

Being a good sport

SCAN sports looks back over Lancaster's sporting highs and lows of the year



Anti-abortion group welcomed onto campus for pregnancy support

Heather Mann

A CONTROVERSIAL PRO-LIFE charity is currently offering pregnancy support service on campus.

The group, which advertises free pregnancy testing, counselling and advice on posters around campus, is provided by LIFE, an organisation whose mission is to "uphold the utmost respect for human life from fertilisation (conception) until natural death". The posters that have been put up around campus give no indication that the service is pro-life.

The service, which started in January, comes onto campus on Saturdays from 11am-2pm and meets in Grizedale Porter's Lodge. They were given permission to meet in Grizedale by the college principal, after consultation.

In the latest LIFE newsletter, the establishment of the Lancaster University service was front-page news. Chris Doyle, Caring Officer for LIFE commented: "We have received tremendous support from several members of staff who negotiated with the Students' Union. We were then allowed to have our own stall at the Freshers' Fair and staff have welcomed us and helped publicise the service." Freshers' Fair was three months before the charity began its counselling service, which has not received Students' Union support.

Pete Macmillan, LUSU Vice President (Equality, Welfare and Diversity) explains that the Union would always advise students to seek unbiased, medical advice when contemplating a termination. "I had my suspicions that the [LIFE] group was pro-life and as such we as a Students' Union have not supported it in any way as we see it as a clear freedom of choice matter for the student and if there was to be a situation where a student came into the Education and Support Unit of LUSU our first advice would be to go to the GP Practice," he said.

Macmillan added: "The GP practice is well equipped to support students in this situation. I think it is fair to say that the GP practice would provide unbiased support as would most medical services in town."

British Pregnancy Advisory Service

(BPAS) also commented, on the emergence of LIFE on Lancaster's campus. A spokesperson said: "We are concerned to hear that LIFE, an organisation fundamentally opposed to abortion, is now the only service offering unplanned pregnancy advice to students on campus at Lancaster University. We believe most women facing an unintended pregnancy would prefer to talk to someone who does not believe that one of the options open to them is wrong, and who can provide them with facts about abortion based on scientific research rather than opinion."

They added: "This is one of the issues about organisations like LIFE saying they offer 'non-directive counselling'. [T]his doesn't mean very

"We believe most women would prefer to talk to someone who does not believe that one of the options open to them is wrong"

much if the information they are providing is skewed by their views on abortion being wrong".

Nevertheless, students may require extra support beyond healthcare provided by a GP, particularly as many students live away from their family. According to recent figures, women aged between 18 and 24 are most likely to have an abortion, suggesting support is most crucial during the years a woman spends in university.

On the LIFE's website, the charity lists its objectives as offering non-directive counselling and information on pregnancy, pregnancy loss and abortion; offering practical and emotional support to help women continue their pregnancy and supporting them for as long afterwards as necessary; and educating the public, but most importantly young people, about the rights and dignity of each person.

However, national reports of the charity's counselling service suggests the counselling becomes more force-

CONTINUED ON PAGE SEVEN

A whole week of extravagance



Photo by Ben Robins

Turn to Carolynne for Extrav previews

Vice Chancellor Search Committee still causing a stir

Chris Housden
News Editor

POTENTIAL CONTROVERSY SURROUNDING the panel assembled to interview and appoint the new Vice Chancellor to follow Paul Wellings has been quashed by members of staff and LUSU officers.

The issue that has arisen revolves around the appointment of members of staff to the panel, officially the Vice Chancellor Search Committee, and the subsequent inclusion of Professor Sue Cox, a member of the University Management Advisory Group (UMAG) in an almost undefined role. Cox, it has been confirmed, was neither elected onto the Search Committee by Senate or University Council but included by Pro-Chancellor Bryan Gray who is chairing it.

The rest of the Search Committee is comprised of Clare Powne and Gavin Brown, Professor Harry Thomason, Ms Lois Willis and University Secretary Fiona Aiken. With the exception of Aiken none are members of UMAG.

Initially, all members of the panel were to be simply chosen by Gray in collusion with Aiken and the Pro-Vice Chancellors, a fact which stirred uncertainty in many of the members present.

"Senate were simply told who was going to be on the panel- well, we weren't told who was going to be on the panel, there were no names, we were just told that a number of big named people had already been selected", said Joe Thornberry, Bowland College Principal and the member of Senate who put forward the amendment which stopped the Search Committee being assembled unelected in such a manner.

Having successfully voted for the members on the Search Committee from Senate, the full panel was revealed and Cox was included, unknown to any of the Senate members. The members of staff who objected to the process

CONTINUED ON PAGE SEVEN

New sports centre prices revealed

Charlotte Urban
News Editor

THE PRICES FOR the newly erected Sports Centre have been released, revealing a very competitive pricing scheme for the new facility compared with other facilities in the North.

The cheapest membership is the bronze scheme, which will cost £100, and allows the member access to the cardio and weights facilities and the swimming pool at off peak times only. Off-peak times will be between 9am and 12pm and 2pm and 4pm, Monday to Friday. The step-up membership is the silver scheme, which allows the member access to the cardio and weights facilities, and the swimming pool at any time for £150. The gold membership costs £200 and allows the member access to all facilities at any time apart from classes, which will still incur a charge. Finally, the most expensive membership available is the platinum scheme, which for £250 allows the member access to everything, including classes, at all times. All prices will run for the whole academic year.

Marc Handley, LUSU Vice President (Sports), when asked about the membership prices for the facility said "I think these are awesome prices for a £17m Sports Centre. They are extremely competitive rates and



The new sports centre is nearing completion.

the service we will receive should be second to none."

In addition, until the end of Week Two of Michaelmas Term of the new academic year, there will be a 5% discount for purple card holders who wish to purchase a gold or platinum membership. Moreover, the individual charge to use the outdoor pitches has been removed entirely.

In a comparison with other universities' sports centre tariffs, Lancaster's tariffs are competitive with other institutions in the North. Leeds Uni-

versity shares the £250 charge for the platinum membership as does Lancaster, and the off-peak option is £160 at Leeds University, £60 more expensive than Lancaster is charging, whereas Northumbria does not even have that option.

When asked when the facility is scheduled to open, Handley said "The centre is hoping to open early July, but when exactly I am not too sure. It all depends on how quickly the equipment can all be installed and the staff be properly trained up."

Handley expressed his excitement for the opening of the new facility, saying "I for one cannot wait for this centre to open, I think it will massively enhance our sporting chances as our teams will be using the latest and best equipment inside that space, which will hopefully benefit everyone too."

In concurrence with the opening of the new Sports Centre, The Sports Awards which recognise the talent of outstanding sports personalities at Lancaster will be held on Wednesday, Week Eight.

IN THIS ISSUE

Carolynne

- Assistant Editor, Lauren Hirst, reflects on her three years at Lancaster.
- Culture Editor, Alex Harris, gets up to Arctic Monkey business.
- We give you the lowdown on all of this year's extras.

Comment

- LUSU President, Robbie Pickles, talks mythology and morality.
- Hetti Lawrence explains why we should all have a more positive attitude to our end of year extravaganzas.
- Richard Sykes advises graduates to embrace the fear.

Sport

- Sports Editor, Jack Smith, gets all sentimental.
- Matthew Todd covers the end of the season in regional football.
- Nick O'Malley, Rhys Elias and Matthew Todd give canoe, table tennis, hockey and netball teams well-deserved season reviews.

What SCAN says

This year SCAN has tried to shake it's image as a LUSU mouthpiece. We've been a critical friend: praising when it's deserved, questioning when things are amiss. We've had a strong team, able to ask the right questions and spot when things are wrong. Hopefully students have gained a paper from this.

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WANT TO WRITE?

If you want to write for SCAN the best way 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.

University looks to purpose built Students' Union building to boost student experience

- Sports Centre ruled out for new LUSU space
- Facilities confirm consideration of new building

Jonnie Critchley

DISCUSSIONS ABOUT A new Students' Union building are starting to take place as the University looks to how it delivers a £9,000 a year student experience.

It had been speculated that LUSU could be moved into the old Sports Centre once that goes out of service over the summer. It now appears the University is more likely to fund a completely new purpose-built LUSU building over the next five years.

The issue of student space has been a key issue in recent years. The initial idea of using the old Sports Centre has been overtaken by the idea of a new Activities Hub.

91% of students surveyed by LUSU thought that it was important for the Union to provide new space for their use in order to improve their experience at Lancaster. LUSU's new Strategic Plan identifies that students feel the current LUSU building (located in Edward Roberts Court, underneath Spar) is "dull" and "unsuitable".

"We believe you deserve to benefit from a significant development to create a space that you want to be in," says the Strategic Plan.

Although this is still very much a proposal at the current time, LUSU say in the Plan that they are "expecting to work jointly with the University to provide a twenty-first century, high profile space solution before the end of this plan [in 2014]." Development of the project would be in line with the University's Masterplan, which sets out possibilities for campus development over the period 2007-17.



Leicester Students' Union unveiled their new £17m building in March.

LUSU President, Robbie Pickles told SCAN that "there is a suggestion floating around University top floor at the moment that a new LUSU building (Activities Hub) should be planned and created in the 2014-15 timeslot."

Pickles was confident that the proposal would go ahead: "This idea has yet to be developed but is very much in favour and will very likely come to fruition."

As the new Sports Centre has been brought towards completion, and with a possible LUSU office space now ruled out, speculation has surrounded the future use of the existing complex. In January 2011, LUSU President Robbie Pickles told SCAN that a proposal was

under development in conjunction with the Facilities Department which outlined "the need for better space in

'There is a suggestion floating around that a new LUSU building should be planned and created in the 2014-15 timeslot'

light of the modern [educational] environment for student experience."

At the time, this proposal included

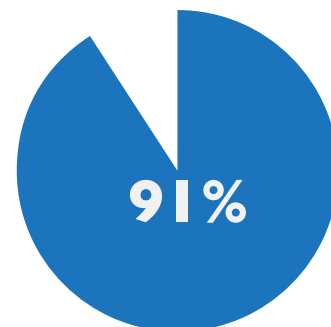
the consideration that the old Sports Centre might provide the desired space solution. Head of Facilities Mark Swindlehurst then confirmed that LUSU's proposal was indeed one of several under consideration.

However, this is now unlikely. Speaking in Week 27, Pickles said: "At present there are no plans for the use of the building. Rumours that it might be used as student [or] societies space are no longer especially relevant – any new LUSU space would likely be located elsewhere."

The Facilities Department did not respond to SCAN's attempts to contact them, so the exact state of discussions regarding the building is unclear. University Press Officer Vicky Tyrrell was

only able to confirm "that there is no decision yet."

Pickles did venture a couple of suggestions: "it is likely that the Engineering Department will soon need to



Thought that it was important for the Union to provide new space for their use in order to improve their experience at Lancaster

look at options for new space and may choose to investigate the area as it is [situated] opposite," he said.

"It could also be considered for Management School space but this is unlikely I feel as it has just been extended in the opposite direction."

Amongst students their were suggestions that the old Sports Centre could be used for music facilities or a nurses' station. Most respondents however referred to the idea of it being made available for student activities. Sophie Corlett, a second year County student said: "I heard LUSU wanted to use it for [...] societies; I think it would be really useful for something like that as societies have nowhere to meet where they can actually discuss things."

Another County student, Sarah Corfield, added that "it can sometimes be hard to find a place to meet as a society or club if you do not want to be in a lecture theatre. Places like Furness SCR, which is right by the bar and has comfy seats [and] has projector facilities, are often block-booked, so are hard to get hold of."

'Fake beach' mooted as a unique selling point for Lancaster

Beth Forbes

LEAKED PAPERS FROM the University Management Advisory Group (UMAG) outline a plan to plough considerable money into making Lancaster a destination university once fees rise to £9,000 a year.

The leaked document explains the University's concern that compared to other institutions, such as Leeds, Manchester and Liverpool and city of Lancaster doesn't offer much to draw potential students to the University.

Top of the list of suggestions for how to make Lancaster the university of choice for future students is a pro-

posed expansion to the new Sports Centre to include a fake beach. The logic, according to the document, is that many universities boast a music scene but very few can claim to have a surfing scene.

The plans are apparently quite advanced, with potential contractors having already provided quotes and designs. The highest ranked is a proposal by Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Limited, the company behind Japan's famed fake beach The Ocean Dome, part of the Sheraton Seagaia Resort. The Ocean Dome, which is almost 20 years old now, cost upwards of \$2bn to build at the time. The designs for Lancaster are far smaller and as such the

cost considerably lower. The UMAG paper estimates it at around £10m for completion by 2015. Unsurprisingly given Lancaster's climate, every plan from the different contractors includes a roof.

Initial indications suggest student opinion is split over the possible investment. Marc Handley, Vice President (Sports) for the Students' Union said: "I think this could potentially be a fantastic move by the University. Think about it. York are never going to be able to match us in water sports again. It's as good as a guaranteed Roses win."

His colleague Robin Hughes, Vice President (Academic) was more criti-



Leaked artists impression of what the fake beach extension could look like.

cal of the proposals. "This is an absolute outrage," he said. "At a time when the University should be concerned about carrying forward a holistic vision of Lancaster as a paradigm of pedagogy, they've literally got their heads in the sand."

Becky Vicars, a first year Lonsdale student was torn by the idea. "On the one hand, as a Languages student I feel there's a lot of investment that could be made there that is being wasted on a hyped up sand pit. But on the other hand, I really wouldn't mind if it meant we got a Hollister or Fat Face on campus."

The University was unavailable for comment.

Investigations: Students and the sex industry

Across the country students turn to the sex industry to fund their studies: With fees set to rise could it happen at Lancaster?

Erin O'Reilly
Matthew Power

IN SEPTEMBER 2010, The Times published a report by journalist Tammy Cohen identifying a rise in young females turning to the sex industry in order to fund their degrees. Cohen's report singled out so-called Sugar-daddy websites as the newest form of internet dating, where young girls search for wealthy older gentlemen whose income is a major aspect of their profile. The Times is not the only newspaper to publish such a report; between August 2010 and February 2011 similar articles appeared in The Guardian, The Independent and The Mirror.

Although evidence suggests this situation is not unknown at Lancaster, due to its sensitive nature we have been unable to find specific examples. However, we carried out a survey to find out 50 random students' thoughts. Whilst 46% indicated that they believe students will be more tempted to consider a career in the sex industry with the imminent rise in tuition fees, 82% would never consider becoming involved themselves and none of our respondents knew anybody who was involved in any way in the sex industry.

According to SCAN's survey 40% of students were aware that the Sugar-daddy relationship described by Cohen existed. One of the leading Sugardaddy websites defined it as a "close yet non-committed relationship with an affluent man who is a mentor/benefactor or friend to a woman." The relationship does not have to be sexual and some use the websites simply for companionship. However, our investigations showed that you must pay to receive e-mails and chat which raises questions as to why cash-strapped students would opt for this £35-a-month service as opposed to social networks which cost nothing.

It is apparent from the results of the survey that the sex industry has two images – one glamorous and one extremely negative. One student spoke of the "negative connotations" and discussed how you "immediately associate [the sex industry] with 'druggies', probably with the recent news reports about the serial killings of prostitutes, which have also occurred in the past."

On the other hand, 56% of students surveyed suggested that shows such as Secret Diary of a Call Girl have glamorised the sex industry as "it makes it seem fun and doesn't highlight the risks involved." Another respondent

felt that it "normalised [the industry] and desensitises people to what was previously considered taboo."

Beyond our survey, we discovered a student who does not study at Lancaster who has turned to the sex industry to help fund his lifestyle. Working as a gay male escort, he strongly believes that students will begin working in his profession to help pay for their fees.

"I know people already do it to fund their university fees and with the prices going up it's so easy to get large amounts of money," he revealed.

He went on to describe how easy it was to get involved in the industry: "I met a few older guys who were willing to pay and they told me about other websites where you could advertise."

During an interview with two Lancaster students, one said that they would consider becoming an escort as it "sounds like easy money and I enjoy flirting with people" whilst the other felt that being an escort could lead to dangerous situations as clients "could expect more from you at the end of the date."

As well as working within the sex industry, SCAN's survey also discovered that, with the cost of student living and tuition fees on the rise, students are finding more unconventional ways to fund their education. Students knew of people earning money through other outlets including drug dealing, gambling, "butler in the buff – male topless waiters" and selling underwear on eBay. One student pointed out that whilst these methods of financial support were diverse and unconventional, "it takes all sorts to make a world – there's only so many jobs at Central."

Overall, the general consensus amongst Lancaster students seems to be that the sex industry is not the best or most appealing way to help pay for a university education. When asked what they thought of it as a method of financial support, students' opinions included "degrading," "desperate," "immoral, unreasonable and stupid" and described joining the industry as "an extreme measure of a minority." It became apparent from the survey that students had particular concerns about the risks; 92% believed that the sex industry was a dangerous profession. This was summarised by one student who said working in the industry could lead to "life diseases, a lack of self respect and psychological damage."

**Additional reporting by Heather Mann and Jen Day*

92%

Believe the sex industry is a dangerous profession

82%

Would never consider becoming involved themselves

46%

Believe students will be more tempted to consider a career in the sex industry when fees rise

40%

Are aware of Sugardaddy relationships

Source: SCAN survey, 50 randomly selected Lancaster University students

Sensitive nature of support makes it hard to provide

Jonnie Critchley

THE ISSUE OF students working in the sex industry appears to have had inconsistent prominence within the Students' Union. When initially approached, LUSU Vice President (Equality, Welfare and Diversity) Pete Macmillan said he was unaware the issue was a significant one.

But Macmillan's predecessor, Torri Crapper, revealed that discussions were held during her term in office aimed at establishing "a support-group style forum online and an in-person forum (both confidential and anonymous) to support students who felt that there was no option but to fund their education through the sex industry," indicating that the issue has been given serious consideration at Lancaster in the last two years.

Crapper said that the proposals did not reach fruition due to "time constraints" as well as because of problems surrounding how to raise awareness of the support on offer. "[The issue was] how to make students working in the sex industry (the ones we didn't already know) aware of the support we were offering and how to access that support anonymously [and] confidentially without making the entire thing into a hidden agenda which would continue to support this stigma of working in the sex industry in general," she said.

Whilst being careful not to

endorse the sex industry as an option to students, Crapper was keen to stress the problem of stigmatising the issue, which she feels could alienate students from the support they need. "There was [...] difficulty in how we could find individuals who were willing to support the agenda without making it into a huge agenda, which could have pushed students wanting to access the support further away," she said.

Macmillan was unaware of the meetings. Whilst not denying that the issue had clearly been significant very recently, he maintained that it was not something he has had to confront. "I haven't had this raised to me as an issue all throughout my term of office. I honestly don't know where this has come from at all. There may well have been an issue there, but it certainly hasn't presented itself this past year," he said.

Asked about why he thought the issue appeared so inconstant, Macmillan suggested that "it may well seem very odd, but that is the very nature of student issues and demographics, they are very transitory."

Crapper expressed her concern that the issue continues. "Support for students financially continues to remain a problem across the [Higher Education] sector and with increasing fees, decreasing part-time jobs and a booming sex industry, the sector will need to be aware that stu-

dents entering into the sex industry to fund their way through their education is a possibility."

Despite the ambiguity surrounding the issue, Crapper did state that "as far as I am aware the support is still there for students who feel confident [enough] to access it." This was corroborated by Macmillan, who said that "if there was an issue that needed dealing with I would be all ears and listen to it, it is my job to do that kind of thing."

Neither the University nor the University Police Force are aware of any incidences of students working in the sex industry. A statement issued by the University press office said: "Lancaster University is not aware of any students involved in illegal activity of this nature. Our campus with its close-knit college community is a safe place to live and study and we take the welfare of our students very seriously. Students facing funding problems or difficult personal circumstances should contact Student Based Services who offer a range of financial support and well-being services. The university also offers non repayable grants to UK students in need of extra financial support through the Access to Learning Fund. College staff also offer pastoral care and advice on a range of issues."

**Additional reporting by Heather Mann and Jen Day*



Analysis

'Just because no one's talking doesn't mean it isn't happening'

Samantha Newsham
Investigations Editor



Although a study into Lancaster students and the sex industry had been in the minds of the Investigations team for some time, a series of national newspaper articles on the issue combined with a confirmation that tuition fees are going up inspired us to follow in the footsteps of The Times and The Guardian and try to write our own piece.

It hasn't been the easiest investigation we've done, to say the least. We have tried to find the extent of the situation at Lancaster but have struggled. Quite understandably, if students are funding their education in this way, they may not feel comfortable discussing it with journalists or having it written about in the newspaper. Equally, there is little open advertisement on campus; it's likely that if this happens at all it's largely by word of mouth. And the results of our survey show that it's a choice many

people would disapprove of.

But just because no one's talking about it doesn't mean it isn't happening.

According to a study done by The Independent, 25% of lap dancers have an undergraduate degree and 13.9% are using lap dancing to fund undergraduate degrees, with a further 6.3% funding postgraduate studies. With figures like these, it is not unreasonable to assume that Lancaster students have taken this career path, either

'What should be paramount at all times is the safety and welfare of students'

during their degree or after it.

The comments of Torri Crapper, former LUSU Vice President (Equality, Welfare and Diversity) show clearly that there have been Lancaster students who have made this choice in the past; why would discussions have been held if it wasn't felt

there was a need for it? There have been other stories as well; we've heard anecdotes of students with price lists of services offered in their room windows and students working as escorts or at Stringfellows, but nothing to fully indicate the scale of it all. It may not be a big issue, but it's there.

It is hard for LUSU or the University to decide what they should do. Should they run the risk of being seen to encourage students into an industry viewed by many as risky at best and downright immoral at worst? Or should they bury their heads in the sand, pretend none of it is happening and potentially put anyone who is working in the sex industry in danger because they have nowhere to turn for support?

What should be paramount at all times is the safety and welfare of students. It is not for LUSU, the University or anyone else to dictate to someone how they should live their lives. We are all adults; we make our own decisions and we're responsible for the choices we make. The only responsibility that can be taken is to ensure they're doing it safely and without fear of judgement.

GOOD LUCK

to all final year Students

For those returning next term remember,
you can buy your Unirider **in advance**
online during the Summer at

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No more Mr Nice Guy

Assistant Editor **Collette McColgan** looks back with LUSU President, Robbie Pickles, at his rather uncontroversial time at the head of the Students' Union

IN MARCH 2010, Robbie Pickles ran uncontested for LUSU President. There was, therefore, no great surprise when the former Cartmel President and University Council Representative won. Pickles' time in office came at the end of years of constitutional changes to the Students' Union, led mainly by his predecessors Tim Roca and Michael Payne.

It was felt by many that they had left Pickles with a lot of tidying up to do, a task which he relished from the offset. "I spent three months over the summer rewriting almost every Union bylaw, and they look pretty snazzy now, it has to be said [...] I think all of the bylaws I've rewritten will be my legacy."

While it's easy to joke about the amount of administration involved in his first few months as President, Pickles also notes the importance of what he did. "I think we've steadily expanded on things that have happened in years before, I think we've become more accessible as an organisation. It's interesting – some of the things that have changed during this year were so common sense that people have forgotten already that we've changed them and have just assumed that it was always like that."

These small changes have already had an impact. Just a few weeks after finally clarifying the roles of the Cross Campus Officers (CCOs), there was a significant increase in the amount of people running for these positions. "Students will only engage if we get those roles entirely correct. [...] I think if you spoke to the various CCOs, I think they would feel like they have a more positive impact. I think it would be wrong to write [the changes] off as change for change's sake."

Pickles does, however, respect the nature of change in a union such as this. "If I came back in three years time and they'd all changed again, I'd be happy with that as long as I felt it was positive. I'm not precious about the things I've changed – I myself have changed things, and then changed them again already, and that's fine as long as it's always positive."

Pickles was also one of the people behind the changes to the election process, which notably included the scrapping of proposers and seconders for nominations and the advent of booklets explaining officer roles and a shorter campaigning period. Pickles claims to be "really proud" of these changes, which in March this year led to the highest turnout in recorded history of LUSU elections.

Pickles is also proud of the way in which he has helped officers work together to promote better on-campus events for students. "I ran for President to change the Students' Union

and move it forwards, so wherever I've defended LUSU it was where I felt it was doing things right, and I've changed a great number of things. There's now more decisions in the hands of students than there ever have been before, there's more money going straight into the hands of elected officers rather than staff than ever before."

Pickles' time in office has not been completely smooth-sailing. The increase in tuition fees is something that has weighed heavily on his mind. "I will always remember that I was President when fees went up to £9,000 and I think that will haunt me for a long time to come," he explained.

"I'm pretty certain that I won't be remembered. The turnover of students at Lancaster University – in three years time there'll actually be nobody here who was here when I was [...] Personally, it's actually quite upsetting. Will I be able to forgive myself? Maybe not, but I'm not too worried about what the students will say," he said.

During the time of the fees rise, LUSU was quick to respond – the Union covered the cost of taking students down to London for the University and Colleges Union (UCU) and National Union of Students (NUS) protest on November 10. LUSU took more students than any other union in the North West and soon became one of the best represented universi-

'I'm pretty certain that I won't be remembered'

ties, with LUSU becoming the go-to union for quotes by national news coverage. Pickles was not without criticisms from students during this time. "I will accept that there were some students who will say that I didn't go far enough, that I should have come out and defended free education. There will be some students who will think we were wasting our time, that it was always going to happen – you've got to strike a balance."

The fees rise at Lancaster to £9,000 led to further problems for the LUSU President. The annual meeting of University Court in February of this year led to a motion being proposed, by Alan Whitaker, seconded by two former presidents, Roca and Payne. The motion, which sought to create a working group to ensure the University did all it could to improve the student experience through the new fees system, split the Students' Union in



LUSU President Robbie Pickles prepares for a heated University Court. Photo by Chris Osborn.

half in the week leading up to Court. Pickles spoke against the motion, and it was not passed. He completely stands by his position at the time.

"The position I took at [University] Court has been entirely vindicated since, in my opinion. We now have more student representation on committees than I've ever seen in the past [...] we've got more students on University Management committees," he claims.

"I think that if we'd taken a different stance in Court, none of that would have happened. I know it was controversial at the time – it split the opinion of officers. I'm glad that we had a debate in Court, but at the same time I wouldn't go back and change my deci-

sion. I think it was exactly the right thing to do," Pickles said.

However, the relationship with the University has not always been so good. "I remember in November being shouted out of a meeting by two members of University Management for my 'precocious views' on Students' Union activities space, and being told that I was very presumptuous – so a big falling out there. I remember falling out with quite a few people in University Council, but since the University Court speech in January, I think that really signalled a new approach for LUSU," Pickles said. He went on: "It's about having a good working relationship with Management, and if you don't have that working relationship, you

can't expect to achieve anything."

This working relationship will have hopefully secured two major developments for the Students' Union – the new activities hub is in the pipeline, and the Union will soon know if its bid to take over the college bars has been successful. Pickles doubts that these things will fall as part of his legacy though: "Let's say in four years time, LUSU is moving into a new, purpose-built activities hub, let's say in a year's time students are chilling in Furness Bar, they're having a fantastic time with their 50p soft drinks, nobody will go 'Oh, I'm glad Robbie Pickles provided this activities hub', no-one will go 'I'm glad Robbie came up with the idea of 50p soft drinks during the day', but you know, I'll know and I'll be happy that those were the legacies that I will leave."

Pickles claims the events of the year have allowed the progress to be made. "There's something specific about the nature of this year, particularly around the increase in tuition fees, that has actually allowed us to have more opportunities," he said.

Pickles has been involved with LUSU since his first year, when he was elected as Treasurer for Cartmel JCR. The following year he became President of the college. As someone who has always been involved with the Union, he has plenty of advice for people wishing to get involved.

"It's wrong to say that there's nothing better you can do with your time at university than to get involved with LUSU," he said. "Clearly for students there are many things that you can get involved in, and obviously it's down to opinion – I'm not going to say it is the best thing you can possibly do, it's not."

"There are more ways of getting involved in LUSU now than there ever have been, and I think the real thing to say to students if you want to get involved – ask, involve yourself. We've been much better at communicating this year than we have in the past. The point of officers is that you go up to them and ask them questions: if those officers are inaccessible, then they're the wrong officers and you should try and replace them, quite frankly," he said.

Pickles appreciates that all the changes he has made may not have been noticed by the wider student body. "Even though I think students won't see exactly what changed within LUSU, all that matters is that students see the end result. [...] It doesn't matter whether they know that I did it, it doesn't matter whether they know what happened, as long as the benefits are visible."

Speaking of his immediate plans, Pickles said: "I'm going to go back to Shropshire, going to go and chill with my mum and dad – it sounds really sad, but I'm alright with it. I'm not going to be a politician, I'm just going to debunk that now. I'm not going to be a politician, I don't want to be a politician. Who knows if I'll end up being a politician, but it's certainly not my plan. I have no defined direction."

ULMS get set for first Proms of the summer



Proms and ceremony. Court. Photo courtesy of ULMS.

Chris Housden
News Editor

THE UNIVERSITY OF Lancaster Music Society is deep in rehearsals for their annual end of year concert, the ULMS Proms.

The Proms are due to be held on Saturday June 25 in the Great Hall at 7pm. The concert features all six of ULMS major ensembles, the choir, brass band, big band, swing group, wind band and orchestra, as well as many of the smaller groups.

The diverse line-up includes The Trombone Playing Gentleman's Club, the flute group, Barbershop group and it's alternative, the Barbieshop group.

According to ULMS Publicity Officer Felicity Allan, "there will be a wide range of music played, including classical, swing and rock, and the concert will end with the traditionals [those traditionally associated with the BBC Last Night of the Proms]: Henry Wood's Fantasia on British Sea Songs, Jerusalem and Land of Hope and Glory."

Tickets for the concert will cost £10 for adults and £6 for concessions. They are available to purchase from www.ulms.org.uk, under a link marked "Concerts" at the top of the page, and a second link marked "Proms ticket order form".

Before the end of year Prom, ULMS are also attending the Saddleworth and

District Whit Friday Brass Band Contests on Whit Friday, June 10. It is not the first time that the ULMS bands have attended the contests, which see bands from all over the country compete in several contests. The official Saddleworth and District Whit Friday Brass Band Contests website claims that the annual event is "often described as 'the greatest free show on Earth'". The contest has been running since 1884, and last year's prize fund was £36,000, split between the various contests.

The website also says that "[t]he contests are open to all-comers. So the local youth bands get to match their skills against the top bands of the country." The Saddleworth and District

Whit Friday Brass Band Concerts have enjoyed popularity with both amateur or student bands as well as the more professional ensembles, and even featured in the 1996 film *Brassed Off* which starred Pete Postlethwaite and Ewan McGregor. As this issue is sent to print before that date, the results are not readily available to report upon.

The contest credentials of the ULMS Brass Band and ensembles were also added to substantially this year when they hosted the first University Brass Band Championships of Great Britain, an annual event supported by the British Federation of Brass Bands. A total of 13 universities travelled to Lancaster in order to participate in the competition.

Vice Chancellor Search Committee still causing a stir

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

have been keen to avoid any impression of personal affront with Cox, rather issues with the process. Thornberry summarised "she's a very, very experienced person in this area and I'm sure had she stood for election she would have been the obvious choice for Senate. I have been at great pains to say to people 'look, it's got nothing to do with Sue Cox as Sue Cox', she's an admirable, admirable choice it's just that the way that everything has been done has... it's left a number of people uncomfortable, put it that way."

Thornberry says he understands why the potentially hasty compilation of the panel has been taken: "Because it was a bit of a bombshell, the VC [Vice Chancellor] going when he did, and it's not a good time for the University let us say that."

Current Vice Chancellor Paul Wellings will be leaving in December to take up a position at a University in Australia, meaning that a new Vice Chancellor will ideally begin work in January.

With the Search Committee assembled and already having had a meeting last week, Thornberry expressed his concern that the make up of the panel could lead to more problems in the future. "I do have a worry though which I have expressed to the University Secretary which is that if someone were minded to they could challenge the makeup of the panel. It's highly unlikely, but you never know what happens further down the line, a disgruntled candidate or anything like that."

LUSU President Robbie Pickles wholeheartedly supports the panel members chosen, displaying "a good balance of external trustees and senators." He added: "I am positive that they will appoint a good VC who will take student views into account."

Pickles approves of Cox's inclusion on the panel, and wishes to dispel any suspicion that there was an ulterior motive for Gray to appoint her onto it. Pickles said: "I believe she is professional enough to act in the interest of all Lancaster staff and students. She has been appointed as a senior academic, not as a Management School representative."

Interestingly, the current LUSU President and the President-Elect appear to differ in opinion on how much the students whose university and education the next Vice Chancellor will be in charge of can be involved in the process. Gardiner believes that he has "done everything I can as President elect to get students' representation on the panel and when I take office in July, will ensure that I communicate with the panel where possible in order to make sure that they make the correct recommendations for the new Vice Chancellor."

Pickles, meanwhile, feels "it would be completely inappropriate for a student to be involved in such a high level interview when they have no training or experience for such an undertaking. I have been involved in the selection process via the proper channels (consultation with the head hunters)."

Professor Cox was unavailable for comment.

Anti-abortion group welcomed onto campus for pregnancy support

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

ful and less unbiased if a woman starts considering abortion. Ann Furedi, the Chief Executive of the BPAS, wrote in article for the online campaign site spiked-online.com: "LIFE does not accept that abortion is a legitimate and safe choice for a woman. When a woman requests an abortion, LIFE counsellors believe it to be in her interests to dissuade her – so they do their best to persuade her it's a bad idea. They may concede that it is a legal option, but they are clear that it is a worse option than continuing the pregnancy: having the baby, in their view, is always the preferable option."

As a registered charity, LIFE does provide a service for many women with unplanned pregnancies. It opposes abortion but, should a woman not want to consider abortion and is committed to having their baby and either raising the child or putting it up for it for adoption, LIFE provides assistance. Women

are helped with accommodation, and many of the financial costs young children bring, such as baby clothes and toys. The group helps teach women parenting skills, and sometimes acts as a mediator between young parents and their families.

BPAS recognises that the charity provides help and support for a specific group of women, and many students could fall into this category. However, this is not going to apply to every student needing support for an unplanned pregnancy. According to Furedi: "Those considering pregnancy termination, who stumble into LIFE's counselling service on the misapprehension that they provide comprehensive, non-directive counselling, are ill-served: often subjected to gruesome videos of what abortion involves and information that exaggerates the risks of the procedure."

The campaign group Abortion Rights said: "Young women dealing with unplanned pregnancy need accu-

rate, non-judgmental advice about all their options. LIFE is opposed to abortion in all circumstances and would like to see it outlawed altogether. Access to information about sexual health, contraception and pregnancy is vital for young people's physical and emotional wellbeing.

"Unfortunately this is another example of how cutbacks are threatening access to high-quality services and forcing people to rely on biased, non-NHS service provision for their basic healthcare needs."

Students have expressed shock that a pro-life group has been authorised onto campus. Victoria Crosbie, a third year student said: "The University or LUSU must investigate whether these claims are true, and if so why has this group been allowed onto campus as an unbiased organisation."

She added, "It is not only misleading but [demonstrates] the need for the University to provide an alternative service. These girls are away from

home and in a very vulnerable position and should not be directed by a group whose intention is to influence their decision."

A total of 189,574 abortions were performed in 2010, a 0.3% increase on the previous year. However, North Lancashire has a comparatively low rate of abortion, with a rate of 12.6 in 1000, compared to the national average of 17.5 per 1000. The rate of abortion for 18-19 year olds in North Lancashire is 18 in 1000 and 10 in 1000 for 20-24 year olds, compared to a national average of 30.7 in 1000 and 30.2 in 1000 respectively.

LIFE has recently been controversially invited to join the Independent Advisory Group on Sexual Health and HIV which advises the government on sexual health. With regard to pregnancy, LUSU advises students to visit their GP and provides links to pro-choice charities Marie Stopes International and The Family Planning Association.

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You've got (new) mail

- New emailing system will replace the current Webmail

Natalie Walker

STUDENTS AT LANCASTER will have the benefit of more efficient and easier communication with the installation of a new emailing system as of next year.

The new system has been designed to combat issues brought up by students, such as the lack of storage in their mailboxes, and the fact that they are unable to access their emails from mobile devices such as phones or iPads.

ISS (Information Systems Services) are in the process of addressing these issues, and as a solution will be offering a new emailing system to students returning to Lancaster next year, provided by Microsoft. Their Live@edu system is a Cloud-based email platform developed especially for education.

The new service offers an improve-



ment in the storage size of the mailbox to 10GB. It also enables students the ability to access their emails anytime and anywhere, whether it is from a desktop, phone or other mobile device. In a future development there will also be an integrated calendar and online address book which would be popu-

lated with staff emails. There will also be improved filtering to cut down on junk mail.

When asked how they are ensuring a smooth transition to the new email system, ISS said that they "are carrying out extensive tests to ensure that mail delivery to the new service func-

tions as expected". They also said that "information provided by the (volunteer) early adopters of the system is constantly being evaluated to ensure training materials and ISS Service Desk FAQs are up to date and relevant in rolling out the service". Also, "students will maintain their current email address and every student will be advised in advance when their mailbox is due to be moved".

ISS were also asked if they had a back-up plan in case the transition went wrong. They replied: "ISS have invested a considerable number of hours in planning for the move and consequently are not expecting problems. However, it is acknowledged that even the best laid plans do, on occasions, go wrong. Consequently, ISS have moved cautiously to avoid issues, but in the event of problems in the transition to Live@edu students will be moved back to the Unix mail (Webmail) system they currently use."

ISS added: "ISS believe this move will prove a great success for students; providing larger mailboxes, improved access from multiple platforms and mobile devices and provide the ability in the future to integrate further with the Exchange mail and other university systems."

Lancaster's Big Bad Wolf departs

Andy Smith

DAVID PEEKS, LANCASTER University's Director of Commercial Services, will be leaving Lancaster later this year. In a statement, the University said that he was hoping "to further his career" after spending 12 years working here on trading activities. It is unclear if he is moving to a different job and no date has yet been announced.

A controversial figure amongst students, Peeks gained infamy in January 2008 as the central figure behind the University's take-over of the college bars. Previously administered by college principals, the bars' dwindling fortunes led to Peeks being installed as the manager of the licensees.

An extremely unpopular move at the time, this led to a number of protests by both LUSU and the Labour Club as well as casting Peeks in the limelight as a figure of fun. Beginning with a satirical pantomime performance by Cartmel JCR casting Peeks as the Big Bad Wolf demonising the Three Little College Bars, protest posters and political cartoons began to spring up depicting him in the same guise.

These protests were sparked by an article in SCAN which claimed that Peeks was a loss-maker in other departments under his remit. Subsequent to that report, Peeks took legal action against SCAN to clarify and apologise for the incorrect inferences in the article.

However, despite the negative publicity, his tenure with the bars has not been without success. Food integration in Cartmel and Fylde have seen some reversals in fortune and, whilst the bars have not been radically altered, they have also maintained financial stability, largely as a result of renegotiated opening hours.

The timing of his departure has drawn some people to suggest it may have a connection with LUSU's proposal to run the college bars from next year. However, LUSU President Robbie Pickles denied this saying: "There is no reason why our bid would result in this move. David has a wide range of roles at Lancaster and there has been no conversation between Facilities and myself about his position." He went on to say: "Myself and David have worked together on a number of positive initiatives during his time here and I wish him well for the future."

Although best known for his recent involvement with the bars, Peeks is also responsible for other University commercial activities including catering, conferences, the sports centre, the pre-school, FOLIO and the Post Office. The timing of his departure will see him leave just as the new Sports Centre is complete.

The statement went on to say that the search for a replacement had already begun although again it was unclear when they might be recruited.

Mixed reception for new grading system

- Change of system prompted by national report calling for clarification
- Student opinion split on merits

Erin O'Reilly

A NEW GRADING system for all current first years and incoming students will be in place from October. It will not affect those students entering their third or fourth years.

The new system, approved by the University Senate, will see students receiving letter grades on their assessed work, instead of percentages. These will then be converted to an overall score based on a 24 point scale. The scale ensures that students will still receive final specific classifications for their modules, and eventually their degrees, based on their overall aggregation scores.

The process to amend the regulations began in 2006 and was "prompted, in part, by a national report that recommended that all universities ensure that their regulations relating to assessment and classification were clear and readily understandable by all parties" explained Dr. Gavin Brown, University Dean of Undergraduate Studies.

Dr. Brown went on to say that



"these regulations will make marking criteria more transparent for all types of assessment, ensure markers use the full range of available marks across all disciplines and provide a simpler means of classifying a student's final degree results". They will also help "departments to deal with any mitigat-

ing circumstances students may have in a more transparent way".

However, there may be some exceptions to the new system; assessed work which is quantitative, such as multiple choice tests, could still be marked as a percentage, but will then be transferred on to the scale. Students will be

informed by their departments how each piece will be marked along with the specific criteria for achieving each letter grade.

LUSU Vice President (Academic), Robin Hughes, was involved in and encouraged the formulation of the new system. He thinks that it "is a much

'Sometimes it's harder to work out what class we are achieving now, particularly as boundaries vary'

fairer system and a positive change for students".

One first year student agrees with the change and thinks that the new system is "good because it will give a clearer picture of where our marks lie" going on to say that "sometimes it's harder to work out what class we are achieving now, particularly as the boundaries for different subjects vary".

Another first year student, Marsha Dowie, however, disagrees with the idea that the new system will be less complex and feels that "if at the end of our degree we will achieve a first, second or third, then surely it would make more sense to grade the assessments" in the same way so that students know what they "are capable of".

More publicity regarding the change will be going out to students at a later date.



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Quiz of the Year is a big fat success for County team

Charlotte Urban
News Editor

WEDNESDAY OF WEEK Six saw the Big Fat Quiz of the Year return to campus for its the second year.

Matt Windsor, LUSU Vice President (Finance, Events, Democracy and Societies) who hosted the event, said that he was "very pleased with the turnout". In total there were 26 teams, and approximately 143 people at the quiz which Windsor said was a larger turnout than last year. Last year the quiz was held in Fylde Bar, and the change in location had the capacity to accommodate more people.

Throughout the course of the evening, which began at 7.30pm and ended at approximately 11pm, a number of prizes were awarded for different tasks, including the fastest boy to put on a girl's bra, the fastest girl to put boy's boxers and the fastest person to eat a packet of crisps. For each of these tasks, a prize of £5 cash was awarded to the winner. When asked about these tasks, Windsor said: "We thought it'd be best if people had more chances to win money that weren't just based around quiz knowledge. A lot of people will do stupid things for a fiver."

The quiz itself comprised of a

number of rounds, including a sport, music and a picture round. The prizes for the winners of the quiz were free entry to Sugarhouse every Friday and Saturday for the remainder of term for third place, £50 cash for second place and £200 cash for first place.

The winners of the quiz were team 'County' which comprised of six members including Rachel Napier, Sarah Flavell, Emma Betts-Gray, Ross Alexander, Jacob McManus, James Macdonald, Gwinnett Bompas, and Charis Wheatley. When Wheatley was asked about how she felt when her team won, she said: "We were really happy when we found out we won. None of our team expected to win. There were so many questions and quite a few of the answers were guessed so I suppose we just got lucky. It helped that everyone on our team does different degrees so we all had various snippets of knowledge that contributed towards the answers." When asked about how they spent their prizes, Wheatley said: "As there were eight of us on the team, we ended up with £25 each which is always good as we all tend to spend more than we have."

Wheatley also commented on the quiz on the whole, saying that it had "a nice atmosphere and everyone seemed to be enjoying themselves".

Bailrigg FM set to hold first festival

Samantha Newsham

LANCASTER'S STUDENT RADIO station Bailrigg FM is hosting a free music festival celebrating student bands and DJs on Saturday of Week Nine.

Paul Hodges, Bailrigg FM's Programme Controller and festival organiser, hopes that the festival, which will be held in Lancaster Square in the County College, will provide a good start to Week 10.

"There are plenty of campus based bands but you very rarely get them all together in one place," he said. "The Bailrigg FM festival is a chance for them to all show off their talent. Michaelmas and Lent terms have Christmas

Festival and Campus Festival but the Summer term concentrates on extras and Grad Ball."

The idea for the festival came after Bailrigg FM organised several successful live broadcasts and held a series of events featuring student bands playing live from the station. Many of the 10 student bands playing at the festival, which include October Skies, Tailored to Fit, The Lash and Jam Sandwich, have been involved with Bailrigg FM's live sessions.

"This year alone we've broadcast from York for Roses, Sainsbury's on Red Nose Day, the Giant Axe (home of Lancaster City FC), the LICA Launch, the Dukes theatre and all round campus," Hodges said. "We're always

looking for new things and places to broadcast so with our live campus bands playing every week we put the two together to make the Bailrigg FM Festival."

There will be a selection of food stalls including a Sun Hotel chef selling beefburgers as well as several campus-based businesses and County Bar will be open. There will also be competitions for free Sugarhouse tickets for the Saturday night.

The festival has been funded by the Union Executive and the Student Media Reserve and entry will be free; it will also be broadcast live on the Bailrigg FM website. If the festival is a success the organisers hope it will become an annual event.

Campus gears up for summer elections

Charlotte Urban
News Editor

ELECTIONS WILL BE taking place on Thursday and Friday of Week Eight to ensure that every JCR and Cross Campus Officer position is filled. As a result of third year students leaving at the end of this term, there are positions open to students who wish to assume their positions for Michaelmas Term commencing September 2011. Candidate speeches took place on Monday of Week Eight.

Most positions have at least one student signed up for them. In addition, there will also be Referenda which aim to ask students whether they think the new Strategic Plan should be adopted. The Plan highlights main aims for the year 2014, including making LUSU recognisable to every student, encouraging the involvement of postgraduate students and the development of a new Students' Union building.

There are numerous positions available, including, Post-Grad

(Taught) Rep, Liberations Campaigns Officer, Equality Campaigns Officer, Communications Officer, Social and Events Officer, two Student Trustee Positions, EWD Council Officer, Academic Campaigns Officer, Environment Officer, Management School Officer, two Intercollege Sports Reps, Societies Officer, Academic Council Officer, Media Officer, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Officer, School of Health and Medicine Officer, Union Council Officer and an Elections Officer.

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scan:COMMENT

Better than true is just false

The mythology of belief shouldn't obscure the idea of morality

Robbie Pickles
LUSU President



It becomes clear early on at University that the learning we do is very different from the kind of thing we did before we got here. Whilst A Levels involve the constant cramming of facts and figures learned with trust from a text book, HE requires a much bigger step: determining what is and what is not true.

There is something special about the minds of very young people which gives them a unique gift at this; the gift to believe things which are demonstrably not true and which, upon closer inspection, are completely ridiculous notions.

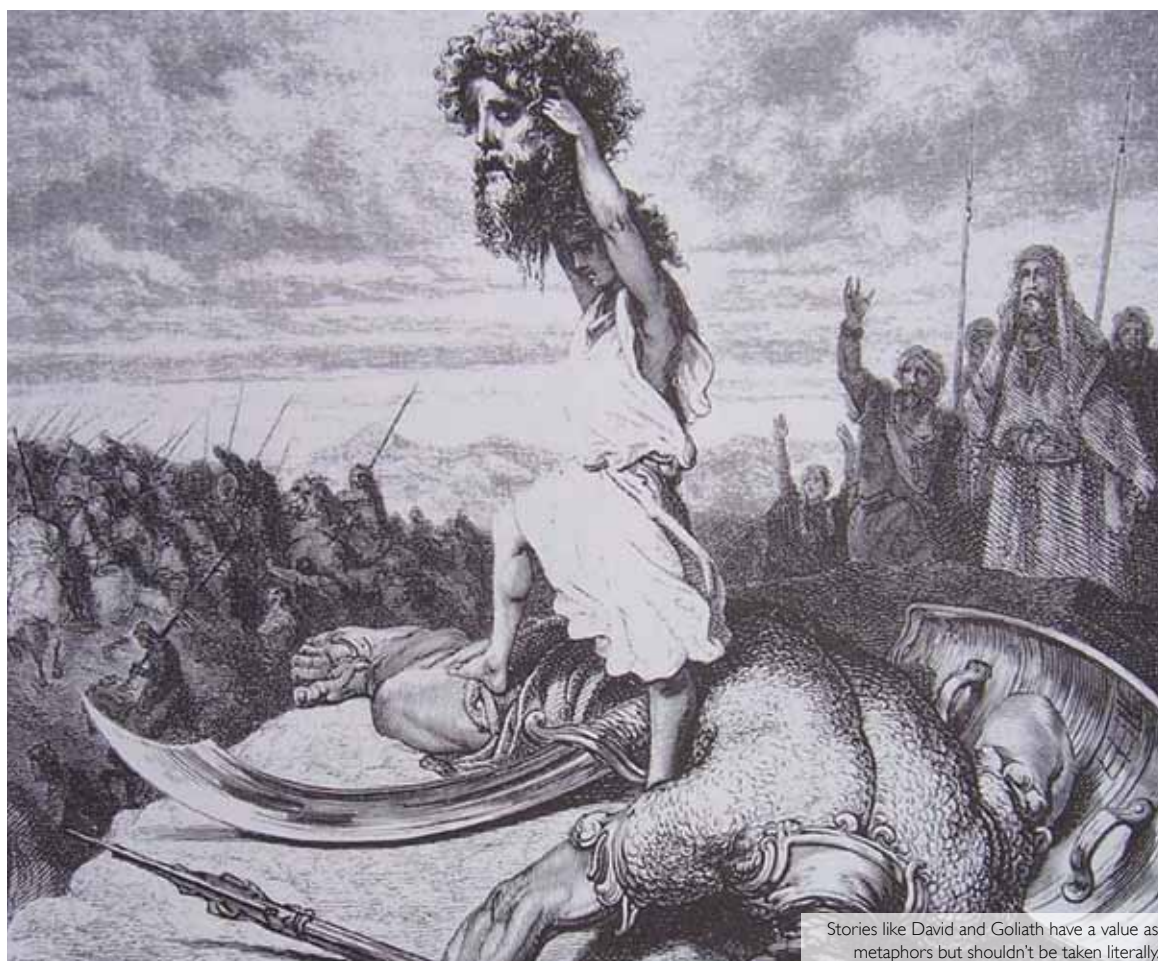
A fine example here is the belief in that most jolly but absurd of all figures, Father Christmas. I think it is safe to say that his existence would be a nice thing. The man who, in one night, brings gifts to every child has to be one of the best ideas imaginable. And as children, we believe it. Why would we not, given that all of our authority figures (one or more parent[s]) have told us that it is so. And, on a very base level, S. Claus's key functions do happen- we are told he will bring presents and, lo, presents do indeed appear on Christmas morning. To the mind of a child, no more evidence could possibly be needed. Simply wanting to believe that is true makes it so.

And as a child, we do not need to think any further. It does not matter

“Many of our biggest conflicts have centred around the inability to divorce morality from fantasy”

to us that reindeer cannot fly. Who cares that Santa couldn't possibly reach every child in one night, or that children in other countries do not get presents on December 25th? And of course Santa's elves have permission to make iPods and Playstations and distribute them for free.

As we get older, and we shake our belief in Santa Claus, we learn two very valuable lessons. Firstly, that 'authority figures' lie, whether they be our parents or otherwise. And more importantly that there are, ultimately, two kinds of things: things with evidence which are true and things without evidence which, whilst they may be entertaining, should never be taken



Stories like David and Goliath have a value as metaphors but shouldn't be taken literally.

seriously in reality and should certainly not be believed in.

And this, for a large part, explains our fascination with fairy tales. From the classic Disney tales of magic and talking animals, to the more macabre Tim Burton-style offerings, young people enjoy nothing more than indulging in stories which, whilst set in a fictional setting, can often tell us more about ourselves and how we should live than boring reality can ever offer. And, importantly, these stories can teach us moral lessons. Their settings may be alien or foreign and their characters may be unusual, gifted with powers or wisdom beyond normal human abilities, but the stories carry lessons which teach us how to live our lives.

And this fascination continues. Over the last decade, J.K. Rowling has held millions of people across the world spellbound with her stories of adolescent witches and wizards. And people like these stories not just because they are entertaining but because they speak to us in simple terms. They speak about human emotion and the common ordeals we all face, whether in the real world or placed in these unusual situations.

But it is important that, as a species, we do not let this fascination become dangerous. There are many people who cannot or will not leave the first, childlike stage of thinking

and will continue to believe in those things which are demonstrably not true, presumably because the morality behind the story is so important to them that, obviously, the mythology must be too. And whilst this is not in itself a danger, it has taken its toll on the world. From prehistory to the modern day, many of our biggest conflicts and deadliest conspiracies have centred around the inability to divorce morality from fantasy and millions have been tortured and murdered in the name of their conflicting mythologies.

And at the end of the day, whilst the ideas that we may be absolved of our sins and that we might live forever in a glorious paradise may be things we want to be true, they are not. They are better than being true, which is something else entirely, but which leaves them, sadly, false.

Breaking with tradition

It seems by now tradition that in the final SCAN the outgoing LUSU President makes a last ditch scramble to set their mark on the political scene at Lancaster by offering suggestions as to what people might want to do once they've gone. This can range from one or two innocent words of

encouragement and the odd policy to last year's time travelling article written as though the following year had actually already happened. Whilst this may be quite humorous, or serve as a good way for the individual to feel they may have secured their legacy, it is inevitably pointless. Events change so quickly it is immediately irrelevant (nobody would have guessed £9k fees this time last year) and, ultimately, nobody probably reads it anyway except perhaps the incoming President. And really, if the incoming President doesn't already know the sort of things that they are likely to be doing, no amount of SCAN comment pieces are going to help: the good ship LUSU is probably already careering into the iceberg.

However, in real life good intentions are not always matched by good actions. Or, in some cases (this one), any action at all. So whilst I intended to end this tradition for good (or at least for now- let's not get carried away) by refraining from appearing in this last edition, I forgot the most important detail: telling the Editor. And now, one day before print, I hardly dare report that the 900-word void still sitting on page 13 will go unfilled. So I just went ahead and wrote something else and will leave my thoughts for the future to wishing all of you the very best of luck. It's been a pleasure.

Graduating is a challenge we must embrace

Richard Sykes

I am graduating this summer and like most third years I have very little idea what I will be doing next year. I am fairly relaxed about this; although there is always some element of fear of the unknown.

There are several options and one that I am passionately against is unpaid internships. An unpaid internship would give me an advantage in the job market but I find them morally bankrupt. It's not the same as volunteering; it's a job in all but name, where you work nine until five under the same conditions as a job except you do not get paid. For this reason they are socially exclusive as you need to be able to afford housing, rent and the costs even if they pay for your lunch and travel. I will apply for badly paid internships providing that they pay enough for me to be self sufficient; otherwise I will not consider them. I want a job to be pay my way in the world; I have no intention of being reliant on my parents help for longer than I need to.

Post graduate study is an interesting option. For many people it is a reason to stay in Lancaster for another year. I think this is very tempting but probably not worth the money. I have considered doing a masters but only in very specific circumstances; at a different university, if it gave real improvement to my job prospects and most importantly only after a year in a job to give me time to decide if it really is worth the time and money.

I think the harsh truth of graduation is that I along with most people will be unemployed for a few weeks or months then get a low paid job. A degree from Lancaster is a mark of potential that will eventually lead most of us to good jobs. Before that I am very much aware that I face a baptism of fire to get used to life after university and then work my way up. Doing a degree was the right decision for me and I suspect for most of the readers of this article but it is not a road to straight to our dream jobs; it is only an important step along the way. After working for three years for a degree it is often hard to accept the truth; this is where the real work begins.

On a more positive note change can often be exciting and only by being challenged and tested do we grow. My view is that embracing this is they key to a happy life after university; I am not going to be happy if I look back missing my time at university instead of focusing on building a new life. I am sure the next year will be hard but that does not mean I will not enjoy it; it is the beginning of the next stage in my life.

Experience not exams is what gets you a job



Emily Roberston
Comment Editor

It is naive to think just doing your degree will get you a job

At the moment we are all working hard on our exams, trying to achieve the highest grade we can get in order to secure a job after graduation. But, it still baffles me that people think this is all they have to do at university to get a job. The sad truth is a degree on its own simply is not enough anymore.

The University drums it into us from Freshers' Week that we need to get involved in as much as possible as well as doing our degree. There will be a record number of students graduating at the same time we do and there's simply not enough jobs to go around. Everyone will have a degree; even those degrees which on paper seem more geared towards guaranteed employable will be common. So what will set you apart from the multitude of students all holding the same degree?

There have been several articles this year, such as David Guy's article at the beginning of the year ("Intro week for freshers not CV hunters") claiming that many students only get involved in societies, college roles and sports teams because they are looking for material to bulk up their CV. I

"People underestimate the importance of having skills outside a purely academic environment"

see their point, that we should enjoy these activities for what they are and



Graudautes need more than just a degree to stand out. Photo by Alexander Wilson

not what benefits they provide for our future. But we would all be very naïve to believe that many people on campus do. I am not saying that students only partake in societies and JCRs in order to increase their employability but it is still a major reason to get involved.

From experience I can say getting work experience in your desired career choice is more than an uphill struggle, especially when trying to do paid work, your degree and other campus based commitments. There is a nation wide problem with internships and work experience that is only just being fully realised. But that doesn't mean that you can't prove yourself in other

areas – volunteering with Involve or taking on positions on campus is just a credible. Yes, we will always be dreaming of that perfect internship but we shouldn't be disheartened or underestimate the other activities that we can get involved in to make ourselves more employable.

Many students say that they do not have time to do extra curricular activities and yes some degrees are more time consuming than others. But I think these people underestimate the importance of demonstrating and building skills outside a purely academic environment. You make time for such activities. I have taken things

on in the past thinking that I simply do not have time, and that completion of everything to a standard I am pleased with will result in many, many sleepless nights. However it is strange how time is quite easily made to accommodate everything you are involved in if you manage your time well, a skill in itself.

Lancaster University even make getting relevant experience outside of your degree scheme easy through the Lancaster Award. Broken down into campus and society roles, work experience, employment related workshops and extra skills and hobbies, it gives us a firm outline of the kind of things employers are looking for along with a degree. The University have said that having the award on our transcript will increase our employability, according to companies that they consulted whilst constructing the award outline. This may be true but what will make us more employable are all the activities we had to complete in order to receive the award. They are not there as trivial tasks to get a prestigious award but to sculpt our university experience so that when we graduate, we are the graduates that employers want to employ.

I may be preaching to the converted, students that I have met at Lancaster are far more motivated and involved then most students I have met elsewhere in the country. But there are a worrying number of students who think that they are exempt from having to work to be a well-rounded graduate. So get out there, apply for work experience, get into Involve, and sign up for your JCR. Get involved and, hopefully, employed.

Wellings' replacement must put student welfare first

Alex Littleboy
Deputy Comment Editor

Student experience not business expansion must be the new priority

Over Easter it was announced that Paul Wellings, Lancaster University's Vice Chancellor, is leaving to take up the same position at the University of Wollongong, in Australia. Over the last year I have made no secret that I disagree with a large number of the decisions made by Professor Wellings and the University Management. So I felt it would be fitting to consider what Lancaster may need in a future Vice Chancellor.

First and foremost, a new Vice Chancellor must always consider the opinions and views of students on campus. An example of where the student opinion was not considered is in the closure of the Nurse Unit on campus. The closure of the Unit saw all of the members of staff made redundant and an important service for students was shut down in the name of cost cutting, with little to no consultation with the student body. In taking away this important service, I feel that the Vice Chancellor didn't consider the student voice important – which led to protests by students. A new Vice Chancellor should take the student voice into more consideration.

Secondly, a new Vice Chancellor should not run the University like a business. Early in the academic year,



Paul Wellings is leaving in December

the University bought the Work Foundation, a failing government thinktank for an undisclosed (but presumably large) amount of money. I felt that this was money that could have been used on raising the quality of our degrees, something that Prof Wellings was championing as a reason for raising tuition fees. The fact that money went into something to benefit the University, rather than the students, when we were being asked to triple the amount of money that we are paying for our degrees, to me is indicative of a business mindset, rather than one based around higher education.

However, Paul Wellings can be proud of the fact that he was at the helm of the University when it found itself as one of the top universities in the country, and ranked 125th in the world. Furthermore, under Wellings student experience ratings have risen, and the University's international profile has grown. He has transformed the campus for the better, with developments such as the Learning Zone, newer and greener student accommodation and many other developments. It would be hard to argue that the student experience under Wellings hasn't improved, as he has brought a lot to Lancaster.

However, for a new Vice Chancellor, I sincerely hope that the student voice will be taken into greater consideration. Much as the University has been improved under Wellings, there are many things that have been lost that students feel are vital parts of the University, often in the name of cost cutting. I understand that money needs to be saved during the current economic conditions, but when the University is spending vast amounts of money on bankrupt thinktanks with no student consultation, it makes you wonder if the money could be better spent on those services that students use and need. A new Vice Chancellor

should put the students of Lancaster first, and make sure that spending on their welfare is prioritised over other projects.

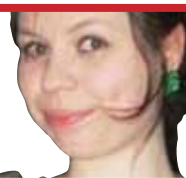
I wish Paul Wellings the best of luck in his new position as Vice Chancellor at Wollongong. He has

"Students at Lancaster University need a Vice Chancellor who will put them first"

improved the conditions at Lancaster over the years, with many building projects and investment into student satisfaction. In the future though I would like to see more communication with the students, and for our own welfare to be put over commercial enterprises for the University. The students at Lancaster University need a Vice Chancellor who will put them first, as the student body are the core of a university. Our welfare must come first, and support for our degrees is of utmost importance if the University is to continue to be as successful as it was under Wellings.

Extravs aren't a time for doom and gloom

Hetti Lawrance



Every year Extravs deliver on the night so why do we always worry they won't?

Having been part of the team working on County Extrav last year I've got something of an insider's knowledge about the end of year bashes. I was there trying to handle the queues at 9am when the majority had been there since before 7am (bearing in mind tickets didn't go on sale until 11am). If you weren't there, the stories are pretty accurate: it was a circus. It was crazier than any of us ever thought, especially innocent Freshers such as myself who hadn't found out what an Extrav was until several weeks earlier. But when it eventually happened, that's when I understood what all the fuss was about. Despite the stress of helping organise one I still count myself as a true Extrav fan. They really are the perfect way to round off a year.

The build up is always something extraordinary: constant speculation about themes and bands, JCRs sworn to utter secrecy but encouraged to circulate false rumours to encourage the hype. And when the themes are finally released, Facebook is put under siege as people watch the videos, debate over bands, costume ideas, and try to decide which one is worthy of their attendance. It's like Glastonbury miniaturised. And Northernised.

But even though they are adored campus-wide as events, the organisation of them has been widely criticised for years. Every year the new JCRs try to improve the system and are still trying to make improvements. This year's system is when it gets technical: Extrav ticket selling has officially entered the 21st century with the majority of transactions happen-



Photo by Ben Robins

ing online. The hope is this will avoid ridiculously long queues of people who even though they have been there for over four hours, still go home disappointed.

Another change to the system is that of college priority, a move that has been met with mixed reactions. On the one hand, the chances of you getting into your own college Extrav are significantly higher. However, should you be In Fylde but have a number of friends in Pendle, the chances are against you for being able

to join the party.

So what other changes can we notice? Prices have gone up: simply down to inflation and the economic downturn? And the number of tickets one person can buy has gone down: attempting to avoid incredibly keen queuers buying fifty tickets before the rest of us are even out of bed.

All of the changes have been made to try and improve the organisation and "smooth running" of ticket sales, but doubts are still circling around the student body. The main concern is

that the sites will not be able to handle demand for tickets and will crash, causing wide spread chaos throughout the system. Another doubt I have heard is the fear that Extravs are slowly but surely turning into College-only events, segregating the University up into very separate colleges, Oxbridge style. One of the delights of Extrav time is the constant competition between colleges, trying to make theirs the one that everyone wants to go to. If the events become solely college based, this will be lost.

But do you know what I think? What's all the fuss about? Yes I was part of the old system last year and yes it had definite flaws, but everything turned out alright in the end. Hopefully everything will run much smoother this year (minimal stress on the JCR is definitely a plus when, apart from ticket sales, there's a hundred other things to organise before the big day) but if something does go wrong, it's not the end of the world. I'm sure JCRs are prepared for all eventualities (I know we were) and will handle everything to the best of their ability. Despite months of stress and hundreds of concerns, Extravs always happen and they are always successful. Their high demand continues relatively unaffected and JCRs always emerge at the other end, exhausted but happy.

So if you're one of these cynical people who expects nothing but doom and gloom all the way up to the day itself, pause and think: Extravs have always been awesome, and my expectation is that they will continue to be so.

The first year of university is an experience everyone should have

Ben McCarthy

Fees shouldn't be an obstacle to Freshers' Week and nine o'clock starts

Back in October last year I had a few things on my mind. Will my new flat mates like me? Will I have nice neighbours? Will I make it through first year, or end up on the unemployment register, down at my local bar everyday? Now my first year almost complete, can I look back at the last few months of my life and consider coming to university worth it? The answer is a resounding yes.

As a first year, what stands out straight away is Freshers' Week. We all had our expectations about what to expect from this legendary week; boozing, partying, losing all memory of the night before. And if I'm being honest, this is exactly what we got. It was probably the most alcoholic week of my life, yet it was enjoyable. Moving to a new place and meeting a large number of new people is very daunting, but everything organised on Freshers' Week helped us all to ease into this new world, enjoying each other's company while experiencing some very funny occurrences, involving spray painting a white top to look like Wally and wandering around back allies dressed in togas. Following Freshers' Week I can safely say I have made some friends that will be my friends for life. If coming to university has given me nothing else, it has given me this.



Photo by Rob Miller

Being at university changes many other things. For the majority it meant independence. Having to cook your own meals, wash your own clothes and generally take care of yourself. One year at university has certainly taught me a thing or two about independence. Before I had never cooked a thing, yet now I find myself preparing meals more and more frequently. It is expected that you will have to look after yourself when leaving home and university can act as a transition stage. Everybody is in the same boat and

everybody can help each other.

But obviously the main reason we all came here was to start a degree. This is where the downside comes in. It was a tough wake up call. I soon came to hate nine o'clock starts, which seems odd considering how early school and college used to call me out of bed. If first year of university has taught me anything, it is how to handle a lecture with two hours of sleep and an immense amount of alcohol in your system. The work is tough but I think all first years knew what

they were getting into when they came here. Following this gruelling year of work, we all at least can safely say we know something about our degree, maybe even enough to get into what has been promised to be a doubly challenging second year.

Completing first year can also give a good sense of achievement; one year down and we made it, considerably wiser than when we first shyly stepped onto campus all those months ago. One-third of the degree is now done, and we know what to expect in the upcoming years as we work for a better chance at a hugely competitive job market, come that day we have to go out into the real world. I would like to think that day is a long way away yet, and that there is plenty more left to enjoy at Lancaster University.

So, was spending a great load of money to come to University worth it? In my humble opinion, it was. It has been the best experience of my life certainly and I've also felt it's helped me to grow as a person. In these tough times, with fees about to become so high, people will certainly feel put off by university, which is a shame as I feel everyone should enjoy the university experience. It is fun, challenging but very rewarding, both academically and personally. Ultimately I cannot wait to see what second and third year has in store.

scan

Editorial

A year of turd mining

THERE IS A quote about good journalism. It doesn't come from the Times or Guardian but is the wisdom of Jon Stewart of the Daily Show. It goes: "[Don't say we're] cherry picking [...] cherries are sweet and delicious. What we do is more turd mining. And I'll thank you to give our work the respect it deserves." They are words this paper has tried to live off this year.

SCAN has made a real effort to be more critical over the past 12 months. That doesn't mean we've been critical for the sake of it, but on the subjects students want us to be critical about: hidden university costs, student democracy, post graduate issues. We have tried to be more challenging, both of the University and the Students' Union. We set out this year to be something students wanted to read, but not necessarily to be popular. If we were liked by everyone all the time SCAN would be considerably duller and, more importantly, wouldn't be fulfilling its objective as a critical friend of both the Students' Union and University.

Every reader will have a differing opinion on whether we've managed to accomplish this, but the motivation was always there. It is easy for people to assume that SCAN will always take the Students' Union line, but there have been many times this year when the paper's line and the Union's line have differed. We didn't make a song and dance about this, and maybe that's why it goes unnoticed by some. Others will never see SCAN as anything but a Union mouthpiece, which is a shame because they would undoubtedly bring something worth while to the paper if they took the leap and got involved.

The key factor to this year's SCAN has been confidence. We have benefitted greatly from a wealth of experience: a team of editors with three years practice and institutional knowledge. Such a team is always going to be more up for a scrap than a team still wet behind the ears: quicker to spot when something's amiss and more cunning when asking questions. Fortunately there isn't much scope for SCAN to ever be blighted by inexperience again. Knowledge is carried over the years, passed from one editorial team to another. Hopefully students get a better paper because of that.

Three years ago SCAN underwent a radical change. It stopped interviewing ducks and starting digging. We've been digging everyday since. Now the mining shaft has been reinforced, the hard hats are on and there's a canary in a cage. We wish the best of luck to next year's miners. There's gold there, if you just keep digging.

The last laugh

ON PAGE THREE of this issue we make several references to the possibility of the University squandering over £10m on a fake beach. This story is, of course, completely fictitious. This is an end-of-year tradition in SCAN. Last year it was about the University striking gold, which presumably could pay for the beach.

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.



Teaching assistants

It is not news to anyone that postgraduate teaching assistants (TAs) are overworked and underpaid. However, we welcome the recent SCAN investigation into TA working conditions as a timely reminder to all concerned that something must be done to change this situation.

As the SCAN investigation made clear, there are differences and disparities between departments. But let us make no mistake:

this is not simply a problem of differences and disparities. When we examine the situation of TAs, general trends emerge: precarity, underrepresentation, opacity with regards duties, hours and pay. What these trends amount to are the preconditions for the systematic economic exploitation of teaching assistants.

That this takes place under our noses is not a cause for shock – since everyone from TAs upwards knows exactly what is occurring. Neither is it the case that a mistake has been made that must be put right – this is a system deliberately

constructed to the disadvantage of those most vulnerable to exploitation. It is passed time for action from managers and the senior academics sitting on their hands as their junior colleagues get shafted. Undergraduates, postgraduates and teaching assistants need to take matters into their own hands – and immediately.

Signed
University in Crisis and
Lancaster University Against Cuts
See scan.lusu.co.uk for full letter

I also agree with Nick

I would like to express my support for Joe Henthorn's article 'In Spite of Popular Opinion, I Still Agree with Nick' published in the last edition of SCAN. Joe has reminded us that the situation the Liberal Democrats are in isn't as bad as some people want to make out. 75% of Lib Dem policy is being implemented during this parliament, and Lib Dem influence has forced hardline Conservatives to retract their potential ferocity on issues such as Europe, justice and public spending. I am proud to

support a party that is prepared to go into government and implement its policies, over one who simply panders to voters' desires by whinging from the sidelines (as the Lib Dems used to do). I say well done to Joe for sticking with Nick, as I shall be doing.

Daniel Wilcock
Pendle College

Corrections

- The supplementary front page article ('Union looks for students' approval...', page one, May 31) contained a number of misquotes. SCAN apologises for this.
- Talia Nadarajah should have been Tania Nadarajah ('Confusion over netball...', page four, May 31).
- Danny Maguire should have been Danny McGuire ('LUSU finally agrees...', page five, May 31). 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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It's been a great year for sport at Lancaster

Jack Smith reflects on a year of sport, as well as the challenges of reporting on an away Roses

This is the last issue of SCAN for the year, and so this will be my last SCAN Sports comment article. It's been a great year for sport at Lancaster, and there is a lot to reflect on now that every match has been played.

We hope the Sports section has been enjoyable this year. Our main aim was to make the section more entertaining and readable, and to try to increase the relevance of the section beyond simply people who played in the matches we covered.

That is why we introduced a fixed comment section, added the regional football roundup, and tried to add a touch of humour with the satirical Sport Distort column - the highlight perhaps being the great Sport Distort Alternative Personality of the Year spread last term.

"Andy Carroll has rocked the scene this year, scoring for fun in the Premier League, earning an England call up, learning the nicknames of every bartender on Tyneside and successfully robbing a bank vault with nothing but his elbows." What a man.

Some teams have produced some outstanding performances this year. Honourable mentions must go to both the Men's and Women's Rugby Union firsts who performed well this season, with the former earning promotion.

This final issue is based around some season roundups of some of the most successful teams of the year, and as has been the case every fortnight, space and resources limitations mean we simply haven't been able to cover every sport.



Photo by Tom Skarbek-Wazynski

Roses was particularly challenging for us, as we took a team of just seven writers to York. However, we were able to produce nine full pages of sports content, while constantly updating the website with immedi-

ate reports of the majority of sports over the course of the weekend. We also innovated with Twitter to provide instant pitch-side score updates for as many sports as we could.

The tournament seemed like it

was going to be a very closely fought one, but as we know, the Carter James trophy started to slip away from the grip of the Red Rose on the Saturday. Considering historical away defeats, the margin of defeat was not a particularly large one. There were some absolutely stand-out performances; particularly in American Football, Ultimate Frisbee, and the Women's Rugby Union's stunning 48-0 victory.

Some teams felt we did not provide them with appropriate levels of coverage and support, but the limitations I've already referred to reduced our scope. Next year will be a home Roses, which brings the certainty of a greater amount of writers and better facilities in order to write content. I do not, however, apologise for commenting accurately on the performances of teams regardless of what colour rose they represent.

If this year was good for sport at Lancaster, it is a given that next year will be better. With a home Roses and the opening of the long-awaited new sports centre, it will be a year that should bring great levels of success here - and I'm sure SCAN Sports will do its very best to cover every minute of it.

Jack Smith
Sports Editor



Regional Football

Lower league sides keep local pride alive

Premier League sides flounder in a year of local highs and lows

Matthew Todd

Wigan Athletic

League position: 16th in the Premier League (42 points)

Season in brief: Wigan had a mixed season where they flirted with the relegation zone throughout. Started disastrously losing 4-0 to Blackpool, then shipping six against Chelsea. Survived thanks to their good record against fellow strugglers. N'Zogbia and Rodallega topped the scoring charts.

Highlight: Charles N'Zogbia's 94th minute winner against West Ham that completed a rousing comeback and condemned the Hammers to relegation.

Low point: Getting embroiled in a last day battle to survive, escaping thanks to a win against Stoke.

Blackpool FC

League position: 19th in the Premier League (39 points - relegated to the Championship)

Season in brief: swashbuckling one season stay in the top tier. First two games showed Blackpool in a nutshell; a 4-0 demolition of Wigan followed by a 6-0 mauling at the hands of Arsenal. Started off like a train but went on a barren run at the wrong time which proved their downfall.

Highlight: The entertaining brand of football Ian Holloway's men provided made MOTD more bearable and gave some of Europe's biggest clubs a tough 90 minutes

Low points: Last day relegation after a 4-2 defeat at Old Trafford, the Tangerines went through heartbreak as they deviated between 16th and 19th.

Preston North End

League position: 22nd in the Cham-



Preston fans mourn their club's relegation.

pionship (42 points - relegated to League 1)

Season in brief: Darren Ferguson was shown the door with North End already adrift, he was replaced by the highly recognisable Phil Brown. The loss of Jon Parkin to Cardiff saw goals dry up. Terrible home form saw Preston occupy the relegation zone for almost the entire season.

Highlight: Remarkable 6-4 victory at Leeds, Jon Parkin with a hat-trick after North End had trailed 3-1.

Low points: Relegation with two

games to spare and dwindling crowds that will further reduce Phil Brown's budget for next season.

Morecambe FC

League position: 20th place in League 2 (51 points)

Season in brief: Mixed bag with consistency sorely lacking. Disappointing end to the season saw Morecambe survive by a mere four points. Immediately after the final game Sammy McIlroy left his post by mutual consent.

Highlights: Beating Coventry 2-0

in the first game at the Globe. Being selected to host an England international game.

Low points: Poor home form in their first season in the new Globe Arena. 7-2 humbling by Port Vale.

Fleetwood Town FC

League position: 5th in the Blue Square Premier (78 points - qualified for play-offs)

Season in brief: Fleetwood had a fantastic first campaign at the elite level of non-league. They occupied a play-off place almost all season and saw off a late challenge from Kidderminster. Mickey Mellon has been quick to add to his squad with the capture of Richard Brodie.

Highlights: Qualification for the play-offs in their first season at this level. Taking League 1 Walsall to a replay in the 1st round of the FA Cup.

Low point: The 8-1 aggregate thrashing in the play-off semi-final at the hands of AFC Wimbledon.

Lancaster City FC

League position: 8th in Evo-Stick division 1 North (68 points)

Season in brief: Lancaster maintained a relatively stable mid table position all campaign. Successful cup runs meant the side played 14 matches in knockout football. Goals were spread throughout the team with Josh Kenworthy finishing as top scorer with 13.

Highlight: Victory in the final of the Presidents cup against Belper thanks to a Dave Swarbrick hat-trick.

Low point: Having to sell captain Andrew Teague to Chorley and Paul Jarvis to AFC Fylde in January to cut costs.

It's been a very good year

Marc Handley
LUSU Vice President (Sports)

In my first article of the year I said we were in for a fantastic year of sport, and to be pretty fair, I think that is what we have had. On Wednesday we'll be hosting the LUSU Sports Awards, and it will be a fantastic chance to congratulate our successful university and college teams on their seasons. Over the course of the year we have seen netball courts ripped up, too much snow to be considered normal and a hell of a lot of ground frost meaning our grass pitches have been unplayable for weeks on end. But even with all this, our teams pulled through. I have seen college teams claim success for the first time in five or six years, and others hold onto the top spot for yet another year. We have witnessed the longest unbeaten run in a club for a very long time culminating in a last minute winner to claim promotion.

I have seen clubs come from the depths of despair and clutch victory from the jaws of defeat and it has been absolutely phenomenal.

My year in office has been the best year of my life and I would like to thank everyone involved for making it so. To the members of the college teams, you have once again proven well above your worth just how important sport is to the college life here at Lancaster. I applaud your efforts for this year. To the Sports Reps, who have given up nearly every Sunday in term time for Carter Shield, your efforts have not gone unnoticed by Erin and Dean our Inter College Sports Officers, you all have been absolutely awesome, so thank you. To Tom and Matt who have been Cross Campus Sports Officer, your support and help with the rest of the work I do has been brilliant and I thank you for it.

But rather than naming names for the rest of this article, I just want to say thank you everyone involved for an awesome year this year. BUCS matches ended and our sights were firmly set on York in May. We were so close to claiming that elusive away victory that I know York were nearly ready to pack it all in, but it wasn't to be unfortunately. The effort and determination by all the competitors in Roses 2011 was second to none, and it was an inspiration to lead the Red Army. As I said in the Sports Council AGM last week- to those of you who will be leaving us this year, thank you for your service to sport at Lancaster, and let's look forward to 2011/2012. In the next year we have the Olympics in London. More importantly, we have Roses at Lancaster. Thank you and good luck.



Season review: Hockey



Photo by Matt Chadd.

Strong defence the key to Hockey success

• League and Roses win for Men's Hockey third team

Nick O'Malley
Sports Editor

AFTER A TREMENDOUS season, the Men's third hockey team must be serious contenders for team of the year. The team won Conference division 5A by just one point over the University of Cumbria, having won seven, drawn two and lost only one over the course of the season. They also boasted a 69.7% win ratio over the league and cup combined.

Captain Elliott Thompson admitted: "We started the season with the strongest squad the thirds have had for years and possibly even ever". The season started badly for the team, as they lost their first game to Manchester seconds 2-1 as the team suffered from having had very little training time before the league started. However this was to be their only league loss of the year.

The team recovered in fine style from their poor start as they cruised to a 7-1 home win versus Liverpool Hope

and things immediately started to look brighter for the club. Having said that, their next match saw them up against Liverpool seconds in the cup, who are two divisions above Lancaster in the leagues and saw a 3-0 slump to defeat against a far superior team. However, this proved to be the final loss of the season for them.

Lancaster eased to a 4-0 win versus Glyndwr before sneaking a 1-0 win away at the University of Cumbria. Lancaster's dominant defence was one of the key features throughout the year that helped them to be so successful. The team only conceded nine goals in their ten league games.

However, it was not all plain sailing from there. The team suffered once more from a lack of match practice as November to February saw a period of almost three months without a single game due to the adverse weather conditions. Lancaster drew the first two games back after this break 1-1 with Manchester and 0-0 with Liverpool Hope who they had earlier beaten

7-1.

With two matches of the season to play, the league was to be contested between the two local rivals: Lancaster

“The stand out moment of the season has to be winning the league courtesy of the win over Manchester.”

and Cumbria. Incidentally, the penultimate game of the season was a home match between these two teams. Lancaster, spurred on by a fantastic team of supporters, surged to an all-important 3-1 win that would see Lancaster leading the league by a point going into the final game of the season.

Once again, fantastic support was

shown as Lancaster battled for league glory against Manchester's fifth team. Manchester took a surprise 2-0 lead. Ultimately, Lancaster were too strong for their opponents as they triumphed 5-2 to pick up the league title.

The team's success didn't stop there. Being one of a handful of teams to have never lost at Roses, the pressure was on. However, Lancaster triumphed 1-0 in a hotly contested game involving many suspected biased decisions towards the home team, York. Lancaster's defence stood strong under immense pressure and could have quite easily doubled their tally on numerous occasions. In the end the one goal was enough to see the team pick up their now customary Roses win.

Captain Thompson told SCAN: "The stand out moment of the season has to be winning the league courtesy of the win over Manchester. However my favourite win of the year was the 3-1 win over rival Cumbria, as we set ourselves up for potential league glory."

Season review: Netball

Seconds team promoted with fantastic league win



Photo by Lauren Hirst

Nick O'Malley
Sports Editor

The Netball second team completed a fantastic season with a league win. Although the team were disappointed to lose 41-34 to York at Roses, nothing can take the Northern Conference League 5A win away from them; the league was won by just three points over bitter rivals UCLAN, picking up 24 points from their ten games to UCLAN's 21.

The season saw a 75% win percentage across both league and cup, one of the highest of any sports teams

at Lancaster. The league decider was the penultimate game of the season away at UCLAN, which was Captain Grace Biggins' game of the season. The league looked to have slipped way from the team, as at one point they trailed by 15 points.

However, they fought back bravely, to triumph by a solitary point with the final score at 34-33. Captain Biggins said of the match: "It was an electric moment for us all". This result came exactly seven days after the demolition job in the corresponding home fixture as Lancaster cruised to victory 41-24.

The season was full of close encounters for the netball second team. The first game that SCAN had the pleasure of covering during the season was a 30-29 win over Liverpool John Moore's in the first round of the cup, which came down to the final play of the match. The two other closest fixtures of the season came in away fixtures; 32-30 win at Chester and a 36-33 win at Glyndwr University.

The cup run didn't last as long as the club would have hoped for however, as the team crashed out of the competition at the hands of Manches-

ter Metropolitan University, who ply their trade two divisions above Lancaster so it was always going to be a tough task. The 32-27 score-line suggests just how far the team has progressed this year, and how easily the team may cope in a higher division next season.

It was decided that no player of the season would be determined for the purpose of this article; instead the credit goes to the spirit and camaraderie shown throughout the year. This is highlighted in the fact that the team won their league, but also, in that they have been nominated for club of the

year in the upcoming LUSU sports awards.

Biggins told SCAN: "I can only thank the girls for how great they have been this season, their immense commitment to training and fitness has been superb. This has been by far my best year for netball and I could not have wished for a better team or club". She added: "We couldn't have done so well without the club or won the league without it. Our team bonding and spirit has been magnificent. We went into everything as a team. I, as I am sure the rest of the team have, loved every minute."

Season review: Canoe

BUCS success for Canoe teams

Rhys Elias

LANCASTER'S CANOE POLO squad have enjoyed much success in BUCS competitions, winning their first medals after rising steadily up the rankings each year.

The Women's Canoe Polo team finished second whilst the Open A team managed fourth place, narrowly missing out on a medal themselves at this year's competition. Lancaster also sent an Open B team for the first time.

The Lancaster University Canoe Club takes part in a range of BUCS events including Slalom, White

Water Racing and Canoe Polo alongside casual canoeing sessions. It was in Polo however, that the club saw its greatest success on the weekend of the 15th-17th of April at Hatfield Water Park in Doncaster.

Lancaster's Open A team finished fourth out of 28 teams, narrowly missing out on a medal. Jonathan Stobbs, Alan Barry, Matt Fear, Chris Hanson and Matt Biggins all played for the Open A team.

The women's Canoe Polo side came second out of the 23 teams that entered the competition, being beaten 3-1 by the eventual winners, ULU ladies, in the final. They faced

teams such as Southampton, Bristol, Newcastle, Warwick - who they beat with a golden goal - and Birmingham, who were the recipients of a systematic demolition.

The final saw them battle against ULU ladies for the second time in the competition, having played them at an earlier stage in the competition and coming up short with the score line at 2-1. Unfortunately, in the final, ULU's ladies had the edge and Lancaster had to settle for silver medals.

The performance in the competition saw a vast improvement on an admirable fifth place ranking in last

year's competition and a ninth place

'The performance in the competition saw a vast improvement on last year'

finish in 2009. The members of the silver medal winning team were Liz Swift, Megan Rowland, Amy Fowler, Rachel Ward, Rebecca Shields, Laura Waterson and Captain Sam Barry.

The club carried its impres-

sive form into the Roses weekend. The Women's Canoe Polo team beat York 6-1 while the men managed an impressive 5-0 victory adding a much needed four points to the cause. The B team managed a 3-2 victory over York but in a match with no Roses points up for grabs.

Women's Captain Sam Barry said of the weekend in Doncaster: "I am very proud of the effort that both teams have put in this year and in previous years as is obvious from our ranking gradually rising over the recent years. It is very rewarding to be part of the ladies team finishing second."



Last year's Hockey teams had mixed fortunes. Photo by Matt Chadd.

How did Lancaster fare this year? We review some of the best teams seasons inside

Season review: Table Tennis

Roses' victory tops off excellent season for Table Tennis team

Matthew Todd

Lancaster University Men's Table Tennis First team have completed a season of unbridled success. The club claimed top spot and promotion from the Northern Conference 2a and hammered York in Roses to claim four points for Lancaster. They also navigated three rounds of knock-out table tennis to reach the final of the Northern Conference cup, only to lose 7-10 to York. All this was achieved despite losing Nick Milovsky half way in January after his Visa expired.

The league season began with Lancaster in imperious form. They put Liverpool, Manchester, Edge Hill and Sheffield to the sword in the best of 17 format, losing just five ties whilst winning 63. In all, the team won 87.5% of their league games, only coming unstuck against Manchester in the final league tie with the title already secured.

The cup run began with a bye, and in the quarter-finals Lancaster sent a

powerful message to the other teams with a 17-0 whitewash against Newcastle University. The semi-final was also negotiated with relative ease as Liverpool were brushed aside 12-5. However, the final was to prove a step too far as York took full advantage of playing on home ground as they triumphed 10-7.

Roses was the final competition of the season for Lancaster and provided an opportunity for revenge against cup final opponents York. The four man team of Steve Arliss, Leo Ho, Lok Wong and Alasdair Fuller performed brilliantly on the day to claim of 10-6 victory overall. Third seed Leo was the star performer as he won all four of his games including a vital result against York's first seed Frank Cheung.

SCAN Sports spoke to Alasdair Fuller to get his thoughts on all things table tennis. The second year student competed as fourth seed for Lancaster for the majority of the season and secured numerous victories against higher ranked opponents.

What was the highlight of the year for Fuller? "[The] Roses victory away at York - as far as I know that feat hasn't been achieved by a Lancaster table tennis team for a long time and we won in a convincing manner as well."

“That feat hasn’t been achieved by a Lancaster table tennis team for a long time”

He also commented on what he felt the low point of the season was: “The loss to York in the final of the BUCS cup. Having not lost a game all season we were quite hopeful so losing the match was a bitter disappointment. It did, however, make the victory at Roses even sweeter.”

Next season promises to be exciting for table tennis at Lancaster. With

the men's firsts now in division 1a and improved facilities on offer in the new sports centre, it seems that table tennis can become a preeminent sport and provide continuing success.

For Fuller, next season carries the aim of avoiding immediate relegation following this season's promotion. “Our main aim for next year is not to get relegated,” he said. “Having been relegated from the 1st division last year we know how high the standard is - most teams tend to have an England player.”

He added: “Regrettably, we are losing two of our best players for next year who have been fantastic players for the club. Lok Wong has been Vice-President for the last two years and has been absolutely essential. Also, Steven Arliss who has been President and BUCS captain of the table tennis club. Steve has been absolutely vital to the club for the last three years and is not only a brilliant player, but also put in many hours behind the scenes arranging our fixtures.”

IC Football League A

Team	W	L	D	Pts
Lonsdale	6	1	0	18
County	4	1	2	14
Fylde	4	2	1	13
Bowland	4	3	0	12
Pendle	3	3	1	10
Cartmel	2	4	1	7
Grizedale	2	5	0	6
Furness	0	6	1	1

IC Netball A

Team	W	L	D	Pts
Fylde	12	2	0	36
Furness	12	2	0	36
County	9	4	0	27
Cartmel	8	6	0	24
Bowland	6	8	0	18
Pendle	4	10	0	12
Grizedale	2	11	0	6
Lonsdale	2	12	0	6

Carter Shield

Sponsored by IBM

Team	Pos	Pts
Fylde	1st	153
Grizedale	2nd	138
Bowland	3rd	114
Lonsdale	4th	94
Pendle	5th	92
County	6th	77
Cartmel	7th	67
Furness	8th	53
Graduate	7th	0

Carter Shield Fixtures

Week	Sport
2-4	Taster session
5	Aeroball
7	Kwik Cricket
8	Men's Basketball
9	Uni Hockey
10	Finals Day

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

Carolynne

Week Eight, Summer Term

Photo by Ben Robins

Get ready for a
campus Extravaganza!

Home, sweet home



So many boxes to pack in so little time. Lifestyle Editor, **Ruth Eaton** asks are we really ready to be homeward bound?

After three long terms of living independently, pulling all nighters and stocking up on crisps from Spar for a mid-night feast the time has come for us to start thinking about packing up our little room all ready to move home for the summer. Aside from Christmas and Easter where we eat far too much, pass out and barely remember being home at all, summer is the only chance we get to properly settle into a normal routine with the family. For those that relish utter independence this can be a thought met with apprehension, for others this is a prime chance to appreciate those often missed home comforts. But one thing is for certain, we're all heading for 14 weeks of freedom and if these are going to be spent at home, sweet home, how ready are we to handle it?

As we wave goodbye to the deadlines, the socialising and more fancy dress than we can remember it's back to what we might con-

sider an abnormal routine next to the spontaneity of student life. For most of us it'll be no more all nighters and no more afternoon arguments with the flatmates over a wayward carton of milk. Instead it's time to snuggle back in our own bed and get used to life without the Learning Zone, the Library and the Carleton. If you're breaking out into a sweat wondering how you'll cope there's almost always a silver lining. The trading of Greggs for your Mum's Sunday roast will definitely be an easy compromise but the swapping of the bliss of solitude for family arguments and washing up duties might be a harsher reality to tackle.

Although emptying the dishwasher on a regular basis and tidying up your room so you can actually see the floor is enough to make you wince at the thought of a summer at home just take a minute, stop and think about the holy grail of homecoming; the full

fridge. Three months at home may mean the occasional date with the Hoover but surely it's all worth it for a good few weeks of tummy

'The trading of Greggs for your Mum's Sunday roast will definitely be an easy compromise'

friendly food. A tastebud party is a definite but the approval of your family for eating them out of house and home will most definitely become a testing issue come week three of your indulgence.

As much as food and chore related arguments may well be an impending definite as we settle back in at home, remember it won't be for long. In no time you'll be groaning as you drag your washing to the temperamental launderette on campus only to dye half your underwear pink and leave with someone else's whites. Home can seem unnecessarily hectic next to a student lifestyle but balancing both over summer can be a welcome change; a chance to appreciate your independence but also to enjoy the company of your friends and family without the distraction of deadlines.

For those of you jetting off around the world travelling, working and sunning yourselves on sandy beaches for weeks on end; you lucky things. Yes you'll probably get a tan, a killer reference on your CV and see sights you could only dream of but I for one will have the comfort of my own bed, and let's be honest, there's no better feeling than that.



Summer lovin'

Tell you more, tell you more? **Kathy Wright** explains what's so great about a summer romance

Picture this; sun, cocktails, lazy days and a bit of Grease Summer Loving playing in the background. Does this sound far too cheesy or just the perfect setting for a summer romance? But even with three long months of free time to spend with that summer soul mate, is love in the summer sun really all it's cracked up to be?

Summer romances are easy to get swept up in and can be the stuff dreams are made of. Whether it's spending 24/7 having a great time with each other or just enjoying the idea of a new relationship, the excitement of just seeing someone without the worry of what the future may hold seems something we should all experience at some point. Meeting someone on holiday or even just when you least expect it can be amazing because it gives us the chance to just let loose and enjoy every moment. Summer romances can lead us into another world, often letting us capture the honeymoon period of the relationship without a care in the

world. Let's face it, we all want to look back on a time where our lives really did resemble a rom com.

However, although we might have a huge buzz for a summer romance, the summer is only short and if your time together is doomed to end you can end up feeling deflated all too quickly. Summer romances are often intense but shortly fizzle out. After meeting on a two week holiday and planning to keep in touch most of us will soon notice those texts don't seem to arrive and after a bit of Facebook stalking the realisation that one of you has moved on can be disappointing. Having a summer romance can be difficult if strong feelings develop but if you go into it with the knowledge that it might only last until September the relationship can create some superb memories. It's never fantastic when relationships end and most summer romances will do, due to time, distance, or just the realisation that it was never meant to be forever.

However, if we were always worried about the bump when we crash down to earth, we would miss the out of this world experiences entirely.

It can help to balance the time between seeing that special someone and seeing your friends because it's important to keep in touch with the people who are a permanent fixture in your life. Go on group dates so you can make the most of your summer romance and this time spending time with your friends doesn't seem like a distant second choice.

Summer romances don't have to be so difficult if you appreciate them for what they are. Some of those lucky few may end up with a permanent relationship that carries on after the summer ends and some of us will just have to remember the good times and those infamous summer nights. Summer romances may not be forever but it's something that can take us out of ourselves and make the summer fly. Sadly, we can't all be Danny and Sandy but we can certainly have a great time trying.

Fun in the sun

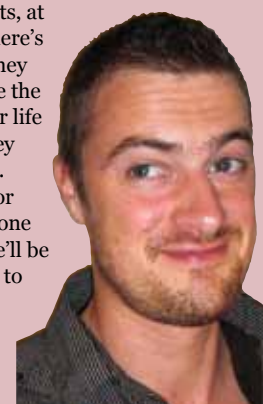
Gareth Horn

WEEK EIGHT OF term three: Oh, Such beautiful words. For the vast majority of us, this delightful date marks the end of the exam period and sees the true start to the summer; no more revision, no more late night cramming, just 12 glorious weeks of sunshine and smiles and not an essay deadline in sight. Aaaaah, halcyon days indeed. Whatever you're doing, just stop for one moment and take a deep breath. Doesn't it taste good? That, my friends, is the unmis-takable tang of freedom.

Nothing can beat the feeling of knowing that your exams are over for another year. All that stress, all that struggle, vanquished with the folding of the edge of an exam paper. Pens down, people: it's party time. The only study with which you must now concern yourself is in the choosing of which festivals you will blow the last of your cash on: Glasto for the posers, V for the pop fans, Latitude for the purists, Rebellion for the punks, and a plethora of others besides, all waiting to part you from your hard earned dough. Perhaps a European jaunt? I believe Roskilde has a good line-up this year. Or Hideout for the dance-heads? My point is, now is your time; you're in the privileged position of having a quarter of a year to do with what you please, so go forth and throw some shapes.

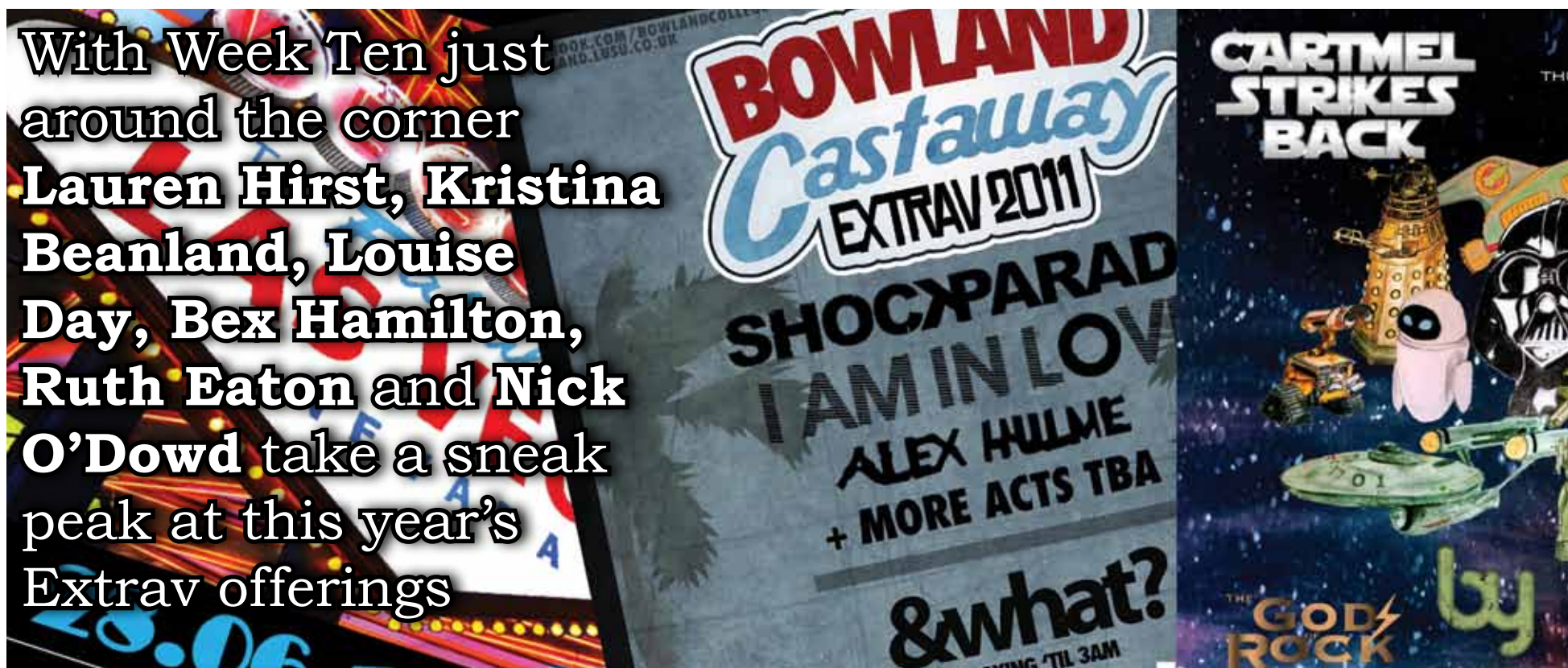
'They say these are the best years of your life and they're right'

Whichever year of study you are about to kiss goodbye to, rest assured there is plenty more work on the horizon. For you first years, week eight marks the end of your dry run: from October, everything really matters. Second years will be recovering from the shock of a greatly increased workload, and the realisation that this past year and the next will dictate their final degree. As for third years, well, your undergraduate life is all but over, the next step is either the working world or continuing education. So wherever you find yourself, now is the time to let your hair down and enjoy the brief interval. If your exam results prove disappointing, it's not the end of the world. Freshers can just heed the warning and pull their proverbial socks up; for sophomores, there's still one more year in which to raise your game and make the most of that all important exit-velocity; and as for final year students, at the very worst there's always re-sits. They say that these are the best years of your life and, whoever they are, they're right. This is no time for regrets, what's done is done and there'll be plenty more of it to come. Go. Enjoy the summer. Heaven knows it won't last long.



Lanacaster likes to

With Week Ten just around the corner **Lauren Hirst, Kristina Beanland, Louise Day, Bex Hamilton, Ruth Eaton and Nick O'Dowd** take a sneak peak at this year's Extrav offerings



Bowland

Get ready to be castaway

BOWLAND IS LOOKING to bring the feel of the sun, sea and sand to rainy Lancaster with it's Castaway theme. Think deserted islands and delicious coconut cocktails, deep blue seas and sunsets. Due to Bowland's imminent refurbishment, this year the extrav will be set in County Bar. Each room will explore a different scene, giving everyone the opportunity to relax on the beach, venture into the jungle and explore under the sea. There will even be a surf machine for students to try their hand at riding the waves.

In keeping with the beach theme, there will be a BBQ serving up a variety of food, including burgers, skewers and veggie options. In terms of a musical line-up, Bowland appears to have gone all out to make sure their extrav is a night to remember. Their headline act, Shock Parade, are described as a cross between Faithless and Underworld, complete with live drums, synths and atmospheric guitar and are sure to have you dancing until the early hours of the morning.

President Anastasia Rattigan describes Shock Parade as having "spectacular stage presence" as well as "euphoric anthems that will keep you buzzing all night".

Supporting them will be talented fivesome IamLove, a favourite of Radio 1's Edith Bowman, as well as talented act DJ&What? playing long into the night. Joining them will be a variety of acoustic acts as well as a steel band playing Bob Marley and UB40 covers, a perfect accompaniment to the laid-back beach atmosphere that Bowland wishes to create.

Cartmel

In a college not so far, far away...

"CARTMEL WILL BE celebrating everything that is great and good in the world of science fiction as Cartmel gets is transformed into a sci-fi heaven", says Cartmel President, Jasmine Blakemore.

Cartmel Extrav will be appealing to both "geeky and non-geeky students" and also meaning that it will be very "different from past extravs and social events we've had in the past." Another advantage of paying tribute to the sci-fi genre is that it provides an ample opportunity for a many weird and wonderful costume choices. According to Blakemore, she's heard of people dressing as Daleks, Doctor Who villains and apparently someone may even go as Portal turret. No doubt there will also be a few Star Wars characters walking about on the night.

Another crucial aspect of any extrav is the musical acts that will be taking to the stage. These include The God's of Rock whom play a wide range of music ranging from AC-DC, Gun's 'N' Roses to Lady Gaga. There will also be a number of local acts The Yuppies and Our Day Remains. However, the main frontline act is an indie-rock band called Brave Yesterday, a band who are playing on the John Peel stage at Glastonbury this year. Like last year, there will also be acoustic acts throughout the night playing in the JCR, for those who want to chill out for a bit during the extrav.

Cartmel Extrav promises to be a unique and fun experience which will appeal to all students of all interests and also also suit practically all music tastes. Blakemore also hints that there will be an "attraction or two" and that those attending Cartmel Extrav should keep an eye on the Facebook event for more details to later be released.

County

For those waiting for a Cinderella moment

COUNTY COLLEGE IS of course, renowned for its successful Extravs, and this year looks to be no exception. Taking inspiration from fairytale and fantasy, 'Once upon a time in County' sees the bar transformed into a castle, complete with forbidden forest and guard dragon. Stepping through the looking glass to County Diner, there will be a Mad Hatter's tea party, a glimpse into Narnia and even more fairytale surprises. There will also be a place for students to create their own fairytales on a specially made storyboard, as well as an enchanted wishing well to hopefully make their dreams come true.

County are also boasting an eclectic music line-up. With performances from October skies, Innamorata, The Lash, acoustic guitar player Danny Gruff, The Fables and headline act The Magic Soundabout as well as a DJ set from Stu Powers to keep everyone partying into the early hours. For food and drink, the diner will be putting on a selection of hot dogs, burgers and chips to satisfy your appetite. There will inevitably be a few surprises on the night, including the appearance of some mystical and magical performers to set the scene for the evening.

In recent years, tickets have sold out incredibly fast for Extrav, and County is famed for the huge queues that form outside the bar, in some cases before they are even on sale. Extrav organiser and County Vice- President Libby Martin urges everyone to grab a ticket as soon as they can and encourages everyone to "get down early on the night, or you'll miss the magic."

Furness

Doing it like they do on the Discovery Channel

FURNESS COLLEGE ARE hosting an animalistic affair which will unleash your wild side. Rumble in the Jungle will begin with Day-strav; an event taking place during the day with music, an ice cream van and a bottle bar to keep you entertained, chilled and refreshed. In the evening Extravaganza, there will be jungle cocktails on offer to get you in the party spirit along with a Bucking Bronco and a face painter for free.

With live music throughout the evening, it will be difficult to fight the temptation to hit the dance floor. The Fables will kick off the festivities, followed by Soulrigg, a band with "soul pumping through their veins". Beach Break finalist's The Yuppies will then take to the stage followed by Guns 4 Hire who have promised to play a number of top hits as well as Welcome To The Jungle. After which the fun continues with Chris Smith, the Furness College DJ, on the decks followed by DJ Stu Powers who will battle it out with his fellow DJs until the early morning hours.

A hog roast will be situated just outside Furness foyer for all party animals to tear in to. What's more, a large proportion of the budget has been dedicated to turning the Furness patio and foyer into a jungle haven. A combination of army netting, bamboo, vines and dry ice will make you feel as if you are submerged within the jungle wilderness. The theme also provides a host of opportunities for fancy dress options from Tarzan to a parrot.

Furness President, Rob Dickinson, claimed that Furness Extrav would be "a magnificent, mad and messy event". He added: "The combination of music, activities, costumes and extensive decorations make Rumble In The Jungle the place to party".

o party



Fylde

Sure to blow your big top

FYLDE PLANS TO re-live the magic created over half a decade ago with the original Cirque du Soleil Extrav, by hosting the sequel, Cirque du Soleil Part II. Only this year it will be back; bigger and better than ever before.

Fylde common room will be transformed into a silent disco where all you circus acts out there can dance the night away. The main stage will host a variety of musical talents including the winners of Fylde's heat of Battle of the Bands, Tailored to Fit. October Skies will also be performing and are a sure hit to keep the circus vibe in full swing. The night will come to a close with a monster two hour set by a mystery DJ.

Any details concerning the decoration and area is a close kept secret but SCAN has been informed that their elaborate plans include an elephant in the room. So it's fair to say that Fylde's bar and outdoor area will be extravagant to say the least. But until the big night, all you can do is sit and eagerly wait for the Fylde extravaganza but make sure you are prepared to expect the unexpected. The only promise is that entertainment will be of an extreme nature which is sure to amaze, astonish and astound its spectators.

Fylde President, Ste Smith, said: "Students should pick Fylde because we have a good reputation for providing a fantastic night at our Extravs".

Fylde Vice President, James Mitchell, added: "I think that most students last year were of the opinion that Fylde's Extrav was the best so with the experience of last year's Extrav, a few adjustments and careful planning Cirque Du Fylde Part II is set to be the most memorable Extrav of 2011."

Grizedale

It's time to take some fraternity leave

GRIZEDALE'S FRAT PARTY is scheduled for the final Tuesday of Summer Term and is set to be a rip roaring riot celebrating all things American and everything that is great about college life across the pond. The event is set to satisfy all the expectations you may have gleaned from endless American films, from the trashy to classics.

The obligatory red cups will of course be featuring on the night, and although beer pong is not permitted on licensed premises that is sure not to stop eager students from starting the party early and engaging in frat party high jinx in the comfort of their own kitchens, bringing a bit of American spirit to the traditional and highly cultural Lancastrian pass time of flat parties and kitchen pre-drinks.

Much like the County Invades America Extrav of 2009 the night will surely play host to some amazing outfits inspired by the great American culture, from cheerleaders to band geeks, Grizedale's theme leaves the door open for your imaginations to run wild with your outfits, or simply cave in and buy into the preppy fashion trend sweeping Topshop at the minute.

Aside from the inevitable initiation ceremonies in typical sports-manly style to be enjoyed by spectators, there is also an outstanding line up for your viewing pleasure. Parade will be gracing Grizedale's stages with their top 10 hit Louder and the much celebrated track Perfume. Alongside them will be up and coming bands the Portlands and Friends Electric, which promise enjoyable music to suit a variety of tastes throughout the night.

Lonsdale

What happens in Lonsdale...

LONSDALE COLLEGE ARE preparing to transform South-West campus into the Las Vegas strip for this year's extrav, 'Viva Las Lonsdale'. Students are set to be given a night to remember with President Rachel Essex hoping that Lonsdale will pull off the "best show Lancaster has ever seen". From getting fake married in their very own makeshift white chapel to becoming a fight club legend in an inflatable boxing ring, there will be a variety of activities to keep you entertained and the Vegas dream alive throughout the night.

The self proclaimed party college will provide two stages for music acts. The indoor stage will host a variety of DJ's pumping your favourites with the alternative outdoor indie stage ensuring that all music tastes are catered for. The line up for music acts and the details of Vegas style performances are being kept under wraps until a nearer date to ensure this extrav will have plenty of surprises.

Whether it's gamblers, magicians and shotgun brides or dollar bills and poker chips, this theme is sure to give you a never ending list of possible costume ideas to get you ready to recreate a slice of the Las Vegas lifestyle.

They might not be offering gourmet meals from Caesars Palace but Essex ensures "no-one will go hungry in Las Lonsdale" with Sultans and Pancake Man on offer to fuel up the all night partiers. "Excitement, entertainment and glamour" are what Essex believes will be key to Lonsdale maintaining their reputation for a consistently popular and much buzzed about evening. "There is no other extrav which combines the best music, food and attractions, so for this one night, enjoy it all and be who you want to be," said Essex. But remember what happens in Vegas stays in Vegas.

Pendle

Get caught under Pendle's spell

PENDLE EXTRAV HAS a strong reputation for being a sell-out event come June of every year, and this year is set to be no exception. Unlike previous years the 2011 theme offers much more scope for inventive fancy dress, as Black Magic offers a whole host of exciting and inventive possibilities when it comes to planning your outfit. Seeing Pendle ghetto transformed in to an even creepier venue than normal seems only fitting to balance out the pristine glamour of the new bar.

Pendle quad will undoubtedly be glowing with an eery aura throughout the night as witchdoctors and cannibals find themselves hustled together in an all night rave. As usual Pendle's lineup did not disappoint, with one of the longer line ups of all the extravs there is sure to be something to your taste, and hopefully each band will be happy to get into the spirit of the evening and play fitting covers on the night.

It's not possible to be short of ideas when it comes to fancy dress for this extrav. Take any idea for fancy dress that you've ever had and just add the prefix 'evil' to it. So evil-pig, evil-cavemen, evil-house or even evil-Marie Antoinette. There are of course the more traditional macabre ideas traditional associated with Black Magic, from voodoo dolls and alchemists to wicked witches and tribes. Just make sure to not get too carried away when it comes to making the most of Wednesday's most spellbinding soiree in week 10 and end up engaging in drunken sorcery that you might regret come Thursday morning. Just be prepared for vodka enchantments and cider charms being thrown around that may leave you a little light headed and woozy.

Claiming sexy back

Rhian Jones explains why she's not ashamed to be a slut

If you happened to be shopping in Lancaster's city centre on Saturday, May 28 at around 1pm you may have been among those witnessing history in the making. The busy streets were taken over by a crowd of 100 policed protestors shouting "slut, slag, cow, whore: we won't take it any more". This rally was part of the growing trend of Slut Walking that has exploded globally. The comments that sparked this fire were made by Michael Sanguinetti – a police officer in Toronto. He said that "women should avoid dressing like sluts in order not to be victimised". A subsequent global debate against victim blaming has unfolded within the realms of rape and sexual assault.

Further comments by Kenneth Clarke, our very own Justice Secretary sparked a furore suggesting a difference between "serious, proper rapes" and others. Action Aid, an international poverty charity, states that one in three women worldwide will be raped, assaulted, or physically or sexually abused in a lifetime. With statistics like these it is unsurprising that the comments have sparked outrage.

The protestors marching the streets of Lancaster were made up in the majority of females of all ages, accompanied by the odd supportive boyfriend: some of whom were wearing dresses for the occasion. Having been warned by the police about the consequences of indecent exposure, stances were made in the form of placards and signs instead of nudity. The walk began at the top end of the city centre and made its way down the main high street eventually ending up at the Queen Victoria monument in Dalton Square. The march went without heckling from the public who stood bemused as shouting female students led the crowd by a huge banner stating "slut is just a word : sexual assault is a fact".

The rally ended with a luminous and thought provoking speech by Chris Satori who works for the Virtual Lancaster News Blog. She stated women's bodies are not living porn that need to be hidden and smuggled around. Another speaker shone light on Nadine Dorries, the Conservative MP for Mid Bedfordshire. Speaking in the Commons on Wednesday she proposed a bill that would bring about school classes on abstinence, but only for girls aged 13 to 16. "Girls are taught to have safe sex, but not how to say no to a boyfriend who insists on sexual relations", she claimed.

She also said she had sat in on sex education classes in 17 schools and had spoken to teenage girls, many of whom "do not even think they have the option of saying no to boys". Chris Bryant, a Labour MP thankfully spoke up stating the bill was "the daftest piece of legislation" he had seen. He was quoted in the Guardian as saying: "The single

most important thing we can do for any young person is give them the self-confidence to be able to make good decisions for themselves."

The careless nature of the original comments demonstrates that patriarchy is still damaging society and the immediate system of male rule is often the first train of thought. It is important to clarify that the rapists are not the victims. They do not spontaneously become helpless uncontrollable beings at the

'We all need to stand our ground and have our voices heard. Yes means yes, no means no'

sight of a pair of legs. Rape is a physically and emotionally violating crime and needs to be treated as such. If someone robbed a jewellery shop would they be let off lightly because the goods were advertised in the window? If someone stabbed another person would they be let off lightly by saying they were provoked? No. I wonder how many young girls have told a guy before taking him home that they don't want to have sex only to have him try his luck over and over again until they eventually give in. Inviting someone back to your room does not give them an excuse to coerce you into sex after you firmly set the guidelines. Wearing a short skirt does not give someone a reason to be raped. On whatever level we all need to stand our ground and have our voices heard: Yes means yes, no means no.

All women should have the confidence to wear whatever the hell we want and the confidence to speak out when something is so clearly wrong. We are not ashamed of our own bodies and we will not stand for the reinforcement of sexual stereotypes through derogatory language, parliament bills or the media. Men are not wild creatures who cannot be controlled and women are not helpless sluts.

Lancaster's answer to this movement asserted the rights of women and girls and in doing so did the cause proud, the participants were dignified yet strong, making an effective stance for the quiet city. I'm sure I speak on behalf of all the protestors when I say I will continue to represent women as strong, confident and will never be made to feel ashamed of our glorious bodies. I am a slut. What are you going to do about it?



Students and local residents took to the street of Lancaster

Get your two pint glasses at the ready!

Lauren Maughan gives us her guide to surviving Extrav week



Photo by Ben Robins

It's coming up to that hectic time of year again, no not more exams but extrav week. Days of partying are fast approaching and I personally cannot wait to celebrate the end of revision and sadly for me my final few days as a Lancaster University student.

As a final year student I have partied my way through two years of extravas and survived to tell the tale. You may be thinking bring on Freshers' Week round two, how hard can it be? However, there are a few survival tips that you may need to be aware of before you embark on this week of celebratory chaos.

Fancy dress is a major part of the extrav experience. With each college having a different theme you need to dress yourself accordingly; for the reluctant people out there the majority do dress up so you're going to have to head to the charity shop on campus or pop

into town and get in the spirit. Alternatively, why not get creative? Face paint and a spontaneous sewing session often works wonders and with the student budget dying at the end of term a bit of DIY will save on big spending. With themes this year ranging from circus to space and sci-fi there is something that will surely appeal to everyone.

One of the best pieces of advice I can give you is pace yourself. It's very likely you may want to go all out on the first night and consume numerous amounts of your chosen tippie but believe me from past experience if you do this then the chances are you can no longer enjoy yourself for the remainder of the week. Headaches aren't something that you want lingering throughout the week and if the mention of wine gets you heading for the nearest bathroom it's a sure sign you've fallen at the first extrav hurdle.

The best option is to go along and drink less alcohol than you normally would. If you carry on at your maximum levels I can guarantee you will burn out before the week has come to an end. Believe me, past experience

'With themes this year ranging from circus to space and sci-fi there is something that will surely appeal to everyone'

and hindsight can be a wonderful thing.

Also, to avoid overdoing it and gaining

that too much of a good thing feeling, why not have a night off? As boring as this may sound it is one option that will see you through the week. With a potential of five nights out in a row beginning with Grad Ball on Monday, extravas Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and to top it off one final trip to Sugarhouse before the summer break; this is definitely a lot for your body to cope with. So, consider having a break one night along the way. Have some quality time with your flat, a gossip or a movie night. For us about to graduate these are times not to be taken for granted as time at university flies by all too quickly.

Aside from all the advice the most important thing to tell you is to enjoy yourself. Have a fun filled week with your fellow college members; you have completed a year at university and so now is definitely the time to celebrate it.

And now, the end is near



Ski Clubs trips are just one of the fond memories taken away from Lancaster.

Assistant Editor, **Lauren Hirst** takes a trip down memory lane as her university experience comes to an end

The world needs a mix of individuals to make it go round. Firstly, it needs policemen and women to keep the disorderly in check. Secondly, it needs doctors and nurses to keep the population in tip top condition. Finally, it also needs students to keep the Red Bull and vodka companies in business. I will hold my hand up and say that, during my three years at university, they were both my saviour and best friend; Red Bull held my hand during times of an imminent deadline and vodka was always there for celebratory drinks afterwards.

Despite the stresses, strains and a mid-university crisis somewhere in the middle, I am saddened that my university experience has come to an end. It seems a life time ago that I was dropped off by my parents to fend for myself. Overwhelmed by the sheer magnitude of Freshers' Week, as well as the homesickness bug I was duelling with; all I wanted to do was adopt the foetal position and watch re-runs of Friends. But Lancaster very quickly became my home away from home. The University has an incredible support system which kicks in right from your very first day with the introduction to your freshers' reps. Not only did my reps help me with the transition into my new life but they quickly became good friends. This is one of the many reasons why I have fallen in love with the University. It has also given me friends for life who I have created a multitude of memories with, some of them are a little fuzzy around the edges, but all the same great

memories.

I am now filled with a cocktail of contradictory emotions. There is a sense of relief that I've made it to the end and that it's now time to move on to something new whilst at the same time I'm sad to be leaving a place that has had such a big impact on my life.

But has the university experience prepared me for what's ahead? In many ways - yes. I have matured from the Lambrini loving girl I once was to a lady whose palette now enjoys fine wines from Sainsburys' basic collection.

But all jokes aside, I have been challenged both emotionally and academically and I have enjoyed the journey with my fellow students. I was recently asked by a potential future university student whether, if I had the choice, would I do it again. My answer is a whole-hearted yes. In spite of the student debt hang-over that I now have to cope with, I would jump at the chance to do it all over again from the Stiff 'Un induced comas courtesy of the Carleton, to the SCAN late-nighters to make sure that lunchtime deadline was met.

'Red Bull held my hand during times of an imminent deadline and vodka was always there for celebratory drinks afterwards'

What I now love is that fact that the journey is not over, but is only just beginning. University is something that I would recommend to anyone and, more to the point, Lancaster University is place which has nurtured the greats of our time. Well, that's what I plan to tell the world in my inauguration speech anyway.

Town triumph!

Matthew Haslam

WHEN THAT FATEFUL day comes and you learn that your group hasn't got back onto campus for second year your mood can become somewhat pessimistic. The frantic rush into town to see six properties in one day to get the best of the remaining deals was one of the longest of my life. Nevertheless, signing a contract for a five bedroom beauty at the end of that day put us on a path that would change our whole university experience for the better. Coming to the end of a year living in town, there are many things we can reminisce about before the usual return to campus for third year.

Firstly, there are the life lessons to be valued from living in a house. In a world of electric trip switches, guttering maintenance and radiator bleeding keys, there's so much more to accommodation without the security of porters, cleaners or the maintenance guys ready and waiting at the end of the phone.

Dealing with landlords, monitoring bill payments and taking the extra initiative to look after your place all comes as part of the package too. The worst reality check is definitely the dreaded cleaning. As a self-confessed typical lad, I was surprised to discover that there was no magic elf that would come and clean the kitchen and corridors while I slept, as regular trips to the cleaning materials aisle in Sainsbury's and comparing prices forced me to grudgingly grow up sooner than I wanted to.

Although, it's not all doom and gloom. The beauty of living in town is definitely the increased amount of spontaneous nights out. When you are in walking distance to some of Lancaster's best pubs and clubs, there's never an excuse to say no. You can even be lying on the sofa in your pyjamas and watching television before that one phone call to change your mind and you're out the door and at a house party in 20 minutes flat. For those lucky enough to have bagged a City Block or Chancellor's Wharf room, having Revolution and KFC on your doorstep must be living



the dream. Lancaster's diversity of pubs, restaurants and entertainment venues is yours to explore around the clock, and there's no excuse when they're literally a few steps away.

With living in the city comes a larger level of participation, making Lancaster feel even more like your home. You learn the street names while you walk them every day, visit the shops more often than when you're on campus and enjoying the buzz of the town more. Yes, it might only be a small in contrast to the likes of Preston and Manchester but you find yourself becoming more and more connected with the place. The occasional visit to watch the boys at Lancaster City FC play, visits to The Dukes theatre or visiting Lancaster Castle are so much easier when living in town; I know I've really come to appreciate the little gem that is Lancaster.

Obviously there are pros and cons of living in both town and on campus but being forced to get the best of both worlds can be one of the best things that'll happen to you and give you memories you'd never thought were possible. Wheelie bin emptying excluded.



Like a hole in the head?

Rebecca Pocklington looks at what we'll really miss about Lancaster this summer

The time is upon us, to pack up our belongings and venture back home. As final year students shed a tear and bid farewell to Lancaster, the rest of us are lucky enough to be back after three months of freedom. There are some aspects to our student lifestyle that will certainly stick in our minds forever, and other aspects, I'm sure most of us shall try and forget. Whether you are leaving for good or returning come October, you are sure to miss Lancaster, the lifestyle and the people.

The highlight, for me, over the last few years, is definitely the people I have met and the friends I have made for life. The laid-back lifestyle and close living quarters has meant that the friends you meet at university become like a new family. Saying goodbye can be overwhelming, but leaving in the knowledge that you will stay in contact makes it all a bit easier.

It is also going to be hard giving up the student lifestyle. Moving away from home, although daunting to start with, would have been the first opportunity for many students to experience individuality and freedom. For those moving home, it may feel as if you're moving back in time, but let it be in the knowledge that it won't last forever and at least home may mean a cheaper lifestyle too.

Finally, I shall sorely miss the ease and ability to meet anyone on a night out. Lancaster is such a small town that each night of the week, a different club is popular. Seeing familiar faces wherever you go is an advantage that only a few may achieve in a large city, and is what gives

Lancaster such a popular student lifestyle.

There are, however, some aspects to life here at Lancaster, that we shall block out of our minds forever. This includes, the sticky floors, particularly in The Carleton and Sugarhouse. The layer of smashed glass and alcohol in The Carleton, although signalling a good night, may put people off after more than three years. However, it is these nights that we have all come to love.

Then there are the numerous buses we need to use a week getting to and from university. Those living in town must rely on a slow bus service, which can get annoying when travelling in more than twice a day. However, with almost constant buses, their timing is reliable enough for students to travel whenever they desire, but I know I will definitely be appreciating the use of my car when I'm home.

Finally, there is the washing up. We have all experienced that dreaded feeling when you walk into your kitchen to see the previous week's dirty dishes piled high on the kitchen table. Things start to go mouldy and your flat ends up smelling like something is dying in there. I, for one, shall definitely be appreciating the home comforts over summer, my mum's amazing cooking and her magical skills of ensuring my washing is up to date, my room is clean and my tummy is full.

For those leaving this charming city, it will be a sad farewell to three or more years of real enjoyment and great friendship, but for the rest of us, we have it all to do again next year.

Topless models and sawn-off shotguns

Alex Harris reviews the all-grown-up Arctic Monkeys' latest offering



It was the most parroted lazy comparison of the 21st century: The Next Beatles. The Fab Four reincarnated as sarcastic teenagers spitting out witty jibes with unforgiving Northern inflection. The generation gap of the 60s had come again, because whatever it was that was going on in those 13-songs on *Whatever People Say I Am, That's What I'm Not*, your parents were bound to hate it (or embarrassingly pretend they liked it). John, Paul, George and Ringo – step aside. Meet Alex Turner and...the rest of his band.

Of course anyone with more sense than the popular music press (which is most people, in fact) knows that bands are never “reborn” and placing any expectation on the up-and-comers of the 21st century to record another *Pet Sounds* or *Nevermind* is ludicrous and pathetic. Can't we just enjoy the music that comes out today for what it is without needing to cast the shadows of the Rolling Stones' Top 100 Albums of All Time on every up and comer? The truth of the matter is that there won't be another Beatles. The technological revolution of the 1990s (still continuing to this day, in case you hadn't noticed) has made music so completely ubiquitous a product and colossal an industry that the likelihood of the entire western consciousness being once again fixated on a group of lads singing little ditties is highly unlikely. The band history of The Beatles is written in ink describ-

ing grimy clubs in Liverpool and Hamburg. The Arctic Monkeys' history is projected from computer screens describing their grass roots ascension on MySpace and MP3.com. Get used to it, folks.

That said, the fascination with the 1960s still looms large amongst today's musicians and Arctic Monkeys demonstrate on *Suck It And See* that they're no exception to the cliché. Gorgeous melodies, jangling guitars, energetic live studio performances. All of them make exceptionally well-executed appearances on Arctic Monkeys fourth album and create up a rich, organic set of pop rock songs that would be approaching cloying were it not for Alex Turner's metaphor-laden, obscure, just this side of pretentious lyrics. The decision to record songs as live takes with minimal overdubs is a particularly welcome aspect of the album, meaning it sounds more like a collection of performances from accomplished musicians playing their hearts out rather than a series of disembodied take threes piled on top of each other (The Strokes, take note).

Whether or not you like *Suck It And See* depends on to what extent you're expecting Arctic Monkeys to revisit the largely unambiguous, witty songs about drunkenly firing off e-mails to ex-girlfriends and settling for one night stands with fake-tan laden slappers. There is a vocal and angry segment of Mon-

keys fans who were bitterly disappointed by 2009's *Humbug* and are eagerly anticipating a return of the likely lads from Sheffield. Unfortunately for them, those expecting a return to the no-nonsense musical chronicle of working class Britain on their first two albums are going to be left wanting (although the lyric “Do the macarena in the devil's lair” does sound suspiciously like it's describing The Carleton). Fans who expect a progression and maturation from the critically acclaimed, sometimes difficult and obscure *Humbug* are going to find a well-executed arrangement of indie pop perfectly timed for the summer festival season. Those after the raw, undisciplined, maniacal approach of the first two albums are probably going to be left wanting.

Lyrical speaking, *Suck It And See* deals with, for the most part, well-trodden themes of a young man gripped in the throes of love at first sight. Lines like “Topless models doing semaphore wave their flags as she walks by and get ignored” and “your kiss, it could put creases in the rain” are indicative of the kind of style adopted on the record's many odes to a (presumably) young woman. Sure, Turner isn't the first songwriter to say his girl is the greatest, but lyrical idiosyncrasies like “That's not a skirt girl, that's a sawn-off shotgun / And I can only hope you've got it aimed at me” stop the otherwise trite and banal senti-

ment from becoming cringe-worthy chintz. If you are someone who can understand why a songwriter who only five years ago sang “What do you know? You don't know nothing / Yeah, but I'd still take you home” is now crooning with self-conscious affection over his *One True Love* then pick up a copy of *Suck It And See*. If you still wish Turner, a platinum-selling rock star who is more than likely a millionaire, would write a song insisting that he's still Jenny From The Bloc, then there are plenty of other cash cows out there to tickle your fancy.

Is *Suck It And See* a classic, then? Well, no – it isn't. But it is a highly polished, well-executed display of original, yet familiar feeling songs by a band increasingly eager to demonstrate their credibility and maturity. Where their first two albums established Turner as a lyricist and *Humbug* as a brooding arranger of complex psychedelic indie, *Suck It And See* showcases a keen grasp of melody and standard pop form, the highlight of which being the title track itself, which features a gorgeous melody with an intriguing lyric and a warm, richly harmonised chorus. Whereas most bands like to demonstrate their “progression” by simply throwing a synth and drum machine into the mix, Arctic Monkeys have disarmingly gone back to basics and produced what is possibly the best pop album of this year so far.

Going native

Fashion columnist and tent enthusiast **Hugh Metcalf** pitches the perfect trend for festival season by going tribal

WHETHER SLUMMING IT in the polyester ghettos of Glastonbury or living it up at fashionable new glamp-sites; the humble tent has become an integral part of the British summer so there is no better time to harness the trend that'll make you feel right at home in a tepee. Spring/summer 2011 has had a crush on prints in a major way. Florals were worked hard in the spring, but the summer's transition to tribal prints allows for a more ethnic vibe that's perfect for the festival season.

As a patterned print tribal has become less abstract and more focused on traditional Navajo and Aztec designs. The difference between the two is primarily their base shapes; triangular structures for Navajo, while Aztec favours blocky square patterns. Most designers favour horizontal arrangements under the influence of the season's love of nautical stripes, but some designs more than others lend themselves to a multi-directional pull. As always,



Headress £140
Bitching & Junkfood

don't feel confined to only one printed piece per outfit, pattern clashing has been the mark of 2011 so far.

Colour-wise there is room for experimentation. Depending on the look you want, you have two palettes at your disposal. For a more vibrant, polished ensemble, pop your jewel colours. These deep and intense tones will better suit those with a dark barnet or complexion, especially for those of you who hit the bottle (of fake tan) hard. The other option is to utilise more earthy tones like off-whites, faded browns and reds, vermillion and mustards; inversely these work better with fair complexions

With accessories it's important to keep your materials authentic. Beads, jewels, feathers and gold may all have had a home on the natives, but you need to consider more carefully which of these cater to your outfit. Burnished gold sits well amongst the rubies and amethysts of your jewel palette, but a natural feather will be lost next to such deep colours. Experiment and you'll find just the right accompaniments to your tribal getup.

Another accessory and design detail to look out for in the future is the fringe. On boots, bags, dresses and as jewellery, the fringe will soften a shape, giving it the relaxed, bohemian feel the festival circuit calls for.

How to wear:

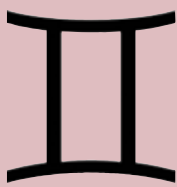
- **Go Native:** pick geometrical tribal prints in authentic designs
- **Gleam:** go for an intense jewel palette
- **Be Natural:** choose earthy ethnic tones
- **Plunder:** hunt through your jewellery box for gold, bright jewels, feathers and beads, but be careful not to over accessorise with all this choice.



HOW PREPARED ARE YOU? DON'T GET STRESSED OVER THE E-WORD!



MYSTIC MACLEOD



GEMINI
MAY 22 - JUNE 20

After a hellish week of exams, you now have a spring in your step, a spring

roll in your mouth and a sprig of heather in your hair to attract men and old ladies to bask in your glowing successful radiance. Avoid cheese.

CANCER JUNE 21 - JULY 22

Something good will occur in your life in the immediate or slightly further away future. It will involve an event, people, yourself of course and Big Bird 'off of' Sesame Street. Those are all the details I can provide. Embrace the good time while they last Cancer.

LEO JULY 23 - AUG 22

A yearlong vendetta between you and alcohol will come to a bloody apex at the end of this term, with a three day duel being battled out at each extrav. Remember young Leo, he who consumes looks cool, he who chunders looks the fool.

VIRGO AUG 23 - SEPT 22

Gossip is in the air as Venus whispers secretly at Uranus. Exams have made everyone more easily impressed. Did you hear that story about the invigilator who gave a student who had forgotten their calculator an iPhone? It's Claire's story! Find her at the mystical LUSU Information Desk and she will find the solution to your curiosity.

LIBRA SEPT 23 - OCT 22

In a jovial revision break with your fellow study comrades, you'll endeavour to catch Maltesers in your mouth, thrown from the other side of your room. Jupiter has warned you once: it's all fun and games until someone loses an eye. Or gets a Malteser stuck in one. Read into that what you will.

SCORPIO OCT 23 - NOV 21

I didn't have time to predict your future, Scorpio, but my mate, Divine Deana down at the MET office sent me this: sunny skies, clouded eyes, a mystery man in disguise. Starry

nights, bright lights, raining men, foggerty dogging heading eastwards with a slight breeze.

SAGITTARIUS NOV 22 - DEC 21

You've had your head in the revision clouds and are unaware that disease has broke loose and E-coli is spreading like the mouldy margarine in your fridge. Stay away from cucumbers, saggy, or it's predicted you'll be too sick to party, and not in the hip cool way.

CAPRICORN DEC 22 - JAN 20

Love is in the air but you'll be moving on and up on your own into a new life with a special someone, completely independently as a couple. You'll really find yourself again and enjoy the time alone spent in loving company. Embrace your new found freedom with your old ball and chain.

AQUARIUS JAN 21 - FEB 17

It's predicted that this year's extrav ticket-selling process will be just as much of a fiasco as last year's, leaving servers crashed beyond repair. Use the money you could have spent on tickets on a bottle of chloroform to gain you access! You're only young once Aquarius.

PISCES FEB 18 - MAR 20

The water bottle you've been re-using for the last six exams has gone rancid and foul-smelling. Nervous hormones from your saliva have rotted the plastic at double the rate and will leave a bad taste in the mouth for your final finals.

ARIES MAR 21 - APR 19

Exams have kept you locked away from TV; it's predicted you're excited for catching up on the new series of Doctor Who! I won't spoil it for you Aries, but River Song is actually Amy and Rory's daughter. Her real name's Melody Pong, geddit? I also predict anger.

TAURUS APR 20 - MAY 21

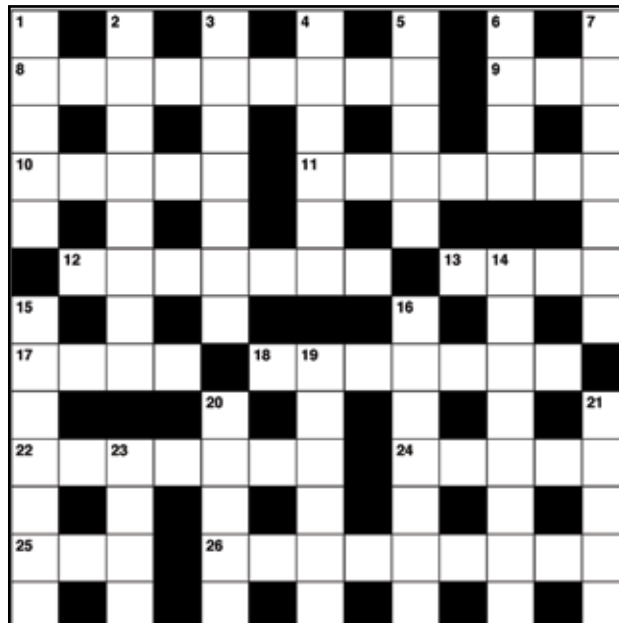
It's predicted that Furness Extrav will be the place to be Tuesday Week 10! It's predicted the tux of wild jungle monkeying around in the foyer will mean it will have to be rebuilt! I ain't lion, that's how bananas it will be.

THE QUIZ - Film taglines

1. "In space, no one caan hear you scream."
2. "Thank God it's only a motion picture!"
3. "Makes Ben Hur look like an epic."
4. "Whoever wins... we lose."
5. "She walked off the street, into his life and stole his heart."

Answers below

The Crossword



Across

- 8 - Makes known (9)
- 9 - Flightless bird (3)
- 10 - Reason out (5)
- 11 - Frozen water spears (7)
- 12 - Substitute (5-2)
- 13 - Request (4)
- 17 - Form of percipitation (4)
- 18 - Improved in appearance (7)
- 22 - Solace (7)
- 24 - Acquires (5)
- 25 - State of matter (3)
- 26 - Disgusting (9)

Down

- 1 - Fourth month (5)
- 2 - Small pieces of coloured paper (8)
- 3 - Blatant; obvious (7)
- 4 - Minimal bathing suit (6)
- 5 - Up and about (5)
- 6 - Head covering (4)
- 7 - Remain alive (7)
- 14 - Explicit (8)
- 15 - The Windy City (7)
- 16 - Easily broken (7)
- 19 - Incentive (6)
- 20 - Accumulate (5)
- 21 - Custom (5)
- 23 - Source of inspiration (4)

The Su Doku

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

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

Answers 1) Alien 2) Airplane! 3) Monty Python and the Holy Grail 4) Alien vs. Predator 5) Pretty Woman

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