

## Lancaster to open new campus in China

Emma Nelson

Lancaster University is set to collaborate with Guangdong University of Foreign Studies (GDUFS) on an exciting new project which will see the opening of a new university campus in southern China.

Lancaster will be the first university in the world to have campuses based in both India and China, after the launch of the GD Goenka World Institute of Higher Education (GDGWI) in New Delhi in 2009. Pro Vice Chancellor (International), Steve Bradley thinks that this shows how Lancaster has been "very proactive and creative," and that for a smaller university this can be seen as "quite an achievement."

Bradley told SCAN that Lancaster and GDUFS are working together to decide between two possible sites for the campus. They will then work with an investor who, Bradley said, will provide the funding required for the initial start-up costs and running of the campus.

Bradley went on to explain that with their "massively growing economy and demand for higher education," officials for the Chinese Education Industry suggest that China may not be able to meet the demand for higher education internally. They therefore aim to offer "scholarships [to students] to study abroad" and "encourage good universities in the world to join and create capacity that way."

Dennis Esch, International Students' Officer at Lancaster University, pointed out that

following the recent changes to the immigration system "it will be harder for Lancaster University to recruit overseas students."

"The number of new students that are let into the country under the Points Based System every year will be cut down from 250,000 to 175,000," he said, and subsequently "Guangwai-Lancaster University would not just offer the opportunity to balance out the possible drop in enrolment but enable more Chinese students to study a Lancaster University degree."

Besides the benefits for Lancaster University and its students, Esch told SCAN that he is concerned about "the academic freedom in such a regulatory environment" and the "direct influence that the Chinese government would have on the degree schemes by setting compulsory subjects in the foundation year."

Bradley explained that "although there are compulsory subjects that the Chinese authorities insist on, these will not be a part of the degree that we award."

There will be three major phases that the university will undergo in order to "create a comprehensive university" regarding its degree schemes.

Initially, many of the programmes will be predominantly business-related, including accounting and finance, international business, business administration, economics and marketing. Further subjects in this primary phase will also include English and Linguistics, Computer Science and IT.

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**SIXTY  
SECOND  
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Front cover images courtesy of Lancaster University Press Office and Guangdong University of Foreign Studies Press Office.

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LUSU

# NEWS

## Students champion sustainability

Heidi Nagaitis

Four Lancaster University students have reached the final of npower's 'Future Leaders Challenge', promoting their mission to champion sustainability and environmentally friendly living.

Andy Ellison (MA Environmental Management), Peter Halliwell (3rd year Environmental Science), Sophie Smith (3rd year Sociology) and Charlotte Wilkins (3rd year Environmental Science and Maths) are the creators of Snowballing Lancaster, a campaign which impressed one of the country's leading energy companies in their national competition, and sent the group straight into the final as one of the top nine teams from across England and Scotland.

In order to reach the final stage of the contest, the team submitted a three-minute video explaining their plans for the Snowballing Lancaster campaign and how they hope to inspire the Lancaster University community to embrace a greener lifestyle – the key aim of the contest.

The prize for the winning team is a week-long trip to the Arctic, where the group will be able to go dog-sledding, experience first-hand the importance of sustainability and learn how environmental changes, such as global warming, have directly affected the people of Antarctica.

During the second week of Michaelmas term, the four members of the team attended an intense team building weekend in Dartmoor, which, according to group leader Peter Halliwell, was extremely motivational.

"The team building weekend has really inspired us to

get stuck into our projects so that we can engage as many people as possible within our community" he said.

In regards to the name, the team felt that Snowballing Lancaster really summed up an important element of the move towards a greener future. Team member Sophie Smith told SCAN that "if every member of the University community makes small changes to their daily routine, these actions can snowball into movement that can have a really positive impact on the environment."

During Week Seven the team will host a number of inspiring events that will aim to prove to students that "green living" is easy and rewarding.

Events kick off on Monday 21st November with the launch of some exciting competitions and a sign-up stand with free pizza in Alex Square, followed by activities which include a vegetarian meal day, a talk by Mike Berners-Lee, author of "How Bad Are Bananas?" and a recycling funfair where numerous prizes will be up for grabs.

Team Member Charlotte Wilkins commented: "the campaign is hard work, but we are extremely excited about our project and the activities we've organised for Week Seven are fun and engaging – so come and get involved!"

Peter Halliwell went on to say that the team aims "to highlight small changes people can make to their lifestyles which, when made by many, have a positive impact on the environment."

To get involved and lend your support to Snowballing Lancaster's campaign visit: [www.snowballinglancaster.co.uk](http://www.snowballinglancaster.co.uk)



The four students behind Snowballing Lancaster. Photo provided by Sophie Smith

## Lancaster to open China campus by 2014

Emma Nelson

Continued from page 1

In the following phase, degree schemes in the field of environmental science, bioscience and mechanical engineering will be added in the second year.

The third phase will then be to introduce courses in humanities and social sciences, as well as masters programmes, helping to give the university a wider range of degree schemes for its prospective students.

The curriculum of the campus in China will align itself with that of Lancaster University, which Bradley feels will help the new university to stand out as it will be more orientated to Western teaching methods.

Bradley particularly emphasised the hope to introduce a more "interactive mode of teaching," which he believes will be appealing to students in China.

This adherence with the Lancaster curriculum

will also allow Guangwai-Lancaster University students to study for part of their degree at the campus in Lancaster. Some second year students will also have the opportunity to transfer to Lancaster University for their final two years of study, which Esch feels "is a great way for them to enhance their university experience and employability."

There will also be "far more opportunity to study abroad" for Lancaster students according to Bradley, and these links between China and Lancaster will serve to "raise the profile of Lancaster and that of graduates in the mind of employers."

Esch suggested that this would also add "a different cultural perspective to their studies," which is important as "UK students are currently among the least mobile student groups in the developed world in terms of percentage of students that go abroad to study in the course of their degree."

Bradley also highlighted the "opportunity for staff research in an increasingly important part of the world" as a major benefit of the project, particularly considering that China now has the world's second leading economy, which Esch believes will "be of major importance in the years to come."

"In terms of research, having more researchers will increase research output which is important in the current UK funding climate in which funding councils might shift to distributing their funds among even less universities" said Esch.

The memorandum of understanding was signed by Professor Zhong Weihe, President of Guangdong University of Foreign Studies and Professor Paul Wellings, Vice-Chancellor of Lancaster University on 26 October 2011, and the university is set to open between 2013 and 2014 credit its teaching provision.

# Sugarhouse thefts “an exception to the rule”



The area around the Sports Centre can feel unsafe to students at night. Photo by Meher Gupta

## Holly Sutton

There have been a number of reported thefts which have occurred at Lancaster's Student' Union club, the Sugarhouse.

Recently the Venue Manager for the Sugarhouse, Louise Davies, released a press statement saying that a number of people had been reported to have had their mobile phones stolen, in what appeared to be “a series of organised thefts.”

Members of the Sugarhouse team are trying to get across to students that no matter how safe they feel in a venue, they should always look after their property and report any suspicious behaviour that they might see.

With regard to the incident, Davies said that “the Sugarhouse, as well as aiming to provide students with the best night out, takes students' safety and security very seriously.”

On the night the incidents

took place, the Sugarhouse team “swiftly informed the police,” who arrived at the scene immediately.

**“The Sugarhouse takes students' safety and security very seriously”**

She also said that her team will continue to “work alongside the local authorities” to ensure that the Sugarhouse is always “as safe as possible.”

Lancaster University Students' Union (LUSU) President George Gardiner also commented on the recent incidents, saying “Sugarhouse continues to be one of the best and safest

nights out in Lancaster and we would like to think an occurrence such as this is [an] exception to the rule.”

LUSU are also working hard to try and ensure that an incident like this does not happen again.

Gardiner also said that “LUSU would continue to underline the importance of being vigilant and ensuring the security of personal possessions at all times, wherever students find themselves.”

According to a survey in a national newspaper, which took place in July of this year, Lancaster was ranked first place out of 21 universities for being the safest city to live in.

It also came top for being the safest campus in the 2007 International Student Barometer survey. Lancaster University received the highest satisfaction rating out of every institution which took part in the survey, with a

figure of 95%.

LUSU Vice President (Activities), Marc Handley said that “I'm a massive believer that actually, this campus and the Sugarhouse [are among] the safest places for students to be, as everything is geared towards people's safety and not just trying to ‘make them behave.’”

**Lancaster ranked 1st out of 21 universities for safety**

The Sugarhouse team, LUSU and all other representatives at Lancaster University put the safety and enjoyment of its students first, stressing that if anyone sees any suspicious behaviour they should report it immediately.

# Campus scores highly for safety

Jonnie Critchley  
Assistant Editor

In a small survey carried out by SCAN, students gave Lancaster University an overwhelming high rating in terms of safety. 46 percent of the 48 respondents rated the Bailrigg campus at 10 out of 10 for how safe they felt. 94 percent of students responded with at least eight out of 10.

Asked how safe they felt on nights out in Lancaster city centre, only 10 percent of respondents gave a 10 out of 10 rating. However, 79 percent gave a rating of at least seven out of 10.

Given the small amount of respondents, it is difficult to know how representative these figures are. However, the data would seem to support Lancaster's reputation for safety.

The University's Community Beat Manager PC Gary Wynne confirmed that Lancaster and the University are a “low crime area,” which accounts for the positive response from students.

Further comments from respondents were illuminating. A fifth of students highlighted the area around the new Sports Centre, including the football and rugby pitches, the trim trail and the pathways leading down from Bowland College, as needing safety improvements.

“[The] walk from [the] Sports Centre back to campus [feels unsafe] – especially the path through the woods. There is no proper lighting and I wouldn't walk it at night,” said one student.

Another student commented that “you wouldn't be able to see easily if someone was following you.”

Other areas which drew comment from students included South West Campus and the area outside the Library.

# Awareness of personal safety is the key message from local police

**Jonnie Critchley**  
Assistant Editor

Speaking to SCAN, Lancaster University's Community Beat Manager PC Gary Wynne was unsurprised that survey figures showed such a high confidence in the safety of Lancaster and the University.

"The Lancaster area and especially campus itself are low crime areas so it is not surprising that many people feel town and campus are safe. I believe that the students at Lancaster are particularly lucky as the combination of having on-site security and a dedicated policing team works well to keep crime low," he said.

Wynne went on to stress the importance of remaining vigilant, and particularly looking after personal belongings.

"The vast majority of [thefts] are opportunistic thefts that are preventable. A consequence of everybody feeling safe on campus is that they become very trusting of the campus community.

"As a result both staff and students leave their property unattended and a few people are unfortunate enough to return to find their property missing," said Wynne.

Posters in academic areas such as the Library warn students that thefts have been reported from

such places and that valuables should not be left unattended.

PC Wynne's message to students included the advice that doors and windows should not be left unlocked for any period of time, washing should not be left unattended in laundrettes and students should look out for each other's property in public spaces.

Aiming to further increase awareness, a personal safety campaign is being run by County College JCR Executive. Equality and Diversity Officer Liz Ashworth told SCAN that "we're going to be handing out maps of County and

asking people to fill in where they think the poorly lit areas are, so that we can put the evidence forward to 'those it will concern' and request better lighting around the campus."

"This will obviously make things easier and safer," said Ashworth.

County's campaign will also make rape alarms available to students, "all to promote people looking after themselves in the darker winter months."

Another future campaign will see LUSU's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning (LGBTQ) Association ask local venues to sign a "no tolerance" pledge against hate crime.

LUSU Vice President

(Equality, Welfare and Diversity) Matt Saint elaborated that "the [City] council want to train the majority of the door staff working at venues in Lancaster in how to recognise and deal with hate crime appropriately.

"FGH, the door staff company who provide staff for the Sugarhouse, already have extensive training in this so the council are hoping to look at them for how they apply this training."

Saint added that "This is incredibly important to make Lancaster an even safer and more friendly place that it already is so that everyone can feel safe and accepted here."

## THINKING ABOUT LIVING IN LANCASTER? ...THINK OF US!

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Monday 21 November

**Furness & Grizedale - George Fox LT1 - 6pm**

Tuesday 22 November

**Lonsdale - George Fox LT1 - 6pm**

Wednesday 23 November

**Bowland & Fylde - George Fox LT1 - 6pm**

Thursday 24 November

**Cartmel - George Fox LT1 - 6pm**

Monday 28 November

**Pendle - George Fox LT1 - 6pm**

Tuesday 29 November

# Paul Wellings: goodbye interview

**Jonnie Critchley**  
Assistant Editor

In ten years since Professor Paul Wellings was appointed Vice Chancellor of Lancaster, the University has established itself as one of the UK's top ten universities as well as breaking into the world's top 125. Lancaster has also gained a hugely enhanced international reputation for teaching and research.

Asked if he sees these league table results as definitive of his tenure, Wellings was keen to look beyond raw figures. "My personal view is that rankings are a sort of by-product of things that the University does, and I don't think we should spend our time just looking at rankings," he said.

The Vice Chancellor sees the figures as reflecting the University's "overall intent to focus on a number of specific things." These priorities, set out in the University's Strategic Plan, include a focus on A-level entry for undergraduates, employability, research standards and internationalisation.

Lancaster has a number of important links with foreign universities in India, Malaysia and Pakistan among others. Furthermore, plans to open a new Lancaster campus in southern China have recently been announced.

Asked specifically about the importance of the development of Lancaster's international portfolio, Wellings explained that "roughly, world student numbers will double in the next 20 years, and when that happens the bulk of young people who want to go to university will be in the eastern hemisphere and Lancaster will still be in the western hemisphere."

Consequently, he argued, the best opportunities

for "big growth of student numbers" will come through engagement in places such as India and China.

Wellings also stressed the importance of "mobility programmes" to allow UK students to benefit from these links, something which has been worked on in the last few years.

Another aspect of Lancaster's international links is the financial sustainability which they bring the University. Placing this in the context of downgraded growth expectations for the UK economy, announced on the morning of the interview, Wellings explained that "you can guarantee that the growth rate here [at Lancaster] should be ahead of the national economy for the next ten years, and it'll be driven off the opportunity to be diversified and have income streams linked in to lots of economies which are growing a hell of a lot faster than we're growing."

UK-based students have at times expressed concern that the University's international focus is detrimental to the domestic experience. Acknowledging this possibility, the Vice Chancellor noted that there are actually more students overseas studying for a Lancaster degree than there are here.

He said "the debate then is about how do we construct Bailrigg the campus and make sure that British students aren't marginalised in the process of being international. I'm hoping there that the way that we've constructed things like the colleges, departmental classes and course provision leaves enough voice for the UK-based students to be part of the process."

Looking ahead to a time when there is a "whole

other [Lancaster] university somewhere other than Bailrigg," Wellings was keen to stress that "it shouldn't change the culture and style and environment for students at Bailrigg" other than in that "the intellectual environment" should be enhanced.

Moving on to the redevelopment of the Bailrigg campus which has been hugely visible in the last few years, Wellings identified the provision of new accommodation following a deal struck in 2003 as a major success. This was "at the time relatively controversial," he said, "but of course it appears to have worked dramatically because we've now got 7000 state-of-the-art bedrooms on campus, and most of the feedback from students is 'actually this is one of the best campuses for residential experience in the country.'"

Wellings also praised the more recent refurbishment and building projects and they way in which they have been handled. "I think [Director of Facilities] Mark Swindlehurst and [Chief Operating Officer] Andrew Neal and people like that have done a terrific job in keeping most of the campus running most of the time while we've gone through quite a painful transition and refurbishment," he said.

The Vice Chancellor's time here has not been without controversy. Wellings and the University have drawn criticism lately for their relationship with students, particularly over the tuition fees debate. In 2009, LUSU President Michael Payne spoke strongly at University Court against the University's lack of communication with students, and in 2010 Professor Wellings wrote an article in the Guardian calling for a "constructive debate"



**Professor Paul Wellings.** Photo provided by Lancaster University Press

rather than protests about tuition fees. That article was construed by some as Wellings opposing students on the issue.

Wellings was quick to point out the channels of communication between the University and students. "We've got student representatives in every department, we've got several sabbatical officers in the Students' Union, we've got eight Junior Common Rooms and a PGSA, and all sorts of models of student representation. We have students on every major formal committee of the university including the governing body," he said.

He also emphasised the role of Pro Vice Chancellor (Colleges and Student

Experience) Amanda Chetwynd in "thinking deeply around where undergraduate provision should go," and the fact that the Learning Zone was a project born out of student feedback.

In 2004/5, the University pressed charges which led to the prosecution for trespass of six students who had protested at a business conference in the George Fox Building on campus, a decision which led to widespread criticism of Wellings and Senior Management.

Wellings does not feel that the 'George Fox Six' issue still hangs over him, and defended his decision. "It was at the time immensely complex



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and I suspect for the six individuals involved not a happy period at all, but I do think actually it was the right decision to be made at the time, just because of the complexities of the case and the situation."

He added that, "I think maybe people might be more guarded about me [as a result], but I suspect for most people it's water under the bridge and while it's part of the history of the University I don't think it's part of the operational life of the University."

Most recently, Lancaster has been involved in collaboration talks with Liverpool University.

Wellings explained that a paper outlining possible models of federation, as well as benefits and risk assessments for Lancaster, is the next stage of these discussions.

On the importance of collaboration, he argued that in fact "the biggest risk I think actually would be doing nothing," and that Lancaster must consider this in order to maintain its success of the last 15 years.

He also emphasised that Vice Chancellor-Designate Mark Smith had been "deeply involved" in discussions so far, so as to ease the transition between Vice Chancellors which takes place in January.

Asked for his final thoughts

on leaving Lancaster, Wellings was excited about the opportunities ahead of him in Australia, but said that his departure is "tinged with regret in the sense that we've got some fantastic friends here and lots of colleagues and a really supportive institution.

"I think one of the defining features of Lancaster as a university is its collegiality, the fact that people support each other. I hope that's not diminished in the last 10 years because one of the things that I see consistently is people looking out for each other in a way which is quite special and that you don't see in really big civic universities. So I think I'll miss that," he concluded.

## Wellings and LUSU through the years

SCAN asked a series of past LUSU presidents for their experiences of working with Professor Wellings.

Current LUSU President, George Gardiner, commented that "Lancaster University is a much better place than it was ten years ago and Paul has contributed to that greatly."

He added "although I may not agree with everything he has done in his time here, I think his overall contribution has been a positive one".

2010/11 President Robbie Pickles focused on Lancaster's recently enhanced reputation. "Since Paul joined us, Lancaster's campus has been substantially rebuilt, it consistently ranks in the top 10 nationally and we have an increasing number of outstanding campuses worldwide," he said.

Pickles added that "it is true that myself and Paul did not always see eye to eye on every issue but his leadership and initiative should never be doubted."

Two-term President Michael Payne, who led LUSU from 2008 to 2010, acknowledged Wellings's role in Lancaster's recent success. However, Payne argued that "transformative leaders of education should strike a balance between vision, direction and credibility on the one hand and humility, compassion and principle on the other; a balance often lacking throughout Professor Wellings' term of office."

Payne used the George Fox Six "fiasco" as evidence of "an administration governed by a command and control culture," expressing hope for a "positive change to the working environment" at Lancaster.

2007/8 President Tim Roca was positive about

his own relationship with Wellings, adding that "whether you agree or disagree with him he has been scarily effective at pushing his agenda for changing the institutions."

LUSU President 2006/7 Sooz Palmer said that Professor Wellings "continually challenged my ideas and arguments - he made what I believed in more real and as much as we didn't agree, he has shaped my future and that of the Union and I will always be grateful."

**"He has been scarily effective"**

Dwayne Branch was LUSU President in 2005 when the University pressed charges for trespass against six students protesting at a business conference in the George Fox building. "It's unfortunate today that the university can only pay lip service to student activism," he told the Times Higher Education supplement at the time.

2004/5 President Matt Freeman highlighted Wellings's legacy of initiating large-scale renovations of Lancaster's campus, and also praised the Vice Chancellor for "always [making] time to see me, always [making] an effort to speak with me and [always being] involved in the Union's interests."

Warren Nettleford, LUSU President 2003/4, said that "perhaps he didn't develop a reputation for being the best buddy of the Union, and perhaps he appeared aloof but it would be difficult to say that he was out of touch with what students thought. Whether he listened often enough to those views though is another matter."

# NUS challenges PPL's attempt to raise tariffs

Grace Fitzpatrick

A proposed rise in the fee students' unions would have to pay to Phonographic Performance Limited (PPL) has been recently abandoned following pressure from the National Union of Students (NUS), Lancaster University Students' Union (LUSU) and other groups.

The intended rise was to increase up to 2500% on their Specially Featured Entertainment Licensing fee (SFE).

This fee is integral to the workings of the Students' Union, allowing the playing of music by DJs in college bars and also in Sugarhouse.

Lobbying from many outraged groups, includ-

ing LUSU and the NUS, has forced the proposal to be dropped in talks until 2013; similar, if not more catastrophic proposals however, could come in the future. In a statement, the NUS have declared the proposal to be "an astronomical, illogical and unjustified percentage increase."

**"The intended rise was up to 2500%"**

Currently an average students' union will pay

around £4000 in fees to PPL, but they wish to change this to an average of a staggering £70,000.

LUSU Vice President (Events and Democracy) Oly Trumble released a statement highlighting the large impact this would have on Lancaster.

This stated clearly that "it would be financially unviable to keep the Sugarhouse open if such a fee increase were to occur."

The NUS reinforces the point that a campus, such as Lancaster, which is miles from town, has a responsibility to its students to create a "safe social space", such as the students union, and the fee

increase could threaten this.

Third year Lonsdale student Jenni Nowell commented that "it is just not feasible with the cuts in higher education to raise the fee by such a ridiculous margin and it would be a shame if students were to miss out on listening to the music they want."

LUSU and other students' unions have recently acquired a charity status and should, therefore, be exempt from such fees, but PPL chose to include them in this planned rise which has caused understandable disagreement between the parties.

The NUS, it is felt, are an organisation dedicated to the welfare

and life of its students, and the students' unions which form it are in place to enable and facilitate the social and academic lives of their students.

LUSU considers PPL's actions to be "an aggressive monopolisation of [their] position as the main licensing body in the UK."

With the current economic climate and cuts in higher education, a rise in such an important fee would be devastating, not only to LUSU, but to a large number of other students' unions

LUSU feels it is important that "aggressive monopolies of this market do not destroy the operation of our limited services and ultimately the Students' Union."

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45	05		29	29	
05	25		49	49	
25	until		09	09	
until	1425		until	until	
1425	1445		1509	1509	
1445	1510		1529	1534	
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## LUSU Living to renovate old YMCA building

Erin O'Reilly  
News Editor

LUSU Living have unveiled their plans for a new housing development in town, which will provide accommodation for 35 students.

They have been collaborating with local developer Nick Hall, of Fred Hall & Son, on the project, which will see the old YMCA building located in the centre of town on China Street renovated into three, four, and five-bedroomed flats.

At the beginning of this academic year, some 200 new students were placed in off-campus accommodation due to oversubscription of the University for the second year in a row.

Matthew Ward, manager of LUSU Living, recognises the growing demand for more student accommodation in Lancaster and sees the new complex as a way to expand the properties available.

"From LUSU's point of view, we've got houses, we've got some flats, but we want a bit more diversity in our portfolio, and to have something like this in such a great location with additional facilities really adds to what we are already providing," he said.

Nick Hall told SCAN that the project is currently awaiting planning permission; if all goes well, the renovation should begin at the end of this month with an aim of being completed by September 2012.

The building itself was one of the first purpose-built YMCAs in the country, and for the past ten years it has stood completely empty.

Hall will be working with a team of 25 builders, turning the four floor complex into nine purpose-built flats, each with two

toilets and showers along with a kitchen area and living space.

Hall described the renovation as his "biggest personal project at the moment," and wants to maintain the original vibe of the YMCA, turning the complex into a "community" where tenants will walk away thinking "what a great place to live."

Along with the flats, LUSU Living will also have a new office located on the ground floor of the building.

Ward said that this will "give LUSU Living a presence in town as well [...] providing great access to our service for tenants and prospective tenants, landlords and contractors."

**"We want a bit more diversity and something like this in such a great location"**

The building will be environmentally friendly, with UV panels on the roof in order to generate electricity, plenty of internal insulation, and a recycling centre for tenants.

Ward commented that "the idea is that this will be a high quality development building on the outstanding nature of the original building, whilst providing LUSU members with access to top quality accommodation at an affordable rent within the city centre."

Ward estimates that the rent "will be in the region of £86 per week [...] on a standard LUSU Lets lease of 45 weeks."



The YMCA building will need extensive renovation. Photo by Meher Gupta

## Cancer Care to dash round Lancaster

Heidi Nagaitis

Cancer Care's third annual Santa Dash and Reindeer Run will be taking place on December 4th this year, raising much needed awareness and funds for over 1,500 members of the local community who are affected by the illness.

The charity is hoping that this year's event will be as successful as last year, which saw nearly 200 Santas and reindeer raise over £6,000. This year, Cancer Care are looking to the Lancaster University student body to spread some festive cheer and sign-up for the run.

Jade Flynn, Care Coordinator at Cancer Care said "this event is very much aimed at young people, with many from the local community already starting to sign up. Cancer affects people of all ages, so it's important that young people recognise that events like this raise money for teens just like them."

The dash is a flat route

around the riverside path from Salt Ayre to the City Centre, approximately 1.5 miles long and suitable for all ages.

Jen Horsburgh, a member of the team at Cancer Care, told SCAN that "in the past we have seen Santas having three legged races, and one Santa on a mobility scooter being towed by a couple of trusty reindeer; at this event, anything really does go!"

As a charity, Cancer Care provides free care to those who are living with cancer, whether it is as a sufferer, a carer or a family member. Demand for these services increases year on year, and the annual Santa Dash and Reindeer Run ensures the charity can continue to provide for people in need.

The charity covers the North Lancashire and South Lakeland regions and is committed to providing support and services totally free of charge. Without the generosity of donors and events like the annual Santa Dash, it simply wouldn't

be possible to deliver these services, which cost over £1 million per year.

Luckily, support for the event is strong, with many local businesses getting involved in the cause. Supporters of the event include Bay Radio, Market Gate Shopping Centre, St Nicholas Arcade, Lancaster Chamber of Commerce and Lancaster Runners Centre, highlighting the importance of the charity to the local community.

Bay Radio's Danny Matthews, presenter of "The Bay Breakfast is encouraging people to "come and grab a red suit and join hundreds of Santas who'll be running, walking and jingling their way around our city centre; help someone have a brighter New Year by supporting Cancer Care."

For more information, or to register for the Santa Dash and Reindeer Run, visit: [www.thesantadash.org.uk](http://www.thesantadash.org.uk). Alternatively you can contact Cancer Care on: 01524 381820 or pick up a registration form from the Runners Centre in Lancaster.

# TIME TO VOTE

**FROM 9AM TUESDAY WEEK 8  
YOU CAN VOTE ONLINE FOR  
THE OFFICER ELECTIONS**

**CHECK YOUR LANCASTER EMAIL ON  
TUESDAY FOR YOUR UNIQUE VOTER  
CODE AND MORE INSTRUCTIONS**



[officer.lusu.co.uk](http://officer.lusu.co.uk)

LUSU 

EST. 2010

# CAROLYNNE

STUDENT CULTURE AND LIFESTYLE

HOLIDAYS ARE  
COMING

# CAROLYNNE WTF?

YES IT'S ONLY NOVEMBER BUT IT'S OFFICIAL; CHRISTMAS IS COMING. THE COCA-COLA ADVERT IS BACK, UGG BOOTS HAVE MADE A SOGGY BUT WELCOMED RETURN AND EVERY STUDENT IS WONDERING WHY THEY EVER GET EXCITED WHEN THEY HAVE SEVEN DEADLINES TO MEET BEFORE THEY EVEN EAT THEIR FIRST MINCE PIE.

BUT BEFORE CAROLYNNE STARTS ROCKING AROUND THE CHRISTMAS TREE, THIS MONTH WE'RE ASKING WHY LANCASTER STUDENTS ARE FANCY DRESS ADDICTS, WHY TWILIGHT FANS ARE DETERMINED FOR WORLD DOMINATION AND WE SIT DOWN WITH ENTER SHIKARI FOR A CHAT ABOUT THEIR UPCOMING TOUR, YOU KNOW, AS YOU DO!

WE MIGHT HAVE A FEW MORE WEEKS UNTIL WE SWAP OUR 9.00AM SEMINARS FOR A SELECTION BOX FOR BREAKFAST, BUT GO ON, MAKE LIKE SIR CLIFF AND CRACK OUT THE MISTLETOE AND WINE. REMEMBER, IT'S NEVER TOO EARLY TO GET DRUNK AND KISS A STRANGER.

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# WINTER HEART WARMERS



Photo by Gaellery

## LIFESTYLE

Living in Lancaster only means one thing; winter comes ridiculously early without fail. In it strolls with its October hail and 90mph November winds; we can only dread to think what December has in store for us. But despite the fact that we loathe the walk to lectures and the knocking on of the kettle every two minutes, winter also brings with it some classic scenarios we all love. We can embrace winter if we simply remember a few of our favourite winter warmers and then it won't feel so bad?

### Grab a brew:

Nothing can shake the cold like a cup of tea or coffee; even just holding the mug makes everything seem a million times better. Or maybe your winter go-to pick-me-up is a hot chocolate (whipped cream and marshmallows, of course) to satisfy your sweet tooth. But don't easily forget about hot toddies, Irish coffees, apple cider and mulled wine too!

### Snow days:

Snow itself can be a nightmare and cause us all to walk like Bambi on ice for a few weeks, but it also has the potential to bring a much-loved snow day! This is mainly for school children, but fingers crossed that one of our many lecturers can't make it in? Admittedly, skiing and ice skating may not be up everyone's street but sledging on the other hand requires no athletic skill or grace whatsoever, just one gigantic hill which can make for hours of entertainment and which Lancaster offers the perfect location for. Just think about it, when do we ever get a day off over summer just because it's getting a bit stuffy indoors? Snuggle up warm:

The obligatory combo of bed socks and a hot water bottle can even make university rooms a little more homely, especially if you crank up the radiators, they can be pretty powerful in desperate times. Yes, heaters can give off the impression of a fire but nothing can compare to the warm sensation of a real open fire, after a long day of complaining about being more than freezing there is something quite ridiculously comical about having to move away from the roasting fireplace.

### Princess layer:

Layering is something which cannot be stressed enough in Lancaster! Not only will it keep your body temperature above -5 degrees but it is also a fashion must! So hunt out all your woolly jumpers, scarves, socks, gloves and of course the classic Winter coat and watch half your wardrobe disappear in front of your eyes! They spend half the year taking up all the room in there, so you may as well put them to good use!

## I LOVE ICE SKATING AND A CHEEKY FESTIVE BAKE

### Winter food babies:

An extra little bonus is you can eat and eat and eat until your stuffed full and nobody will notice with all them extra layers you'll be wearing! So do not say no to that last roastie or Quality Street and defiantly head to Greggs for the return of the festive bake! Love is in the air:

Isn't there something ridiculously romantic about winter? Being in front of the fire, and watching endless films can make the long winter nights something to look forward to with someone special. If you're more outdoorsy, maybe a winter walk is something you'd prefer, the crisp sound of frozen leaves crunching beneath your feet is a seasonal sensation; cold weather has a funny way of bringing people closer together.

# TOO FESTIVE, TOO SOON?

## LIFESTYLE

One Saturday afternoon in October I heard 'Jingle Bells'. No, it wasn't my iTunes shuffle gone wrong, it was the music soundtrack at work treating everyone to some early festive cheer, but somehow I don't think any of us were ready to be rocking around the Christmas tree. After all, it was still autumn; I needed treacle toffee jaw and pumpkin carving first, not a dose of Nat King Cole's finest.

When you work in retail the burden of celebrating Christmas from August is inevitable, and I could deal with it if the customers didn't seem to hate it as much as me. "Oh it's far too early to be selling tinsel," I get over my shoulder six times of a weekend. Yes, I know it is, but for those people who like to stock up on their stockings in September, we're ready and waiting to deck their halls with bows of overpriced holly.

## WHEN YOU BUY XMAS CARDS IN JANUARY YOU'VE LOST THE PLOT

By now I think I've got used to the fact that Christmas is coming, the Coca-Cola truck is doing his rounds and some random I'm A Celebrity winner is selling frozen party treats from Iceland in every Corrie break from here until new year. But with sleigh bells ringing for months before December do we really get a chance to be surprised by all this festive cheer anymore? Is retail marketing, advertising and The Park Christmas catalogue advert in March all getting to be a case of too festive too soon?

With tinsel thrown in our face by shops and supermarkets since October it's no wonder everyone loses their baubles and goes into overdrive with festive planning. Put it this way, when you buy your Christmas cards in the January sales you know your preparation has gone a little bit too far. Yes Mother, I'm talking to you. From presents for your third-cousin-twice-removed to food to feed the five thousand, Christmas is becoming a military operation to be planned right down to sourcing the best the brandy butter the whole year round.

When my Grandma was little times were simpler; she got an orange and a piece of coal on Christmas morning and she was sorted. Yes, I have to admit if I opened my presents and I was greeted by a shrivelled clementine I'd be a little disappointed, but the extravagance which retail throws in our faces for months on end has led to people thinking bigger and better is necessary.

I know I'm beginning to sound like my dad with his bah humbugs and cursing of carollers but when you begin to set up Christmas displays in work six months before December just to make people get into panic mode and

C.3



Photo by jspad

buy sixty presents they don't need, it's hard not to start siding with the grumpy one.

However, to be truthful, I really do love Christmas; it's about spending time with the people I love and eating a Terry's Chocolate Orange every day for a week. But while November is still lingering, forgive me if I ignore it for a while; my sanity, and my waistline depends on it. Ruth Eaton - Carolynne Editor

# FANCY THAT!

## LIFESTYLE

Twenty-one year old male, keen follower of football, regularly at the gym, frequently drinking beer, in his final year of a History BA. The picture of manhood? Oh, and he has his own dressing-up box. It's a sad admission but people all across campus have some sort of collection of remnants of previous fancy dress costumes that they have procured over their time at Lancaster. The question is though, compared to other universities, do we here at Lancaster over-do fancy dressed themed nights out?

## NOWHERE DOES FANCY DRESS LIKE LANCASTER

I'll be the first to admit that Freshers' and Extrav Weeks are some of my favourite nights out at university. The banter, the chants, the shared group mentality of everyone wanting to have an epic night all make these events memorable; and the themed fancy dress is the cherry on the cake! Granted there's extra costs, effort and trips to town to organise a costume but you can't deny the child inside you the opportunity to be imaginative and escape the seriousness of university life. Is this why Lancaster does themed nights out so well? Due to our campus-structure, with the close-knit community through colleges, we're always eager to take no half measures when it comes to themed nights out!

Don't think I'm preaching a message purely praising pirates, geeks, cops and robbers though. We also do regular nights out brilliantly here, where the girls spend five hours getting ready and the lads make an effort by attempting to wear matching socks and everyone goes out looking top-dollar. These are the nights that people at other universities can relate to more: mostly the city-based universities where it would take more guts to walk through the likes of Manchester's Printworks or the streets of Liverpool or Leeds dressed as a bodybuilder, a zombie or a caveman. Themed nights out do occur in such universities, especially recently with Halloween but I've never seen anywhere that does them better or quite like Lancaster.

So, while we here at Lancaster are not completely fanatical about themed nights out, we still have more than our fair share. The colleges, societies and sports teams are all channels through which themed nights out can be easily organised, not to mention flat parties, birthdays and of course Carnage and Friday Fury. This shows the extent and huge scale of participation that fancy dress nights out have here. Immature? Yes. Requiring effort? Yes. But once we leave this bastion of fun nights out, we're condemned to a life lacking in geek glasses, body paint, animal-patterned onesies and fake blood. So let's revel in it while we're here and embrace the embarrassment, because in many years time we'll look back on these memories with nothing but a huge grin. Matt Haslam



# ENTER SHIKARI

## CULTURE EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW

ENTER SHIKARI HAVE COME A VERY LONG WAY IN THE PAST EIGHT YEARS. FORMED BACK IN 2003 AS A FAIRLY STANDARD POST-HARDCORE BAND INTENT ON WAKING UP THEIR SLEEPY HOMETOWN OF ST. ALBANS, THE BAND QUICKLY AMASSED A HUGE FOLLOWING. BY THE TIME THEY RELEASED THEIR DEBUT ALBUM 'TAKE TO THE SKIES' IN 2007 THEY HAD MUTATED INTO SOMETHING QUITE DIFFERENT THAN THE BAND THAT HAD FORMED FOUR YEARS PREVIOUSLY, GROWING TO BECOME ONE OF THE MOST EXPERIMENTAL GROUPS TO BREACH THE BRITISH MAINSTREAM (THEIR FIRST ALBUM SOLD OVER 100,000 COPIES IN THE UK ALONE). AFTER A STRING OF LIVE DATES BOTH IN BRITAIN AND ABROAD, THE BAND ANNOUNCED THAT THEIR NEXT ALBUM, DUE TO BE RELEASED NEXT YEAR, WOULD BE CALLED 'A FLASH FLOOD OF COLOUR.' SCAN'S COMMENT EDITOR, PAUL HANNAH, CAUGHT UP WITH GUITARIST RORY CLEWLOW IN THE MIDDLE OF THEIR RECENT TOUR.

Can we expect a move into something new on your new album, 'A Flash Flood of Colour'?

Well it's got a bit of stuff that sounds like the first album, a bit of stuff that sounds like the second album, and some new stuff as well, really. A big mix, to be honest; some of our most brutal, hardcore and aggressive music is on there and some of our most delicate and, well, 'nice sounding' music too. It's got a very diverse feel, we haven't really phased into one particular style. We don't ever want to do that. We want to really push our musical boundaries.

You use a lot of genres in your work, who inspires you and what goes with what?

Lots of experimentation really. Lots of experimentation and not really worrying about what you think is going to work.

## PLAYING TO THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE IS AN UNBELIEVABLE FEELING.

So are they the kind of things you listen to in your spare time, like a bit of drum and bass, a bit of dub-step? You just pick and choose how you'll mix it in?

Yeah, well me Chris [bass] and Rob [drums] all sort of dabble in a bit of production. Rou [singer] is pretty good at it, I mean he does remixes for other people. We're all pretty into the producing side of things, the dance side of things and obviously the rock kind of things as well. We all sort of grew up going to local hardcore shows and all kinds of music came through where we grew up. I mean, my brother's been a drum and bass DJ for as long as I can remember. We've grown up with a really diverse range of music around us and we incorporated it all, never held back or worried about being a part of any particular scene or whatever, and just did our own thing.

How's the European tour? Is Shikari going continental?

Haha yeah, it's wicked. Every time we come back to these places the reception we get seems to be growing. Bigger venues, more people... In the end it's just nice to see all your hard work paying off. You get a lot of people coming backstage who are our age saying they've been listening to us for like five years or whatever! Really makes it seem worthwhile really, that's what it's all about you know, keeping your core fans, and not

having people listening to us as a flash in the pan and moving on the next band within a week.

You're known for your live music and vibrant shows. Do you find that festivals have the advantage here or do you like playing gigs too?

I enjoy both actually. When you do too much of one you want to do the other. For me, Reading and Leeds are particularly special for us, especially Reading as it's where we used to go when we were kids. They both have their advantages, little intimate gigs give you a much more personal feel, like you can really interact with the crowd a lot more easily. But at festivals it's such an incredible feeling of walking out on stage to forty, fifty, sixty-thousand people singing along and dancing. It's a pretty unbelievable feeling.

You recently played the famous Warped Tour in the US. Was anyone there particularly inspiring for you guys?

Well there weren't many bands on this year's tour that were particularly inspiring. But on the previous year there was Dillinger Escape Plan, who we tried to see every day! I don't think there's a better live band, pushing the boundaries so far with their performance stuff.

I've just seen the video for your new single 'Snakepit', and it looked a lot of fun to shoot. Was it as fun as it looked or was there a lot of hard work?

I mean that video was just pure fun, normally videos are really long and drawn out and boring but the 'Snakepit' video was an amazingly fun day. There's a drum and bass section at the start and the end and for that we just invited all our close friends, got drunk and had a little rave basically! The next day we got up went to London to shoot the rockier sections in Camden and just got loads of fans down. I remember we did the first take and Rou was talking to them over the mic saying "you don't have to go all out on this one, just pace yourselves," but everyone just went nuts. It was the most crazy gig ever, everybody was just chatting and we had a lot of pictures taken with people so it was a really great atmosphere.

## WE'RE PUSHING MUSICAL BOUNDARIES.

So what's next for Enter Shikari?

Well, after the UK tour we head back to the USA for 6 weeks touring with Devil Wears Prada, so that should be wicked. And then at Christmas time... yeah, well, I'm pretty excited about Christmas, I just want to have a rest and hang out with some of my mates that I haven't seen for ages! Paul Hannah

# COMIN' THIS MONTH

## MUSIC, FILM, GIGS & GAMES



**SHERLOCK HOLMES 2**  
FILM - FRIDAY DECEMBER 16TH

Sherlock and Watson are back for some more bro-mantic heroics in the long-awaited second instalment of the series. This time the dream team are accompanied by Swedish super-star Noomi Rapace of 'The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo' fame and must take on their greatest foe, Professor Moriarty. There is bound to be even more action and adventure than the hugely successful first movie so this should be well worth the cost of the cinema ticket.



**THE GIRL WITH THE DRAGON TATTOO**  
FILM - WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 21ST

The huge Swedish series gets the Hollywood treatment this December, but director David Fincher has promised a film that will be more grit than glitter. Daniel Craig stars with Rooney Mara taking on the now iconic role of Lisbeth Salander. The trailer has stated that this will be the feel-bad film of Christmas but if it lives up to its Swedish counterpart then people will be booking their tickets for outing number two as soon as they leave the cinema.



**AMY WINEHOUSE - LIONESS**  
MUSIC - MONDAY DECEMBER 5TH

For all the talk of her over-publicised relationships and tragic addictions, we tend to forget what made Amy Winehouse famous in the first place; that she was prodigiously talented songwriter with a bloody good (not to mention unique) set of vocal chords. It'll be interesting to see where Winehouse was planning on heading next - and not just out of morbid curiosity, but because she was a genuinely interesting individual who made some wonderful contributions to her art.



**PUNK ROCK**  
THEATRE - FRIDAY DECEMBER 2ND/SATURDAY 3RD

The Duke's Theatre will be playing host to 'Punk Rock', Simon Stephens' stinging interpretation of sixth form skulduggery in a Stockport grammar school. Directed by Josh Coates, who earlier this year rocked Lancaster's theatrical scene with an intricate staging of Jim Cartwright's 'Road', 'Punk Rock' is highly unlikely to be anything other than a triumph.

All reviews written by Andrew Eccles, Ronnie Rowlands and Joe Henthorn (Culture Editor).



**MARIO KART 3DS**  
GAME - FRIDAY DECEMBER 2ND

New Nintendo console, new Mario Kart. It's something Nintendo have been ridiculed for in the past, but who can blame them? As the only kart-racing spin-off ever that isn't unutterably shit, Mario Kart has carved a nice little niche for itself as a racing game that can be equally enjoyed by hardcore gamers and more casual folk. Expect the gameplay to be as solid and enjoyable as ever, and expect a new generation of children to learn the meaning of the term 'road rage'.



**WOYZECK**  
THEATRE - FRIDAY DECEMBER 9TH/SATURDAY 10TH/SUNDAY 11TH

Oppression, depression and peas are the primary antagonists in 'Woyzeck'. Lancaster University Theatre Group will be leading the tour of the depths of a young soldier's sanity as he submits to the tyranny of obsession and maltreatment in an exciting new adaptation of Georg Buchner's postmodern masterpiece, which promises to be the highlight of the Nuffield Theatre's winter output. Tickets cost £7, and can be purchased from the Live at LICA website, or the Nuffield Theatre box office.

# SUMMER CAMP

CULTURE

Summer Camp played with admirable confidence on the first night of their headline UK tour. They have a vintage, almost naive, appeal to their sound which carried through wonderfully to their gig in the refreshingly different venue of Lancaster Library.

Support band Alt-j began the evening with an interesting performance. Their attempts at creating an original sound faltered at times, but their experimentation was absorbing nonetheless. One particular highlight was the unusual drumming style; a hypnotic, slightly repetitive, 'ting' of a cowbell replaced the predictable use of a hi-hat and the inclusion of bongo drums created a varied and unpredictable drumming style. Alt-j are certainly a band with some potential which may well be realised in the future, even if some of the nonplussed members of the crowd may dismiss this claim.

The intimate venue gave the gig a very personal feel, and so did the beginning of the gig. The two members of the band, Jeremy and Elizabeth – who are, incidentally, engaged – started by unexpectedly appearing in the middle of the small audience with an acoustic guitar (at first I thought this might have been an overzealous fan trying to outdo the band), and they proceeded to walk through the crowd to the stage, performing a sparse acoustic version of the opening song of their debut album 'Better off Without You'. Anyone who's listened to the band will testify that their music is anything but sparse, and once they reached the stage they deftly transformed it into a synthy, layered delight. Feelings of melancholy were channeled in the song 'Done Forever' as Sankey sang sincerely about a past relationship with both sadness and optimism.

The band's fascination with retro stylings added another element to the approach of the band both aesthetically and within the content of the songs themselves. Behind Sankey, visuals of various 70s/80s teenage coming-of-age films (including a fresh faced John Cusack) played, and samples of these films could be heard in the music too (such as the beginning of the wild, almost obsessive passion of 'I Want You'). The song's simplicity and catchiness coupled with the lyrical content of unrequited love and romanticism evoked the essence of Northern Soul singles with their compelling, ear-worm choruses of love and longing from the sixties.

Despite the innocent surroundings of a library the band played with played with the intention of putting on a loud, blistering performance. This was epitomised by the distorted brash guitar sounds of Jeremy Warmsley who channeled the clichéd but by no means redundant rock'n'roll spirit to make this unassuming library in Lancaster at times feel like CBGB's in New York circa 1977.

The chemistry between Sankey and Warmsley was clear to be seen when they shared a microphone to sing the final song 'I Want You' together. Almost all of Summer Camp's songs revolve around a yearning for love and affection, and for the songs to be appreciated one only has to witness live the tenderness reciprocated between the two on stage.

When Summer Camp finished an enthusiastic cheer filled this normally silent library from a gratified and entertained crowd. Despite the absence of an encore (understandable considering their small amount of material) Summer Camp emerged almost instantaneously after leaving the stage to assume position at their merchandise table to meet and sign copies of their album 'Welcome to Condale'.  
Arun Takhar and Michael O'Connor

C.7

# CHILLI PEPPERS GIG REVIEW



Photo provided by Pomona

A much-awaited return, a stadium that was practically full, and a crowd that were willing to have an amazing night; it was the perfect set up for the Red Hot Chili Peppers to come back to Manchester.

A little warm-up to get the crowd going was the support act Fools Gold, a five-piece band also from Los Angeles who played a 45-minute set. They had a unique sound and I rather enjoyed their music, but nothing could compare to the atmosphere that was created the moment the lights went down before the main act - believe me, this atmosphere was electric. A buzz of excitement swept throughout the MEN Arena and almost everyone was on their feet in anticipation.

Anticipation and excitement that had been brewing for over five years for the return - finally - of the Red Hot Chili Peppers to the UK. A roar of excitement echoed around the arena as Antony, Flea, Josh and Chad walked out onto the stage.

From the very start Anthony Kiedis provided a crazed enthusiasm that oozed off the stage and captivated the audience, jumping and dancing all over the stage encouraging everyone to let their hair down and have some fun. Intriguing backgrounds to each of the songs they played kept the performance fresh with a new lighting scheme and pattern being introduced for each. In between songs their infamous bassist Flea kept the audience entertained with odd conversation fillers that the crowd lapped up.

Surprisingly, the band only played three songs off their new album, but having said that it seemed that the classics were going down a storm. The exception was 'The Adventures of Rain Dance Maggie', which the crowd absolutely loved and was met with rapturous applause and cheers once played.

You know you have created a fantastic track when you are almost drowned out by your fans singing their hearts out. The Peppers' performance of 'Under The

Bridge' was a timeless track demonstrating that 10 years on, everyone can still recall the lyrics and wants to show their appreciation of this classic.

To end, the massive hit 'By The Way' - very probably the best song of theirs to finish on, a mixture between fast moving verses and a slow chorus that the crowd really enjoyed.

Like every good band the lights remained off ready for the encore, inspiring fans to go crazy with screaming, clapping, feet stamping, and the classic chant of "we want more!" The Peppers played three more songs - but for two of them, the crowd seemed to be tired, or, even worse, bored. The difference in the crowd's attitude was really surprising; many people around me were stood with their arms folded, and understandably so, as it was hardly the encore I expected.

Luckily, it was briefly saved by the huge 'Give It Away', which once again had every one moving and even caused a mass outbreak of crowd surfers. But unfortunately, this save was short lived. A self-indulgent instrumental that seemed to go on forever had people leaving long before the last note was played. The premature disappearance of Kiedis caused disappointment as many fans waited for him to reappear in an amazing stunt or last chorus or something. But he did not come back and the gig suddenly fell flat, like all of the energy that had happened before no longer mattered. It was an unsatisfactory end to what was an otherwise brilliant gig.

However, the energy of the main show was intense, with vivid light shows and colour schemes, some classic songs and some great new ones too. Unfortunately not the 10 out of 10 show I was expecting, but still an amazing night and I would highly recommend watching the Red Hot Chili Peppers; even in their old age, they still know how to put on a show.  
Kirsty Lee

# THE BEST CULTURE FAV

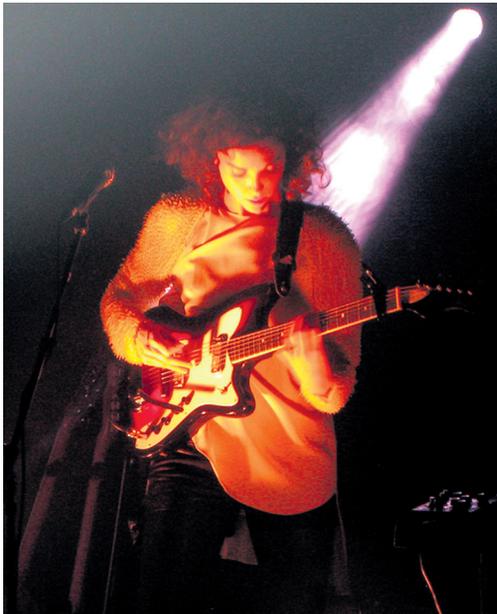


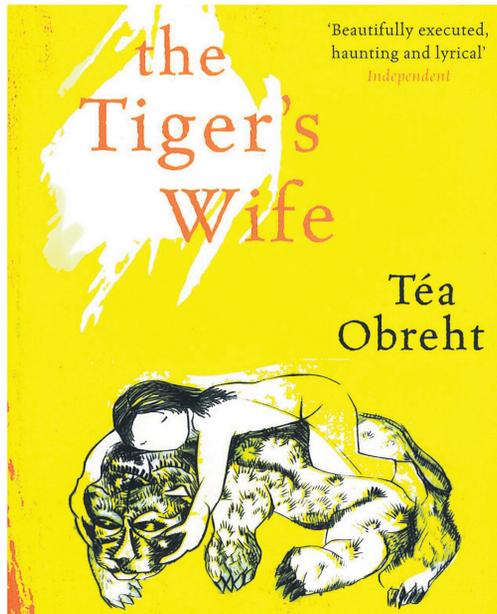
Photo by onewe

## STRANGE MERCY

On the surface, Strange Mercy's songs are pretty easy to grasp. They never entirely dispose with pop conventions; the catchy chorus, the bridge, and the big singalong outros are all here. But it's the strange stuff St Vincent does inside these conventions that marks her out as such an incredible talent, and it's why Strange Mercy is 2011's best rock album. There's so much to praise here; the incredible contrast between the syrup-sweet vocals and the almost offensively dirty guitars, the darkly surreal lyrical yarns, the way her music can make you feel so incredibly uneasy at one moment and then send you sprawling into a giddy mosh the next.

She also stands out as a brilliant antithesis to a year dominated by pre-recorded samples and auto-tune. Boy does she know how to play! The intricate riffery of Surgeon, the beautifully precise runs of Neutered Fruit, and you can imagine the mind-boggling solo on Northern Lights tearing holes in space-time if it was played loud enough.

St Vincent's living proof that you can make accessible pop that's also fiercely intelligent and full of intricacies, where you can find something new on every repeat listen. It's what 2011 needed, and in the form of Strange Mercy, it's what 2011 got. Joe Henthorn - Culture Editor



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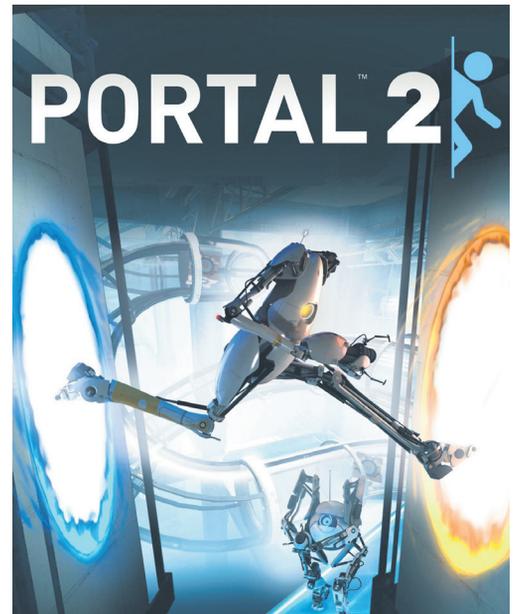
## THE TIGER'S WIFE

When I picked up 'The Tiger's Wife' for some holiday reading, I was ready for it to fail. But the disappointing title hides what is by far my favourite book of the year. 'The Tiger's Wife' has links both to the Great American road novel and the tradition of European fairy tales. Set in the former Yugoslavia, it is Tea Obreht's first novel.

As Natalia, a doctor, travels from her home and across the border to an orphanage she expertly weaves us stories; those she remembers of her grandfather, the stories that he passed down to her, and stories of her own life.

Though the book is both eloquent and beautifully written, it is also hugely universal and insightful. Obreht has done what many other modern authors have failed to do; she has created a work of magical realism which is both realistic and magical. Almost aural in its story telling mode this novel has the power to transport. There's no wonder that it won the prestigious Orange Prize for Fiction.

Obreht is a new type of writer, one whose home lies in no single country and whose work breaches borders with simplicity and ease. This is an author to look out for. Daisy Johnson



©Valve

## PORTAL 2

The sequel to the 2007 classic Portal succeeds by fleshing out the brief yet creative original. Previous antagonist GLaDOS (Genetic Lifeform and Disk Operating System) makes a nostalgic return and is soon sneering at you sadistically again - just like the good old days. However, it's Valve's new characters who almost steal the show. Perhaps the most memorable is Stephen Merchant's (of The Office and Extras fame) portrayal of the flawed robot Wheatley, who is an appealingly warm companion in the dilapidated science facility. The founder of Aperture Science, Cave Johnson, is also introduced via pre-recorded messages. These give the plot depth, as he bitterly rants of how very irritating moral guidelines are by stifling scientific progress, explaining the nature of his company's testing.

The elegant mechanic of portal teleportation is refreshed with the use of light bridges, lasers and gels, serving to sustain the full-length sequel. The puzzles are satisfying rather than difficult, especially as sparse portal panels can result in solutions being found by accident. However, even more sophisticated puzzling is contained in the co-op campaign, so recruit an intelligent, patient friend!

Portal 2 succeeds by fusing charm, humour and intelligence, while also featuring one of the best endings in gaming. So if you haven't already, play through what SCAN are calling the game of the year. Ryan Bembridge

# T SO FAR VES FOR 2011



©HBO

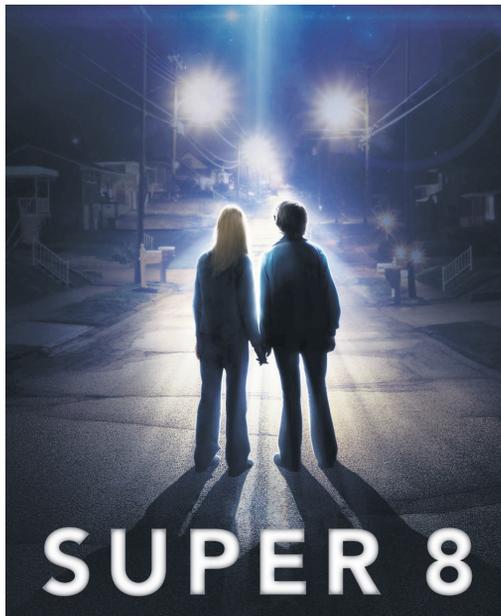
## GAME OF THRONES

The high fantasy genre is something most people associate with balding, slightly overweight men who need to get out more, rather than dynamic, popular television. However, A Game of Thrones, HBO's adaptation of the epic fantasy series A Song of Ice and Fire, is exactly the latter. Never before has a television fantasy drama achieved such wide critical and commercial acclaim.

The series faithfully unfolds the narrative of the novel, where several 'great houses' in the medieval land of Westeros battle for supremacy amongst a backdrop of older, darker forces. Thankfully for viewers with a phobia of silly names or wizards the plot is surprisingly well grounded in the everyday human affairs of family, political intrigue and power - think 'The Lord of the Rings' crossed with The Sopranos.

Also to top it all off, the casting is superb, highlighted by Sean Bean as the brooding, morally conflicted father figure, or Peter Dinklage as the unforgettably comic Tyrion.

Game of Thrones has its imperfections, but it's a refreshing rarity to see a show with the obvious ambition to reinvent a stigmatised genre to a whole new demographic. In comparison to the multitude of re-releases and safe-bet shows that swamp television sets today that really is something. Matthew Negus



©Paramount Pictures

## SUPER 8

I struggled a little when I was asked to choose the best film of 2011, but in the end I couldn't look much further than JJ Abrams' heartfelt science fiction thriller. Of all the films I have had the pleasure of viewing so far this year it is this that still brings out a smile.

Super 8 isn't exactly in the Oscar race, but it does have something that was lacking in the rest of this year's movie offerings, and that's genuine cinematic magic. It was funny, it was tragic and it was genuinely scary.

Super 8 was, of course, something of a love story to E.T. and I don't think many people would argue with me if I suggested that Abrams has a crush on Spielberg. What Abrams did beautifully though was bring a sense of adventure back onto the screen; this film wasn't about special effects, 3D glasses or complex computerised worlds. It was about telling a good story. It was about a little boy trying to save the girl he loved; it was about fatherhood and family.

Who cares if Super 8 isn't an Academy Award contender? What it is is a film with soul; the sort of film that lasts. Andrew Eccles



Photo by Stacey

## YOUTUBE: VLOGBROTHERS

It's always going to be impossible to sift out the best bits from a year's worth of the internet's output. Even if we had an infinite number of monkeys at an infinite number of computers they still wouldn't be able to get through everything the internet produces in a year. So it's encouraging that a pair as brilliant as the vlogbrothers could find fame in this infinite cyber space. John is a best-selling novelist (Paper Towns, Looking for Alaska), and Hank is a prominent technology and environment blogger. They started recording videos in 2007 that mutated and evolved into a sprawling online community that became known by its hundreds of thousands of inhabitants as 'Nerdfighteria'.

2011 has seen their videos become even more hilarious and thought provoking than ever before. The key to their success is undoubtedly their eccentricity. Videos about lofty topics like the French Revolution and 'The Great Gatsby' sit comfortably alongside videos about giraffe sex and quizzes that require the viewer to spot subtle differences between the two greatest tyrants of our time - Colonel Gaddafi and Charlie Sheen.

'The truth resists simplicity' - that's been the over-arching philosophical theme of their recent videos. But we can make one exception to that rule; for it's wonderfully simple truth that John and Hank Green are just about the two funniest, smartest and most interesting people on the internet in 2011. Joe Henthorn - Culture Editor



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# TEAM EDWARD? TEAM BOV'D?

## LIFESTYLE

After *Twilight* appeared on our screens in 2008, suddenly the idea of vampire themed fantasy became more prominent within society. The genre of dark fantasy wasn't a new idea in 2008, as various book series such as *True Blood*, *Vampire Diaries*, and the *Twilight Saga* graced our bookshelves long before gracing our film screens. With the success of fantasy genre films such as *Harry Potter* and *Lord of the Rings*, it's no wonder that *Twilight* took off so quickly.

## YOU CAN BE A FAN WITHOUT FANCYING THE PANTS OFF PATTINSON

Like with any saga, the build-up for the next installment is overwhelming and with the help of advertising and the media, it isn't long before everywhere you turn there is something relating to that film. The franchise is huge and this makes the vampire genre more acceptable to a wider audience and this integrates into society becoming somewhat of a trend, for example, the pale skin, porcelain beauty look of Bella Swan becoming more acceptable amongst celebrities and others alike.

This surge in culture led to a whole host of new books, TV programs and films flooding into the market and dominating conversation, posters, and magazines. Varying articles about the stars of the *Twilight* films following its release, have been posted and the romance between the two leads, Kristen Stewart and Robert Pattinson, has been debated on and off screen. The excitement around this can cause an obsession, the domination of thoughts or feelings by a persistent idea, image or desire. Just as our appetite for the films begins to subside due to a film lull between June 2010 and November 2011, the release of *The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 1* hits us, oh so cleverly timed to keep the growing fan base engaged.

Having been a huge fan of the *Twilight* books myself, I found it hard to get onboard with the *Twilight Saga* obsession mainly due to the fact that I thought the films wouldn't do the books justice. However, very recently, I persuaded myself to watch the films to try and figure out why people are so obsessed. I realized why people enjoy these films, personally I wouldn't say it was for the 'dishy' actors such as Robert Pattinson or Taylor Lautner, but more for the immersion into the story—feeling like a part of the film, being drawn into the drama of the characters.

Of course if I had to pick a team, as so many young adults have done, then I

C.11



Photo by The Gordo

suppose I would have to say team Jacob due to his portrayal in the books.

## ARE YOU TRYING TOO HARD TO BE A TWI-HARD?

Many will surely disagree with me, and this is a subject that has been on many people's lips for the past few years and is still debated now.

As of yet, I don't believe there is a *Twilight* society set up here at Lancaster University, but as the release of the new film looms perhaps someone will be inspired to create one?

All I know is that I am sure that many students, male and female alike will be heading to the Vue cinema in town on November 18th to watch this film. Place bets on how long it takes for someone to scream in your ear. Kirsty Lee

# LIGHTS OUT FOR 3D?

Over the past few years special effects in the film industry have become more prevalent and impressive than ever. More and more of the effects in films have become computer generated, and scenes that might once have required huge sets and hordes of extras can now be constructed without them. The height of this new wave of technology is the art of 3D cinema, which has become particularly widespread in the last couple of years. Grand as it may be to feel a part of the action from your cinema seat, is 3D film really such a fantastic innovation, or is it merely a gimmick designed to part us from money it does not deserve?

If a picture tells a thousand words, then a few seconds of film can tell millions. This is particularly effective when those millions of words are flying towards you at high speed, as if they have jumped out of the screen to slap you in the face. The visual arts have certainly come far.

## ARE 3D FILMS IRRITATING YOU?

Perhaps the most impressive example of 3D film in recent years is the 2009 film *Avatar*, which amazed audiences with its vivid portrayal of an alien world. Monsters seem to pounce out of the screen and explosions send fragments of dirt hurtling towards the viewer's face. Effects like this are certainly an exhilarating experience when you've never seen them before, but the novelty can soon wear off.

So what does 3D add to a film besides that first time novelty? Real entertainment value, or simply hollow commercial value? Some films which clearly don't need 3D use the device as an extra selling point, it's also the perfect excuse to sell overpriced 3D glasses at the cinema. Perhaps the most irritating thing of all though is the recent trend of re-releasing classic animated films with added 3D effects. Nostalgia value aside, is this not perhaps a lazy approach to cinema, reusing old stories for fear of taking risks with new ones?

However, just because this technology can be misused as a 'gimmick', it does not mean that it cannot be a positive thing when used correctly. Looking through the catalogue of recent 3D films, we could broadly separate them into two categories. There are those which have clearly, from the moment of their conception, intended to contain 3D as an important feature which is integral to the overall effect of the story. Then there are those which appear to have had the idea of 3D thrown in as an afterthought. In the latter, 3D seems irritating and unnecessary.

Just like any special effect enhanced action scenes, 3D effects can be an excellent addition to a film when they are used properly and creatively. Overemphasis on explosions and fight scenes can lead film makers to neglect intriguing characters, twisting plots and clever underlying themes. But when these things are used correctly rather than forced into the viewer's face, they can be absolutely breathtaking. This technology should be used to enhance a storyline, not replace it. Three dimensional effects need not mean one-dimensional plots. Tom Ley

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# CULTURE CLASH

## SHOULD X FACTOR BE AXED ?

For many years I have been one of the biggest X Factor fans around; I voiced my opinions to anyone within ear shot like I was sat on the judging panel and I took pride in predicting the winner from their very first audition. That was until this year.

No one can argue that The X Factor is not a successful formula, and even with a relatively disastrous year it is still pulling in nine million viewers a week. The show, admittedly, cannot continue as it is, but is that really a reason to scrap The X Factor altogether? I believe that a simple redesign, and a few rule changes, could put the show back at the top of the bill when it comes to Saturday night TV.

## IT'S TIME TO BRING BACK MR NASTY!

First of all, Simon Cowell. He's either the nation's favourite or the man everyone loves to hate, but my opinion of him has always been of respect; at least, until he dumped us for a younger model this year. This was essentially the beginning of the end for The X Factor in the UK. Mr Cowell made the UK show what it is, and I think America should find their own "Mr Nasty". By returning, Cowell might also put a stop to the ludicrous manufacturing of bands. Changing the line-up of the groups should not be allowed in the finals. Although as my Dad suggested, "why stop manufacturing? This is the first time an act can fail at Boot Camp and ultimately win the show and not even be there!"

Upon introducing Simon, we should say a long overdue farewell to the not-so-lucky Irishman Louis Walsh, and Tulisa. Tulisa seemed like a great replacement for Cheryl Cole, that is if you wanted a Cole type replacement. However, her arrogance and her inability to walk in heels have made her quite the joke. Kelly Rowland is not a perfect judge, but has provided some entertainment. Her overexcited American vibe is a great balance to Gary Barlow's monotone judging style.

My final suggestion to make The X Factor watchable again would be to up the ante. Having The X Factor is about having the full package, so why are the contestants not expected to be able to write or play instruments? Sky One's Must Be The Music were onto the right idea; allowing acts to perform their own music. The X Factor fans will purchase the Winner's single be it a cover of Bob the Builder's Can We Fix It? or something half decent written by the winner themselves. We need more winners like Matt Cardle who can sing, write and play an instrument, and less like Joe McElderry who vanish into the world of reality stars. This will not reach out to all music fans, but will certainly add a credibility factor.

Does The X Factor have a future? With these few minor changes I would suggest it could do!  
Charli Stevenson

C.13



Photo by Beacon Radio

I absolutely hate X-Factor. I hate how I can't escape it. I hate how my Mum and Nana watch it every Saturday and Sunday without fail, so I can't get away, and how social networking sites are awash with X-Factor fans having their say. I hate how easily it is to get sucked in.

I hate the squeaky-clean format of the show. Frankie Cocozza's bad boy rep is blown totally out of proportion because he's on telly. He's being portrayed as some sort of criminal, he's just an average young lad behaving as many young lads do, taking advantage of his first slice of fame. Good on him for that. He can't sing though, so he shouldn't still be there. There are currently Ofcom complaints because apparently ITV glamourised and encouraged 'misuse of alcohol' when showing a clip of Cocozza on a night on the town. I don't know how these people who have complained consume alcohol themselves, but it's not like the lad was on a park bench swigging vodka concealed in a McDonalds carton. He might have had a hangover. It's not like ITV showed him vomiting profusely into Louis Walsh's face with a used condom trailing from his trouser leg.

I hate how contestants go on there thinking they're going to be the next big thing. For example, Joe McElderry. He was alright wasn't he? Nice clean-shaven lad, lovely little smile, two good years under Simon Cowell's wing until being unceremoniously dropped from Syco after a single debuted and peaked at 68 in the charts. He's done alright out of it though, he's got a decent little career going for himself, and a tour and Christmas album this month, but still. He's never really going to shake that stigma of being an absolute let-down as far as X-Factor winners go. And the scary thing is, it's nothing new for a winner to just disappear into obscurity in terms of their singing career – yet thousands audition every year with the hope that they're going to be a household name within a few short months.

Many people will argue that even if you're not the winner you've still got a chance of hitting the big time if you're a runner up, or even in the final 12. Stacey Solomon, cor yeah, she's advertising for Iceland! Making brilliant use of her cracking vocals. Rhydian, what happened to him? Shane Ward, where's he at? Rebecca Ferguson? Do you hardcore X-Factor fans even remember these names I'm reeling off? I certainly don't. I had to go on Wikipedia to see the runners up. And as I said earlier – I've been sucked in. I actually watch the X-Factor.

## IT'S A TARNISHED TICKET TO FAME

I think the scary part for me is knowing how much work these people put in, to be offered this tarnished ticket to fame via the X-Factor. In audition stages there will be people saying to interviewers 'I just love to sing!'. Those people might win, but you can guarantee it probably won't be the future they wanted. They're facing a future of cold corporate lawyers, of Simon Cowell's personal assistant (because we all know when the show's over, he doesn't deal with the winner directly) and learning how hard the industry really is, the most damning way possible.  
Emma Williams

# DEADLINE DRAMA?

## FEATURES

Almost every student, no matter what degree they are doing, will have to go through both coursework and exams. So which is the better measure of our knowledge and intelligence? I personally think that coursework is a much more thorough indicator of knowledge and skill.

In coursework, you have to think about argument and structure, you also have to back up your ideas with solid evidence. Because of this, it is often necessary to do additional research, which not only shows you have read further into the subject, but also allows you to compliment your argument with the views of professionals.

The opportunity coursework gives for secondary research is a good one, as it gives you a greater comprehension of the subject. Quotes and examples from others are used more to enhance your own ideas, rather than to put the ideas in your head.

# ARE ESSAYS THE BEST MEASURE OF INTELLIGENCE?

An argument against coursework is the amount of time you have to re-draft and perfect your work. Some would say, with such a chance for correction it hardly seems a measure of intelligence – you are able to double check your arguments and to add in any new information you find out.

Again, I disagree that this aspect of coursework is a negative thing. All it really gives you is time to ensure your argument has been delivered to the best of your ability. In short, the time aspect of coursework is precisely why it is the better measure of knowledge, as it allows you to articulate all your thoughts on the subject.

Exams have an entirely different focus to coursework. In my opinion, it seems that exams focus more on memory than intelligence, and while this is an important skill to have it is different from knowledge – you either have good memory or you don't. Sometimes you can do as much revision and research as you like, but often it is a matter of luck when it comes to the questions. As well as this, the particular questions on what you did revise might be asked awkwardly, or with a different slant to what you expected, so even if you know the subject back to front you can do badly.

In my ideal world, the entirety of the degree would be based on coursework. However, with issues of plagiarism and cheating, it is unlikely that this will ever happen. For now, at least, it seems that exams are a necessary evil, and we can only be grateful that they are not worth 100% of our mark.  
Annie Gouk

# EVER BEEN THE AWKWARD TURTLE?



Photo by chadada

## LIFESTYLE

We have all had that guilty feeling when the new couple sat next to you are gushing over each other; we know we should all be thinking "awww, I am so glad they found each other" as we sit with an awkward expression of a clenched smile- but more often than not the word which springs to mind is "puke, get a room." Rewind a few years and this situation is horribly familiar to me. My ex-best friend and I did everything together; so when she found her boyfriend and no longer wanted to spend weekends together I was hurt. But what was even worse than being ditched was being invited around to hers to find him there. Or even worse was when I invited her around my house the day after splitting up with a guy I was dating and she turned up with her boyfriend in tow! Appropriate? Just for the record, the last thing you want to see when you're feeling heartbroken is a loved up couple.

There is a very good reason for the expression "three is a crowd"- it just doesn't work. My advice to any third wheels out there is not to put yourself in this situation- avoid at all costs! You may be completely happy in your single life, but after being left to trail behind the happy couple you begin to believe that everyone is looking at you with sympathetic smiles. It is a demoralising and embarrassing situation.

# AVOID BEING THE THIRD WHEEL AT ALL COSTS

To all the couples guilty of this please remember some things should be left between the two of you. No one wants to hear you referring to each other as

"hunny" or "sweetheart" or any other nauseating pet names, or have to sit there awkwardly wondering where to look as you engage in a game of tonsil tennis.

# WHERE DO YOU LOOK WHEN THEY START WITH THE PET NAMES?

If you force your friend into this situation it is also good to remember that you still have the ability to walk without holding hands. There is no more obvious sign that you are the third wheel than having your hands swinging awkwardly as the loved up couple with you walk as if they have been merged together as one.

Saying this, couples also need their time to enjoy being newly in love- the 'honeymoon phase' so to speak. It is inevitable that at the start of the relationship they will want to spend all their time together. Do not take it out on your friend or let it affect your friendship. I wish I had known a few years back that when your friend gets into a serious relationship it is unavoidable that it will change your friendship in some way; however it doesn't necessarily have to be for the worst. Friendship is about compromise and if you can arrange quality time for just the two of you, your friendship should not suffer. So to all of you out there forcing your friends into this painfully awkward situation, remember there is nothing wrong with sharing the love; we would just rather we were not always forced to share it with your other half.  
Emma Smith

# REMEMBER REMEMBER A HAIRY NOVEMBER

## FEATURES

Three things usually come to mind when we think about moustaches. The Chuckle Brothers, Bruce Forsyth and 80s porn stars. But Prostate Cancer? Movember is trying to banish the slightly dodgy taboo of this facial hair, and in doing so, is raising money and awareness for a cancer that claims many lives each year. However, is this a brilliant and charitable idea or is it becoming just another craze and losing the message behind its origin?

The 'Mo Bros,' of November are raising money to save lives, as well as being hilarious in doing so. It is also brilliant in its attention-grabbing style; it is hard to miss a man with a moustache, even if you do suspect he could be following you. Therefore, something so incredibly simple is in fact insanely clever.

However, have we not seen this all before somewhere? A few years ago, the wristband craze took place, which all began with a charity asking people to wear their wristband in support. This then took over many other charities, until people went crazy in search of wristbands, with some even being bought over Ebay which of course gave no money to the charities. It seems as though a clever idea like this is dangerous in a world where trends and fashions are so important, and the reason behind it in the first place is so easily forgotten. But maybe this is part of the genius of Movember. Unlike wristbands, it is extremely hard for people to make money out of such facial hair, unless of course you are



Photo by Kevin N. Murphy

selling combs and trimmers on Amazon. This means that the money from this trend will simply go to Movember and I doubt that people would easily forget that.

The criticism of Movember being more of a fashion show rather than being about the cause in question then seems like a valid point when on the Movember website itself, it has a merchandise section selling tweed jackets. However, the profit from these goes to the charities involved, which surely asks the question, does it really matter then?

So whether Movember is just a craze, or in fact

a great idea, there is no doubt at all that it is still a brilliant plan for making men aware of the health issues surrounding them. Due to the exclusivity of Movember, I think it is hard to suggest that it is just a fad, and it could even be a rather helpful sifting tool for women, by separating the men from the boys for us at first sight. So please, grow the hair on the upper lip and raise some awareness of Movember.

It will be nice to have some Tom Selleck look-a-likes walking around the university for a while.  
Lauren Baddeley

## PUZZLES

# GET YOUR THINK ON

### SUDOKU - EASY

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

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### SUDOKU - MEDIUM

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

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### SUDOKU - HARD

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

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# COMMENT



Photo by Rich Watts

## Selling St. James' is a sign of the times

**Tom Forrest**

Everyone seems to be having their two cents on the subject of St James' rebranding as the Sports Direct Arena since the announcement was made on Thursday of last week. This comes after news that Chelsea is doing likewise and the Man City fiasco over the summer with the Etihad Arena. Some people are saying it is a shameless rebranding of a historical icon of football, others are defending the decision as a way of boosting revenue in an attempt to stabilise the club financially. I should say at this point that I am a lifelong Newcastle fan and our stadium will always be St James' to me, but this seems just to be an extension of sponsorship monopoly: an empty gesture of advertisement which distracts from the football and will galvanise the fans against the brand.

English Football is in some aspects is a step behind most of the sporting world in terms of selling their soul to corporate advertisements. In the South American leagues, clubs sell shoulder and short

sponsoring in addition to a plethora of hoardings and stadium rights. This has notably had the benefit of giving clubs the financial backing to keep big players and attract big names; most recently Ronaldo (the great one, not the poser) and Ronaldinho returned to their home country to finish their careers, something that wouldn't of been possible without sponsorship money. Neymar and Ganso have been held on to by Santos, at least for now: a feat which is almost unheard of for Brazilian football. We only need to look at the career of Ronaldo, who left for Europe at 17 because of the poor quality of the league. Corinthians even demonstrated their potential fiscal power by attempting to buy Tevez over the summer, by sponsorship.

Money attracts quality and money funds progress. Part of me sees the need to run a club as a business and become stable financially, but as many pessimistic and sensationalist bloggers are crying out: it's only a matter of time till they are adver-

tising on the players faces. Perhaps that isn't as farcical as it sounds either, as recent graduates Ross Harper and Ed Moyle found out. They rent out their faces to advertising and are making not only enough money to pay off their student loans but a fair bit extra as well. Jealous much? I know I am. There's something about the idea of the Pukka pies logo across Richard Dunn's gormless chops or even down to Oldham theatre's production of Beauty and the Beast advertised on Shafki Kuqi's forehead.

This situation has reminded me of a quote from Fight Club as Chuck Palahniuk prophesises that 'when deep space exploration ramps up, it'll be the corporations that name everything, the IBM Stellar Sphere, the Microsoft Galaxy, Planet Starbucks'. It's dystopian, it's depressing, but it's also inevitable that corporations are going to have an increasing influence so let's focus on the positives. I'll still be calling it St James' though.

## "Bus drivers drive me to distraction"

**Jade Stevens**

There are two types of bus drivers in this world (or at least in Lancaster): the jolly, grey-haired, 'tar luv' type and the type who seemingly find it impossible to be anything other than miserable. Usually this kind of thing doesn't particularly grind my gears (excuse the unintentional bus related pun) – I am fairly used to wondering why certain members of 'customer service' staff were ever employed, but some Lancaster bus drivers really take the biscuit.

There doesn't seem to be a middle ground with Stagecoach staff in this city. They are either friendly to the point where it makes your day (granted, it doesn't take a lot) or are rude to the point where they ruin it. Last week I had a job interview, starting at 9.30am. I arrived at the constantly crowded bus stop on Common Garden Street and much to my delight found that I was just in time to hop on a number three. I half ran, half walked towards the bus to make sure I didn't miss it but as I approached the doors shut. The bus was still stationary and filled with students who were pointing at me, so I knocked on the glass door, thinking he would let me on. Instead he just looked at me and shrugged his shoulders. So I knocked again. By this point I was not only feeling totally humiliated but I was also starting to panic about making it in time for my interview. As I was knocking, the bus driver started up the

bus, accelerated and drove off into the distance leaving me stood outside New Look looking like an idiot.

**"Some Lancaster bus drivers really take the biscuit"**

I get the impression that some bus drivers in Lancaster will go out of their way to cause inconvenience to students, whether it is driving off when they know someone is running to catch the bus, refusing to allow payment without correct change (I actually witnessed a young chap trying to buy a return with a £5 note and the bus driver made him get off and try another bus) or just being downright rude and miserable when 'serving' the public. I may be wrong but aren't bus drivers and staff in similar roles paid to slap a smile on their faces whilst they serve their customers?

Riding the bus is bad enough without being greeted with a grunt when you get on - flustered, windswept and let's face it, usually drenched head to toe rain. In my opinion Stagecoach need to sort out its staff (apart from the approximately three lovely 50+ drivers who manage to convince me that they absolutely love their job, even if they don't). 'Have a nice day' isn't a hard sentence to say now is it?



Photo by Dan H

# Banning extremist groups is an affront to democracy

**Stefan Helm**

From midnight last Thursday the group Muslims Against Crusades was banned by the Home Secretary, Theresa May. Their crime was "glorifying terrorism". It is now a criminal offence to belong to the group, or even to "profess to belong" to such a group. It is also an offence to merely encourage others to support a banned organisation, raise funds for it or assemble, with a sentence of up to 10 years in prison. Muslims Against Crusades stood for the implementation of Sharia Law in Britain and condemnation of the British involvement in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Muslims Against Crusades have been accused of showing disrespect to the war dead, however isn't the freedom to express disrespect a vital tenant of any healthy democracy? Why

should Theresa May have the power to decide what views the British public should and shouldn't be allowed to hear?

**"Isn't the freedom to express disrespect a vital tenant of any healthy democracy?"**

I find it extremely troubling that in a 21st century, a supposedly "liberal" democracy is free to ban certain groups, under threat of imprisonment, simply for espousing views which are contrary to mass popular opinion. Banning groups such as Muslims Against Crusades is not only

completely ineffective, but smacks of hypocrisy and threatens the openness of the society we live in when groups like the EDL and BNP are free to roam about our streets as they please.

Whilst I agree with the banning of groups involved in terrorism, as the state has a right to protect itself and its citizens from attack, however banning groups simply for vocally supporting the aims and methods of those involved in armed struggle against our government is unjustifiable. Is banning the group really how a confident liberal democracy should be responding?

It seems to me that laws banning glorification of terrorism, are simply laws banning certain forms of political dissent. This type of political speech should not be banned for any reason unless it is a very good one. Banning the group seems to

have simply fed them even more publicity and opportunity to air their views.

**"Is banning the group really how a confident liberal democracy should be responding?"**

Perhaps Theresa May is not aware of the Streisand effect? Any effort to ban the group seems to have had little effect as they simply change their moniker. The only thing it has succeeded in doing is making the government look like they have

something to hide, and suggest that what these groups have to say might become a threat to their established narrative.

The act of banning Muslims Against Crusades exposes an insecurity that the government feel the counter-argument may not be strong enough, particularly those who are most likely to be won over by the Islamist message. A healthy society is one strong enough to debate all points of view, no matter how radical or repulsive they may seem. A strong society should be able to allow a forum where different points of view can be debated, allowing a counter-argument which invalidates that viewpoint so the superior argument prevails.

How long will it be when "terrorism" simply stands for opposition to the actions of the government in power?

# Get a grip parents - there are worse things in life than tattooed dolls

Emma Williams

Barbie Millicent Roberts is 52 years old. She still has the teeny tiny waist, the long legs, and the big boobs. Her smile is as energetic as ever and her eyes still as bright. But Barbie, much loved plaything of little girls all over the world, has had a makeover. Her blonde lengths have been chopped and dyed into a sugar pink bob, and her flawless skin has been decorated with beautiful tattoos. A mid-life crisis perhaps?

This little doll – Tokidoki Barbie – has parents up in arms. They don't want their princesses playing with a doll with tattoos and pink hair. With her near-impossible to achieve proportions, setting unrealistically high

examples of beauty for little girls and teaching them the best they can hope for is a Prince Ken, Princess Barbie is perfectly acceptable. Create a representation of an independent woman with her own sense of more alternative style, and Tokidoki Barbie is causing havoc.

**"They don't want their princesses playing with a tattoo doll"**

Parents argue that the tattoos and the pink hair set a bad example. I'm sorry, but

little girls have played with Barbie for 52 years – a doll that if she were a walking, talking, living doll, would lack the 17-22% body fat necessary to menstruate. Her body proportions are simply unhealthy, there's no getting away from it. That is a bad example. And parents are worried about tattoos? Instead of being so concerned about aesthetics, mummies and daddies should be teaching their little girls that beauty is only skin deep. It's what's on the inside that counts. It's also worth noting that she's sold for the adult collector. She's a collector's item, not a toy.

Barbie's constant reinventions of herself are of course to generate more sales. Sales are generated by

appealing to the customer. Appealing to the customer makes use of inspiration from popular culture. Barbie's manufacturer, Mattel, promotes Tokidoki Barbie as a 'funky fashionista'. Little girls all over the world are singing Katy Perry and Lady Gaga. Does that mean little girls are going to aspire to be carried around in an egg everywhere and walk around in catsuits?

**"Her body proportions are simply unhealthy"**

Guess what grown-ups -

children can think for themselves! Just because their dolly has pink hair doesn't mean little girls are going to grow up to be covered in tattoos and piercings and a tendency to change their hair colour every week. Even if they did – it doesn't mean they're going to end up unemployed on drugs and turning to prostitution. Body art is not a direct route to the gutter.

How can these parents defend their ancient morals? Body art isn't taboo anymore. It's never really been taboo – in fact, around 25% of under 30's have tattoos. It's apparently just taboo for a Barbie doll. Parents seem to be forgetting – it is they who are bringing their daughters up, not Barbie.

# Apathy has no place at the Olympics

## Why we should have more national pride about the Games

Leighton Hughes

According to a recent poll by The Guardian 86% of people are apathetic towards the Olympic Games, and the carrying of the torch around the country before the summer tournament. Even now I can hear the myriad moaners who are bringing it down, lambasting its purpose: "it doesn't affect me", "it's all a scam anyway", "there are better ways of spending our money!"

Yet, certainly in my mind's eye, the Olympics (and The Paralympics to boot) are one of the greatest human celebrations; exhibiting the talent of our fittest, brightest and best. And by "our", I of course mean "of the entire world". And that is what this event is about; it is a global institution. We, Britain, will be the epicentre of the globe's sporting calendar – and 2012 will be

synonymous with the bravura spectacle that Lord Coe and his team from the London Organising Committee for the Olympic Games will have conjured for us all to feast on next summer. Surely this is something to get excited about?

**"In my mind's eye, the Olympics and The Paralympics are one of the greatest human celebrations"**

And, for those more fiscally-orientated about this

whole arrangement, then there are of course substantial economic benefits: a great influx of money to replace taxpayers' own contributions, as well as hopefully having left a sizeable (and positive) impression on our visitors.

Tourism really should sky-rocket next summer; the perfect tonic to the rolling months of austerity (a noticeable symmetry with Britain's last Olympic Games back in 1948 – experiencing a period of low growth and bloated debt, though also still having to endure rationing for food, fuel and clothes). And, while most of the action is in London, the Games' Business Report outlines that materials are sourced from all over the country: the steel for the Olympic Stadium, Velopark and bridges is from Bolton, consultancy from Salford, welding from Chorley, publishing from Macclesfield;

the list goes on. Evidently, we'll all share in this tremendous legacy, and it will almost certainly affect your local industry. Plus, saving you the economics lecture here, this will all help employment, leading to greater consumption, thus stimulating our fledgling growth; which can only be good news.

**"86% of people are apathetic towards the Olympic Games"**

But our hosting the Games should also be a celebration of Britishness: not just our sporting prowess (the likes of which we have

in abundance: Hoy, Daley, Ennis to name but a few), but, also in the arts, business, and of our vast and enviable heritage. I mean, we have Danny Boyle, director of *Trainspotting* and *Slumdog Millionaire*, overseeing the creation and development of the Opening Ceremony. When people from the four corners of the world tour the country and its capital, we should delight in the fact that they are experiencing this wonderful land of Shakespeare, Darwin, Lennon and Queen Victoria; the cradle for many of the world's finest pioneers.

So wrap yourself in the Union Jack, smile, drink some Earl Grey, talk about Churchill, smile some more; and bask in the immense privilege of being British – that is what next year is really about. And if you don't? Well, I'm afraid that's just not cricket.

# LETTERS

## Editorial

# We should never forget the roots of Lancaster University

**Matthew Power**  
Editor

Over the summer, I was privileged to visit G D Goenka World Institute. I was impressed at the quality of education, the high standard of facilities and the students' impressive approach to teaching and learning. There is no denying that the campus is a fantastic opportunity for students to gain a degree in the Delhi region of India and that Lancaster University have played a vastly important role in this.

In the past week, it has been confirmed that Lancaster will collaborate with Guangdong University of Foreign Studies to set up a new campus in China. To

be the first university in the world to have campuses based in both India and China will be a highly credible achievement for a university that has witnessed such a phenomenal rise up the league tables in recent years.

**"Lancaster's Bailrigg campus is the heart of Lancaster University"**

But the rise in the league

tables has taken place on domestic ground. Lancaster's Bailrigg campus is the heart of Lancaster University and where the whole story began. It would be wrong if we were to plough all our resources and efforts in to universities based on foreign soil, and forget about the campus we have here, in the countryside setting of Lancashire.

There is no denying that international campuses and relationships will only be good for our reputation. Plus, campuses in other countries allows for more opportunity to study abroad which will help increase students' employability.

But we can not let our standards slip by focusing

our attention too heavily on the other side of the water.

**"There is no denying that these campuses will only be good for our reputation"**

Sending academics on secondments is all well and good as long as the teaching on our Bailrigg campus

remains at the same high standard that has led to our Top 10 position in the first place.

G D Goenka World Institute is a fantastic establishment and if all goes well with plans for China, Lancaster will again be involved in a development that has huge potential to influence the lives of thousands of young people in a country experiencing an economic rise.

However, we should never forget the roots of Lancaster University. The University's Management should always lead by example from their Bailrigg campus and allow developments in other countries to follow suit.

## Open letter to drunk student

This is addressed to the Lancaster University student who vomited repeatedly and in copious amounts after what had obviously been a heavy drinking session on the Saturday of the Lancaster Music Festival.

Myself and other patrons of the pub (you will know which one) thought that you may have been genuinely ill, but we were assured by your mates that you were simply drunk, so I think out of common decency you should do the following.

Go to the pub concerned (you will know which one) apologise to the bar staff and slip a fiver apiece to them because after all they had

to clean up your appalling mess, a mess that was entirely of you making I would add.

**Anonymous**

## Give it up for the Mo'Bros

I just wanted to write in and say a big well done to everyone out there who is sporting moustaches in the name of Movember.

As a big fan of facial hair, I have been excited to see some cracking examples around campus and think it's great that there is such a large turn out this year, especially from students. Although there are some brilliant mo's around, my favourites so far have to be the guys in Spar who have got

some fantastic tashes going on at the moment.

Being a girl I am unable to join in, but just wanted to say well done guys and keep going! It's really good that so many people are getting involved in order to raise awareness for Prostate Cancer.

**Millie Mackintosh**  
County College

## Underpass petrol costs

I am a PhD student living in town and I drive on to campus every day for work and meetings. As I was doing my daily detour around the closed underpass this week, I got to thinking how much of an inconvenience its closure really is in terms of money, time and the environment.

After making a few calculations the results were quite shocking.

The distance is about 1/3 of a mile which I do twice each week day, working out at 3.33 extra miles per working week. When I added this up over three 10 week terms, this adds up to roughly 100 extra miles per year. This is a fair distance which will be adding up financially, especially when you multiply this by all the cars on campus. Most importantly, it really isn't making a positive impact on the environment, which is perhaps a more important reason for the Underpass to reopen ASAP.

**Anonymous**

**Letters to the Editor should be sent to scan@lancaster.ac.uk (SCAN reserves the right to edit letters for publication).**

## #Love Lancaster Tweets

"A huge well done to Chris Osborn, the Music Society and OTC for a brilliant Remembrance Day service in Alex Square. #LoveLancaster" @elliocootes

"Events like @Still-HumanLancs and the @YOURlgbtq CanalStreet trip are one of the many reasons I #LoveLancaster! =D" @EmilyCBlandchard

"Reckless Sleepers is sold out tonight! I hear there are a few left for tomorrow... get to @liveatlica. It's gonna be amazing! #LoveLancaster" @joshuacannon

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# SPORT

## Meet the Captain

## Ultimate Frisbee

**Alex Rastall**  
Sports Editor

With national tournaments taking place in the next couple of weeks, SCAN speaks to Ultimate Frisbee Captain, Will Doole, about regionals and his hopes for the year ahead.

*Last year was a great one for the Lancaster Ultimate Frisbee team. What were your highlights as President and what do you hope to achieve this year as Captain?*

Last year was one of our most successful years to date. We had a great squad and managed to qualify for nationals in Mixed Indoors and Open Outdoors; our Mixed and Women's Outdoor teams go straight through to nationals because not all universities can field teams. We also finished the year on a high by white-washing York at Roses. This year our squad has grown in size and experience, only losing a few first team players from last season. As a result, there are great expectations; we hope to get Lancaster to all national tournaments and break into the top 20 nationally where possible.

**"Last year was one of our most successful years to date"**

*The club is well known for recruiting a lot of new members during Freshers' Week. How successful was*

*intake this year and how are they finding the sport?*

Intake was the largest it has ever been in the three years that I've been here, we now have over 60 people registered with around 30 of those being freshers, this is a lot of people to fit into one sports hall for training believe me! It has been nice to see all the new players improving, enjoying the sport and returning to training week after week.

**"Ultimate is essentially a fun and friendly sport"**

*Why do you think so many people are interested in the sport?*

Ultimate is essentially a fun and friendly sport which is built on fair play and the spirit of the game. It is fast and athletic but requires little kit or knowledge to get out there and play. People soon grasp the basics of the sport and then become hooked.

*Ultimate Frisbee, in general, is also well known for being increasingly competitive with different tournaments being held most weekends. Which ones are you looking forward to most this year?*

Over the next two weekends we will be travelling down to London and Wolverhampton to compete in the Open and Mixed Nationals, it has been a huge achievement for the club



**The Fish in action at the Indoor Regionals.** Photo by Alex Salmon

to get to these events and we're looking forward to testing ourselves against the best teams in the country. I personally am very much looking forward to the outdoor season next term, as we have such a fantastic squad, I know that we can get to nationals and compete with the best.

*Finally, you have recently qualified for nationals in both the Indoor Open (6th) and Mixed (2nd) disciplines – what does this mean for the club and what were your highlights of the regional tournament?*

Qualifying for these events

is a huge deal to the club as it is what we train so hard for all year round, other universities in the northern region now see us as a quality team, regularly qualifying for nationals, and fear playing us.

**"We're looking forward to testing ourselves"**

The highlight of Open was beating Bangor 9-7 to take

the sixth place, which was the last nationals spot.

The victory was made all the sweeter as we had been at the losing end of this tie last year against Newcastle. Finishing seventh was a horrible feeling and I'm glad we didn't have to go through that again. Also, the best part of Mixed was beating Newcastle to take second place, a higher finish than we had dared hope for and Lancaster's highest ever finish at a regional's event. It will give us a high seeding at nationals next week where we can hopefully deliver the goods and compete for the top spot.

## Fencing

## Red Rose put to the sword by York

David Walker

Lancaster ..... 104  
York ..... 123

With York trailing league leaders, Keele, in the Northern 1A Fencing league and Lancaster lying in fourth place, the Red Rose was looking to avenge the defeat it suffered to York at the Roses tournament back in early May.

Beginning with the quick-fire sabre round, Lancaster struggled early on as York's Bai, Thomas J. and Paul, comfortably secured the opening three bouts making it 15-8. In contrast, Lancaster's Bowey-Strange (Captain) and Tsang failed to make ground on York's lead which by the end of the second bout, had extended to 30-17.

That said, Lancaster's captain and Boyan Vanchev did make some ground in the third and final bouts with some crucial lunges and counter-attacks to win 8-5

and 7-5 respectively. However, these victories were not enough as York took the sabre weapon by 45 points to 34.

York continued their dominance in the foil round as Lancaster's fencers Bradford, Wong and Huang were battered by the White Roses.

York's foil fencers were on exemplary form throughout the three bouts. York's captain, Tom S. led by example as he thumped Lancaster's Bradford 5-2 within thirty seconds. Despite, Wong's 8-5 victory over York's Tom J. in the third bout, York steamrolled their way to a 45-25 victory for the foil weapon.

In contrast to the bouts in the first two rounds, Lancaster made a scintillating start in their hunt to take the épée. Lancaster's Delard and Bowey-Strange made short work of Bartek and Tom J with two 5-0 victories to help them win the first bouts 15-7. Delard in particular, induced new con-



En garde! Photo by Aradhya Gupta

fidence in a Lancaster side that desperately needed it.

Despite this brief upsurge of conviction though, York managed to hold their nerve with close fought contests including the bout between Lancaster's Wilkin and Bartek which could have gone either way until it ended 1-1 having

had the maximum three minutes.

Lancaster had drastically improved by this stage, and took the épée 45-33, however, it was not enough to outdo York's lead. As York triumph with a score of 123-104, Lancaster will, again, be lying and waiting for this year's Roses.

## Rugby Union

## Mistakes punish luckless Lancaster

Lauren Davidson

Lancaster ..... 12  
Leeds ..... 33

Lancaster University Rugby Union first team had a disappointing afternoon at home on Wednesday after losing 33-12 to the University of Leeds seconds.

It was the visitors who initially dominated play, easily gaining ground and overpowering Lancaster's defence. However, poor passing from Leeds meant it wasn't long before Lancaster gained possession and were able to highlight their strength in attack. Yet, likewise to their opponents, it was sloppy ball handling that scuppered any real chances of a try.

Both teams adopted a negative kicking game in the first half which didn't benefit either side but it was a lovely chip forward which allowed

Leeds to evade the Lancaster defence and plant their first try between the posts and convert easily.

The to-ing and fro-ing of possession kept play quick and Lancaster finally made a break in the 21st minute when Luke Dilly was allowed an unobstructed run down the touchline, scoring comfortably. The conversion unfortunately was way off the mark.

Lancaster kept the pressure on, battering Leeds' defensive line for the next ten minutes and fighting for every inch of ground. The result: another try, converted this time, and Lancaster went into the lead.

Leeds quickly stepped it up in response, scoring shortly before half time and converting easily but Lancaster showed no let up and almost claimed another try before the whistle. Leeds went into the break with a

lead of 14-12.

Leeds started strong in the second half and, despite relatively strong defensive efforts from Lancaster, extended their lead in the first five minutes with another converted try. Lancaster's attempts to drive play were marred by an apparent unwillingness to pass the ball and allowed Leeds to easily regain and retain possession.

After an unsuccessful penalty kick Lancaster seemed to lose interest, giving Leeds easy breaks and so much space that another try was inevitable. A superb interception from Leeds fly half Jack Gaff added a try to his clean kicking record.

Lagging behind Leeds' 28 points, any hopes of a fruitful Lancaster comeback were dwindling. Leeds' final try was a perfect example of how simple, well-executed ball play pays dividends – straight down the three quar-

ter line and over the try line without contest from a Lancaster team who appeared to have all but given up.

The home side showed some signs of life, pushing Leeds back into their own 22 and controlling play once again but the urge to slam into the opposition and hope for the best lost them the ball and, unsurprisingly, the match.

After the match, Lancaster Captain Wilf Whittle said the team were "gutted" about the result. The squad have recently implemented a 'high risk, high reward' strategy but unfortunately Wednesday's match didn't feature too much reward. Whittle went on to say that the team "made a lot of mistakes" and after a winning performance against the Lancashire under 20s team last week the Lancaster team were clearly frustrated by the poor result.

## It's all about Roses

Marc Handley  
Vice President (Activities)

This week sees the first Roses meeting of the year between Lancaster and York as I and the rest of my Roses Sports Committee get the ball rolling for this year's event. Whilst York set a new high last year with an event in a professional sporting arena, Roses 2012 isn't looking to favour one team or one club over another, but more hoping to be an even more polished and professional event than last time it was here, in 2010.

**"There are so many different ways to get involved in a Roses competition"**

There are so many different ways to get involved in a Roses competition that it is quite frankly difficult to not have something which suits you; be it playing, helping with our event planning, being with our student media or a steward over the weekend, there are so many chances so I hope you grab this fantastic opportunity and make the most of it.

I certainly don't want to start the rousing speeches just yet, but in the coming months, the whole momentum of Roses will steadily begin to increase and not just be a topic of discussion in the Activities Office but all across campus (I hope).

Finally, as this is my last column of 2011, I wish everyone a relaxing holiday and look forward to seeing more fantastic student activities in the new year.

## Team in the Spotlight

# Impressive Lancaster extend unbeaten streak

Naman Rawat

The fairytale season of the Lancaster Basketball firsts team continues, after a 70-51 victory over opponents Liverpool John Moores (LJM) saw them progress to the last 32 of the Northern Conference Cup. The go on to face MMU Cheshire seconds in the second round. The victory marked the fourth win in a row for the home side which is currently sitting comfortably at the top of the group table.

Lancaster dominated the opening stages of the game with skipper Mike Guille and Karl Ingemar Viilver showcasing some strong defence to keep LJM at bay. By the end of the first quarter, Lancaster led with the score line at 25-11. By half time, Lancaster had tightened their grip on the game extending their lead by 18 points with the score at 41-23.

The next two quarters were close with Lancas-

ter taking the decision to rest some of its big guns in order to test the strength of its bench. This mattered little to the games proceedings as by the time the changes had been made, the game was well out of Liverpool's reach.

**"The current season looks very promising"**

A major difference between the two teams was defence, and Lancaster through the presence of big defenders such as Mike Guille and Karl Ingemar Viilver were able to dictate the game's proceedings. LJM's lack of a game plan was visible, and at times the team looked scattered around the court. They also missed some very easy points as their shooting



Lancaster Basketball firsts in action. Photo by Jay Theiss

left much to be desired.

Lancaster's point guard Zach Greene demonstrated some fantastic form throughout the game, and looked in complete control as he notched up 14 points to become the game's joint highest scorer alongside Dimitrius Karakasis.

Coach Gregg seemed more than satisfied with the win and told SCAN; "we are very happy to be in the second round, but could have played better in the last two quarters. It was a good overall team effort and I'm really happy with the way

the team is playing at the moment."

Captain Mike Guille told SCAN; "we had two good quarters, and it was a good overall effort from everyone and the whole team managed to get on the scoring sheet. It's another win at home and we are still undefeated this season."

Lancaster now has some big games coming up, and the away game on the 16th November against The University of Chester is expected to be a close match.

Much is expected of the team after the way season

has begun. They began the season with a bang and demolished MMU seconds 64-39 on home turf. Their next two games proved more of a challenge, yet saw them defeat the University of Liverpool in a 58-50 victory and Liverpool Hope University in a 57-51 nail biter.

Only time will tell how far the team can go, but the blend of youth and experience has so far paid well for Coach Gregg's team. The current season looks to be very promising for the Lancaster men firsts.

## Football

# Captain Fantastic!

Tom Belger

Pendle.....2  
Lonsdale.....2

A last grasp goal from Lonsdale captain Chris Floodgate denied Pendle all three points and knocked them off the top of the table.

Both sides went in to the game desperate for points. Pendle were looking to maintain their one point lead at the top of the table, whilst Lonsdale were looking for their first points of the season.

Pendle were awarded with a penalty in the first minute of the game when Jordan Hughes was pulled

down by Lonsdale keeper Matt Wood.

Harry Kingston effort was placed just to Woods left and was comfortably saved.

The penalty gave Lonsdale an early wakeup call, and they began to steady themselves and create some good opportunities.

With that, they managed to open the scoring to the surprise of the Pendle team. A long range shot by skipper Chris Floodgate was parried by Pendle keeper Martin Brewin with the follow up turned in by winger Idriss Dhabi.

The game then descended into end-to-end action. The best chance came from

Pendle when Chris Timm's shot crept just over the bar.

Midway through the half, Pendle managed to score a bizarre equaliser. A long throw from the left crept through the crowd which must have surprised Wood as he misread the flight of the ball and failed to gather, allowing Jordan Hughes to tap in from close range.

Pendle began to dictate play and put pressure on Wood with plenty of long throws and corners. However, they were unable to create a clear goalscoring opportunity.

Pendle started the second half as they ended the first. Their first chance fell to Rich

Barker who blazed over from yards out after Wood had failed to hold onto the ball from the earlier free kick.

Lonsdale began to hit Pendle on the break. They had their first chance of the half when Lee Scott drew Brewin into a good save after a well built up move.

Minutes later, Pendle took the lead they deserved. Chris Timm swivelled on the edge of the box and his shot (which took a slight deflection) managed to creep its way past Wood and into the bottom corner.

Pendle almost increased their lead a few minutes later when Niall Peaker forced Wood into a smart stop.

Lonsdale thought they had won a penalty when defender Tom Forrest was brought down by Tom Schad with minutes to go.

The referee originally gave the penalty but after thinking about it, reversed his decision and awarded a goal kick to Pendle.

This looked to be the end of Lonsdale's chances and Pendle looked like maintaining their lead at the top.

However, in stoppage time a Lonsdale free kick found its way to the back post where Floodgate was there to turn the ball into the back of the net for a dramatic equalizer with the last kick of the game.

# SPORT



The Lynx extended their unbeaten run against Manchester. Photo by Jay Theis

## Rampant Lynx crush title rivals

### League leaders make it four games unbeaten

Rhys Elias  
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Lancaster ..... 46  
Manchester ..... 0

The Lancaster Lynx Rugby League team have extended their unbeaten streak to an impressive four victories in a row, with a convincing performance over the University of Manchester seconds in a top of the table clash.

A hatrick of tries from Danny Myers and tries from Neil Kilgallon, Jordan Shard, Adam King, Josh Oates, Matthew Buckland and Mike Gibson, saw Lynx cruise to a 46-0 victory against an uninspiring Manchester outfit.

The match began with a bang, when a fantastic break by Gareth Houghton found

its way to Neil Killgallon who crossed over to open the scoring in the fifth minute of play.

Danny Myers added to the score four minutes later when his dummy pass deceived the Manchester defence and opened up a gap for him to slip through. A similar move opened up the defence for Myers's second in the 14th minute. This time goal kicker Ben Robertshaw found himself unable to add the conversion despite kicking the previous two.

Injuries to Vice Captain Gareth Houghton and try scorer Neil Kilgallon looked to spark woe for the home side, yet Lynx continued their overwhelming advantage in attack with two further tries from Jordan Shard-New and Adam King to bring the score to 26-0 at

the break.

Lynx kept up the try fest in the second half with little response from Manchester. A wide pass from scrum half Paul Davies worked its way to Matthew Buckland who touched down for the try. Danny Myers was awarded with his hatrick in the 50th minute when the combination of a dummy, quick feet and good pace allowed him to sneak through the Manchester line.

Tries from Mike Gibson and Josh Oates rounded off the scoring for the Lynx, yet Manchester were not dead and buried just yet. Some desperate defence was needed towards the end of the game with the away side edging ever closer to the Lynx try line. Fortunately for Lynx, the resulting kick on the last tackle went out

of play to hand Lynx the victory and to ensure Manchester's efforts remained pointless.

**"I am very pleased with every one of the players"**

Notable performances must go to Adam Lacey and Mike Gibson. Some fantastic tackles by Gibson ensured Manchester never looked like scoring whilst Lacey's near unstoppable breaks looked to spark panic and fear in the eyes of the Manchester tacklers.

Lynx captain Max Brown

had this to say following the game; "On the whole I am very pleased with every one of the players and we put in a complete performance in all aspects of our game. What had lacked in other games was resolved. The three games prior to this showed signs of improvement and we built on these performances each week, but today was the icing on the cake and I'm proud of every single one of the lads."

Next week, the Lynx face Edge Hill seconds at home. In their last encounter, the Lynx scored a 64-8 victory and so will be expecting nothing less than a convincing victory. With four games remaining and the Lynx having beaten every team in their league, they must only feel that the title is now theirs to lose.