylor, Emma Turner, Joanna Wood and Jenna Wrigglesworth

Young and talented: Lancaster's very own answers to Spielberg and Scorsese

Amy Charles

ON THE 1ST of this month, I was lucky enough to attend LU Shorts, a viewing of films written and directed by four talented university students held at The Dukes playhouse. I turned up, not knowing what to expect, with actors, directors, and everyone else part of the Lancaster University Independent Film Society all anticipating the start of the show.

Choosing a good seat, I had paper and pen in hand, and eventually the lights dimmed (well, when I say dimmed I mean turned off completely, resulting in my embarrassing realisation that I was to make notes in the dark), and the first image we were presented with was from James Harvey's film Desire, with a noticeably tormented young man forcing himself to vomit. The scene was appealing, as it unfortunately revealed itself familiar to me, bringing back memories of plenty of times I've watched friends puke their insides out after a night out. However, as a person interested in the meaning of small detail, a striking red flower in a plant pot placed neatly on top of the toilet attracted my attention more than the invalid did. It contrasted greatly against the pale surroundings of the room, the colour red acting al-



Hanging: A supernatural film about obsession by Julian Surface (Photo: Ben Robins)

most as a warning sign to tell us that this was no usual vomiting escapade. Almost instantly, the young man, who we find out to be bulimic, took

the flower and ate the soil, enabling him to achieve his violent vomiting end.

It was from then on I learnt that Harvey, creator of the Lancaster University Independent Film Society, had a talent at shocking his audience with his interesting portrayals of the visual, while getting his character's to partake in some alarming events. Particularly in this film, with other uncomfortable scenes such as attempted suicide, and masturbation. And how lucky I was to be sat next to the father of the actor convincingly playing this character, second year Theatre Studies student Michael Cole, during such a joyous occasion.

As for Harvey's second film, Dirt, I am happy to agree with the praise I heard it get for its powerful visual imagery. The themes of this film however proved most interesting, concentrating closely on both the burden of motherhood, and loss of innocence. It had many commanding shots of the young female lead filmed in natural surroundings while naively playing with a gun she found. The dominant man made object helped carry a feeling of destruction of the natural, which mirrored the girl's actions of accidentally killing her mum's friend at the end of the film.

The project which appeared to test the actor's abilities the most however was Julian Surface's film Hanging,

with elements of the supernatural, youthful obsession and even a hint of feminism. The feminist aspect of the film particularly struck me as it was portrayed through a gender role reversal, with the female character rapping her boyfriend. Gilly Hulse who played the role, gave a powerful performance of the conflicted nature of love, while co-star Luke Weeks successfully took on the character which revealed the destructive student, destroying his life before it properly begins. However, the decision to shoot some parts of the film in busy areas caused difficulty with sound, and I struggled to hear what the actors were saying a lot of the time.

With Harvey and Surface stealing the limelight for acting, I have to admit that it was Matthew Anderson's film A Lost Dream that had the biggest effect on me as a whole. Anderson's choice of images and sound made up a gorgeous treat for the senses, the voice-over and music completely captivating me, so much so that I couldn't stop to make notes. The story that was told left a feeling of uncertainty of destination, and the on-going journey people take to find joy in their life. With vibrant images contrasted with the natural decaying of nature, there was a sense of growth and the non-stopping of time which really moved me throughout the film.

The Reviews

The Gig by Hannah Fearon, Culture Editor



The Rage Factor
Headliners: Rage
 Against the Machine
Support Acts: Gallows,
 Roots Manuva, Gogol
 Bordello
Venue: Finsbury Park
Date: Sunday 6th June

ON 20TH DECEMBER 2009, Rage Against the Machine made music history. For the previous four years, reality Television show, The X Factor, had claimed the Christmas No.1 spot. What Cowell and co didn't count on was Jon and Tracy Morter creating a facebook group encouraging people to purchase Rage Against the Machine's 'Killing in the Name' in an effort to beat X Factor winner Joe McElderry. The Morters started the group in order to bring back the way in which the music charts used to be "exciting" and unpredictable.

Touched by the Morter's efforts and with support from the public, lead singer of Rage, Zach De la Rocha declared that the band would perform a free concert in the UK to celebrate the win. So when Rage Against the Machine duly beat Joe McElderry, selling over 500,000 copies of a single first released eighteen years earlier, Rage kept their promise.

In February 2010, the public were encouraged to register for the chance to attend the free gig planned for Finsbury Park on 6th June. Registration was needed in order to ensure that people

would not sell the tickets on, as photographs were to be printed on them. After registering, the tickets were released on a rolling lottery, allowing people to get through to the ticket booking page online at random times. I was one of the 40,000 lucky people to get hold of one of these "golden" tickets.

The gates to Finsbury Park opened at 2pm. I entered the park to find a huge festival style venue, with a complete fairground and plenty of overpriced food stalls and bars. After travelling for almost five hours to get to the gig, my sleepy and rather impatient state quickly disappeared. There were DJs performing from 2pm, and the first support act, Gallows, took the stage at 5:20pm. I had never really listened to the band before, but they opened with a fantastic rendition of the Sex Pistols' 'God Save the Queen', an apt choice for the event. Gallows were highly energetic and enjoyable to watch, performing a few of their own songs and another cover, this time from another London band, The Clash. 'We Fought the Law' was another great choice for the gig, successfully gearing the crowd up for the rest of the evening.

Next on were Roots Manuva, but I felt that their lack of energy in comparison to Gallows meant that the crowd lost interest, many people returning to take seats on the ground or make another trip to the bar. New York "gypsy punk band" Gogol Bordello were a vast improvement on this. I had never listened to the band before but I was very pleasantly surprised. The band has an amazing presence on stage and certainly got the crowd going. Whilst I wasn't familiar with any of their music, I found myself

dancing along with the crowd, bringing my energy levels back up.

A huge seven hours after the gates opened, Rage Against the Machine took to the stage. The band's appreciation of what their fans had done for them was clear in their performance, which was outstanding. Rage had masses of people jumping around to their music, along with the countless numbers who managed to break in to the venue. Halfway through their set, legendary guitarist Tom Morello introduced Jon and Tracy Morter, the couple that started the Rage Factor campaign. Morello then presented the Morters with a cheque for Shelter, donating all of the proceeds from the sale of the single to the charity.

Highlights of Rage's set included an outstanding cover of The Clash's 'White Riot', emphasising the band's political tone. Morello's many guitars used in the night also included messages such as "Shelter" and "Arm the Homeless". However, the high point of the whole event was without a doubt the performance of the chart topping single, 'Killing in the Name'. The whole audience were screaming along to the infamous vocals, "F*** you, I won't do what you tell me".

One thing I would criticise is the organisation of the event exit, which consisted of one gate for 40,000 fans. This led to police blocking off all the roads in the area which caused uproar amongst the fans and involved several arrests and injuries.

Despite the increasingly violent atmosphere at the gig, with alcohol induced fights and objects such as shoes and bottles flying across the audience, attending The Rage Factor was certainly a privilege.

The Play by James Anderson

A Clockwork Orange: A Play With Music



Mention the title; 'A Clockwork Orange', and invariably a person's thoughts are drawn to Stanley Kubrick's 1971 film adaptation of Anthony Burgess' famous dystopian tale. Lancaster University Theatre Group developed their own theatrical version of this literary 60s classic, and somehow combined it with music?

The Nuffield theatre has been arranged specifically for the event, with a central stage and large round tables surrounding the stage. Allowing the audience to combine an evening in the theatre with their drinks, something that most students would definitely approve.

The tale is told in two acts, the first half is the lead-up to the infamous Ludovico technique, whilst the second half deals with the consequences. This is in contrast to the original three acts, but suits the dramatisation perfectly.

The production begins with a song where the instrumental music is light-hearted, thinly veiling the menacing lyrics which carry their threatening message; violence is coming. But a problem arises with this play because the audience is given very little time to come to grips with the protagonist's, Alex, mode of speech before the action commences. Consequently some of the meaning could be lost.

This version is described as "a play with music," where the music is singing. Unfortunately one member of the cast, for whatever reason, did not deliver to the same standard as the rest and this detracted slightly from the experience. I hope that on subsequent nights this problem did not occur. The verdict? Well, considering the ticket is priced at £6 for students, this particular version of Burgess' tale is definitely worth seeing.

The Film by Hannah Baines

Prince of Persia



From the creators of Pirates of the Caribbean comes the first of another action film franchise. Set in 6th century Persia, the story follows Dastan (Jake Gyllenhaal) and Princess Tamina (Gemma Arterton) teaming up to prevent a mystical dagger from falling into the wrong hands. Showing bravery as a child, orphan Dastan is adopted into royalty by King Sharman, though retains his unrefined ways.

Although the storyline is generally predictable, there are some unexpected parts. Whenever the constant fighting becomes in danger of boring the audience, comic moments appear, including an ostrich race and some comments a little too rude for a Disney film. Loosely tied to the video game it was based on, the film has drawn criticism for not sticking closely enough to the original story. It has also however been criticized for the use of English accents, despite this being a trait of the game, because they make the characters unrealistic. Major highlights include the special effects, the fight scenes involving the ninja-like Hassansins and Gyllenhaal's attempt at parkour, all stunts being carried out by the actors themselves. Thought to be a critique of the Bush Administration's motivations for the Iraq war, the film repeatedly implies the immorality in attacking an innocent city without objective evidence. Overall, this film is enjoyable provided you don't have particularly high expectations.



The Play by Lauren Randall

Tea in a China Cup



Tea In A China Cup, written by Northern Irish playwright Christina Reid, completed a two night run under the supervision of director Sabrina McNally and producer Sam Monk. A bittersweet, bleakly-observant play, the script focuses on three generations of women maintaining dignity and tradition in the midst of war, Protestant-Catholic conflict and community crisis. That makes it sound much heavier-handed than it is. Thankfully, the play contains many wonderful set pieces and genuine comedic nuances which tinge the melancholy and despair with everyday humour.

The cast do especially well in maintaining this balance. Easily the stand-out performer, Liz Boardman as 'Sarah', a performance ranging from a young woman to an old dying woman, is the real heart of the piece. Boardman, in her last performance for LUTG, delivers such a precise performance that you're almost left wanting when she's not on stage. Moving deftly from comedic childbirth to touching scenes in her old age to defiance in the face of terror, she never loses the true essence of her character. McNally is clearly passionate about the play – each scene was lavished with precise attention to detail – but is let down by the sporadic pacing of the script. Whilst the first half of the play zipped by with sharp dialogue and interesting incidents, post-interval the scenes felt a tad overlong and wrung-out.

Despite being let down slightly by a sluggish second act, Tea In A China Cup was well worth a watch, proving a provocative and emotive piece of theatre. Didn't half make me fancy a cuppa after it, as well.

Carter Shield Finals Day

Fylde come of age and secure their first Carter Shield triumph in six years

Nick O'Malley
witnesses Fylde return to the pinnacle of inter-college sport and claim their 21st Carter Shield crown

THE FINAL SUNDAY of May marked the conclusion of the Carter Shield season, with Fylde emerging triumphant after narrowly seeing off defending champions Grizedale. The victory was Fylde's 21st in the history of the competition, but they have had to wait six long years to add to their impressive title haul.

In the intervening years the "sporting college" has had to witness both Grizedale and Bowland wrestle away their stranglehold on the Carter Shield. Finals Day 2010 was when Fylde were able to finally emerge from the shadows and reclaim their position at the forefront of inter-college sport.

There were plenty of points still to play for as only three of the four semi-finals on the day were already confirmed; Ultimate Frisbee, Touch Rugby and Rounders. The final event was Tug of war with a full 15 points available to the winning college.

"I am extremely pleased and excited to have won back the Carter Shield after four years of trying... I feel that winning this trophy symbolises our college's desire for sporting success." - Ste Rutter, Fylde Sports Rep

The first event of finals day was Ultimate Frisbee. Graduate College, who were by far the best team in the group stages, competed in just their second Carter Shield event of the season, and were once again unable to find a full allocation of players so had to forfeit their semi-final against County.

Pendle easily outclassed Grizedale in the other semi-final to prevent them from adding to their Carter Shield tally, much to Fylde's delight. The final was an extremely tight encounter between Pendle and County, with the few chances that were created snuffed out by the opposition's defence.

Samuel Grimshaw and Jonathan Rodd provided inspiring performances in the end though, and managed to carve open the County defence to score the only goal of the game to help Pendle win the event.

The second event of the day was Touch Rugby featuring Grizedale up against County, and Bowland against Fylde, with plenty more points to play for. However, all did not go to plan for the two colleges fighting for the Shield, as both lost their semi-finals to superior opposition, setting up a Bowland versus County final.

Once again it was an extremely tight encounter with only three tries scored in the whole match. It was Bowland who came out on top though with a dominant display; and the stand out performers being John Bekalo and Gavin Reid.

In winning the Rugby, Bowland all but assured a third placed finish ahead of Lonsdale in fourth, a great achievement for such a small college, but it's fair to say they were hoping for much more than third.

The next event of finals day was Rounders, which saw Lonsdale drawn against Pendle, and Fylde up against Grizedale. The latter was a massive game in terms of the direction the Carter Shield was heading this year, as it had the potential for a 12 point swing.

Fylde had a much improved side out from the group stages and eased past Grizedale into the semi-finals, winning by 4 rounders. In the other semi-final Lonsdale destroyed Pendle 15-4, having hit the maximum of 15 rounders within the allotted 15 minutes and bowling out the bemused Pendle team in double-quick time.

However, Fylde were much greater opposition in the final for Lonsdale. After winning the toss and selecting to bat first, Kieran Waterson and Nik McCarthy set Lonsdale a fantastic target of seven to beat.

Chris Houston bowled amazingly under pressure, and helped run out Lonsdale's best batter, Luke Fielding on the very first ball of the innings. This put Lonsdale on the back foot, and they never fully recovered, managing only 4.5 rounders. This saw Fylde go a further six points clear of Grizedale, opening up a nine point gap in the table with only one event left to play, Tug of War.

After a very long and gruelling afternoon of sport there was only one event which could determine the destination of the Carter Shield. As Cartmel, Furness and Graduate were not there for finals day, two groups of three were drawn for the Tug of War. The group to keep an eye on was Fylde's, as realistically they only needed to win against one of their two opponents to qualify for the semi-final and secure the Carter Shield.

Fylde got off to a perfect start with a victory over Bowland which brought them nine points that guaranteed them the Carter Shield. However, Fylde were not finished yet as they despatched of Pendle in the group stages to guarantee their overall win. This sparked wild celebrations for Fylde competitors and fans alike.

Elsewhere in the other group, Grizedale came first with Lonsdale coming second. Lonsdale, powered on by Azmi Sbaiti and Luke Nutbeen, easily despatched Fylde in the semis to set up a rematch against Grizedale in the final. Grizedale came out on top in the Tug of War thanks to Jack Kenny, James Braybrook and Jamie Stokes among others.



Fun at the Finals Day (clockwise from top): Bowland secured victory in an entertaining Touch Rugby final against County thanks to the efforts of Gavin Reid (pictured in red). Grizedale saw off a strong Lonsdale challenge to take the full 15 points available in the Tug of War. Pendle claimed victory in the Ultimate Frisbee final; a single goal was enough to beat their opponents County.

College, Ste Rutter spoke to SCAN after his college's victory. He said: "I am extremely pleased and excited to have won back the Carter Shield after four years of trying."

"Aveline Cruickshank and I along with the JCR have been working extremely hard this year to further raise the profile of sports within our college in order to live up to our name and I feel that winning this trophy symbolises our college's desire for sporting success."

Although Fylde only won the Carter Shield by three points, they were undoubtedly deserved winners, having won five of the 12 events throughout the year, and making it to all but one of the semi-finals.

Rutter also took the time to thank all of the other college's sports representatives and the inter-college sports co-ordinators, Marc Handley and Lauren Forrester, for making the Carter Shield the fantastic success it was this year.

IC Sports co-ordinator, Marc Handley, echoed these sentiments and thanked "each College's JCRs, and in particular sports representatives for all the hard work they have put in this year."

Sports representative for Fylde

One of the main reasons for the fantastic success of the Carter Shield this year was down to the cash prizes and incentives provided by Marc and Lauren for the college with the highest turn-out to the taster sessions. These prizes went to Bowland College in the two terms where the prizes were available.

Carter Shield Final Table, 2010

		Pts
1	Fylde	150.0
2	Grizedale	147.0
3	Bowland	120.0
4	Lonsdale	103.0
5	County	94.0
6	Pendle	74.0
7	Cartmel	68.0
8	Furness	29.0
9	Graduate	12.0

AU Awards Ceremony

Celebrating a year of sporting success

Julian Surface reports from a day where jubilant teams and individuals are rewarded for their efforts and endeavour

THE ATHLETICS UNION had their annual awards ceremony on Wednesday 9 June and it recalled some of the superb achievements that Lancaster University has achieved in sporting events this year.

The ceremony opened with Vice President of Sports Sue Wynes giving a speech on the results that have contributed to Lancaster's success in sports. It was predominantly a look back at Roses 2010, in which the Carter James trophy has returned to this University.

In the George Wyatt event Bowland dominated 595 to 564 with, Pendle taking second spot. Bowland managed victory through the women's pool, captained by Tish Hallam as well as both men and women's darts. The captains of darts, Billy Tosh and Megan Griffiths, showed great support and leadership throughout the competition.

The Carter Shield was awarded to Fylde, beating Grizedale by a narrow three points, 150 to 147. Inter-College

Sport dominated by Fylde, winning the Netball A League, Football A and B league as well as picking up the Lusu cup.

Kim Montgomery, Director of Sports, came on to give the B- Active Cup to History FC and the 6-a-side prize to Zenit St. Pongolle. She alluded to improvements for pitches and tennis courts both long term and short term. Facilities are sure to improve over the next few years with a high amount of investment going towards sports, beyond the new sports centre.

The BUCS Awards showed the success of Football, Hockey, Squash and Basketball at Lancaster. It is in these sports that Lancaster has shown its prowess this year, as many members have earned colours, full colours and in some cases the full Rose. Two flawless performances this year resulted in a shared Team of the Year honour for women's squash and men's football.

Two trophies were yet to be announced; club of the year and presidents' award. After an intense year of competitions representing both university and country in many events, as well as organizing many tournaments themselves, Club of The Year was awarded to Fencing. The Fencing club said best moment was Roses as they made up for the year before and played well. On their future as a society, 'We will have to work hard because quite a few of our players are leaving, but we are in a good position to build and improve.' Only time will tell for the most successful club at University.

The Presidents' award, this year went to Men's football. They stated: 'Coming back in the final with ten minutes left is probably the best moment. But it's been a good year - being unbeaten in the league, the second team winning their league, and all despite injuries - we lost our captain Louis Rowland and we lost Alex Brandwood, and with that and postponements of matches we have had to adapt.' When asked about next season, 'We're going up to league 1A, but have a good core of the squad and there is no reason why we can't make an impression next season.' Football is the sport that the University should be proud of and was essential for the Roses victory, this year.



Winners (from top clockwise): Bowland College celebrating multiple successes. Fylde's Ste Rutter and Aveline Cruickshank with the Carter Shield. Fylde collecting the A League football trophy (Photos: Ben Robins)

The Winners

Team of the Year -

**Women's Squash/
Men's Football 1sts**

Club of the Year-

Fencing

President's Award-

Men's Football

Carter Shield-

Fylde College

George Wyatt-

Bowland

Bowland defy Lonsdale to make it six Founders wins in a row

< 32 However, Lonsdale inflicted further pain by winning all the events. Despite the fact the Men's Pool team was bolstered by the return of James Marengi, Jacob Samuel and Colin Charnley, or that the women's team benefitted from having Jen White- in her day considered the best female player campus has ever seen. These defeats allowed the scoreline to narrow. Chess was claimed by Lonsdale too who had their national star Laurence Trent to thank for victory. Bowland now have their own chess hero in James Hanley, but the second year could not do enough to prevent defeat in a game which captivated the Founders crowd



as both players bizarrely played their match blindfolded. Lonsdale's late resurgence was possibly coupled with Bowland taking their foot off the gas. The final score was 29-26 to Bowland. The result meant it was the closest competition since 2005 when it came down to the final black of the deciding frame of the women's pool match to determine who won Founders.

Though spared such drama this year it is worth acknowledging that following their dismal performance in 2006 when they claimed a paltry three points, Lonsdale have responded by improving each series since. There is now a genuine belief amongst Lonsdallians that they can win Founders and

evidence can be found in their improvement after another solid season in both the George Wyatt and Carter Shield.

Bowland, however, are not the force, who from 2004-2008 claimed three Carter Shields, three George Wyatt trophies and four Founders Series victories. Though Bowland, complete with a full compliment of old boys would be odds on to win next year's tournament, there is now a very real possibility that Lonsdale could end what would be seven years of hurt and take back the trophy which Bowland have called their own for so long.

Overall, a fantastic weekend and another step forward for the event that has been dubbed Lancaster's 2nd Roses.

Eat Sport, Sleep Sport, Read Wynes



This is my last column that I will write in my position as Vice President Sports. Everyone warned me how this year would fly by and it really has. I have a few weeks left in my role and I am just wrapping things up and making sure my successor, Marc Handley, can carry on and take things even further next year. It has been a very successful year of sport here at Lancaster and it has been a privilege to be a leader to some amazing and talented sports people. It has been an experience that can compare with no other. There has been many ups and downs throughout the year, but I can honestly say I have loved every second of being in office and I really will be sad to leave.

The recent AU Awards were a fantastic celebration of all the achievements our teams and clubs have had this year and I really enjoyed the evening. Kim Montgomery, the Director of Sport, gave a very powerful speech at the awards, saying how she believes Lancaster are seeing a new dawn in sport. I truly believe this is the case. Not only have all our teams and clubs worked hard and had successes in their leagues, we met the ultimate challenge by emerging victorious in Roses against a York side that has in the past seen us in the shadows. Winning Roses wasn't just about that single victory, it was about showing that we have reached a level where we can compete with York, in every aspect of sport. With the new Sports Centre on its way, I believe the University are finally recognising the power of sport and our recent rise in University league rankings needs to be echoed in our sporting prowess. I am expecting big things for Lancaster in future years and I am sure I won't be disappointed.

As I am soon to depart, many of those who I have worked with are thanking me for my efforts this year and congratulating me for a successful year. But it is those very people who have made it so successful and special for me. Without sounding too soppy, I genuinely believe that my year has gone so well because of the amazing support I have had from so many people, from staff, from my fellow Sabbs, from students, they have all been brilliant. I am very lucky in that, in my position I am seen as the figurehead for sport and in that respect I get to take a lot of the praise for our sporting achievements. Sport is a huge passion for me and that has been something I have definitely brought to my role. But every single sports person at Lancaster who has helped us achieve some brilliant things deserves as much credit as I do. So thank you Lancaster, it's been a blast and I really will miss you.

Boat Club

Olympics home the venue for victory

Becky Hoose

DORNEY LAKE, SET in stunning Buckinghamshire parkland, is the world-class rowing centre which will be the venue for the Olympics come 2012. It was also the location for the Metropolitan Regatta, LUBCs latest race, which they attended last weekend. And there was a definite feeling of pride amongst Lancaster's team, knowing what will be taking place there in just two years time, on the same stretch of water which the club raced on themselves. This added to the sense of determination to achieve something great over the two day event.

Saturday was a scorcher, and in true British fashion complaints were made about the weather despite it being a glorious day, the heat serving as an extra obstacle of the already testing 2000 metre course. The first race for LUBC was the Men's intermediate VIII's, where both the first and second VIII's from Lancaster met each other in their first heat. The A boat impressively finished first in the heat, therefore automatically earning themselves a spot in the final. The B boat posted a time which was only two seconds slower, but unfortunately not enough to gain a place in the next round. The final was a tough one, even for the cream of LUBC,

who came up against tough crews such as Nottingham and Bath, and in the end Lancaster's A boat finished 6th out of the 7 boats. Lancaster's Women's intermediate IV also raced that day and did the club proud, coming second in their heat and achieving a fantastic second place in the final, boosting the success of the day.

The men's VIII competed again on day two, with the A boat repeating the success of the first days racing by qualifying first out of their heat once more, and again making it straight to the final. It was a better day for the B boat, who put in a dogged performance in order to make it through to the next heat, unfortunately finishing 4th in this round, short of qualification for the final. The A boat had a brilliant final, finishing in 4th place, just 2 seconds slower than the winning crew, a diminutive amount of time which could be gained back by Lancaster through just a few careful adjustments.

The women's intermediate VIII raced later that day, the crew seeing the return of legendary LUBC cox Bel Green for one race. Unfortunately the girls did not achieve the result that they were perhaps hoping for, finishing 5th out of the 7 boats in their heat. However, it was still a positive outcome, considering the difficult conditions which the girls had to contend with, such as having to race a category above their



Men's 2nds: In action at the Regatta (Photo: Hannah Cunningham)

ability. Racing over, trailer loaded, and one five hour motorway breakdown endured, the weekend was over for the club.

All in all, despite attending another larger and well respected event, instead of opting for what would perhaps be seen as easier regattas, it was another strong set of results for LUBC, which bodes well for the final races of the term. Next up is Durham, followed

by Marlow for the men and Women's Henley for the women, before this years racing is concluded with Men's Henley in week 10. It has been another brilliant year for the club, which is constantly growing and improving, living up to the university's own expanding reputation. Ever relentless, LUBC will doubtlessly carry this success and determination through to the end of the year.

Football

Where are they now?: The players who didn't make it

Matt Todd

THIS SUMMER WILL see England's top-level footballers represent the nation at the World

Cup in South Africa and the elite clubs of the Premier League fight to sign up some of the most expensive talent in the world. It would be easy to think that this is a comfortable period for those employed in professional football, going on holiday with lucrative long-term contracts signed and their future prospects looking bright. However, this scenario represents reality for a privileged few, with hundreds of players released by full-time clubs from the Premier League to the Blue Square Premier Division nervously seeking to secure contracts elsewhere for the coming season.

The harsh reality is that each year around 200 players are forced out of the full-time ranks of football. These can range from youngsters released by academies to seasoned professionals at the end of their career. All of these players face similar options, continue with semi-pro football or other avenues within the game or drop out altogether and look to alternative paths for their career.

A large number of players chose the Semi professional route in a bid to continue their football careers. Many clubs at this level can now pay £100's a week to their top players, an attractive

proposition that has seen many familiar names drop into the lower leagues. One example is ex-Leicester forward Trevor Benjamin who has carved out a journeyman career at over 20 non-league clubs. Other famous football league marksmen such as Luke Beckett and Julian Joachim have also gone via this route.

Younger players are fortunate in that that the Professional Footballers Association now places education alongside football in most professional academies. Those that are released will have A-levels and many go on to University level education if football does not work out. The final chance for many players comes in the exit trials that are

held each season, these comprise players released from professional academies and are attended by scouts and managers from all levels of the game. Very few are offered a route back into football, with Huddersfield's Theo Robinson the most notable name to emerge in recent seasons.

In addition, older professionals are also seeing the value of education in conjunction with their football training. The PFA now provide funding to players to undertake a variety of courses during and after their playing careers. For example, many lower league players including Gavin Strachan and Dean Windass have completed media qualifi-

cations through PFA schemes.

It is certainly true to state that ex-footballers have entered a variety of professions to sustain their livings after football. Some more interesting examples include ex-Manchester United youngster Graeme Tomlinson who now works as a DJ and former Bolton favourite Gundi Bergsson, now a qualified lawyer is native Iceland. However, a superb discovery is former Tottenham player John Chiedozie, now owner of a bouncy castle rental firm.

So when the ink on your club's star striker's new £100,000 a week, five year contract is drying, remember that not all footballers are so lucky.

The paths professional footballers take once they finish at the top



Trevor Benjamin



Dean Windass



Gudni Bergsson

Kim Megson

The true cost of relegation is one not worth paying

LOOKING BACK OVER the last football season, certain things stick in the mind. Chelsea's Double, Tottenham in the Champions League, the turmoil at Liverpool, plucky Blackpool winning promotion. On the other side of the coin, the plight of the relegated clubs has been somewhat sidelined.

Hull and Portsmouth are relegated, demoralised, and suffering huge financial problems. They now find themselves at a crossroads. Get it wrong, and the consequences could be brutal. While Burnley look capable of surviving their fall, things look far less certain for the other two.

The Championship is fast becoming a league of debt-ridden teams. Next season, Hull and Portsmouth will join fellow strugglers Crystal Palace, Cardiff, Watford, Sheffield United and Ipswich. And with Avram Grant (one of the few people to leave the situation with his reputation enhanced) having left the South Coast club to take up the reins at another financially stricken team, the next few months will be crucial.

With an exodus of players expected



and no funds to bring in new recruits, the next boss will have a job on his hands. The tradition and fan base of a club count for nothing at this stage.

The precedent is there. League One is a long fall from grace, but it is a drop that has regularly been made in recent years by clubs that used to enjoy football in the top flight. The likes of Charlton, Norwich, Southampton and the MK Dons are shin-

ing examples of what can happen.

And then there is Leeds United. They have only just escaped after three years in the exile that is England's third tier. Their downfall is extremely well documented, with their era of catastrophic excess entering football folklore. Peter Ridsdale as Chairman oversaw a regime that very nearly destroyed the club through a staggering level of incompetence.

It is a lesson that teams like Portsmouth and Hull have failed to take on board. Both have spent above their means in a desperate attempt to remain competitive in an increasingly inflated market. Like Leeds, they have paid over the odds in transfer fees and wages while chasing a dream.

The emerging spending power of Manchester City, Tottenham and even Birmingham has meant that the chasing pack have had to spend highly to keep within touching distance. While all this newfound wealth in the league looks set to disband the recognised top four, it has also made the jostle to avoid relegation even more tight, with perilous consequences for the team that can not escape.

Things were different for Portsmouth. In 2008, their fans could be forgiven for thinking that their club was on the up. A win over Cardiff saw them lift the F.A Cup, they finished the season in a respectable eighth place, and they qualified for Europe. Things changed when Harry Redknapp left to join Tottenham, and began his quest to re-sign every player that

he has ever managed before.

Would Portsmouth fans have sacrificed their FA Cup in order to stay in the league in the long term? While it is impossible to prove that there is a cause and effect here, the wages and bonuses that Portsmouth spent in their cup winning season has surely contributed heavily to their current financial meltdown.

There is an interesting debate to be had between short term success and long term stability. Stay in the Premiership as a team who accept nothing more than mid-table mediocrity, or spend excessively in search of success but run the risk of long-term problems? Leeds lived the dream, but was it worth it?

It is a cliché to say that while directors, managers and players will come and go, the fans of a club will always stay. It is true nonetheless. The real tragedy of this new financial trend is that there is nothing the fans can do until it is too late. They are left watching on from the sidelines as the teams they love are destroyed by bad management. It has happened before, and will surely happen again.

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Bowland defy Lonsdale to make it six Founders wins in a row

Bowland	29
Lonsdale	26

Liam Richardson
Editor-in-Chief

LANCASTER'S TWO FOUNDING colleges once more squared up in their annual grudge match. On this occasion, however, Lonsdale took on the might of Bowland, and had decisions and luck gone their way, they would be celebrating ending Bowland's glorious five year reign as the champions.

Bowland came into the seventh Founders contest on the back of five consecutive victories. Not since 2004, the inaugural Founders event, had Lonsdale possessed a team talented enough to snatch a win.

This academic year has seen a number of Founders copycats spring into life. Patriots, a competition involving Furness and Cartmel ran last term for the second time. Whilst Week 9 heralds the first ever Legends Shield featuring County, Fylde, Grizedale and Pendle Colleges.

These new competitions, though beneficial in terms of promoting the collegiate system, lack the rivalry and intensity of the now well-established Founders competition.

Bowland came into the seventh Founders contest on the back of five consecutive victories. Not since 2004, the inaugural Founders event, had Lonsdale possessed a team talented enough to snatch a win.

Founders evolved as the brainchild of former JCR College Presidents Tom Shepherd, of Lonsdale, and Jacob Samuel, originally of Bowland. Shepherd was concerned about this college's imminent relocation to the newly built Alexandra Park and was conscious to preserve the traditional rivalry with Bowland. Samuel's suggestion was a sporting competition to take place annually and the rest is history.

Back in the present day, this year's tournament promised to be the best yet. For those wanting to get involved throughout the whole weekend, Founders packs were available for £7 and included a T-shirt, programme and tickets for a night at Toast on Friday and Sugar House on the Saturday.

Scheduling the event this year proved tricky. The weekend typically falls around Week 8. However, this time it had the 2010 World Cup in South Africa to contend with and an England match that would be kicking off on the Saturday evening of Founders.

Banter and rivalry are staple parts of the competition and the weekend opened in electric fashion as the Boat Race teams readied themselves for their events. However, after a false start and after the banter had turned into a small skirmish with drinks thrown and glass bottles shattered the atmosphere cooled.

Bowland finished the first day having won every event except for the Men's Darts. This included victories in the Dominoes, Women's Darts, and the Quiz, in which returning captain Ben Nye was unfortunately unable to attend due to traffic congestion on the motorway.

Due to England's World Cup commitments the second day saw a lighter schedule. The football matches were played with Lonsdale tasting victory in C Team and A Team football.

However, on the final day Bowland regained momentum and won a series of events to fashion a decent lead which meant that another Founders could be clinched with a win in the rugby. Last year, Lonsdale played brilliantly to deservedly take the points. However, Bowland responded this year by being leaner, meaner and fitter. Excellent performances by John Bekalo and Gavin Reid secured the trophy, ensuring it would reside another year in Bowland.

Lonsdale were not finished however. Sunday's evening events prior to the awards presentations included Men's and Women's Pool and Chess. As George Wyatt Champions, Bowland had already suffered a bloody nose by conspiring to lose the men's darts match. **29 >**

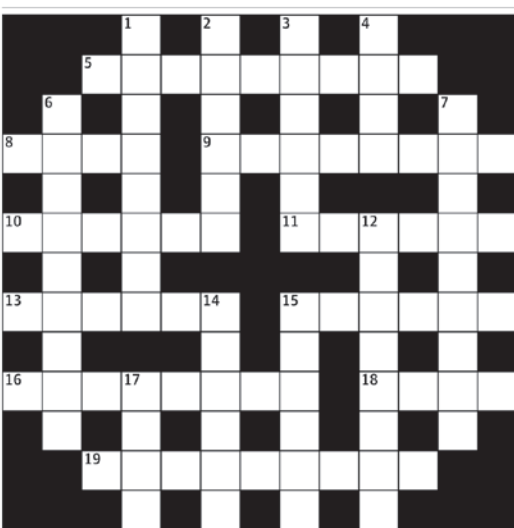
The AU Awards Ceremony



Who won what: The winners in full P29

QUICK CROSSWORD No 12,114

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Across

5 Kind of falcon (9)

8 Long rod (4)

9 Violence or murder (4,4)

10 Make use of (6)

11 Break down in the stomach (6)

13 Requiring immediate attention (6)

15 Confused – cast (6)

16 Engrave (8)

18 Frolic – songbird (4)

19 Large seabird (9)

Down

1 Bugle call to awaken soldiers (8)

2 Campanile (6)

3 Land – crushed to powder (6)

4 Cut – bargain (4)

6 Proverbially gluttonous seabird (9)

7 Flightless bird related to the emu – Oscar's way (anag) (9)

12 Stupid (8)

14 Relating to a social group (6)

15 Speculative view (6)

17 Young horse (4)

Solution no 12,113

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