

## The not so angry mob



## Lancaster joins 52,000 in march against cuts

Lancaster students take to the streets near Downing Street, not aware of what is going on at Millbank. Photo: Chris Housder

- NUS condemns action at Millbank
- Students involved say they have been demonised by media

**Collette McColgan**  
Assistant Editor

Students from all over the country travelled to London on Wednesday, November 10, for a peaceful protest organised by the National Union of Students and the University and Colleges Union, to oppose the proposed hike in tuition fees to a cap of £9,000.

The Funding Our Future demonstration saw an estimated 52,000 students march from Whitehall to Millbank, with 250 of these students

coming from Lancaster.

Robbie Pickles, LUSU President, was impressed by the mobilisation of Lancaster students. "I think given the distance that there was to travel and the fact that we didn't really have to incentivise the trip at all, and I think for students to come down at short notice and to put in the time was actually fantastic and every one of them should be very proud of what they've achieved," he said.

The principle behind the day has been overshadowed, however, by the

incidents that occurred at 30 Millbank, the home to offices of the Conservative Party. Around 2,000 people were said to have split from the route of the march to gather outside the building, with a minority of those becoming involved in criminal damage and violence.

The initial number of police on hand at the protest was not enough, and this number had to be doubled when the riots became more severe. 41 of the 550 police officers there were injured, and 50 arrests were made.

NUS President, Aaron Porter spoke out about the incidents on the NUS website. "All of us at NUS are deeply disappointed at the actions of a small minority of those 50,000 people who attended - and I know from the hun-

dreds of emails and tweets I've received that the vast majority of you share my

**"I know from the hundreds of emails and tweets I've received that the vast majority of you share my view that their actions were shameful, dangerous and counterproductive"**

view that their actions were shameful, dangerous and counterproductive."

He added: "We must move forward - head held high. I won't have our campaign derailed by people like this."

Pickles was concerned by the effect

of the violence: "I would worry that members of the public might have been turned off by the actions at Millbank, but I think MPs will get the message, and I hope that will make a difference."

LUSU also issued a statement on the official line against the violence on the day following the protest, but did not speak out against direct action. "LUSU recognises that there is more than one form of protest and that direct action per se should never be written off completely as an effective style of demonstration.

"Many people across the country are supportive of this heightened style of protest. However, there can be no doubt that the violence in yesterday's

**CONTINUED ON PAGE FOUR**

**NEWS**

# Lib Dems always intended to go back on pledge

**Heather Mann**

Plans to charge between £6000 an £9000 per year in tuition fees were given added clout as it was announced that the Liberal Democrats had planned two months before the General Election to scrap their pledge.

An exclusive story run by The Guardian cited "secret party documents" which displayed plans to do away with the pledge to keep the tuition fee cap as it is. Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg, whose party has come under increasing criticism of their apparent compromise a key election campaign promise, was increasingly vocal against fee rises before the elections.

Clegg had previously defended the reform saying, "Our reforms will give our universities financial stability and the resources to provide a world-class education in an increasingly global market. Graduates will pay less each month than they do now. Part-time students will no longer be faced with unfair, upfront fees. And the poorest graduates will pay considerably less than they do today".

Universities Minister David Willets described the increase in fees as a "progressive" reform, by permitting universities to change the upper tier to £9,000 if universities ensure greater access for poorer students. He added that the higher cap on fees would "put



Photo courtesy of the NUS

universities' finance on a sustainable footing with extra freedoms and less bureaucracy" and allow "greater choice for students with a stronger focus on high quality teaching."

The National Union of Students called the announcement "an outrage", whilst LUSU President Robbie Pickles said: "Clearly students will be deeply disturbed by the news that fees could triple to as high as £9000 per year. There can be no doubt that this hike, coupled with interest rates of up to 10%, will hit the poorest hardest and put them off Higher Education."

In addition to the fee increase, the government announced market rate interest rates on student loans will be increased in order to make repay-

ments more expensive for higher-paid graduates. Repayments will be structured so that higher-earning graduates are paying higher levels of interest rates, up to 3% above inflation. Only those who earn below £21,000 will remain paying an effective zero rate of interest.

The announcement of the raised tuition fee plan comes between the government commissioned Higher Education Review compiled by Lord Browne published last month and the student protest organised for Wednesday week five in London. The higher fees will be expected to combat a lack of revenue following the Comprehensive Spending Review.

Many students are angry at the Lib-

eral Democrats, who were swayed into voting for the party following their pledge against tuition fee rises, which had an effect on marginal seats in university areas, such as Lancaster & Fleetwood. NUS President Aaron Porter criticised the Liberal Democrats for ditching their election pledge to vote against any rise in fees. He said that Liberal Democrat MPs should be "ashamed of themselves."

A third year student at Lancaster voted Liberal Democrat in the 2010 General Election, but said she regrets her choice; "The Lib Dems have repeatedly broken explicit promises since they entered the coalition government. Nick Clegg has proven himself to be more interested in power than principles. They have forever lost my support."

History & Politics student Ben Smith attended Wednesday's student protest in London: "The problem does not just lie with tuition fees being raised, but that thousands of votes have been wrongly obtained by MPs for the purpose of being elected to Parliament in exchange for what turned out to be, a worthless pledge."

Ministers intend to bring in the new system in time for it to take effect from September 2012. Students who have begun their courses before 2012 will not be affected in their later years of study. MPs are expected to vote on the fee increases before Christmas.

## IN THIS ISSUE

### Carolynne

We all love nightclubs, or do we? Carolynne's Joe Henthorn give his take on why there are better nights out to be had than those that end with you splattered on sticky floors.

[www.scan.lusu.co.uk/carolynne](http://www.scan.lusu.co.uk/carolynne)

### Comment

**Samantha Newsham:** Democracy has its place on campus, but not in the student media. Being a part of SCAN and Bailrigg FM, Samantha judges the merits of the organisation of both and which produces the better media.

[www.scan.lusu.co.uk/comment](http://www.scan.lusu.co.uk/comment)

### Sport

Despite a spirited performance from the football team, Lancaster leaves it too late to walk away from York with a draw. Fortunately it was only York St. John they were up against so the other White Rose team can't brag too much.

[www.scan.lusu.co.uk/sports](http://www.scan.lusu.co.uk/sports)

### What SCAN says

Last week saw two things happen: our Vice Chancellor called for debate not protests, and students stormed Millbank Tower. Debate has its place, but perhaps the time has come for actions to speak louder?

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## WANT TO WRITE?

If you want to write for SCAN the best way to get involved is to go along to a section meeting. All of the section meetings are listed above so you can see where and when to go. If you can't make a meeting email the section editor and ask to be added to their mailing list. Membership of SCAN is £3, but you can join Bailrigg FM and LUTube.tv at no extra cost.

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# Election fever begins again as new rules add extra bite to campaigns

**Jonnie Critchley**

AN EXCITING PERIOD of campaigning and voting will soon be upon Lancaster, as Students' Union elections get underway in Week Eight. The elections are an integral part of student life on campus, giving students the opportunity to shape their college lives for the year ahead. There have been some changes to the rules and processes brought in this year, which, it is hoped, will simplify the campaigning process. Student reaction to the elections is generally positive, although there are some signs of apathy around campus.

LUSU Vice President (Finance, Events, Democracy and Societies) Matt Windsor, outlined a few changes which have been made to election rules this year. These have been brought in to change previous rules which "were very specific, throttled campaign efforts and were overly complicated", he says.

Perhaps the most important change is that candidates can now "critically assess" each other, a relaxation of the rules which previously meant candidates were not allowed to criticise each other's policies or experience. Here Windsor rejects the term negative campaigning, which he says "implies that you are purposely trying to derail someone else's campaign for no particular reason". Critical campaigning is defined as "any statement or implication, written or verbal that mentions another candidate's election manifesto, policy, ideas or strategy, in a critical way", and is allowed so long as it adheres to rules surrounding personal comments and discrimination.

Candidates no longer require other students to nominate and second them. Under the new rules they just need to sign up as described. It is also now the case that "a single position [is] for a single Officer", which puts an end to candidates running in pairs as has previously happened. "It was ludicrous to have an individual, [who] would like to run for the JCR, not being able to because they didn't have someone to run with", Windsor said.



Cross Campus Office hustings last year. Photo by Ben Robins

Windsor also outlined changes and clarifications to campaigning rules. There are no longer any rules surrounding campaign teams, other than that these people must abide by general election rules and must not help candidates financially. Rules on where campaigning can take place have also been relaxed, says Windsor. "Campaigning can now take place in bars, both on and off campus, as long as the candidate has permission. Campaigning in academic areas or areas of study is not permitted. Nor is it permitted in the Sugarhouse."

Elections are highly significant given the integral nature of Lancaster's College System. "Elections are vitally important because they solely dictate how the Union is run", says Windsor,

**"It was ludicrous to have an individual, [who] would like to run not being able to because they didn't have someone to run with"**

emphasising the benefits to be gained from standing for and holding a position. "Becoming a LUSU Officer means that you get a year of experience in a whole range of areas that wouldn't previously be open to you. This experience, I guarantee, will affect your life in a positive way. It goes on your degree transcript, it teaches you valuable skills and it's exactly the kind of thing that employers are looking for", he adds.

Current County College Social Secretary Lorna Owen feels the experience has been hugely worthwhile. "I have gained confidence, belief in myself and knowledge of running social events. I have also learnt how the collegiate system works and is run", she says. She does admit that the campaign period was stressful, "I put up a selection of posters and handed out flyers but because I was running against five other people, I didn't really know my chances against them." Despite this, Owen

does describe her hustings speech as a "brilliant experience".

"Being on the JCR has been a brilliant experience and as long as you are willing to put your time and effort into it, it is well worth doing," she concludes.

Students are generally positive towards the elections, who see them as "a good way for the students to have a say in who they want to represent their college", as one student says.

Despite the high regard in which these elections are widely held, there is still a degree of apathy towards them from some students, many of whom don't see running for positions as worthwhile. One concern is a sense of exclusivity which seems to be a barrier to many students. One Bowland College Fourth Year says the college is "too cliquey", which makes him "feel quite distant from my college".

Windsor also feels that this apathy comes from the fact that the Students' Union is associated with student politics with "a capital p", which is seen as "a typically dull subject that students today are generally more apathetic toward". He refutes this association, contending that many students aren't aware enough of LUSU's role, and thus underestimate the importance of elections.

"We don't expect students to get involved with everything, nor do we strive to force people in to doing anything against their will, but we are trying to make students realise that LUSU is one of the best opportunities to improve yourself as a person and drastically improve your job prospects", he insists.

The election process begins with nominations opening on Monday of Week Seven; candidates have until Friday of the same week to sign themselves up. A period of campaigning will then begin on Monday, Week Eight. Candidates have five days to convince students to vote for them. Voting opens on Thursday of Week Eight, although candidates may continue campaigning until voting closes 24 hours later, at 4pm on Friday. Results will then be announced shortly after.

## Vice Chancellor calls for constructive debate over fees

**Charlotte Urban**  
News Editor

THE VICE CHANCELLOR of Lancaster University, Professor Paul Wellings, had an article published in The Guardian newspaper on Monday Week Five, expressing view that the "new fees will improve the education sector".

The article, titled "Tuition fees: we need a constructive debate, not protests" appeared in The Guardian on Monday, November 8.

Wellings also acts as Chairman of the 1994 Group; a group established

in order to bring together 19 research-focused universities across the UK, to help the members to promote their common interests.

Wellings voiced his opinion on the recent outrage concerning the rise in tuition fees from £3,290 to a cap of potentially £9,000 per annum, saying "since the publication of the Browne Review, commentators representing all shades of opinion have filled the airwaves and column inches with portents of doom for UK universities and students. We [the 1994 Group] were pleased that the government has proposed raising the graduate contribu-

tion cap to £9,000".

Having suggested that it is quite acceptable for students to want to protest what they assume to be crippling debt, Wellings fears that the uproar students have generated concerning fees will deter intelligent prospective students from applying to university in the future.

"This perception bears little relation to the reality of the reforms being proposed," he said. "All of us in higher education need to be careful not to create false impressions that turn the public against our cause and deter talented people from applying to

university."

Wellings also stated that the 1994 Group supports the government's plans to raise the amount a graduate has to be earning before repayments begin to £21,000.

The Vice Chancellor made his stance on Wednesday's protest quite clear: "Grandstanding gestures undoubtedly capture attention but we need to question how well they service the debate. Messages that give a partial account of the reality of student and graduate life will do little more than deter talented people."

He also wished to make clear

where the responsibility for these discussions would lie: "Those representing students' interests also have a responsibility. They need to be clear about the differences between graduate contributions and debt [...] It's right that there is a debate about the nature of graduate contributions, but the full facts of the government proposals need to be included."

Wellings summed up his article by saying "while they bring many challenges, the revised student support mechanisms and the new fee arrangements have the capacity to improve the competitiveness of the sector".

# Lancaster caught up in

The best of times?



CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

action makes our work over the next few weeks and months harder as it was far less well received.”

The overall message of the Union was clear, as it sought to emphasise the unrepresentative nature of the violence: “As a Union we must be sure to thoroughly condemn this violence which was not part of the planned itinerary for the day and which is in no way representative of the views or behaviour of the majority of Lancaster students.”

At the end point on the march, on Millbank in Westminster, the demonstrators were shown films made by the NUS and UCU, and speeches were made by the General Secretary of UCU, Sally Hunt; Deputy General Secretary of the Trade Union Congress, Frances O’Grady; and President of the NUS, Aaron Porter.

While Hunt spoke, she encouraged demonstrators in chants of “Tory scum”. This was felt by some to be a little off-message, particularly in light of the ongoing incidents at Millbank.

The general feel of the protest from Lancaster students was positive, however. During the protest many students spoke about how impressed they were

with the number of people there.

Mark Lord, Cartmel JCR President, hoped that something would come from the students’ efforts. “I think it’s very good, good turnout. I think we’ve shown a fair mobilisation of all stu-

**“It’s really good, I wasn’t expecting anywhere near the number of students there are – I knew there was going to be a lot but I didn’t realise how many.”**

dents and if the MPs aren’t willing to listen to this, then they shouldn’t really be in office,” he said.

Kitty Brown, a Pendle College alumnus, also attended the march. “It’s really good, I wasn’t expecting anywhere near the number of students there are – I knew there was going to be a lot but I didn’t realise how many. I don’t think there’s any way students’ voices couldn’t be heard today... whether they’re acted on is a different matter,” she said.

For the most part, banners and

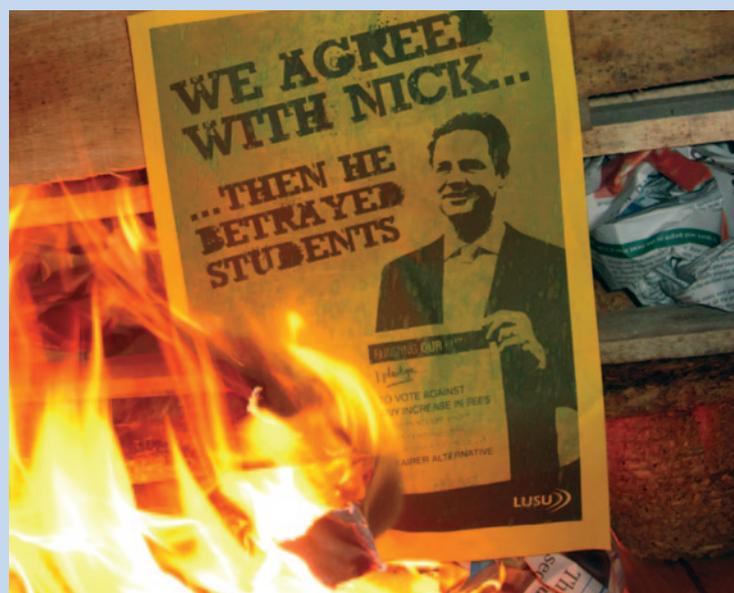
chants were aimed at Nick Clegg, with Lancaster students carrying placards that read ‘We agreed with Nick... then he betrayed students.’

Kate Bailey from Furness College said, “It’s about Nick Clegg and the other Lib Dems standing up for what they believe in, rather than going along with the Conservatives.”

Pickles was impressed overall with the success of the event. “I think the protest was on the whole an unmitigated success. 52,000 students marching in London is unprecedented. It’s been a generation since we’ve seen something that big happen, and even then I think the impact has been less. I think no-one can deny the success of the day,” he said.

He spoke about where students can go from here: “LUSU will continue to work positively with the National Union of Students to ensure that we’re present at any future demos. We’ll also be putting pressure on our own Vice Chancellor, Paul Wellings, to involve himself in constructive debate with us, which he’s signalled that he’s interested in doing in The Guardian newspaper. We’re going to keep our eye on the ball and make sure we’re ready to protest again when the time comes.”

## Politicians burn in students’ bonfire



OVER 1000 STUDENTS embraced the spirit of Guy Fawkes Night, burning the faces of treacherous MPs in a massive bonfire rally against the proposed rise in tuition fees and cuts to higher education.

The rally, which took place on November 5, was organised by Lancaster University Students’ Union as part of their campaign to fight for fairer funding for university students.

### TIMELINE OF 10/11/10

**12pm:** Over 50,000 protesters gather on Whitehall. Prime Minister’s Questions begins.

**1.45pm:** Trouble begins on the march as students begin to gather outside Millbank Tower.

**2.20pm:** After windows are smashed the police blockade the entrance to Millbank Tower.

**3.30pm:** A fire extinguisher is thrown from the roof. Students in the crowd below protest.

**5pm:** The majority of protests begin to leave as the riot police move into the building.

**6pm:** The police lead the last of the protesters out of the building as the clear up begins.

# In a tale of two protests



The worst of times?

Photos by Chris Housden

## Inside Millbank: The students' story

**Chris Housden**  
News Editor

AS WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON wore on the protest in London wound up a gear, resulting in vandalism and violence some feel was necessary to make a point.

The remnants of the NUS organised anti-fees march wound its way past Parliament and along the Thames towards Millbank Tower, the building which houses offices belonging to the Conservative Party. Several Lancaster students, including representatives of Lancaster's student media, followed the procession of students towards the building.

"When they say it was a minority, it wasn't, it looked like everybody was going in there", said one student who was among the first group to get to Millbank. He holds that it was a natural extension of the march, both in mood and in numbers. "We danced around the fires a bit. There were four police. We got to the front of the building and I was asking people what the building was, because I didn't know."

The fact that it was not a minority was backed up by another student, who said "there were as many people in that courtyard as there could have

been in that courtyard, there could not have been more people, it was jam-packed."

Throughout the course of the afternoon the under-defended building had several windows smashed clean away. Students occupied the roof, waving banners, while a few threw newspapers and sprayed fire extinguishers from the building. At one point an empty extinguisher was thrown from the roof of the building, the crowd immediately responding with chants of "stop throwing shit, stop throwing shit".

While the rest of the day's demonstration was labelled as peaceful by the national media in comparison to the events at Millbank, it does seem that even that began as a peaceful style of protest. The courtyard, while noisy and crammed, appeared no more so than the hemmed in march that had taken place over the previous few hours.

Several students take issue with the labelling of the protest as a riot, with one reasoning that "members of the public weren't attacked, cars weren't set on fire, there wasn't widespread looting."

The violence and vandalism came from a militant few, believes one student. "These lads came with some sort

of metal frame, metal ladder, I don't know what it was, and they ran at the glass doors." He described the minority of vandals, saying: "All the people

**"I don't think it would have been as effective, it wouldn't be in the news today, people in China wouldn't be asking David Cameron about it."**

kicking windows were wearing balaclavas [over their faces]."

At this point violence was averted, he believes, as the very few police officers present, "with thousands of people there, just walked off - and to be fair they were actually helping people over the broken glass."

The crowd then surged towards and into the building. "When they found the stairs people just ran at them - I didn't particularly want to go into the building, I was happy in the lobby", said one student. However, as the group ascended the stairs, it became clear to him that it wasn't just benevolent, if angered, students present. "There were two guys on the door [to

the roof] who wore balaclavas, they were helping people up the stairs and they were really organising people."

According to the student who had made his way to the roof, the organised balaclava wearing few were with the person responsible for throwing the fire extinguisher from the roof. He was hesitant in describing them; "They were... you could tell they were a bit mental."

The small crowd on the roof were, according to the student, still in the high spirits seen in the actual march. He described his actions as typical of those on the roof - "I leant over the roof and gave a wave".

"The riot police arrived, jogging through the crowd below- that was when 30-40 people on the roof were like 'we've got to go'."

A student who had been on the roof and had headed back to the courtyard when the riot police arrived described the moment that the masses of peaceful demonstrators turned on the police. He believes it was the police response that turned the crowd against them.

"Eventually the police forced everyone out of the lobby, using... using brutality, if I'm honest." He said that the police struck several times with batons and shields at the jovial crowd. "I got

blood on my hoodie, from two girls who had to be carried out, and that was when the crowd got very, very angry and that was when the missiles came flying in."

The crowd, having become physically forceful, began to amplify the casualties. "People started pushing - everyone at the front was shouting 'don't push', people at the back were shouting 'push', and we ended up on the receiving end."

There was a general mood among students that direct action like occupying the building or staging a sit in was the only effective method of protest. While the violence and the use of a fire extinguisher as a missile was deemed unnecessary and out of hand by most, many believe an uneventful march from one destination to another just wouldn't have been noticed.

The student who had gotten onto the roof said that if it had been just a peaceful march "I don't think it would have been as effective, it wouldn't be in the news today, people in China wouldn't be asking David Cameron about it." He did, however, say that it didn't have to be violent- "even if we'd just gone into the courtyard and set some fires up, that might have been enough. Something needed to be done."

# Security review leaves confusion over role of porters

- Union involved over 'voluntary' first aid training
- Fears that with Nurse Unit closure porters expected to be front line in emergencies

**Samantha Newsham**  
Investigations Editor

CONCERNS HAVE BEEN raised over the direction taken by Lancaster's Security Department with confusion breaking out over first aid training for portering staff.

Porters were asked to undergo voluntary emergency first aid training two years ago, but due to its voluntary nature some staff chose to opt out. Senior management have been criticised for what has been seen by staff as an attempt to force training on them after a suggestion was made that training was required as part of the job description.

"All of the college porters were told [two years ago] it would be preferred if they did it but it was voluntary," one member of staff told SCAN. "One of the porters said he didn't want to. It got as far as him being threatened with having a black mark put on his record because he wouldn't undertake voluntary first aid training, so the unions got involved. [Then] earlier on this year [senior management] said that [...] it had been agreed with the unions and HR that this was a requirement of the job, which is exactly the opposite of

what had been agreed with the Unions and HR."

Two meetings have taken place between Acting Head of Security Mark Salisbury, trade union representatives, Human Resources and the Safety Office, the first approximately eight months ago and the second on Wednesday November 10. Although an agreement was reached at the second meeting that training was necessary for the job, union representatives state

**"We believe that those people that are on duty in those front line services should be competently trained to carry out first aid,"**

that the agreement is unacceptable as it has not been accepted by all union members.

"[During Wednesday's meeting] it was stated that at the meeting in February last year it had been agreed that first aid training should be a requirement for porters, and would be included in contracts for new starters," one union representative said. "I was gobsmacked at this. Nobody had told

the porters. We spoke to [the union branch chairman] after the meeting and he confirmed that an agreement as described had been made. As far as the porters are concerned this 'agreement' is invalid until it has been accepted by the union membership. I have had several comments along the lines of 'I thought it was only nonmembers who didn't get a vote on changes to working practices' So senior management may think this 'agreement' is in place but the porters certainly do not.

"We concur that first aid training for all is a good thing," he continued. "Voting against it is like voting against peace. It is the way the University has gone about it that has raised hackles." The point was also raised by union representatives that if first aid training is a requirement of the job porters should be in a higher pay scale than they currently are.

In a statement to SCAN, Salisbury said: "I make no apology for my passion in attempting to enable and equip all 'front-line' staff with up to date knowledge and the skills to respond effectively to a first aid scenario. [...] Two meetings have taken place with trade union representatives. The first centred on attendance. Also present

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were two members of the HR Department and the Safety Office. A decision was made that there is a requirement for all Security staff to attend first aid training unless there is a valid reason not to. A second meeting took place with union representatives on November 10. The outcome of this meeting was to re-affirm the previous decision, allay concerns about changes to the content of the training and affirm my obvious support for any member of staff who may be required to summon an ambulance by using 999."

Staff are concerned that with the closure of the Nurse Unit they will come to be seen as a replacement service. A document outlining the justifications for closing the unit stated that "porters are now trained in emergency first aid".

"It was almost a way of saying we can do without the Nurse Unit because we've always got these to fall back on, but [...] having half a day's emergency first response training isn't the same as ten years' nursing experience. We're not equipped, we've not been trained properly – it's absolutely a basic service that's being offered," said one staff member.

Mark Swindlehurst, Director of Facilities, stressed that this was not the case. "There isn't any direct linkage [between the training and the closing of the Nurse Unit] but we believe that those people that are on duty in those front line services should be competently trained to carry out first aid," he said. "They're not a replacement but they would respond as they have done in the past. I personally believe that porters should be trained and I think they should if called upon respond."

Commenting on the future direction of the Security Department, Swindlehurst said: "My job is to bring together of a number of departments and to take the opportunity to look across all the departments. Is there a better way of doing things? Is there a better way that we can support each other as a team and also serve staff, students and visitors better than we do now?"

"We've done the little things [in the Security Department] like the protective equipment, the van replacements, just because we felt they didn't feel invested in," he continued. "We've refurbished the security lodge, we've given the porters' lodges a coat of paint, we've made sure that they've got emergency equipment in there, because we could see they need to be feeling part of the University's team."

"[Mr Swindlehurst and I] share the same vision for the future," added Salisbury. "One of my concerns at the moment involves the safety consideration when my staff are faced with a student who maybe [sic] experiencing symptoms of 'mental health illness'. To address this I have arranged trials involving the use of protective clothing. I am also in the process of arranging a programme of training designed around raising awareness of staff in this respect."

The Security Department has been undergoing changes since the appointment of Salisbury as Acting Head in February 2009 following the retirement of previous Head, Tony Evans. A structural review of Security has been carried out by Salisbury and Mike Shepherd, Head of Infrastructure, with the intent of reassessing its activities and saving money. The Facilities



The revamped Security Lodge and vans. Photo by Elliot Westacott

## Private firm brought in to work alongside University

AFTER AN OUTSIDE security firm was brought in to work alongside Lancaster staff the question of whether the future of security lies in outside firms has been raised. FGH Security, a Lancaster based firm who provide security for a number of clubs in town, have been employed to undertake clamping duties on an ad hoc basis after the member of University staff responsible moved to a different post.

"The easiest way of filling his position rather than putting an additional burden on his colleagues was to say let's bring a contractor in," said Swindlehurst. "On this particular case it is cheaper to employ the contractor to carry out the parking enforcement than it is to employ our own people."

Salisbury pointed out that the decision had been influenced by legislation currently making its way through Parliament, which will make clamping on private land illegal. "I have therefore purposefully not used University funds to renew costly Security Industry Authority licences for Security staff and equally costly training inputs which are a requirement for new staff in this respect," he said.

Although FGH Security are currently just responsible for clamping, Swindlehurst would not state categorically that he had not considered outsourcing the entire range of services provided by the Security Department.

"We are not at the moment looking at wholesale outsourcing but equally we're not ruling it out of the agenda,"

he said. "Could I see it happening in the future? The example I would say is similar to where UPP provide support for residential accommodation alongside our own staff. [...] At the moment I would say that UPP provide equally as good a service as our own staff do and I would expect that from any contractor that we engage with."

Many public sector organisations, including town councils and the NHS, within the North West have made their security staff redundant and brought in outside security firms in order to save money.

Peter Harrison, the Managing Director of FGH Security and a former Lancaster student, said that he and his company were very happy to be working alongside Lancaster's security, which he described as "top-notch".

Department, which incorporates Security, needs to make cuts of 5% to its payroll costs over the next year. A report of proposed changes to the Department has been passed to Swindlehurst.

Staff, however, have been left unsure of what exactly is going on. Rumours of significant changes to the way the Department runs have grown up and staff feel that there is little communication from senior management. "We used to have departmental meetings where everyone could come together to raise questions and get some idea of what new plans the University had. We've only had one in the last year or so. This means that no clarification is given to rumours circulating about things," said another staff member.

"I am not at liberty to discuss the findings and recommendations of the recent Security Departmental Audit, the process is currently on going and no decisions have been reached," said Salisbury. "What I will say is that the security and safety of students will not be compromised, neither will the level of service provided by Security staff. It is against this backdrop of uncertainty that rumours will circulate and this is inevitable. Security staff are not the only members of staff going through a period of change and uncertainty at the moment and when decisions have been made they will be communicated to everyone."

The biggest fear is that after the review night-portering services will be cut. Swindlehurst confirmed that this option had been under discussion but said that no decision would be taken without full consultation with staff. "There has been a discussion about that, I don't know whether that's in the final proposal or not. If we decide to change any of the structures that's when we'll engage with the individuals themselves. We're not going to make that decision without talking to students and colleges alike," he said. "At the moment that decision's not been made. We're very conscious not to reduce the service that we've been giving. We really do want to provide a world class service for everybody here and we're not going to do that if we just cut costs regardlessly." Night portering was brought in around 15 years ago after complaints from the Students' Union, with an agreement that an increase in students' rent would cover the cost of porters being on site 24 hours a day. Rent for next year has gone up by a further 6.7%. Staff are worried that without night porters students will be put at risk.

"Everybody that works in University House seems to think that things only happen when they're here. They forget that after five o'clock and at weekends there are only the porters," SCAN was told. "[One of the authors of the recent review] said that the Head of Security told him that nothing happens after midnight. That's just when the bars are closing, at two, three, four o'clock in the morning, that's just when students are coming home from nightclubs. We have a lot of problems during the night."

"Has it not occurred to the powers that be that as the students pay for the night porters they are thinking of removing a service that costs the University nothing? What kind of private enterprise would contemplate such a thing?"

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## Union officers resigned despite confusion

**Chris Housden**  
News Editor

THE CHAIR OF Academic Council has resigned after a vote of no-confidence was brought against him at Union Council last week. No-confidence votes were also brought against two other Cross Campus Officers (CCOs), but they were found to have already technically resigned their posts through not attending the relevant meetings.

The officers were Academic Council Chair, Tom Mackrory, International Students CCO, Huneeza Mazari and School of Health and Medicine Faculty Representative Elise Bausseron. Mackrory resigned from his position before the meeting took place.

There was some confusion over the matter of issuing the three CCOs with votes of no-confidence (VNC). Initially it was unclear whether or not the VNCs needed issuing, as it appeared that all three officers had missed at least two meetings without apology or explanation, something which is automatically taken as a resignation from their position.

There was some discussion between the members of Union Council as to whether a lack of attendance warranted such drastic action. LUSU Vice President (Equality, Welfare and Diversity) Pete Macmillan held the view that proactive officers were needed. He said: "In the case of Huneeza, albeit she may not have attended meetings, but things like the Lancaster Show and international events, Huneeza has been one of the most instrumental officers in getting people down and getting people involved in those events."

LGBTQ Officer Sarah Newport countered Macmillan's point, saying: "Coming to meetings is the distinction between being an officer and being a normal student who is really involved. You can't choose which bits of the role you'd rather not do."

Matt Power, Lonsdale President and CCO agreed, saying that the time he had spent in meetings this term had been "some of the most productive collaborative work I've ever seen [...] I think it's about time we start holding these officers to account, because they are taking on a big responsibility".

Student Campaigns Officer Sam Aldridge gave the reasons for the VNCs after the meeting, saying: "It was not for lack of attendance specifically that we felt a VNC was necessary." Aldridge said that while attendance is a compulsory part of an officer's role "we also discussed the fact that these officers have been in office for almost a year and as we have never even met two of them we didn't think it was right that they should be given the same recognition as the rest of the CCOs who put in so much effort."

Aldridge summarized: "The CCOs are a team and work together on events such as Freshers' Week and the National Demo, not attending meetings is a valid reason for a VNC but a complete lack of involvement is what reinforced our agreement."

Mackrory, who resigned before

the meeting of Union Council, countered the idea that a lack of attendance to meeting outweighed a good record in office. "Whilst missing meetings this term may have warranted a VNC, I don't believe that my entire time in office did, furthermore I stand by the principle that regardless of the offence all Union officers facing a VNC deserve the bare minimum courtesy of being told about it beforehand."

Although procedurally there is no requirement to inform officers of an impending VNC, Mackrory appeared under the impression that this is the case. He called the situation an "oversight on the part of the officer or officers responsible for informing the CCOs of an imminent VNC."

He also disagreed with the amount of notice given. "My resignation was on principle; I believe having a VNC thrust upon an officer without allowing that officer any time to prepare a defense, or at the very least letting them know what to expect, is frankly astounding."

The item was discussed thoroughly, and the issue of Union Council's power to carry out VNCs of officers was raised. George Gardner, Chair of Union Council, put it plainly; "The query I have is on the Union Council being able to give a vote of no confidence."

Pickles argued that the powers were clear in the relevant bylaws, while Gardner confessed confusion as the bylaws relating specifically to Union Council powers did not obviously state either way. Gardner picked up on "a lack of clarity within the Union bylaws", which Pickles said could be amended. However, Pickles was quick to argue somewhat convolutedly "it doesn't need to be clarified, however if necessary it can be."

Having agreed that Union Council had the power with which to pass VNCs it was soon discovered such a vote would be unnecessary. LUSU Vice President (Media and Communications) Lizzie Houghton raised the fact that in the Union bylaws, having not attended two Councils without apologies would nullify a need to VNC them as it would automatically resign them from their positions.

The Union Council attendance of the officers had gone unchecked by the Chair. After a lengthy discussion records of previous meetings were found and upon examination it was discovered that no vote was necessary. The two officers who had not yet resigned, Mazari and Bausseron, had failed to attend or offer apologies for at least two meetings, and as such effectively resigning.

After the meeting Pickles said that "the confusion over VNCs was almost inevitable, and I have no doubt that similar confusions will be discovered and amended over the course of the year. No changes are perfect straight away." In this specific case, where two sections appeared to contradict each other, he held that the rules "were extremely clear. If we were to be constantly repeating the rules, they would be so long winded as to be entirely obsolete."

# A second dose of drugs for Lancaster Loves



Questions have been raised as to whether the Sugarhouse should have nonstudent nights. Photo by Amie Slater

### Jen Day

THREE ARRESTS WERE made at Lancaster Loves after a number of party goers were found to be in possession of class A drugs.

The incident occurred on Thursday October 28, just nine months after a similar incident occurred at the Sugarhouse during Lancaster Loves, where seven students were arrested for being in possession of the then legal drug mephedrone. As the second incident of this kind, the arrests have resulted in the decision by LUSU to cancel all up and coming Lancaster Love events after police consultation.

A 26-year-old man from Morecambe was arrested and has since been charged with the possession of cocaine. An 18-year-old man was arrested and released on bail on suspicion of possessing ecstasy with the intent to supply and a 22-year-old man has received a caution for the possession of ecstasy.

In a press release Lancaster University Students' Union President, Robbie Pickles said: "LUSU and the police have worked in an extremely positive partnership and we perceive that there will be few future problems. Sugarhouse is still the safest club in town for students and we are always working to improve on that record."

The Sugarhouse is run by the Students' Union.

During the event the Pplice were contacted by bouncers as soon as drugs were found on the premises. Their immediate decision was to close

the Sugarhouse which was promptly enforced by staff. The police are currently working with LUSU to prevent another drugs related incident.

"We are working with the Sugarhouse and the Students' Union to get out drug prevention messages and to carry out random drug operations at the venue but I would be keen to stress that the problems here are no worse than in other areas of town. We constantly work with all licensed premises

**"I would be keen to stress that the problems here are no worse than in other areas of town."**

in the area to deter use and to tackle it when it does occur", said Sergeant James Martin, of the Neighbourhood Police for Lancaster.

One first year Bowland student said she was not only aware that drugs were being taken during the event but was actually offered them. However, she said that "it wasn't obvious that drugs were being taken. I was probably more aware since someone asked me if I wanted any."

Lancaster Loves is one of the few nights that local people are permitted into the Sugarhouse. Questions have been raised as to whether the decision to admit locals has been the cause for the recent trouble.

LUSU and the event organisers have been unable to fully comment on the events that took place due to legal

jurisdiction since court cases are ongoing. Information about full refunds for Pete Tong was made available on November 10 via the Facebook page foe the event.

Nonetheless, Lancaster Loves is seen to bring something different to the usual student night life. Big names such as drum 'n' bass DJ High Contrast, who was headlining on the night in question, and Pete Tong one of the world's foremost dance DJ's, who was meant to be playing on November 18, are seen by students to give a variation in comparison with standard nights out. Pendulum, Kissy Sell Out and Chase and Status have also been amongst the acts to headline at the Sugarhouse.

The Lancaster Loves' Facebook pages sells the event as having, "an emphasis on providing our party-goers with value for money, a night of mayhem, and of course quality music, we are confident that Lancaster Loves will reign supreme for electronic dance events in Lancaster. We will bring the best in dubstep, drum and bass, house, techno and all other things dance music, to the small city of Lancaster. With this, there will be established artists headlining the night, supported by upcoming local DJs."

Regardless of the issues that occurred on the October 28, clubbers said that they had a "really good night and would go again". One commented that "High Contrast was awesome" however, another was unhappy with the security at the event claiming that "the bouncers were power hungry, jumped-up fools."

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then at	45	2210	then at	then at	2238
45	05		29	29	
05	25		49	49	
25	until		09	09	
until	1425		until	until	
1425	1445		1509	1509	
1445	1510		1529	1534	
1505	1540		1609	1604	
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## Fylde takes on an international flair



Photo by Elizabeth Young

**200 PEOPLE WATCHED** the Bollywood Dancers and LU Glee Club at last Friday's LUSU Goes Global event. Other performances included hip-hop dancers,

performances from a group of Chinese dancers and a belly dancer. The chocolate fountain and DJ, Avinash Nandwani, also proved a hit with party goers.

## Brass band lead refined remembrance service

THE LANCASTER UNIVERSITY Brass Band led a respectful service on Thursday November 11, to remember the fallen dead.

The Band's assistant conductor, Laura Hounsome suggested the idea having realised that nothing was being done on campus to mark Remembrance Day.

The Band set up in Alexandra Square just before 11am. Despite the bad weather people passing through the square stopped to listen to the band recite the hymns Abide With Me, the Last Post, the Day Thou Gavest and Reveille. Between the hymns they paused to signal the two minute silence watched by those in the square and the surrounding buildings.



## Union governance finally cleaned up with passing of bylaws

**Chris Housden**  
News Editor

THE SECOND UNION Council meeting of the term drew an end to the complete revision of Students' Union's bylaws.

The final passing of an updated and fully reworked set of Union bylaws means that all of the Union's governing documents now correlate. The bylaws form part of the governing structures of the Union and explain how the Union should be formed and run.

The majority of the items on the

agenda were cosmetic points, with JCR bylaws and subcommittee bylaws being adjusted to have consistent titles with the rest of the Union constitution. These were all passed by a vote without any discussion or confusion.

LUSU President Robbie Pickles drew attention to the fact that, with the passing of the last few JCR and subcommittee bylaws "we've now brought to a close the period of time which started in July which is the formal process of clearing up the bylaws once every five years. That means the bylaws are now fixed."

The bylaws, five months in revision, were given a complete overhaul to bring them up to date with current LUSU constitution. Pickles indicated the importance of the revision, saying: "The bylaws of the Union were out of date to the point that roughly one quarter were missing altogether and most of the rest made little to no sense."

A preamble to the bylaws written by Pickles called them "a living document". Though it has taken a long time to completely revise the bylaws Pickles wrote "we owe our members this accuracy, relevancy and respect".

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LUSU

# scan:COMMENT

## It's innovation not motivation that counts most with officers

Students shouldn't judge officers on why they run for positions, but what they do during their time in office

**Robbie Pickles**  
LUSU President



If there is ever one clear indicator that SCAN is suffering from a slow news week, it is the inclusion in its pages of one (or more) articles accusing Students' Union officers, especially JCR Execs and kitchen reps, of the obviously hideous and disgusting crime of 'CV hunting'. Out of every possible student grievance, from high costs of living to departmental budget cuts, it never ceases to amaze me how many commentators return to this issue time after time, with paragraph after paragraph devoted to slamming these usually friendly and personable volunteers.

With most student officers devoting hundreds of hours of their own time a year each to the task of listening and responding to students concerns; organising socials on their behalf; helping them settle in during intro week and generally protecting their interests, it is unusual that such a group could attract so much negative energy and criticism. There can be no doubt that a certain level of ego can be evident amongst student officers, and often they come to form a clique, but rarely have I seen any of them acting in an especially unpleasant way. In short these people are - if not people you might specifically want to make friends with - at least a fairly nice bunch.

The chief problem raised by commentators is that officers are only on the JCR to enhance their CVs and increase their own future job prospects, as though the act of doing a job for free and then hoping to gain some benefit from doing so is a concept that is not only wrong but also alien to humanity. All students attending University are CV hunting one way or another, with all of us standing to gain from the skills that come with our degrees and student experience. At the same time, in the 21st century, putting two or three letters after your name bears little promise and no guarantee of graduate level employment. To get the top jobs, every one of us needs to demonstrate that we are well rounded people with a range of additional skills and activities. The Students' Union



LUSU Cross Campus officers help raise funds for travel to last week's Demo

is committed to providing opportunities for everyone at Lancaster to develop these skills and running to be an officer is just one of many ways this can be achieved.

What is often forgotten is that doing something to enhance your CV does not also mean that the job won't be done well and with compassion and care. Indeed, for a job to genuinely contribute to officers' future career prospects, it would be expected that a list of positive activities delivered during their time in office would sit directly beneath their job title. Once elected, the individual motivation of each individual officer should become unimportant. It does not matter if

someone wants the job from the kindness of their own heart, for personal gain or simply as something to fill time - in fact, most often it is likely to be a blend of all three. What matters is that the job is done and it is done well. Innovation, not motivation, is what's important.

Occasionally, the voices of critics take a more specific angle - that student officers are 'wannabe' politicians of the future and only want to do the job to gain experience for a later career as an MP. This is sometimes true, and many students who are elected into officer positions nationwide do go on to become influential figures in government; Jack Straw, for example,

is a former President of the National Union of Students. However, at a college level, the likelihood is that most officers have little real interest in politics at all, let alone in setting themselves on a path which will see them sitting in Parliament in 20 years' time.

**'The chief problem raised is that officers are only there to enhance their CVs and increase their own future job prospects, as though the act of doing a job for free and then hoping to gain some benefit from doing so is a concept that is not only wrong but also alien to humanity'**

These students are far from being second rate future politicians but are simply first rate student volunteers, undertaking a task which needs to be done and which they feel confident that they are able to carry out well.

This is not to say I feel that all student officers are entirely blameless individuals who should be free from all critique. The problem is that the critique is often misplaced. As a student body, we need to stop criticising officers for 'running for the wrong reason' and instead hound out those officers who do nothing in their year in office, or whose tenure as a Full or Part Time officer brings more woe than success. Where innovation is lacking, so too should students remove their support and find a candidate who is better able to represent their needs. Students should, rightfully, always expect the very best of those who they see fit to elect and if they are unhappy with the service they receive, they should feel better able to voice their concerns. During elections, potential officers take people's opinions very seriously and talk to everybody they can and this mentality needs to continue long after the ballots close. The dialogue which begins on the campaign trail and on students' doorsteps needs to continue for the entire period of office, and those officers who forget it should be rightfully made to realise their error. Only by doing this can officers be genuinely accountable and truly say that they are always putting students, not themselves and their CV, first.

Protests aside, we all just want a good moan

Alex Rhodes

Wednesday, Week Five, 2010. A day that shall forever go down in history. No I'm not talking about the release of Call of Duty: Black Ops. I'm talking about the day the students fought back. Set against the backdrop of our nation's capital, students from around the country are Con-Deming the Coalition government. And unless you've been living under a rock for the past month or have been hospitalised due to a lethal combination of booze and fresher's flu you'll know why. David Cameron and his lackey Nick Clegg are proposing a massive hike in tuition fees with students to be facing a sum anywhere between £6,000 and £9,000 per year. Naturally the student backlash has been fierce especially as these extreme measures come from a Government made up from Liberal Democrats who had promised to do the exact opposite. But is this the only reason everyone seems so annoyed? I for one think there is a secondary cause.

We in Britain love a good moan. Now don't get me wrong if there was ever a cause worth moaning about this is it. However I think we have to face facts, we as a nation do get a certain pleasure in complaining. Whether it is about the weather, who got through on the X-factor or even having to pay for plastic bags at the supermarket, we Brits grumble about it. I myself am no exception, I get a small amount of almost masochistic delight in watching the bus driver look me dead in the eye and drive past my stop. And why? So I can whinge to my mates about it later. Why do you think Facebook is so popular? Asking "are we there yet?" constantly isn't going to make the bus go any faster but it sure as hell makes me feel better. Even the media is the same, do we want to hear constant stories about cats being rescued from trees and panda's being released into the wild? No, we want stories that will get us all worked up about bird flu, swine flu or whatever else scientists reckon is going to kill us. Is this a bad national trait to have? Well if you don't ask you don't get. Maybe the protests will convince the government to change its policy, maybe they won't. But if we didn't complain then nothing would ever change. This is one of those rare occasions we get to complain about something that matters instead of just for the sake of it.

So if you are one of the students who went to London or if you're attending some of the protests closer to home then remember you're not just protesting against the massive rise in cost of a university education you're honouring a time old British tradition.

# Ideology, not just language, can be a barrier to international students and Union positions

**Emily Robertson**  
Comment Editor



The courses they study, as well as the amount they have to pay, may dissuade international students from standing in elections

With JCR and LUSU elections coming up in Week Eight I find myself asking how many international students will be considering running for positions? How many even know that elections will be taking place? And why are there so few international students within student politics on the whole at the moment?

I suppose the simple answer may be that because it costs such an extortionate amount for international students to study here they don't want to move their focus away from their studies. Not that home students don't put their all into their degree as well, but the extra £7,000 a year international students have to pay to do the same degree has got to act as an extra incentive to make the most of their time and do especially well to make it all worth while. That being said, you can't really get the full university experience without getting involved with the student community as well as the academic: your degree is only a part of your time at Lancaster University.

Or maybe the reason is a more political one. Many international students, and now I'm about to generalise cue your comments of disagreement, study subjects that are housed largely within the Management School and not those within the umbrella of humanities. Now those subjects, again cue disagreement, are seen as more right wing, neoliberal if you will, Thatcherite if you want to go really crazy. Either way, they are not the sorts of subjects that inspire fuzzy feelings towards the idea of unions, and therefore students taking them may not be interested in being affiliated with the Students' Union. Yes, I know that not everyone in the Man-



Management School courses tend not to attract left wing students

agement school is an avid Tory supporter but, generally, I think you can get what I'm saying.

It could be that such subjects don't warrant extra curricular activities in order for a graduate of them to get a job easily. I'm an English Literature student and I'm constantly told that my degree is not worth the paper it's written on on its own, as our government seems to be acknowledging by planning to cut the funding to such subjects. Business and management

style degrees on the other hand, seem much more sought after by employers, meaning less work has to be done on make your CV look more impressive.

Taking a less cynical view, it may be that the language barrier is the simple cause of the lack of interest from international students. I ran for a JCR position and it takes an awful lot of speaking to people to get yourself out there amongst students, and that's before you even get to the hustings. I know that all international students who

attend Lancaster have to be able to speak and write English academically, but conversational English is a whole different ball game and many students may not feel comfortable standing up in front of their college to persuade them to vote for them, speaking in a language with which they struggle. I didn't feel comfortable getting up and speaking in front of my college and English is my first language.

Writing this article I'm very aware that there are international students currently standing in officer positions. One such is Shafaq Khan, who is currently the International Officer for County College. She says that she initially got involved in student politics because "of the lack of information and events, services for international students and I wanted to change that so that I and the students that come in after me didn't have to go through the same thing again". So she joined to JCR to make as much change as possible. As an international student herself she feels that international student don't get involved due simply to a lack of information on the positions they could run for.

I may be wrong on all accounts. As an English student of English I can't claim that vast a knowledge of why so few international students run for College or Union positions, or for that matter why most of the students who do stand for positions come from humanities and not management courses. But, if you will allow me one more gross generalisation, if more international students ran in this year's election the face of student politics at Lancaster University would change and for the better, making it more diverse and more representative of the student body as a whole.

## The Crisis in Higher Education

# Has paralysis become our common political position?

**Joe Rigby**

The idea of the university is in crisis, but no one has any idea what to do about it

On October 25 people from across the university strata - undergraduates, post-graduates, researchers, academic and non-academic staff from the humanities to the hard sciences - as well as some not affiliated with the University at all, packed into an overflowing Marcus Merriman Lecture Theatre. They had come to attend the first in a series of talks to be held on the theme of The University in Crisis. The discussion was led by a presentation from Bob Jessop, a political economist working in the Sociology Department here at Lancaster University, who spoke under the title of Universities and the Knowledge-Based Economy in the Shadow of Neo-Liberalism.

Jessop outlined first what he understood to be the idea of the University, before urging us to consider this crisis not simply as a crisis in particular universities, but as a crisis of the very idea of the university and education itself. The idea of the uni-

versity, of universitas, was one of a community of teachers and students with a collective and autonomous power over the certification, valuation and direction of the collective's research and thinking. The idea of the university entails a certain freedom of thought, of teaching, of research and for students a certain freedom to choose, direct and pursue their own individual path of study.

This idea of the university is in crisis. Knowledge has become a key site for capitalist appropriation, leading to a restructuring and reorientation of universities toward servicing the knowledge-based economy. Simplifying somewhat: knowledge-ownership has become a strategically central element in capital accumulation and accordingly, in the race for profits, the idea of the university as a site of free and autonomous intellectual production has been, not simply undermined, but utterly disfigured.

Reformed to serve the knowledge-

based economy, intellectual production is no longer simply instrumentalized for the sake of technological advancement or profit. Rather thought is put to work and valued directly by capital, or the market itself.

Such was the enthusiasm to participate that for one and half hours people stood or sat on the floor, and even spilled out into the corridor of the lecture theatre. The theme of the series, as well as the title of the invited speaker's talk, clearly drew an interested and concerned audience from a range of different backgrounds. But when the time for debate came it was not altogether clear what precisely we were all so interested or concerned with. Had we come because we were simply interested in what a political economist had to say about the knowledge-based economy, neoliberalism and the university? Had we come because we were concerned about a crisis in the university? There were no substantive disagreements with Jessop's diagnosis. Our working lives, our experience of studying, all seemed to verify the thrust, if not necessarily all the details, of Jessop's analysis. No one challenged the proposal that the idea of the university as an autonomous community of learning appeared to have become thoroughly eroded in our present situation.

Yet there was still an air of timidity and meekness coming into much of the discussion, especially when some voices dared raise the question of what is to be done. It was as if we had gathered to spit out something intolerable, and yet the same sour taste had caught our tongue. A theatre full of perturbed, maybe embittered but nevertheless thinking people - yet no ideas about a directive for the play. Perhaps this is our common political condition. October 25 held a mirror up so we could see ourselves more clearly. Let us not remain gazing narcissistically at our own reflection but risk at least one more effort at collective thought.

# For Lancaster's student media to provide the best service it needs the best people

**Samantha Newsham**



Democracy has its place on campus, it's just not in the student news room

One of the criticisms I've often heard levelled at SCAN is that it is run in an undemocratic manner. The reasons for this claim of un-democracy are twofold: SCAN does not hold General Meetings, thus taking the running of the paper out of the hands of the membership, and it does not elect its editorial team, leaving it instead to the Vice President Media & Communications/SCAN Editor to appoint the team of his or her choice.

The first accusation is valid.

Steps are being taken to address it: following the introduction of the Joint Media Membership scheme, whereby students who pay to join one of Lancaster's media organisations can automatically if they wish become members of all three, SCAN's constitution was changed and at least one General Meeting must now be held each term. This will allow members a voice in the way SCAN is run, in its editorial direction, in changes to its constitution, and bring it more into line with the other media organisations, Bailrigg FM and LUTube.tv.

The second is rather less so.

The comparison always made is to societies, which elect from their membership an exec to oversee the running of the society. Societies are there purely for their members; execs are elected by the members to represent them and ensure their interests are upheld.

Media organisations are not societies. Like RAG, Nightline and LU Cinema, the three media organisations are sub-committees of LUSU. They exist to provide a service to the whole student body.

SCAN's primary purpose is to publish articles that students want to

read; if we don't then we're not doing our jobs properly. The Sports Editors, for example, are not there to represent sports writers or members of sports teams or indeed anyone else. They are there to ensure that SCAN's sports coverage is wide-ranging and accurate and interests as many readers as possible. For Lancaster's media to provide the best possible service to Lancaster's students, it needs the best possible people directing it.

I have been to enough society elections to know that this is not a guar-

antee of quality. I have seen people elected onto society execs for no other reason than that their friends turned out in droves to vote for them. I have been one of those people who voted for my friends simply because they were my friends. Sometimes the best person won. Sometimes, unfortunately, they didn't, and I have seen the way societies struggle if members of the exec are not pulling their weight.

The Editor of SCAN is elected by the student body to run the paper in a certain way. To allow them to keep

their election pledges, they need the freedom to appoint the people they know will help them do this. After all following a General Election the public do not vote to elect members of the Cabinet. Members of Parliament do not vote either. It is the newly elected Prime Minister who decides the best person to take on each job.

SCAN's appointments procedure should be fair, transparent and open to everyone, but it should be there.

One of the things university should prepare us for is surviving in the real world. Unless we're all intending to become politicians, it's unlikely our future careers will be based on how many people we can convince to vote for us. At some point, we will need to show someone, somewhere, that we are the best person for a particular job.

SCAN isn't there just to provide budding journalists the chance to prepare for a career in the media. It's there to provide a news service that is accurate, relevant and of interest to Lancaster students. But it's worth noting that organisations such as the BBC and The Times – organisations there to provide a news service that is accurate, relevant and of interest to the British population – do not vote to fill their editorial positions. Why should SCAN be any different?

In fact, why should any sub-committee be any different? SCAN is there for its readers, not just its writers, and other sub-committees are the same: they're there to provide the service their users want, not the service they want to give. They too need to have the best people in the positions of responsibility. Why don't all sub-committees take SCAN's approach and appoint rather than elect?



The candidates for SCAN Editor make their pitches to voters

# Long live the great British institution

**Helen Wishart**

For 40p a day, the BBC is a price worth paying for quality television

The BBC. The great British institution. It informs, educates and entertains- whoever you are, whatever your age. But at a time when the British public are dealing with the consequences of the savage cuts of the new government to welfare, higher education, social housing, policing, and local government, the question many people seem to be asking is: what exactly are we paying for? And most importantly, why should we? Watching the BBC will set the licence fee payer back by £145.50 per year - but whilst genuinely free channels including Channel Four and ITV receive no funding for this, we must pay for our access to them because subscription to the BBC is mandatory. Just how many more fat cats are we going to support?

If the issue arose around any institution other than the BBC I'd indulge in a good old rant. As it is I'll have to save my favourite activity for another time because, much as it pains me to be supporting the big boys, I love the

BBC, and would not lose it for any price.

That's not to say I don't appreciate the arguments for losing the licence fee. Of course it's unfair that, aside from their history, the BBC has a significant head start in funding and therefore in quality over other channels, and of course those channels are necessarily going to be inferior due to the need for advertising every 10 minutes. It's also true that far too many of the faces of the BBC are hideously overpaid. But the same is also true of the smaller channels; Natasha Kaplinsky has been earning £1m a year since her transition to Channel Five, and ITV's Ant and Dec are currently paid £5m a year after taking a significant pay cut. So the fat cats don't just reside around the BBC.

Whilst everyone's making cuts it's important to remember that while they're smaller, these channels are not small companies that are struggling to get by, but massive commercial corporations. They might be smaller than



© Mike Fleming

the BBC but that does not mean they have to be inferior simply because they're differently funded. These channels have adapted to suit their difference in structure; there is a good reason why the BBC is better known for its dramas, whilst ITV is the king of reality shows.

What I am trying to argue is just that the BBC and other corporations should not be funded in the same way because they are designed for different things. Of course if we could give

extra money to them all then we'd all be happy to get rid of the irritation of advertising, but as it is cutting public funding away from television entirely is hardly going to be a massive boost to the economy. Undoubtedly if the BBC lost public funding they would have to cut jobs; an estimated 15-20,000 extra people would end up out of work, and highly trained people who would find it difficult to find the same sort of job again. The combined damage can't help but make you think that it might just be worth it, for 40 pence a day, to keep the licence fee.

Undoubtedly this whole issue shall be dragged up again and again. Sadly I fear that the BBC as it is shall not remain with us for too long. How it will be funded remains to be seen; it has been suggested that if we were to pay for the BBC as a subscription service, as with Sky, the sign up rate would be great enough to keep it largely intact. Here's hoping, because if anyone puts an ad break in Doctor Who I might just break their face.

# scan

Editorial

## An appropriate medium for discourse?

LAST WEEK THREE things happened which will provide plenty of column inches for this paper over the coming weeks. Chronologically the first thing to happen was that Professor Paul Wellings, this University's Vice Chancellor, wrote a comment piece in the Guardian newspaper calling for "constructive debate" not protests. The second was the protest that inspired the comment piece, the march of 52,000 students and lecturers through the streets of London. The third we'll simply refer to as the storming of Millbank.

The French connection is no coincidence. It is unlikely that in centuries to come the people of Britain will celebrate Millbank Day in the same way the French embrace Bastille Day, but then the French have always been better at seeing their revolutions through than us. We chopped off the head of one monarch, they lobbed off the heads of an entire class.

And yet, the general mood since last Wednesday, if you can see through the haze of indignation pumped out by the right wing press, is that ordinary people are angry and that sitting around and moaning isn't going to cut it anymore. The direct action taken on November 10 was carried out just as much by ordinary students like you as it was by the militant left. This paper was there in Millbank, and the students it saw chanting and burning placards were no different to the ones you would see in any college bar on a Friday night.

The prevailing feeling is that politely asking to be included in the conversations the grown ups are having about our future isn't going to change anything. Eggs have to be broken to make an omelette, and sometimes windows have to be broken before the government listens.

History will so that polite conversations rarely achieve anything, at least not anything lasting enough that it is remembered. What is remembered is the Bastille, is the gunpowder plot. John Stewart Mill may have supported women's right to the vote, but it was the Suffragettes, not the philosopher who won it.

None of this is to say that violence should be condoned. Had the fire extinguisher that was thrown from the roof of the tower hit anyone then the debate would have rightly turned into an outright condemnation of the whole protest. Through sheer providence it did not, and no one can deny it would have been better had it never been thrown at all. But the anger and the action taken by the 1000 within Millbank should not be pinpointed to just one moment of madness by a man many within the protest felt went too far.

Only one person in Millbank wanted that fire extinguisher to be thrown. The rest wanted their voices to be heard and tired of talking, they decided to shout.

# Letters to the Editor



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

### Wet underfoot

Living in town this year I've taken to walking onto campus. On Monday (November 8) the cycle path was flooded and completely impassable. I had left plenty of time to arrive for my 9:30 seminar; the obstruction meant that I had to extend my journey by 20 minutes and almost missed my class, not to mention I tried to walk through it and got completely soaked. Pardon me for not being able to afford a bus pass or bike.

How could the one route into the University be blocked because of a bit of rain? I'm fairly sure it isn't all that rare in Lancaster. If the road had been blocked there would be uproar. Whoever is responsible for the walkways on campus is obviously dropping the ball somewhere and left a lot of people to be soaked.

A Bowland Student

### A subtle tribute

On behalf of the students of Lancaster I would like to thank the Brass Band who commemorated

Remembrance Day last Thursday with a performance of The Last Post followed by a beautiful rendition of Abide With Me. A subtle yet perfect tribute to the men and women who lost their lives facing the horrors of the Worlds Wars as well as the soldiers who still serve today.

Thank you.  
Robbie Pickles  
LUSU President

### Just keep digging

I wanted to say how pleased I am to see SCAN embracing proper investigative journalism this year. I've been at the University for many years and have always known that there were stories out there if people just bothered to look for them. It's good to see that SCAN has moved away from the days when it would only have three pages of news to having a dedicated Investigations section.

It's refreshing to see that at a time when the national media is having to cut back on its investigative wing - through lack of funds and a general backlash whenever they do

dig up stories the public/politicians aren't happy about - the journalists of the future are keeping the tradition going strong.

Don't give it up; you're bound to annoy a lot of people by exposing their failings, but if journalism isn't about exposing corruption, foul-dealings and ineptitude then I don't know what it is about!

An avid and grateful reader

### Corrections

- Professor Mason should have read Doctor Mason ('Politics cuts...', Nov 2, page 3).
- Photo credit should have gone to Amie Slater ('University claims...', Nov 2, page 5).
- Amy Packman should read Amy Packham. ('Remember, remember', Nov 2, Carolynne page 7).
- Neil Richardson should read Neil Robertson ('Individuals...', Nov 2, page 19).

SCAN's policy is to correct significant errors as soon as possible. Please contact the Editor with the date, page or weblink.

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PLY SATURDAYS

# The sporting press should report the news, not create it

While the recent claims that two members of the FIFA executive committee face corruption charges related to the 2018 World Cup bidding process are disappointing, even more so is the fact that the pair were framed by a British newspaper.

Amos Adamu from Nigeria and Reynald Temarii from Tahiti were caught in a sting organized by The Sunday Times. Reporters from the paper posed as representatives from American companies who wanted to ensure the United States won the bid.

Adamu allegedly requested £500,000 and Temarii allegedly requested a larger £1.5m in exchange for their votes. Both of the payments were to go into regional sporting projects in the areas they represent - specifically, four artificial football pitches in Nigeria and a sports academy in the Oceania confederation - rather than into their own wallets. Both deny any wrongdoing, and have been defending themselves in front of FIFA's ethics committee since Monday.

Frustratingly for all those working on the England bid, who seemed to be edging closer and closer to a London 2012 style victory, inside sources recently contacted the BBC to say that the campaign to bring the World Cup to these shores had been "significantly harmed" as a result of FIFA expressing its anger - perhaps understandably - with the British press.

It would be such a shame for English football if the bid was to be jeopardized as a result of The Sunday Times' actions. We have the world class stadiums needed to put on an excellent tournament, the country is small enough to travel around over the duration of it, and football flows in the blood of the people who live here. Hosting the event could provide the impetus our national side has needed for a long while to succeed.

While corruption in football must be eradicated at every single level, especially at the highest, the culture amongst some papers in the British media to expose sporting personalities at all costs is something that should be similarly reviled. Many of the most memorable stings of recent times by certain Sunday newspapers have been set up specifically to frame someone as doing something wrong, sometimes with no prior evidence to suggest any wrongdoing. The cynical side of me is convinced this is an example of the press' desire for English sport to fail so that more papers can be sold, and more columnists can write about what went wrong.

We have seen this happen time and time again: Sven-Goran Eriksson being forced out after admitting to



FIFA sources claims the English bid has been damaged by investigative journalism

an undercover reporter that he would quit the job if England won the World Cup in 2006, Wayne Rooney having court injunctions for private indiscretions hanging over his head while playing in South Africa, and the recent dubious John Higgins sting where the snooker champion was approached by undercover reporters in a hotel room in Ukraine and encouraged to throw a frame. He was recently cleared of match fixing, for the record.

In what other country would the media pounce on sporting figures and institutions with such contempt? Newspapers should return to reporting on what has happened on the field of play and exposing wrongdoing when it actually has occurred, rather than creating circumstances in which they can entrap an individual and force dubious accusations on them. Maybe then we will start to win things.

The news that the Premier League are investigating Ian Holloway for making ten changes to his side that faced Aston Villa in midweek is ridiculous. His Blackpool players have been expected to play four games in twelve days. They are not exactly what you would call world-class, and would not be able to keep up with the sort of fitness

required to play that many games at this high level in such a short space of time.

Holloway should instead be applauded for giving his fringe players a chance, many of whom are English, as they put in a stellar performance in the first half and lost the match by one goal. All the players are registered with the League and paid by the Club. He watches them every day in training and knows their strengths, weaknesses, and general ability. Holloway should be free to play who he wants, when he wants. He is right to be disappointed with the Premier League's stance, even if the threat of resignation would harm Blackpool so much more than it would the Premier League.

**Jack Smith**  
Sports Editor



## Men's squash cruise to victory as Women falter

### Squash

Lancs Mens	4
Edge Hill Mens	1

Lancs Womens	0
Northumbria	4

**Nick O'Malley**  
Sports Editor

LANCASTER UNIVERSITY MEN'S Second Squash team continued their fine start to the season with a comfortable 4-1 win over Edge Hill's First team.

Lancaster's number five, Kashif Rashid got Lancaster off to a flyer crushing his opponent 3-0, before Jack Ross stormed to the same scoreline, in the battle of the number four seeds, using a hire racket to set Lancaster firmly on their way. Phil Lowrey and club President, Dominic O'Brien continued Lancaster's demolition job, winning the number third and second seed match-ups respectively, each with the now familiar 3-0 scoreline.

It was left to Arnie Dunning to see off Edge Hill's number one seed. This game followed a far less familiar pattern, with their number one comprehensively outplaying Dunning and seeing a reverse 3-0 scoreline occurred. This was by no means a bad loss for Dunning, considering the match up sees the best squash player at Edge Hill University beating on paper, Lancaster's number six. Their number one seed was a cut above the rest, and would definitely on his day, give first's Captain Ben Holden a really close game.

Club President and number two seed O'Brien had this to say: "We are very proud of all the guys that played today. We were clear favourites, but no one was complacent or lackadaisical in their job, and we gained a resounding win, furthering our hopes of winning the league".

This is the first season that the University has had two men's squash teams, and they are already reaping the rewards of having a second squad. The team entered the league at the bottom and will now have to work their way up over the next few seasons. For this year, however, the team has strong hopes of securing a league title and promotion.

Elsewhere, the women's team continued to struggle, as they crashed to a 4-0 loss in the hands of Northumbria first. Disappointing after such a fantastic season last year, that saw them crowned as the Team of the Year, a result of winning the league and cup double. However, they were clearly missing their top three players from last year, which has seen Sam Preston moved up the rankings from fourth seed to Lancaster's number one. As well as losing their key players, they were struggling to find their feet in the new league having gained promotion last year, after going the whole season unbeaten.

Sport Distort: Matthew Linnett cast a satirical eye on the latest sport headlines

## England team left stumped after Ashes go missing

Horror swept the cricket world today as it was officially announced that the English cricket team had lost the Ashes. The statement by the ECB confirmed the speculation that they had been lost in transit between the team's departure from London and arrival in Sydney. The 14 cm high terracotta urn is now the subject of the largest global search in known

history as cricket fans all over the world hope to find it before the tournament starts on November 25.

"It wouldn't surprise me if somebody nicked it," said England's wicketkeeper Matt Prior. "Usually the side would fly with British Airways but there was a cock-up at ECB headquarters and we ended up getting a flight with Qantas. That Aussie cabin crew looked shifty, we had fur

Bruces and 12 Sheilas attending to our needs, and I couldn't help but think something fishy was going on."

When told about Prior's controversial comments, Australian captain Ricky Ponting said: "Struth! I didn't think Matty had a xenophobic bone in him, mate. Mind you, I wouldn't trust them bloody poms to get anything 10,000 miles across the world, unless you're talking about 165,000

convicts."

As of yet both Australian and British police have yet to come up with a solution to the missing trophy, however England's team director, Andy Flower said: "It's only a matter of time before the urn shows up. It's probably just in Broady's bag or something, wedged between a copy of Nuts and his packed lunch."

**Roses 2011 is Lancaster's greatest shot at an away victory for a long time**

**Marc Handley**  
LUSU Vice President (Sports)

After the turbulent times and negativity of the last few weeks, I thought it would be best to spend this article writing in a much more positive light. Seeing as I haven't mentioned it for a few weeks now, it might as well be brought up again; that's right, the R word.

Roses 2011 is fast approaching, and we must build on the success of last year when we travel to York in May.

There have only been eight away victories in the history of Roses, but I think that this year is Lancaster's greatest chance at an away victory for a long time, and as a result, I am looking forward to working with as many different students as possible in order to spread the word and fever that Roses can bring to the general student population.

The Roses Executive is an excellent way to get to see more of the tournament, as it is that body which will contribute the most to

**'I think that this year is Lancaster's greatest chance at an away victory for a long time'**

the event as a whole (other than the competitors of course).

Along with the Chair of Sports Executive and Inter College Sports Co-ordinators who also sit on the committee, the Roses Exec will meet with our York counterparts on a fairly regular basis in order to make sure the best Roses yet is being delivered. Anyone can apply to be on the Roses Exec so please keep your eyes and ears peeled over the next few days to see how you can try out to get involved. There are only limited numbers unfortunately, so if you are not successful please make sure you back Roses 2011 in as many ways possible, our teams would certainly appreciate it greatly.

With regards to the event as a whole, plans are starting to gain more momentum now as we roll through the term and I hope to reveal more details in the next issue of SCAN. I look forward to seeing

as many of you as possible supporting our teams during the rest of the term, be it University or College, as they gain more and more match experience and therefore lead us closer to victory in York.



# Bombers blitz their way to victory against Manchester



Photo by Max Mitchell

## American football

<b>Bombers</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Tyrants</b>	<b>0</b>

**Max Mitchell**

AN UNFORGIVING DEFENSE helped the Lancaster Bombers American Football team defeat the Manchester Tyrants 6-0 and earn their first away victory of the year.

The Bombers gave away almost nothing to Manchester, picking apart the shaky Tyrants offense on every drive. The defense has seen an almost complete makeover since last year with only four players returning, including captain Tim Barton who was defensive MVP of the day with two interceptions, one sack and multiple tackles.

However, he was not alone in intercepting the new Tyrants Quarterback, linebacker George Bedford, rookie defensive backs Ben Sarvesvaren (Rookie of the Game) and Ben Ham-mick also got picks.

The Tyrants offense ran a mixture of four and five wide receiver sets, a formation the Bombers had never seen before or practised against.

Teams in this league usually run the ball, but the Tyrants more often than

not passed it. The defensive line and linebackers stepped up and put pressure on the quarterback on every play, and the defensive backs did a fine job of picking off and deflecting passes all over the field. The Bombers' rookie players were very impressive throughout the match.

The first drive was a good indication of how the rest of the game would follow. The Tyrants chose to receive the ball after they won the coin toss, but were quickly forced to punt after a ruinous sack by rookie linebacker Matthew Hartley on 3rd down left the Tyrants 4th and very long. The Tyrants struggled to gain yards on any of their drives; their greatest successes came from broken plays with their athletic quarterback gaining yards on his feet after a missed tackle. However, the Bombers' defense were relentless and unforgiving, allowing few first downs and consistently forcing the Tyrants to either turn over the ball or punt.

One play of note would be George Bedford's punt return for 35 yards. He took advantage of the Tyrants' inexperience, faking a kneel down before sprinting off to drive the ball deep into Tyrant territory, until he was pushed out of bounds around the 20 yard line.

At this point, the Bombers' offense

capitalised on their great field position to put the ball in the endzone. After four plays, the Danish running back Didrik Finnoy took the ball in for six. Although Finnoy and fullback James Lago were both away on foreign exchange last

**The Tyrants offense ran a mixture of four and five wide receiver sets, a formation the Bombers had never seen before or practised against.**

year, watching them play, you would never know it. They make for a formidable combination of speed and brute strength as Lago served out devastating blocks allowing Finnoy to dart between would-be tacklers. Together they gained just under 70 yards on carries throughout the day. The running game has always been a key part of the Bombers offense and this year looks as if it will be no different. Power and size along the offensive line will create lanes for the running backs that can only get better as players develop into their positions. Passing highlights of the day included a 3rd and long pass

interference call on a Tyrants Defensive Back for making illegal contact on the receiver Matty Plant as he lined up to catch a deep bomb.

Even though the Bombers held the lead for the entire game, late in the game it was close. "The most important drive of the game for the offense came during the final possession in the final quarter. With a combination of running and pass plays we were able to maintain possession and run out the clock to ensure our first win." said Quarterback and Offensive Captain Jim O'Brien.

Next Sunday, the Bombers play long time rivals the Sheffield Sabres, who lost their first game of the year to Leeds Celtics. Sheffield are one of the older teams in the British Universities American Football League and have been playing the Bombers for years; in 1991 Sheffield got their first ever win against the old Bombers team. Last year the Bombers went 6-2, allowing them to proceed to the playoffs while the Sabres (5-3) fell just short. The Sabres will be looking for revenge and their first win of the season. A perennial playoff contender with quality coaching staff, the Sabres will not fall easily, but the Bombers look to be 2-0 before their first home game vs Leeds Celtics on November 21.

## Lancaster rises from the dead to clench victory

### Volleyball

<b>Lancaster</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Leeds</b>	<b>2</b>

**Neil Robertson**

LANCASTER STAGED A remarkable comeback from two sets down to win 3-2 against a strong Leeds side. With the result of the match seemingly a formality, a combination of astute team-

work and excellent individual performances from Suzann Kern and Lindsay Rybak turned the game on its head.

The home side struggled to get to grips with Leeds' strong serves and spikes in the opening set, with miscommunication in the Lancaster defence leading to a number of costly points. Despite team captain Emilija Skrebunaite remonstrating with her teammates, Leeds continued to dominate, showing gritty determination in defence to keep out the Lancaster attack. However, with the score at 19-9

to Leeds, outside hitter Rybak brought Lancaster back into it with some impressive spikes, while Skrebunaite's powerful serves broke down the resilient Leeds defence. The first set ended with a respectable if somewhat flattering score of 25-17 to Leeds.

Lancaster came right out of the traps in the second set, a series of clever hits putting them 4-1 in front. Skrebunaite made more use of her rapid serves, catching Leeds out on a number of occasions. Midway through the set Lancaster edged out 9-8 in front



Photo by Elliot Westcott

# Lancaster beaten by clinical York side

## Men's Football

<b>Lancaster</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>York St. John</b>	<b>4</b>

### Matthew Todd

LANCASTER UNIVERSITY MEN'S First football team took on their counterparts from York St John in a keenly contested league fixture. Both sides were searching for their first point of the Northern Conference season.

The game started at a frantic pace, with both sides struggling to hold on to possession on a pitch resembling a ploughed field. Amidst a poor quality spell of football, York went close when a free kick from around the half-way line crashed back off Lancaster crossbar with Ashley Hannay helpless. York St John also hit the post when their left winger skipped through a statuesque Lancaster defence only to see his curling effort test the woodwork.

After this scare, Lancaster composed themselves and began to exploit the width offered by their pacey wingers. On fifteenth minute this positive attitude was to pay off; Ric Marshall collected a delightful throughball before calmly slotting home to give Lancaster the lead.

Lancaster looked the stronger side for a period, the long-throw of captain Alex Brandwood caused havoc in the York defence; with a combination of last gasp defending and dominant goalkeeping preventing the home side from going further ahead.

The importance of taking chances was brutally exposed ten minutes before half time. Christopher Brown should have scored for Lancaster after being put through by his strike partner Rob Newton, but York St John's goalkeeper saved well and from the resulting clearance, the away side drew level. An instinctive reaction save from Hannay fell invitingly for the York St

John's striker to poke home.

Both sides clearly fancied their

### The importance of taking chances was brutally exposed ten minutes before half time.

chances of retaking the lead before half time. The last 10 minutes saw the most open period of the match, with Lancaster first to strike. The subdued Newton provided a moment of brilliance, receiving the ball with his back to goal before rolling his marker and smashing the ball home off the far post.

Despite holding a narrow advantage, Lancaster looked vulnerable to the pace of York St John's front two. The second equalizer, which came just 60 seconds after Newton's strike resulted from poor set-piece defend-

ing. York St John's central midfielder was allowed the freedom of the box to tap home a near post corner and level the tie going into half time.

The second half began with York St John on the offensive, pinning Lancaster back into their own area. It seemed a matter of time before Lancaster would concede, with York squandering numerous opportunities when well placed; missing three one-on-ones and a free header from a corner.

Lancaster were able to survive the York onslaught and were outraged 65 minutes in when furious appeals for a penalty were turned down. York's goalkeeper appeared to upend Newton, however the referee indicated that his first touch had carried the ball too far for the penalty to be awarded.

This incident signalled a slowing of the pace of the game, the energy sapping surface finally taking its toll

on both sides. This fatigue played a role in gifting York St John a 3-2 lead; clumsy defending upended York's striker in the area and the penalty was emphatically converted.

Despite a greater commitment to attack from Lancaster, York St John continued to threaten on the break. And when Lancaster overcommitted men forward for an 88th minute corner, they were punished in ruthless fashion; a flowing four man move saw York make the score 4-2. A late consolation from Newton gave Lancaster hope, but they were unable to create any further opportunities and succumbed to a 4-3 loss.

Despite a spirited performance from Lancaster, they were unable to cope with York St John in the second half. This defeat also leaves Brandwood's side in the relegation zone, but at this early stage of the season Lancaster will have many more opportunities to pick up points.

after some great work from Kern, who, along with Casey Clayton, shone more and more as the game went on. Indeed, Lancaster made more of a match of it throughout the second set, Rybak heading the attack and making some strong over-arm hits. This period was much better defensively from Lancaster, notwithstanding Leeds recurrent attacking threat and equal solidarity in defence which saw them 25-19 up at the end of the second set.

Cue the remarkable events which followed. The home side ruffled Leeds

and forced numerous errors, mainly down to the quality of serves. Kern continued her exemplary form with some brilliant blocks and scoring a few along the way. Leeds continued to pose problems, their number 15 scoring a few thunderbolt hits, however Lancaster always seemed the hungrier, and the more positive of the two teams. At one point they were cruising in front at 20-11 and in spite of some defensive misunderstandings pegged it back to 2-1, winning 25-16.

In the fourth set the game sparked

right into life. Initially, it looked as if Leeds had overcome their difficulties in the previous set and would go on to win as they went out 9-5 in front. But within the unpredictable context of this game, Lancaster got back into it and edged in front at 11-10. Skrebunaite launched more strong, quick serves to score some aces for the home side, who were now playing as much more of a unit and looking far more comfortable defensively. Some sublime finishes from Rybak helped Lancaster rake in the points and they fin-

ished 25-17 in front and had incredibly dragged it back to 2-2 in sets.

There could now only be one winner. Skrebunaite was a constant vocal presence, rallying the team and sorting out positions. Leeds still looked indecisive defensively, if a little nervous. This was a set of thrilling rallies, with both teams going all out for the win yet cautious in the face of defeat. For a moment, it looked as though Lancaster were staring defeat in the face at 13-10 down. This was until Kern rediscovered her scoring touch to bring

it neck and neck at 13-13. Skrebunaite's serving ability again came to light and Leeds were clearly shaken. A series of exquisite hits by Rybak put Lancaster on their way to a 17-15 win and capped an extraordinary turnaround by Lancaster to win 3-2.

After the match, captain Skrebunaite commented; "I was not happy, we made a very slow start. However, we got into the game; we're feeling each other and playing like a proper team now. This is the first game I can say we are playing as a team".

## Lancaster bounce back to snatch late victory

Thriller of a match sees netball seconds edge out Liverpool John Moore's

### Netball

**Lancaster** 30  
**LJMU** 29

**Nick O'Malley**  
Sports Editor

LANCASTER UNIVERSITY'S NETBALL second team triumphed 30-29 in an extremely close contest against Liverpool John Moore's University (LJMU). The team continued their fine start to the season with a third win in as many games, narrowly edging out LJMU in the first round of the Northern Conference Cup.

LJMU made a flying start to the game scoring with their first four efforts, to take an early 4-1 lead. However what was to follow was the epitome of a nip and tuck match, with no team ever being more than four goals ahead. Lancaster goal attack Holly Archer was in fantastic form in the opening quarter, at times single-handedly keeping Lancaster in the match with her shooting prowess.

However in the opening quarter Lancaster could find no answer to the energy, movement and vision of the opposition centre, who ran the game. The link up play between LJMU's goal shooter and goal attack was at times mesmerizing and they took a deserved 10-7 lead at the end of the first quarter.

In spite of it being LJMU's centre to start the second quarter Lancaster were the first to score after a great interception by centre Sarah Prescott, and an assured finish by goal shooter Zoe Wren at the second attempt. LJMU extended their lead during a scrappy period of play to 13-9 before Wren scored three goals in quick succession, including two courtesy of assists from Captain Grace Biggins.

Lancaster continued their brief dominance, scoring two further goals, both Archer, putting themselves ahead for the first time in the match. But the lead did not last long, with LJMU scoring immediately from the restart, and once again from the Lancaster centre, to take a very narrow 15-14 lead into the half-time interval.

Lancaster went out all guns blazing in the second half and scored the first

**Lancaster could find no answer to the energy, movement and vision of the opposition centre, who ran the game**

three goals of the third quarter through Wren and Archer. Before too long they had taken a commanding 20-16 lead. This prompted LJMU to come back even stronger, rattling in four with no Lancaster reply to tie the scores at 20-20. LJMU's goal shooter and goal attack continued their fine link up play throughout the whole quarter steering their team to a 25-23 lead with just one quarter left to play.

Lancaster pulled the score back to 25-25 courtesy of two more goals from the outstanding Wren, before taking the lead through a long range effort from Archer to take a one goal lead. LJMU responded with two long range efforts of their own before Archer tied the scores yet again at 27-27, creating an unbearably tense atmosphere with only five minutes remaining. LJMU looked to have spoilt the party as in quick succession their goal attack and goal shooter scored to give a two goal lead with only three and a half minutes left.

LJMU attempted to slow the game down at this point knowing full well that they were ahead, but Lancaster



LJMU almost got the better of Lancs. Photo by Amie Slater

rallied strongly making numerous vital last ditch interceptions. Archer pulled one back for Lancaster sending the watching spectators into raptures, creating a sense of expectancy amongst the Lancaster fans, and inevitability for LJMU. Wren pulled the game back to 29-29 with only one minute remaining with a fantastic shot under immense pressure.

However it was LJMU's start, meaning they were slight favourites to win at that point. But Lancaster were having none of it, a great interception by now goal defence Sullivan helped launch a fantastic counter attack, with substi-

tute Alison Young and Archer involved. It was left to Wren to finish it off, after a desperate effort by their goal keeper, saw their player called up for contact, and Wren finish with aplomb under pressure. Lancaster leading 30-29 with only 15 seconds remaining managed to retain possession from their restart until the final whistle sent the players and fans wild.

Captain Biggins said: "I am extremely proud of the team's performance today, to beat a team from a much higher league is a fantastic effort and shows just how much we can achieve as a team this year."

### IC Football League A

Team	W	L	D	Pts
County	2	0	1	7
Lonsdale	1	0	0	3
Cartmel	1	0	0	3
Bowland	1	1	0	3
Fylde	0	1	1	1
Pendle	0	1	1	1
Furness	0	1	1	1
Grizedale	0	1	0	0

### IC Netball

Team	W	L	D	Pts
Fylde	12	1	0	36
Bowland	11	3	0	33
County	10	3	0	30
Cartmel	7	7	0	21
Lonsdale	7	7	0	21
Grizedale	4	9	1	13
Pendle	2	10	1	7
Furness	0	13	0	0

### Carter Shield Fixtures

Sponsored by IBM

Week	Sport
2	Taster session
3	Taster session
4	-
5	Dodgeball
6	Volleyball
7	Lacrosse
8	Women's Football
9	Finals Day

All fixtures take place Sunday, 12.45pm in the Sports Centre Main Hall

### George Wyatt Fixtures

Day	Sport
Mon	Men's Darts & Dominos
Tue	Women's Darts
Wed	Women's Pool
Thurs	Men's Pool A & B

# Carolynne

Week Six, Michaelmas Term

**Fashion  
Forecast  
gets  
kinky**

# All you could want

**Erin O'Reilly**

**THE WANTED**

The Wanted  
Geffen Records  
25 October 2010

GRABBING OUR ATTENTION this summer with the popular fast paced anthem All Time Low hitting number one in the charts, and more recently with the melodic single Heart Vacancy, The Wanted are a cool and edgy group defying the cheesy image often associated with boy bands.

Although originally formed through mass auditioning, and essentially beginning their journey to fame as strangers, the chemistry between Max, Tom, Jay, Nathan, and Siva is obvious, and their voices come together to complement each other perfectly creating a fresh modern sound that may well challenge the likes of Take That.

This self-titled 13 track album really showcases the group's versatility, mixing feel good pop tunes, indie sounds, and haunting harmonies, some of which will quickly become most played on your iTunes.

Along with being talented singers, the boys also show a knack for song writing, sharing co-writing rights to five of the albums tracks, including the energetic pop song Say It On The Radio with an addictive chorus bound to stick in your head for days. In fact, the album is full of catchy hooks such as the Kings of Leon inspired chanting at the start of Lose my Mind or the marching drum beats of "left, left, left right, left" that make Personal Soldier another memorable tune.

The harmonious High and Low, a cover of singer songwriter Greg Laswell's, is a perfect display of the boys voices; combining the effortless vocals of the group with classical melodies, using just a piano to give it that live lounge feel.

Another track to watch out for is the more daring Let's Get Ugly, which combines Ennio Morricone's renowned theme tune to The Good, The Bad, The Ugly with a foot tapping pop beat. Some may fall instantly in love with this quirky song, while others may be a bit sceptical of its style. Either way, it definitely stands out in the album.

The album utilizes string sections combined with edgy beats within many of the songs to really give the group an individual sound. The final few tracks also have a more rock inspired tone using upbeat guitar and percussion rifts that make the album almost hard to place in terms of genre. It is safe to say that the album has a large range in terms of sound and taste, and hopefully the fan base will expand to more than just the usual demographic of screaming girls we usually find following boy bands.

Overall, the album is bound to please and frankly I can't see them hitting an all time low at any point in the near future.

emails from  
**@australia**

Will return in the next issue of Carolynne

The social side of university is one of its biggest draws, but why is everyone so obsessed with nightclubs? **Joe Henthorn** rants (but doesn't rave) and suggests some stellar alternatives.

**W**e students of Lancaster are intelligent folk. We enjoy activities as diverse as the theatre, journalism, politics, gaming, cinema and mountaineering. We're a pretty cultured bunch, I'm sure you'll agree. Yet we insist on partaking in that weird phenomenon that is clubbing. And I mean the kind with drinks in dingy vomit-stained rooms, not that thing that Canadians do with baby seals. Alas, although I'd have to say the latter is probably worse (have you seen how cute baby seals are), our weekly ritual of paying to dance to music we don't like is almost as high on my mental list of things that humans probably shouldn't do.

In fact, I'm convinced that no one actually likes clubbing (though bear in mind I'm probably being incredibly biased before you hurl overpriced shots at me). Surely it's all just a huge, sweaty mistake? I'll recap what

bludgeons. Alas, you'll have to pay twice what the pub next door is charging for drinks and you'll lose all ability to communicate with your friends or meet new people, since it is a) too dark to see them and b) impossible to talk over the sound of those seals being brutally murdered.

- **Finally:** The aftermath, or apocalypse stage. Really, look around as you leave the Sugarhouse, you'll know what I mean. This stage includes the purchase of dubious meat products, pulling the one who inevitably drank too much back home (before they're sick all over your floor for good measure) and the hangover period. Even if you totally

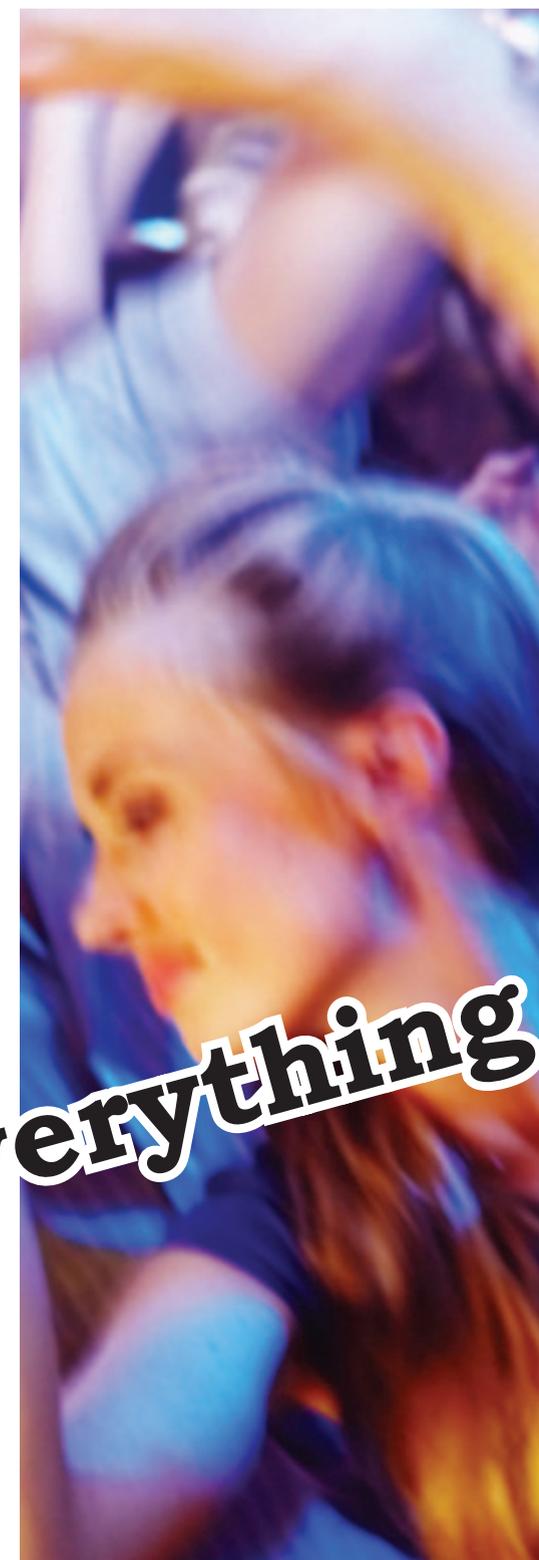
## Clubbing vs Everything

disagree with me over the entirety of this article, you can not disagree with the hangover.

Perhaps I don't understand something, or perhaps I've just been incredibly unlucky during my time as a clubber. Anyway, there always seems to be plenty of things to do around Lancaster that don't involve clubs. With no further ado, I present Joe Henthorn's guide to things that aren't clubs!

invariably happens every single time, just for the benefit of those that drank way too much last night and can't remember. The evening tends to go in four stages:

- **First:** The pre-drinking session. Almost certainly the best part of the night. Getting progressively drunker with some of your best friends; playing interesting variations on card games, video games and, best of all, scrabble; listening to music that you've picked. The drinks are cheap, the music is almost certainly fantastic and you can see and hear your friends. Hooray! What could be better?
- **Next:** Oh yeah, that's right, clubbing will be better! But hey, guys, don't you remember last time? When you projectile vomited all over the security guard's face, told him that his shoes were "way to shiny", and then proceed to spew all over those too? No? OK, so we'll just stand in this line that isn't moving, wearing as little clothing as possible, before paying to enjoy the body heat of 1000 strangers! The only logical choice. Socrates would be so proud.
- **Then:** The experience. To be honest, apart from the music, it's probably not too far removed from the aforementioned Canadian clubbing. There's the same sort of panic. The same confusion. The same tall men in checked shirts with
- **Pubs:** Probably the polar opposite of clubs. First of all, drinks are considerably cheaper and better. Secondly, communication with your peers is not an impossible task! You can talk, as opposed to the screaming, yelping and wild gestures one must perform in clubs. If you're so inclined you can combine the pub with other ideas to take your pub experience further. For example: Pubs + food = pub lunch. Pubs to the power of 10 = pub crawl. Pubs + general knowledge = pub quiz! Luckily for us, Lancaster has an extremely high pubs per capita rating, which means there's loads of choice – from the Water Witch to Yorkshire House and (most) places in-between. And don't forget your college bars!
- **Gigs:** It's relatively unknown compared to the big cities like Sheffield and Leeds, but Lancaster has a thriving music community. Again, it's the pubs like Yorkshire House that are good for this, although the college bars usually showcase university talent too. Lancaster even has its own music festival! Who'd have thought it? Bigger bands are starting



to come to town too, what with the likes of Pulled Apart by Horses having played in Lancaster by the time you read this. Of course, it only costs £15 at most to get out of town too, so with Manchester and Liverpool nearby it's easy to see pretty much anyone (and probably for about the same amount you'd spend at the Carleton, too).

- **Societies:** Pretty much every society has some great socials, and sometimes they might not even end up at Sugar! But most of them do, if you're in to that sort of thing. There are a couple of more interesting examples though – Hiking Society do Ultimate Night, which is sort of a pub crawl with challenges and bloody good prizes. There are the weekend hikes too, as well as their famous Social Weekends. Gaming Society have a penchant for their gaming themed pub crawls, the most recent being Mario Pub Golf 64, which was a strictly bring your own moustache event. Finally, you could take the Saturday night off and wake up early for the Paintball Society's weekend exploits. I'm assured by their president that it's like Call of Duty but for real.



## Car wars

**Gareth Horn**

Allow me, if you will, a brief word on campus parking: Cretinous. Yes, that should do it.

I do wonder whether I made the right choice in attending a university where otherwise intelligent, rational governance has suffered such a blatant failure of common sense. We not only live in a world where 59% of our population holds a valid driving licence, but 17% of those drivers – that's 10% of the UK's population – are between the ages of 17 and 30. In other words, prime university age.

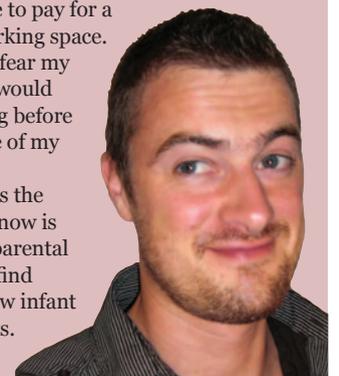
So why, then, does this university insist on making it nigh-on impossible for its students to travel here by car? Its policy would be better justified were Lancaster a city centre university. But it's not. It's on the farthest environs of town and the bus service stinks. There should be an open-day lecture informing prospective students: "Welcome to Lancaster! We're sixth in The Guardian's league table, shortlisted as The Times' University of the Year, in the world's top 200... we're miles away from town, and we'll make it impossible for you to park. Have a nice day!"

**I've considered gorging myself on a diet of Haribo and pig fat in an attempt to contract diabetes and win that elusive Alexandra Park permit**

Of course, the University's response would be, "okay, bring a car – use the pay and display facilities." Fair enough, if it weren't for two things: car parking charges are £5 per day (that's £250 per term over a five day week), and what's more there are rarely spaces in these zones. Everywhere I look there are Staff Permit Only signs. A recent 8.30am tour of campus revealed only three small visitor parking zones, whilst score after score of perfectly good staff-only spaces sat unused.

The fact that a good number of students need to work in order to afford their ever-increasing tuition fees, and therefore need their own transport to make it from university to work on time, does not seem to register at all with the powers-that-be. The qualification criteria for a campus parking permit could have been modelled on the membership policy of the Hellfire Club. I've even considered gorging myself on a diet of Haribo and pig fat in an attempt to contract Type 2 diabetes, and maybe win that elusive Alexandra Park permit – a small price to pay for a regular parking space. But alas, I fear my gag reflex would kick in long before the demise of my pancreas.

It seems the only hope now is to try the parental route and find myself a few infant dependants.



## What will you be doing on November 19?

### **Louise Day & Kristina Beanland**

THIS YEAR THE BBC run mass charity fund raiser, Children In Need, will take place on November 19. Last year Children in Need raised £39m, all of which was put towards supporting children that have been the victim of mental or physical abuse, neglect or poverty. They do this through grants to hundreds of different organisations that all help in their own way to support these children.

Children in Need works throughout the year and is a massive operation, which means that aid can be distributed throughout the UK evenly and fairly to those that need it most. In Lancaster alone very large donations have been made to CancerCare, the North West Children's Support Group and the

Lancaster Boy's and Girl's club. Each of these organisations help disadvantaged and terminally ill children to improve their skills and self-esteem. Despite its size every small donation makes a difference to Children in Need's cause, and is an easy way to make sure that when you donate to a charity you are sure to be helping thousands more.

If you visit the BBC Children in Need website you will find a whole host of ideas as to how to get involved and raise money this year, from bake sales to sponsored runs. You can request a fundraising pack online for free - or maybe you could invest in a pair of Pudsey ears to look charitable, and not to mention unspeakably cool at Sugarhouse on the night of November 19. For those of you who want to be right in the thick of this year's Children in Need fundraising event why not head to Preston Guild Hall and Charter Theatre on the 19th for a Charity event involving music, dance, comedy and

television.

For fundraising ideas a little closer to home, Lancaster's very own RAG society are doing their bit for Children in Need. For the whole day (yes that includes lectures and seminars) the RAG society will be donning their pudsey ears, or whatever else they have in their fancy dress boxes, and going about their business in full fancy dress gear. RAG president Leah Smith is keen to get everyone involved. "We want to raise as much money as possible so we're basically trying to get people to do anything and everything to raise money." If you have any of your own fundraising ideas, RAG will be happy to help you put them into action.

And even if you do nothing this week but treat yourself to a Greggs you'll still be doing your bit, because our beloved Alexandra Square bakers is selling Pudsey Cupcakes to raise money for Children in Need. So go ahead, and get involved however you can.

# Living a life of vice

No Paris Hilton, no footballers' wives: **Sarah Smiley** finds Vice a refreshing alternative

## THE WORLD ACCORDING TO VICE

Hardcover

Published on Nov 4 2010, by Canongate Books Ltd.

£10 from Amazon

HAVE YOU EVER been stuck for a good book to read, settled for a magazine instead and been horrified by the inane articles written for your entertainment? Then *The World According to Vice* is certainly the thing for you. Written in the introductions to the Interrogations (i.e. interviews) section of the book is "we hate this facile world and hope that you do too" and even comes with a warning that it "contains no interviews with girl-band members, in-the-closet gay boy-band members, or prostitutes that had sex with a footballer once". How refreshing.

Vice magazine began in America in 1994, originally named *The Voice of Montreal* and funded by the State. Eventually becoming privately owned and known as *Vice* in 1996, the magazine really took off, and came to Britain eight years ago. *The World According to Vice* is a celebration of the magazine, manifested in a collection of some of the best articles to have appeared over the years.

My personal highlights were definitely *The Vice Guide to University*, a section available online at [www.viceland.com](http://www.viceland.com) and that I would definitely recommend. Though the you-are-going-to-end-up-in-massive-debt point is somewhat laboured, they really take a no-nonsense approach to the whole subject. Another especially compelling article was *New Frontiers of Society - Being Anti-high Feels Anti-good*, an article dedicated to Hamilton Morris taking three anti-drugs and documenting the effects. The article is funny, well written and interesting, much like the rest of the book. It even ends with a little philosophical thinking: "All that is loved is loved by contrast...We can't know the high without feeling the low." Finally the *Blacks VS Whites: Who Can Drink More* piece was witty, unbiased and, though not entirely scientifically accurate, there was no sense of worry about coming across as racist or un-pc. Again, how refreshing.

The aforementioned no nonsense approach taken in the university guide is maintained throughout, from articles about mental instability and psychosis to tales of terrorism in various places. Add more than a hint of irony, comments about their own drug addictions by the journalists and one article focused on a bizarre Nigerian film (seriously, look up 666, Nigeria, *Vice* on YouTube. You won't be disappointed.) and you basically have *Vice* magazine.

Appealing in so many ways, this book of the best bits is perfect, right? Well, not entirely. Though I maintain that the book is worth a read and will maybe even turn you on to subscribing to the magazine itself, disappointment manifested itself in some of the articles that came across as just too pretentious.

Well, perhaps it's not entirely true of the whole book, rather the grilling of celebrities in the final section. Yes, they despise the celebrity culture based on vacuous beings such as Paris Hilton, but were their choices of celebrity much better? Was it wrong of them to mock people for wanting to read about girl-band members, when they were falling over themselves to suck up to Elmore Leonard and David Lynch? Though their choice of celebrity was perhaps more noble and based on actual merit rather than good looks and money, I can't help but think that I would skip that part of the magazine, as I was tempted to in the book. Stick to the amusing and thought-provoking articles and *The World According to Vice* really is one of those books that fit the cliché you won't want to put it down.



Vice magazine. Photo courtesy of Fashion Record

# Are you Lancaster savvy?

**Gareth Horn** explores the hidden treasures on your very doorstep

**QUESTION** - JUST how well do you know Lancaster? Whether you're still settling in to your first year at uni or you're a well-seasoned sage on the Lancaster scene, there are a few hidden curiosities out there that you may well have missed. Try this top ten on for size.

- **The old well in The Sun Hotel:** Pop in for a quality pint and take a stroll from the main bar into the back rooms, where you'll find a little separate off-room with an intriguing old well in the middle of its floor. The well was uncovered whilst the pub was being renovated and is now covered by a thick glass window, allowing you to hover above and stare into the abyss.
- **LUNE sign:** Many of you will make regular use of Lancaster's Millennium Bridge, but how many have spotted the big wooden letters spelling out LUNE below the tide line? Head over the bridge from the north, and where it meets the old stone bridge on the quay, look down to your left under the stone archway. But be sure to time your trip well, as most of the time it's hidden by the river.
- **Horseshoe Corner:** Outside Next, where Market Street meets Penny Street and Cheapside. Scan the ground and you'll see a horseshoe set into the pavement – apparently marking the spot where John O'Gaunt's horse cast off a shoe.
- **Queen Victoria's extra appendage:** This is a firm favourite amongst locals – you can't consider yourself a true Lancastrian until you've seen it! Here, perfect placement is the key: head down to Dalton Square and stand on the pavement by The Borough. Walk up the pavement until you are perfectly in line with the statue in the square, turn to face it, and behold the majesty of Old Vic's crown jewels!
- **Lopsided house, St. George's Quay:** Take a look at the house to the left of the George & Dragon pub. Weird!
- **Gallows Hill:** Up on the old moors on the edge of town stood the spot where, up until 1800, all of the public hangings in Lancaster were carried out. Gallows Hill, as it was known, is perhaps most famous as the site where ten of the thirteen Pendle Witches were hanged on August 20, 1612. The site is now home to Williamson Park and Ashton Memorial, and there are some – including TV's Most Haunted Live – who believe that the presence of those poor souls can still be felt in the area. Take a trip there by night, you never know what you might see...
- **Golden Lion Plaque:** When the Pendle Witches were hanged on Gallows Hill, they were taken from the castle and paraded along Moor Lane and Moorgate, and on up to the gallows. Following tradition, they stopped en route at The Golden Lion pub to take their last drink. A plaque on the site commemorates the witches' brief stop-over.
- **Blades Street:** Many of you will already be familiar with Blades Street. A stone's throw away from the bus station, it is a popular choice for student digs. But have you ever taken a good look at the place – I mean a really good look? Because rumour has it that two Lancaster alumni, Messrs. Peter Whalley and Marvin Close, drew inspiration from their time on Blade Street whilst working as script writers for Coronation Street.
- **Buck Ruxton's House:** Dr. Buktyar Rustomji Ratanji Hakim, or Buck Ruxton as he was known locally, was a Parsi surgeon who both lived and practised in Dalton Square in the 1930s. He has become infamous as a double murderer (he murdered his wife and maid, dismembered them in his bathtub, and travelled to Scotland to dispose of their remains), and as being one of the first murderers to be caught using the fledgling science of forensics. Queen Victoria's back is turned to his former residence, which still stands on Dalton Square and has never since been used for residential purposes.
- **Lancaster (Forton) Motorway Services:** A slightly bizarre way to end this list, admittedly – but Lancaster Services have a claim to fame as being the very first motorway services, on the very first stretch of motorway (this section of the M6 was originally known as the Preston Bypass) in the UK. Not only that, but it's also the infamous spot where Mr. Bean himself, Rowan Atkinson, wrote-off his £1m McLaren F1 sports car in 1999 by crashing into the back of a Rover Metro!



Metropolitan living. Photo by Amie Slater

## Should you stay or should you go?

**Sarah Smiley** gives her view on the possibilities of life both on and off campus

TO LIVE ON campus, or not to live on campus? That is the question for many students going into the second year and beyond at Lancaster University. So which is the right decision? Is it better to stay on campus with the luxury of having everything so close by, or to venture out into the big wide world of Lancaster? One of the big attractions of Lancaster for many students is that it is a campus university. However, living in rented accommodation in town is brilliant for boosting independence and preparing students for the scary world outside of university.

A major factor to consider is what is easily accessible to students living both on and off campus. It is quite possible to fall out of bed ten minutes before a lecture on campus and

still make it on time; an impressive feat, and pretty impossible for an off campus student to achieve. Not only that, but should you feel the sudden urge to rush to the Library or Learning Zone to finish a forgotten essay, it is possible to be there in a matter of minutes. For a student living in town, this means trekking all the way to the University and back home again once your day of lectures and seminars has finished. However, perhaps having home so close is not the best idea as it is so easy on campus to wander back after a lecture and do absolutely nothing for the rest of the day. For an off campus student, when going home is often out of the question due to an inconveniently placed second lecture, there is little choice but to sit in

the Learning Zone and catch up on work (ok, or have a drink in a campus bar, but at least you're getting out there).

On the other hand, let's think about the other side to university life. A night out can be tainted by the expense of transport to the club and back again. Wouldn't it be nice to only have to worry about money to get into clubs and have a drink or two? Well that's what living in town can offer a student, as pretty much everywhere is within walking distance, even in those killer heels. For shopping as well, living off-campus means not having to lug those heavy bags onto a crowded bus with each bump and hill threatening to tip the contents everywhere. Finally, having a communal living room can bring

housemates together in a way not always possible in the campus accommodation, where communal areas are generally only the kitchen and toilets.

So, is it better to live on or off campus? As with many of these questions the answer simply is, it depends. If you love the freedom of living without porters and want to go clubbing without having to worry about taxis back, then town is quite probably the right choice for you. If you enjoy living away from home, but want the security and facilities that campus can offer, well then you have your answer. It is sufficient to say that whichever route you choose to take, you will have a brilliant time living out your own personal student experience.

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# living



French students take to the streets.  
Photo by Pierre Suchet

# Vive la revolution

After last week's protests against tuitions fees **Louise Day** asks if we should be taking notes from across the channel?

In the wake of recent riots and violent protests across France against pension reform, it is now the time for investigations of those arrested in some of the more destructive acts. On October 28 over 270 separate protests took place in different cities across France. According to trade unions, the number of protesters reached over 150,000 in some cities, with a total of around 2 million.

Although unhappy with the decision of Nicolas Sarkozy, it is the opinion of many that the majority of the violence that did take place during the manifestations was in fact due to opportunistic youths, rather than aggressive trade unionists. The activities across the channel provide an interesting mirror to the current unrest in the UK against the lifting of the cap on tuition fees following recommendations by the Browne review. This has outraged many as an abhorrent act that will see strong university candidates unable to attend 'good' universities, who would inevitably charge more than universities lower down the league table, if said universities can survive the government cuts. According to the NUS, if government support was cut altogether, universities such as Oxford and Cambridge would only last around two years on their private funding. Other uni-

versities that provide high quality education for thousands of students each year are so seriously in debt that they would last less than one day, in fact they would be in negative figures.

This has been a harsh blow for students, and once again a failure to follow through on promises by the Liberal Democrats. Like Sarkozy, Cameron is making unpopular decisions in withdrawing state aid for those who need it most, leaving relatively unharmed once again the wealthy corporations. Lancaster offered over 250 free places on their coaches to London. The protest itself can be considered something very un-British, although nonetheless something to be proud of, because now is the time to stop merely accepting what we're told and grumbling about it afterwards. Many of the French protests continued after the reforms had actually been submitted, and as a general rule the French population will stand up for what they believe in. And regardless of your opinion on whether it is right or wrong to disrupt daily lives or go as far as some protesters did in the London demonstration, France have traditionally appeared to be resisting changes much more effectively, up until now. For a start Britain has been considering raising the pension age for years, and there has

not been a word suggesting the possibility of a concerted, let alone national, demonstration against it. And unlimited tuition fees? Well in 2010/2011 French tuition fees for public universities are €174 (plus social security), rising to €237 for masters courses. In addition the majority of students receive some sort of grant, which is means tested and can mean that those who might normally struggle financially or who study far from home are by no means in a worse position than students from wealthy families. These students would pay no tuition fees or social security and receive a monthly grant for living expenses, not to mention the "aide au mérite" for students who did particularly well in their baccalauréat. Students rarely have to claim loans unless they study at a private institution, and part-time jobs are not essential to survival.

It seems we have a lot to learn from our neighbours, and should not brush off protests as disruptive or a waste of time. If we compare the changes the UK has undergone throughout our short time with a right wing government compared to France, we can see quite clearly that as students and some of those most affected, we can't sit idly by and let our government's promises be so blatantly ignored.

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# Boosting your brain power

## Amy Packham

University life is a cocktail of revision, hefty readings of endless explanations and theories and the occasional brisk jog to your seminar due to a slight miscommunication between you and your alarm clock. With tiredness a strong contender for your attention it is vital that you fill your body with the energy boost it needs to keep you awake during your lectures and seminars. Munching on a banana ten minutes before an exam might not produce the highest results you were hoping for, but it's definitely a start.

It's quite surprising the amount of foods that have scientifically been proven to help boost our brain power. As I'm sure, like myself, the majority of you aren't scientists. It all seems very wordy and precise about how these foods are going to help us get that upper class degree we desire but my guess is that we should believe this science babble they have preaching for decades and stock up on some super-fruits.

Blueberries seem to pop up on a lot of the research associated with brain power and, according to a university in America, improve short term memory loss, which is definitely a plus when attempting to tackle a last minute cramming session before an exam. These fruits are said to increase the number of cells in the part of our brain which is responsible for the memory.

Along with blueberries, we have bananas and broccolis. Bananas are commonly known to be good brain food because of their high levels of potassium helping our brain to transmit messages faster and more effectively. Broccoli, although maybe not your favourite green, manages to enhance brain power and cognitive functions. Maybe we should replace snacking on Doritos with broccoli during our stud-

ies!? It should also be mentioned that tomatoes and pumpkin seeds are found to increase the healthiness of our brain too. Additionally tomatoes, in the long term, protect against damage to cells which tends to occur during dementia with the zinc in pumpkin seeds enhancing our memory and thinking skills too.

We can, however, benefit from a lack of shellfish, coffee, ice cream and artificial flavourings in food which have all earned themselves the title, bad brain food. Although shellfish isn't at the top of most student's diet, maybe it's still worthwhile to mention the oceanic toxins and pollutants contained in shellfish are useless when trying to energise the brain. However, something that is popular with students is coffee. It might be keeping you awake to finish your essay but from a scientific point of view, it flushes out essential minerals in our brain such as potassium, magnesium and calcium.

Unfortunately, although it would probably be a unanimous wish that ice cream was healthy for our brain, the truth is that the saturated fat can begin to clog blood vessels and prevent the flow of nutrients and blood to our brain so be warned. Ben and Jerry may seem like your best friends at the time but they definitely won't be in the long run.

To avoid food damage to our brain, it is a good idea to avoid artificial flavourings, colourings and sweeteners as the whole 'crash and burn effect' is not great if you're hoping to finish that essay. A similar effect can be shown with excessive amounts of meats such as pork and beef as they take longer to digest and therefore don't help you stay alert consequently making you sleepy and longing for your bed before you've even finished your introduction.

Eating pumpkin seeds before you write your coursework might not enhance your thinking skills instantaneously, but it will definitely help prevent the sleepy head bob in lectures which is never a good look.



# Cheap and simple ways to a fitter you

Alison Young looks at how you can fight off the student spread

IT MAY BE a well known fact that you are bound to put on a few extra pounds at university, especially if you are drinking enough to be accepted into an AA meeting and chocolate has become your best friend in times of an imminent deadline. However, it does not need to be this way. There are cheap and easy options to stay fit, healthy and active whilst you are at university.

The first piece of advice is to walk to as many places as you possibly can. Don't be fooled and take the bus or car but instead get outside for some fresh air and give the old legs a good stretch. It is widely known that exercise releases the happy hormones so what better way to de-stress by getting out and keeping fit without breaking a sweat.

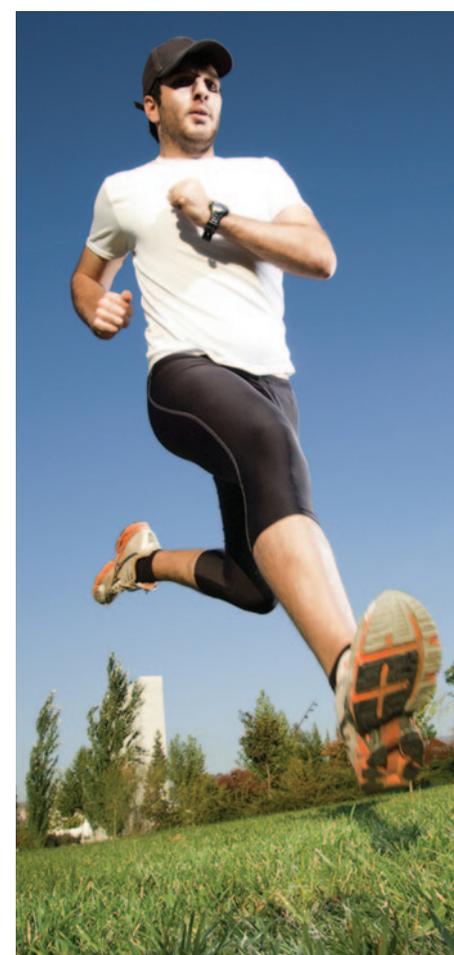
You can even partake in a gentle jog around the many public footpaths in and around Lancaster. You can start slowly by completing a campus run of approximately one mile, or venture further to Galgate and back which is

approximately five miles or even jog by the canal at your own leisurely pace. For those of you who are really eager to take to the tracks, then head to Morecombe and have a jog by the seaside. This route is approximately seven miles with many views to take in on the way and you can witness the delights of the Carleton in daylight too. Once you turn up the music on your iPod and get your running shoes on there shall be no stopping you.

Be sure to make good use of the Lancaster gym facilities too. Whether this is getting a group of mates together to play football, badminton or even trying the exciting experience that is aeroball. Not only can you allow your competitive streak to be released on your unsuspecting friends, but you can sweat out the previous night's alcohol in the process. The gym offers a wide range of activities as well as exercise classes from keep fit to boxercise to circuit training as well as a large swimming pool to cool down in after. You can invest in a premier

membership with the gym at £170 which offers free indoor activities apart from recreational classes or simply subscribe to the £32 standard card which offers discounts from the original prices. Either way it is an opportunity to make new friends and take a break from the library.

If you're interested in taking up a sport or activity on a more regular basis then there are numerous different clubs and societies to choose from. If you missed the chance at Freshers' Fair then do not fret as many clubs still take on new members and you may well find your new passion. If you're looking to try something unique then why don't you try out cheerleading or American football. There are also many dance classes as well as canoeing or even hiking if you fancy taking to the hills. The possibilities are endless and it really is a great way to expand your social circle and try something new whilst you're here. No matter what your interests are, just make sure you get out there and do something. You really will feel the benefits for it after.



# Beauty and the hangover

**Rebecca Pocklington** reveals her beauty hangover cures which will have you feeling fresh as a daisy

I'M SURE YOU'RE all familiar with that awful feeling, when you wake up and all you can taste is the aftermath of a heavy night and a few hazy memories. Not only that, but you tend to look like you've been dragged through a hedge backwards and haven't slept for weeks. Well, there are a few things you can do to help bring your appearance back to life; even if your head is still in sleeps ville.

Alcohol is the number one dehydrator, so when removing any excess make-up from the night before make sure you use a cleanser which will do its best to revitalise the skin.

If you have some time on your hands, then a face mask clears your skin up and makes you feel great. I would recommend a deep conditioning mask as this will give your skin the boost of vitality it's dreaming of. Put a piece of cucumber over each eye to wake you up and to relieve puffiness and dark circles. If your fridge is bare then you can simply use ice cubes or a cold spoon as the cool temperature is the secret to sparkling eyes. Soon enough you will be looking a lot more like your old self again. If you haven't the time to apply a face mask then a rich moisturiser is a god send, because it's guaranteed your skin will feel dry and awful and moisturising will help you along on the journey to normality.

This may seem obvious, but drinking a good pint of water before you go to sleep works wonders too as it can prevent the next day hangover from appearing in all its glory. Also, if you drink another pint of water as soon as you wake up it will do half

the beauty work for you. Dehydration is the main reason for that dreaded hangover feeling.

Dark circles are a major give away and can make you look sleep deprived. Eye drops are a quick and effortless trick of the trade. I would recommend Optrex eyedrops as they really do fake the eight hours sleep look. If you need to go out in a hurry then make-up is your best option. Use a light coloured concealer under the eyes such as Radiant Torch from Yves Saint Laurent to give a brightening effect on the eyes. To make the eyes appear wide awake then give your eyelashes a bit of lift with some eyelash curlers and then a black mascara for definition.

Foundation is the key to making your blotchy skin disappear. Mix your foundation with an illuminator crème to prevent your skin from looking dull and drab. Once you have applied your foundation you can inject colour back into your skin by using a natural blush, a shade darker than what you would normally wear, which will bring your skin back to life. If you have time to apply eye shadows then stay clear of shimmery colours as it will only highlight the dark circles under your eyes and instead opt for matte shades.

The bedazzled look is never going to win hair awards. However, the revolution of dry shampoo means we don't have to wash our hair to give it that just washed feeling. Instead use a good dose of dry shampoo, leave for a couple of minutes and then brush out any remnants of the previous night. Simple. If all else fails – hats are big news this season.



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# Bondage isn't just for the bedroom

Stepping out from behind closed doors, **Hugh Metcalf** on how fetish clothing is hitting the high streets

Lancaster is known for three things: the war of the roses, a top-ten-in-the-country-ranking university and an underground S&M scene that would make Max Mosely blush. Well, at least that's what you'd be lead to believe given the winter's hot new trend for bondage.

After Cheryl Cole's X Factor performance, sales of bondage style tights went through the roof. Selfridges sold out of their Woford Sahara Bondage tights just days after the singer was seen wearing them on the hit TV show, and for £32 a pop, you'd be wise to take out insurance against laddering these bad boys.

But of course, our Chez was cashing in on a trend that has been widely produced on the catwalks and the high street this season. It may seem an odd choice for winter; suggestively placed PVC straps et al. but before you get ahead of yourself and reach for the gimp mask in the bottom of your wardrobe, let me explain. The inspiration from bondage is material and shape.

Each week, I mention this season's need for experimentation.

tion in texture and this week shall be no different. Leather has become a key texture this winter, outside of its usual comfort zone of outerwear and footwear. Name any item of clothing and no doubt it's been sent down the catwalk in cow-hide.

One of the most exciting for students is the LLBD (leather little black dress). The LBD is a perennial favourite for a night out to Sugarhouse, but the change in texture to leather creates an opportunity for an edgier look. Though we're taking inspiration from bondage, the leather used is always matte and slightly distressed as anything skin-tight or shiny is entering Catwoman territory.

The great thing about the leather dress is the detailing it can be given by studs and ringlets. They give you the opportunity to match the dress with accessories outside of the palette of the leather, whilst still keeping the outfit meshed together.

There is another great chance to experiment in texture for you legging-lovers. Leggings have become a staple of many girls wardrobes who don't want as much leg on show, but the elasticised fabric used on the basic legging is about as exciting as a 9am lecture.

The leather legging, on the other hand, will create a contrast against the fabric of

your non-leather dress and instantly builds you as a glam, rock chick when teamed with a pair of black heels

## Styling

- **Accessorise bravely:** You may think the only accessories you can team with your new leather look are a whip and handcuffs, but experimenting with ethnic and bohemian extras will elevate the look to a whole other level.
- **Only one:** Don't combine the LLBD with leather leggings. The textures will be difficult to match up to one another even if they do you'll end up looking like you're about to climb on a motorbike.
- **Heels:** Don't even think about stepping out in bondage without a pair of killer heels. This style has to be sexy, so leave those pumps at home.

## Where to buy

If you're looking for a pair of Cheryl's leggings but don't want to pay out the nose, check out ASOS.com for some Cole-inspired hosiery for a fraction of the price. If you're looking for a LLBD, River Island's range encapsulates the street-wearable bondage.



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## MYSTIC MACLEOD

**SCORPIO OCT 23 - NOV 21**  
**M** An exciting trip to the NUS Demo in London will get you fired up about campaigns! Believing a peaceful protest is the solution to all of life's disagreements, stick a placard in the sink until that washing up gets done.

**SAGITTARIUS NOV 22 - DEC 21**  
 The discovery of a hidden piano on campus will inspire you to learn to play. Maybe one day you will make others happy with your new gift. Or you could assassinate and replace Chris Martin and achieve world domination.

**CAPRICORN DEC 22 - JAN 20**  
 Hankies at the ready, a bit of the Bubl  will have you bubbling this week. Right in the middle of somewhere proper manly like Halfords, you'll have no control over the embarrassing leak. So you can cry me a river...

**AQUARIUS JAN 21 - FEB 17**  
 Being a loving boyfriend, you accept your lady's request that you wear silk underwear. A lot less stretchy than traditional cotton, watch what you do in them, one rip could make the pleasant eroticism of the pants a little less subtle than she intended!

**PISCES FEB 18 - MAR 20**  
 You will end up as leader in a group project on your course very soon. Battling to motivate the apathetic clearing kids, bring copious alcohol to each meeting and cupcakes, and you will soon have them slaving away. Job done.

**ARIES MAR 21 - APR 19**  
 Caught in a bad romance, a new love interest in your life will take over valuable time you would have spent with your mates. It's vital you get the balance right in case you get ditched! Aye! Bros before hos, get textin' those peeps!

**TAURUS APR 20 - MAY 21**  
 It started out with a kiss, how did it end up like this? Is what you'll be asking when your oral piercings become dangerously tangled with another's! Walk slowly together to A&E and stay away from anything magnetic.

**GEMINI MAY 22 - JUNE 20**  
 A particularly dusty book causes an awkward situation in the library. Not wanting to cough and disturb your fellow scholars, you'll have to make a run out of the danger zone! Good luck, that place is a labyrinth designed to trap the weak.

**CANCER JUNE 21 - JULY 22**  
 Combining an autumnal stroll home from campus with a lunchtime sandwich seems like an unconquerable plan. You failed, however, to factor in the omnipresence of Devil Goose and his love of piccalilli. It will be more of a run home with no food.

**LEO JULY 23 - AUG 22**  
 Do not invite a friend to visit on the weekend of Week Six! They will endure standard Travelodge injuries resulting in death or worse! Soap in the eye, back soreness, shower-steam induced cough, dust allergies and dirty towel infections. Gross.

**VIRGO AUG 23 - SEPT 22**  
 You know the invisible worm that flies in the night? Yeah it's gonna get you and lay its eggs in your belly. Then when they hatch you will feel queasy and poo them out. They will wait until night and then fly away.

**LIBRA SEPT 23 - OCT 22**  
 You will make some unfortunate drunken promises this week, for example, to get Chancellor Sir Chris Bonnington's face tattooed on your Everest. Follow through and it'll be the perfect anecdote at job interviews to prove how reliable you are.

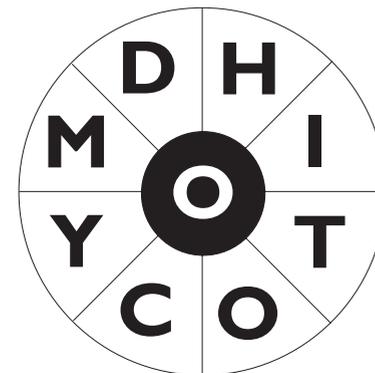
### THE QUIZ - Music Themed

1. What does the Italian term adagio mean?
2. What studio did the Beatles use to record 191 of their songs?
3. What city's opera house does the Phantom of the Opera prow!
4. What did Def Leppard drummer Rick Allen lose in a 1984 auto accident?
5. What Michael Jackson album spawned five chart-topping singles?

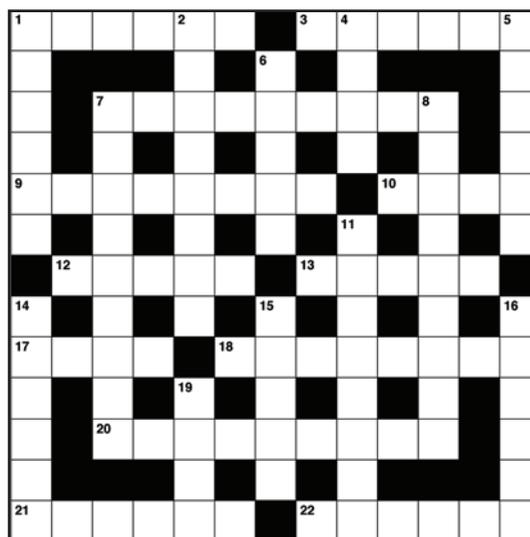
Answers below

### 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 Crossword



#### Across

- 1 - Attack another country aggressively (6)
- 3 - Covers with water droplets (6)
- 7 - Allaying hostility (9)
- 9 - Pain (8)
- 10 - Songbird (4)
- 12 - Promised (5)
- 13 - Nearby (5)
- 17 - Dull colour (4)
- 18 - Types of warships (8)
- 20 - Frighten (9)
- 21 - Single celled organism (6)
- 22 - Ancient (3-3)

#### Down

- 1 - \_\_\_ Staunton: Dolores Umbridge in Harry Potter (6)
- 2 - Abandoned (8)
- 4 - Bucket (4)
- 5 - Plant stems (6)
- 6 - Tactless and very bold (5)
- 7 - Fraudulent (9)
- 8 - Ensure (9)
- 11 - Startling (8)
- 14 - Republic once ruled by Idi Amin (6)
- 15 - The Hunter (constellation) (5)
- 16 - Eg. Iceland and Australia (6)
- 19 - Dull (4)

### The Su Doku

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

1	7	3			4			5
	9	2	3			4	8	
8				5		1		
				7	8	3	6	
			2		9			
	6	9	4	3				
		7		2				8
	3	8			1	5	7	
9			6			2	3	1

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1				3				5
				7			2	
7		3				2	9	
		5						1
4		6	1		5	8		3
8						5		
		9	3			7		6
		4			6			
	2			8				5

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Answers: (1) Slow (2) Abbey Road (3) Parts (4) An arm (5) Bad

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