

## News

Lancaster fire requires 60 firefighters  
Learning Zone closure angers students

## Comment

Why LUSU Living lets us down  
Electoral apathy affects us all

## Sport

Bowland vs. Lonsdale - Founders preview  
LUSU Activities Awards announced

## Carolynne

How happy are you at Lancaster?  
Spine Spotting - the best campus outfits

# scan

STUDENT COMMENT AND NEWS

## Man sentenced for sexual assaults on two students

Students raise concerns about dimly lit areas around campus

**Rachel Stafford**  
Deputy News Editor

A man who assaulted two females near Lancaster University appeared in Preston Crown Court during Week 23 to be sentenced for two counts of sexual assault.

The assaults occurred on female students in separate incidents, both dated December 6th 2011. Both were approached by the man in question, Shaukat Khattack, from behind as they were walking along dimly lit

areas close to the University campus.

A press release from the Lancaster Constabulary stated that Khattack, "approached his first victim on Hazelrigg Lane and the second on the pathway leading towards Galgate village. He then made forceful and physical advances towards the women, trying to kiss them against their will."

He has been given a 12 month community order, a

**Continued on page 3**



One incident took place on Hazelrigg Lane, adjacent to Lancaster University campus. Photo by Jay Thies

**Editor**

Matthew Power  
scan@lancaster.ac.uk  
01524 592613

**Assistant Editor**

Jonnie Critchley  
scan.assistanteditor@lusu.co.uk

**Carolynne Editor**

Ruth Eaton  
scan.carolynne@lusu.co.uk

**News Editor**

Erin O'Reilly  
scan.news@lusu.co.uk

**Comment Editor**

Paul Hannah  
scan.comment@lusu.co.uk

**Sport Editors**

Rhys Elias  
Alex Rastall  
scan.sports@lusu.co.uk

**Features Editor**

Nick O'Dowd  
scan.features@lusu.co.uk

**Lifestyle Editor**

Hannah Husthwaite  
scan.lifestyle@lusu.co.uk

**Culture Editor**

Joe Henthorn  
scan.culture@lusu.co.uk

**Website Editor**

Craig Bojko  
scan.website@lusu.co.uk

**Head of Photography**

Meher Gupta  
scan.photography@lusu.co.uk

**Marketing & Advertising**

Louise Mason  
l.mason@lancaster.ac.uk

# SIXTY SECOND scan

**EDITOR'S THOUGHTS**

Roses 2012 was a fantastic spectacle and an excellent result for Lancaster and the Red Rose. Thanks to everyone who got involved in the student media, and contributed to RosesLive. I was delighted to see so many students checking out SCANonline's extensive coverage of the sporting fixtures. Have a read at scan.lusu.co.uk.

**NEWS****Lancaster ranked 9th in Uni Guide**

Holly Sutton reports following the announcement of the 'Complete University Guide 2013' which ranks all of the universities in the UK. Lancaster is ranked ninth with positive scores in different fields. **Page 6**

**FEATURES****Are you having the time of your life?**

Ellie House reports on a recent Carolynne survey that questioned students' happiness at Lancaster University. Is life at university everything it's made up to be? **Carolynne - C5**



© JSmith Photo

**LIFESTYLE**  
**Spine Spotting**

In a brand new feature, Carolynne's Laura Dempster has been out and about with the SCAN camera, finding the hottest new fashion trends on campus. See what you think. **Carolynne - C16**



© Jonnie Critchley

**COMMENT**  
**LUSU Living is letting us down**

Yasmin Jaunbocus is a disgruntled tenant of LUSU Living. In this comment piece, she writes about her problems regarding cleaning, matienance and all about life off-campus. **Page 13**

**SPORT**  
**Meet LUPATS**

It's hard to miss Lancaster University Pakour and Tricking Society (LUPATS) around campus. Their skills and tricks demand your attention - meet the people behind them in Stephen Jennings's article. **Page 17**



© Jay Theis

**NEWS**  
**Learning Zone closure angers students**

Catherine Chorley reports on complaints by students at about the closure of the Learning Zone over the weekend of Roses, which they say was not advertised. **Page 9**

**CULTURE**  
**Six of the biggest gigs coming up**

Culture preview six of the biggest music events taking place in the local area over the next few months. If you're a Maxi-mo Park fan or something less mainstream, check it out. **Carolynne - C8/C9**

**NEWS****Simon Reeve talks to SCAN**

SCAN's Laura Kay sits down with the increasingly popular BBC presenter, Simon Reeve, after his guest lecture at the University's Geography Department. **Page 8**

**SPORT****Founders preview**

Nick O'Malley previews the annual competition between Bowland and Lonsdale Colleges, due to take place in Week 28. Lonsdale came close last year - do they have what it takes to end seven years of misery? **Page 18**



© Ferdinand Doepel

**COMMENT**  
**Electoral apathy affects us all**

Peter Grundy discusses electoral apathy after just 32% of the UK population turned out to vote in the May local elections - the lowest turnout since 2000. **Page 14**

Design by Tom Skarbek-Wazynski & John Porter.  
Printed at The Guardian Print Centre, Longbridge Road, Manchester, M17 1SN



# NEWS

## Lancaster fire requires 60 firefighters

Erin O'Reilly  
News Editor

A disused industrial unit located on St George's Quay in Lancaster caught ablaze on Friday May 11th, requiring nine fire engines.

At 7:10pm "a passing Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) reported" that "the fourstorey disused warehouse" was on fire, a statement from Rachel Grenville from the Press Office at the Lancashire Constabulary reported.

"The Fire Service dampened down the flames, and a road closure was maintained throughout the night" Grenville added.

### Nine fire engines and crews were dealing with the blaze

According to a statement on Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service's website "the first of a number of 999 calls" was made at 7:09pm. "At the height of the fire nine fire engines and crews, and two aerial ladder platform vehicles, in addition to other support vehicles and crews" were dealing with blaze. This amounted to "around sixty fire-fighters in total."

Initially water from the River Lune was used to control the blaze, "but since the river is tidal at that point and the tide was receding, the source for water was switched to street hydrants."

### "Thought to have been started deliberately"

According to the statement, both the third and fourth floors of the warehouse were on "fire when the first fire crews arrived on the scene" and the fire was "thought to have been started deliberately."

Grenville confirmed that "an investigation is underway into the cause, alongside Lancashire Fire and Rescue."

### No one was in the building at the time

A reporter from SCAN who was walking by the scene the following day was told by one of the Police officers that there had been no reports of injuries and no one was suspected to have been in the building at the time.



A firefighter assesses the damage. Photo by Laura Kay

## Police reassure students after assaults

Continued from page 1

six week curfew from 8pm to 6am and will also be on the sex offenders' register for five years.

Despite wishing to reassure that "incidents of this nature are rare and Lancaster University is an extremely safe environment to live and study," Detective Constable Brian Shepherd, of Lancaster CID, urged students to "consider their personal safety whenever they are off campus."

His advice to students was "think carefully about the route you are taking, avoid being alone in quiet and unlit areas and if you are on a night out take enough money for a taxi home - making sure that you use an official taxi firm for your lift." Detective Shepherd also wanted to assure students that "both the police and the University take these kinds of incidents very seriously," and "would urge students to report any sexual assaults to

[the police]."

LUSU Vice President (Equality, Welfare and Diversity), Matt Saint wished to "thank Lancaster Constabulary for dealing with the situation professionally and efficiently."

### "Incidents of this nature are rare"

He also stressed that he has "had a great number of conversations with various individuals from the University regarding lack of lighting on campus" and has led a "Light the Way" campaign which has highlighted problem areas around campus.

Although he was unsure as to whether the areas in question were the responsibility of the City Council or the University he said that he "would hope that both would start to take this issue a lot

more seriously before we see potentially worse incidents than the ones that have occurred already."

When asked to comment on the recent developments from the Police, the University's Press Office said they were unsure of "student concerns about dimly lit areas."

FGH, the security company used by The Sugarhouse and many other Lancaster venues, are offering sessions for women to provide advice on how to defuse, and if necessary escape, a potentially violent situation without raising the risk of injury to anyone involved. The times and dates for the first round of courses are Tuesday 22nd May 12pm - 2pm and 7pm - 9pm and Saturday 26th May 4pm-6pm. For more information, or to book a place free of charge, call Dave Taylor at FGH Head Office on 01524 847 554 or email at [info@fghsecurity.co.uk](mailto:info@fghsecurity.co.uk). The first 100 people to book places receive a free personal attack alarm worth £10.

# SCAN investigates: Daily Mail places academic "cheating" league table

Article lacks context, say University and LUSU

## MISCONDUCT CASES 2010-11

1) Lancaster	194	12) School of Oriental and African Studies	47
2) East Anglia	187	13) Leicester	35
3) Bath	182	14) Oxford	26
4) Sussex	167	15) Warwick	21
5) Newcastle	166	16) Liverpool	20
6) King's College London	150	17) Sheffield	18
7) Nottingham	129	18) Durham	4
8) Surrey	100	19) Cambridge	1
9) Edinburgh	97	20) Bristol	1
10) St Andrews	63		
11) LSE	57		

The Freedom of Information request was sent to the country's top 30 universities, as ranked by the independent Complete University Guide 2012. Of those, 20 supplied figures.

The University of Lancaster had the worst record with 194 incidents of misconduct. The Daily Mail's league table (as found on their website).

evening at a premiere  
Can't keep up

▶ Shouldn't be tighter than Wright steps while Joey E squeezes his skinny jeans  
Finding it diff

▶ Mamma Mia bares her to revealing outfit for an out  
Hope they have napkins

▶ Waist-ing a rail thin Mile reveals razor collar bones and hot pants  
Most revealing of her East C

▶ Victoria's S

Bristol Universities (ranking 18th and 19th respectively), which given both the number of students and standing of these institutions, is highly improbable.

The general tone of the article in the Daily Mail is suggestive of a punitive approach to academic misconduct, indicated by the headline phrase "student cheating" and foregrounding serious offences resulting in expulsion, suspension and fines.

Lancaster's approach, our investigation suggests, is more educational in its intentions. Dr. Graham M. Smith, an academic in the Department of Politics, Philosophy and Religion (PPR), told SCAN that "the basic premise that the marker has is that the student has acted honestly, and they proceed on that basis. The marker isn't there to primarily catch people out as it were."

Smith stressed that "honesty and decency has to work both ways."

Alex Carlin corroborated this, seeing Lancaster's attitude as "trying to encourage the highest academic standards."

Carlin added that "I think the attitude is very much is 'this is how you write in an academic environment and we encourage you to do the same, or we expect you to be doing the same.'"

Lancaster's handling of academic misconduct is based upon the University's Plagiarism Framework. This document outlines key areas in the context of plagiarism, first among which is 'the education of students'.

The Plagiarism Framework places types of academic misconduct into two separate categories - minor and major offences. Minor offences would, according to the Framework, include "poor referencing, unattributed quotations, inappropriate paraphrasing, incorrect or incomplete citations, or [...] up to several

sentences of direct copying without acknowledgement of the source."

According to Dr. Smith, there are two ways in which such offences are spotted. "[Minor offences] are spotted partly through the marker, [who] will know material, or the style will change or the tense will change."

"Sometimes fonts will change, which is a big giveaway," he added.

Source copying may also be spotted through the use of Turnitin, a piece of computer software into which a marker may input a piece of work. It will then produce a report on the submitted piece, highlighting sections that match pieces of text available on the internet. All of the universities contacted by SCAN responded that they employ Turnitin software.

However, the academic misconduct framework states that the categorisation of these offences as 'minor' or 'major' is based on the judgement of the marker. The University's online guide to using Turnitin stresses that "when the software finds something, it may not be plagiarism," and that such judgements should be taken by the marker, rather than the software.

This is corroborated by Dr. Smith, who emphasised that a match found by Turnitin does not necessarily mean that a student is guilty; "when academics look at pieces of work, if there are small slips, they take that in the context of the overall piece of work."

The framework goes on to define what constitutes an exclusively 'major' offence; "copying multiple paragraphs in full without acknowledgement of the source, taking essays from the internet [...] submitting the same piece of work [...] under multiple modules and cheating in a class test."

While minor offences are largely dealt with through essay feedback, instances of major offences are

**Ronnie Rowlands**  
**Jonnie Critchley**  
Assistant Editor

An article in the Daily Mail has placed Lancaster University at the top of a table for recorded "student cheating" amongst UK universities.

The table, published on March 2nd 2012, reported 194 incidents at Lancaster, placing it above East Anglia and Bath Universities, which had 187 and 182 incidents respectively. The figures were attained through a Freedom of Information (FOI) request made by the Daily Mail to the UK's top 30 universities, of which 20 replied.

Lancaster University has confirmed that the figure is accurate, but disputes the conclusion reached by the article, that the University has "the worst record [...] of cheating during the last academic year."

In a statement to SCAN, Pro-Vice Chancellor (Colleges and Student Expe-

rience) Professor Amanda Chetwynd said that "half of the cases relating to the [Daily Mail] FOI are minor."

All of the universities who responded to SCAN's own FOI request also confirmed that the Daily Mail figures were accurate, but misconstrued.

The University of St. Andrews were particularly critical of the conclusions reached by the Daily Mail, telling SCAN that "the presentation in the piece of a league table of institutions is [...] enormously simplistic and misleading [...] No attempt has been made to factor in the different sizes of the institutions featured, or to explain that variations in levels of plagiarism between institutions may be due to how hard universities look for it in the first place."

LUSU Vice President (Academic) Alex Carlin was similarly critical of the Daily Mail's conclusion and overall attitude and understanding

of academic misconduct.

In an interview with SCAN, Carlin argued that "Without the context of the data [...] it's very difficult for them to have reached the conclusion that they have done."

**"I still think the Daily Mail have the wrong conclusion"**

"That said, I still think they have the wrong conclusion." He added, "to have a high record of plagiarism indicates that you're quite good at detecting it, whereas the Daily Mail seems to have taken completely the [wrong approach]."

Carlin also pointed out the anomaly of the Daily Mail reporting only one instance at both Cambridge and



# es Lancaster top of

referred to the Academic Officer, and an investigation into the academic record of the offending student is carried out, and the student is summoned to a hearing, at which another member of staff from the department is present, to take a record of the hearing.

The framework goes further to state: "[the student] should be encouraged to be accompanied by a friend," such as a LUSU representative or college personal tutor.

After a discussion with the student has taken place, a hearing can have three possible outcomes. The offence may be deemed as 'minor', and the relevant sections of the work are struck out and marked accordingly.

If, however, the offence is deemed to be 'major', the offending student may be asked to resubmit the work, which will then only be eligible for a minimum pass mark. In more serious circumstances, such as a repeat offence, the case may be referred to the Standing Academic Committee, the highest academic disciplinary board of the University.

Heather Lambert, a third-year Geography student from County College, was penalised for plagiarism in an essay in February 2012.

33% of Lambert's essay had been found to be material reused from a piece of work submitted during her second year, which she told SCAN she was unaware was an offence.

"I'd just finished my dissertation and I had two other reports due in and I wanted to relax from doing the dissertation and so I rushed these two reports [...] I basically thought [...] copy parts of this because it was relevant to the essay I was doing," she said.

Lambert added, "I honestly wouldn't have done it if I knew it was a form of plagiarism."

Lambert's offence was judged to have been a minor plagiarism offence because it was her first such offence and the material plagiarised was her own. She was penalised with a 10% deduction, bringing her mark down from 50% to 40%. Lambert felt that decision was "the best result possible" in her case, given that she had not been forced to resubmit her essay.

LUSU VP Carlin explained how the plagiarism framework may be applied to the student's advantage, such as when repeated minor offences are judged as major and the student is obliged to resubmit the work, instead

of offending passages being removed and the work marked based upon the remaining material.

"The bonus here obviously is that even if something technically was minor but there was lots of minor text and it was marked based upon what was there, someone might have only got 20%, whereas if they had the opportunity to rewrite the whole thing they could probably pick up the whole 40%," said Carlin.

**"I honestly wouldn't have done it if I knew it was a form of plagiarism"**

The input offered by both LUSU and the University points to a positive, educational mentality when dealing with academic misconduct as suggested by Dr. Smith: "What should be said is that markers aren't 'police officers', and students aren't 'villains'."

## Analysis: be vigilant, avoid plagiarism

**Ronnie Rowlands**

Synonymous though the phrase is with The Daily Mail, the story we have reported on can safely be described as 'typical Daily Mail nonsense', and part of the publication's never-ending tirade against students and the very idea of using taxpayer's money to prepare yourself for a career and subsequently pay taxes.

One could say that the figures contained in the Daily Mail's table are at least accurate, but the article does not delve beneath the surface of the numbers. If they had bothered, they would know that the distinction between 'major' and 'minor' offences is the same distinction between genuine cheating and a genuine mistake. The Daily Mail's emphasis on major offences over minor ones is fairly indicative of the incorrect point they tried to make.

In the course of this investigation, in an effort to give weight to Amanda Chetwynd's claim that half of Lancaster's 194 offences are indeed 'minor', I lodged an FOI request of my own, asking for the exact nature of each individual recorded offence at Lancaster. The University was unable to offer this information, on the basis that, legally, they are allowed to avoid collating any information that would take more than 18 hours to find. One wonders on what basis Professor Chetwynd made this claim.

However, Dr. Graham M. Smith was confident that Professor Chetwynd's assertion was indeed the case; "I've only come across one or two cases where a student has copied wholesale from someone else," he said.

In the same FOI, I asked for the departments to which each individual student belonged, to see if any subjects were particularly rife with misconduct. In re-

sponse, the University offered me an extremely 'helpful' list of departments in which offences had taken place (ie. A list of all the University's departments), with no numbers.

Perhaps a proper answer to this would have been equally time consuming, but it would certainly serve the University well to implement better systems of retrieval. Indeed, it would be particularly helpful in pinpointing exactly where we are failing, in order to facilitate improvement.

It was difficult to work out how, exactly, Bristol and Cambridge universities were found to have only one offence in 2010-2011. Are we to believe that, in two universities which both have higher numbers of students than Lancaster, there were so few recorded offences? Maybe Lancaster are better at spotting plagiarism. Maybe Bristol and Cambridge were equally manipulative of FOI legality. Who knows?

Despite the difficulties, our investigation is at least indicative of well-covered procedures. While Heather Lambert's case was unfortunate, there is no evidence of any poor communication on the University's part, especially when the essay cover sheets that you sign clearly state that you are pledging that you have not submitted the work previously.

The issue here is not a lack of transparency, but rather, a lack of vigilance on the part of students. You don't have to subject yourself to the study of reams of tedious documentation - read what you sign and make yourself aware of how to reference correctly (it's fairly simple). That way, you're not losing marks, and the Daily Mail won't have such a low opinion of the University. Not that their opinion on anything particularly matters.

**The Independent's table of academic misconduct cases 2010/11 (data from 80 UK institutions). Top 20.**

1. University of Greenwich	907	11. Nottingham Trent University	268
2. London Metropolitan University	808	12. University of Exeter	261
3. Sheffield Hallam University	800	13. University of Brighton	259
4. University of Wolverhampton	608	14. University of East London	259
5. The University of Kent	525	15. The University of Nottingham	235
6. University of Westminster	514	16. Liverpool John Moores University	227
7. Middlesex University	415	17. Staffordshire University	222
8. University of Hertfordshire	404	18. Kingston University	209
9. University of Central Lancashire	393	19. Lancaster University	194
10. University of Glamorgan	379	20. The Robert Gordon University	190

**The Independent's misconduct table highlights flaws in the Daily Mail's report.**

# Nobel Prize winner to visit Lancaster

Laura Kay

Nobel Prize winner and biologist Sir John Sulston is to hold a public lecture at Lancaster Town Hall later this month.

A joint winner of the 2002 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine, Sir John was awarded for his work in understanding the genetic regulation of organ development and programmed cell death in worms; an achievement that helped scientists to better understand the role of certain genes in cancer, as well as in normal development.

Educated at Cambridge University, Sir John has received over a dozen honours and awards in science, and was knighted for his services to genome research, including contributions to the Human Genome Project, in 2001.

The lecture has been organised by the Centre

for Economic and Social Aspects of Genomics (Cesagen), a collaboration between Cardiff and Lancaster Universities, and will form the third public lecture organised by the group.

**"such a renowned speaker"**

Sir John intends to focus on the way in which "biology has grown from a largely academic discipline into one of great social and industrial value," with discussion centring on the ethical and social dimensions of modern biology. "Choices made now, ethical, legal, social, and scientific, will determine the future of humanity," he has stated in his abstract for the lecture.

"We are looking forward to welcoming Sir John back to Lancaster on 24 May,"



Sir John Sulston. Photo by Anne-Katrin Purkiss

said Dr. Richard Tutton, who is one of the lecture's organisers. "Sir John's lecture follows the recent Royal Society report 'People and the Planet', which he chaired. This report highlighted concerns about global population growth and increasing consumption on the environment. Sir John's lecture will address what he sees as our ethical, legal, social, and scientific choices which will determine the future of humanity."

Professor Maureen McNeil, Associate Director of ESRC Cesagen at Lancaster University, has commented: "We are privileged to have such a renowned speaker in Lancaster – a Nobel Prize winner and former leader of Britain's contribution to the Human Genome Project. Sir John is a leading scientist and someone who has spoken out about wider social, political and economic issues. I think that students from across

the campus, no matter their particular subject, will find his lecture of great interest."

The lecture, 'Our biological heritage and our human future; living and flourishing sustainably', is planned to begin promptly at 6pm on May 24th at the Town Hall. Doors open at 5:30pm; tickets are free but interested individuals are required to register at this webpage: <http://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/832320/Cesagen-Public-Lecture>.

# Lancaster ranked ninth in 'Complete University Guide'

Holly Sutton

Lancaster has recently been ranked in ninth position in the 'Complete University Guide 2013' out of all UK universities.

The University is alongside other prestigious universities in the top ten, including Cambridge in top position and others including Durham, Oxford and Warwick.

Present and past students of Lancaster University have reacted positively to its recent high rankings.

Sarah Main, a third year student at Lancaster said: "It does make me feel more proud of achieving a high grade knowing that I go to a high ranking university. I'm also very proud that my subject was top of the list last year and 3rd to Oxford and Cambridge this year."

This ranking position has been gained through an investigation based on nine different measures: student satisfaction, research assessment, entry standards, student-to-staff ratio, spending on academic services, spending on student facilities, good honours degrees achieved, graduate prospects and completion.

**"being in the top 10 is great for future job prospects"**

Ollie Gaskell, another third year student commented that he loves "Lancaster, and it being in the top 10 is great

for future job prospects as well as, hopefully, future investment in academic facilities at the University."

Lancaster's high rankings have been continuous over the past few years. In the Guardian's University Guide, they ranked Lancaster seventh out of 120 universities in the UK.

In the most recent UK Government's Research Assessment Exercise in 2008, more than 90% of the research at Lancaster was seen as world leading or internationally significant.

A Lancaster Graduate Robert McHugh told SCAN that Lancaster was a big part in helping him start his career. "I feel that Lancaster's reputation was a big part in improving my job prospects," he added.

A further high ranking for Lancaster is the

achievement of the University's accommodation being ranked second in the UK in the Times Higher Education Student Experience Survey.

**"90% of the research at Lancaster was seen as world leading"**

More than 14,000 undergraduates took part in the survey; however, the opinions amongst Lancaster students differ.

Main believes that "the feeling of safety, and college spirit within the way

Lancaster's accommodation works is much better" going on to say that "you don't get that at other universities [she's] been to."

On the other hand, Gaskell thinks that Lancaster's "accommodation is good but maybe not second in the country. It's definitely not second in the country for value for money!"

Despite mixed comments, future student Michael Sutton feels very positive about Lancaster's recent ratings.

"I was extremely impressed with the accommodation at Lancaster on the open days," he commented, "and now that it has been ranked as some of the best in the UK, it has confirmed my decision to make Lancaster my first choice."



# GRAD BALL 2012

DIAMONDS ARE FOREVER

# MAXIMO PARK

100% Sell Out 

*THE*  
**HOOSIERS**

The Striding  
Underground

K I T E S

**SOULRIGG** | **UNDERWATER**  
■ **GUNFIGHT** ■

**MELO | DEFJAX | CAWKY**

# BBC presenter speaks to SCAN

Laura Kay

The arrival of BBC television presenter, author and adventurer Simon Reeve to campus was a welcome breath of fresh air for students with exams fast approaching.

Reeve visited the campus on Thursday May 10th with an armful of tales, ranging from exciting to alarming, to deliver an educational and exciting session organised by Lancaster University's Geography Society. Prior to the session, SCAN caught up with the increasingly popular presenter for an interview.

Reeve describes himself as "basically a bit of a TV ponce, who travels exotically on TV programmes which blend travel and issues." He is notable for his previous appearances on *Tropic of Capricorn*, *Tropic of Cancer*, and *Equator*.

When questioned as to his favourite project to date, Reeve chose a series he worked on a several years ago entitled *Places That Don't Exist*, which centred on "unrecognised countries": essentially, countries "that aren't officially countries."

"There are a surprising number of them in the big wide world. Something like 300 million people live in countries that aren't officially recognised," he explained. One such country is that of "Transnistria", located

"between Moldova and Ukraine" with a population of about "800,000 people."

Reeve clarified that in terms of the government, an unofficial country is "not recognised by any other, or almost any other, government other than its own." Consequently, "it doesn't show up on the map as being a different country, but when you get there you discover that there is a border manned by troops." Reeve went on to animatedly describe how many such countries exist, one of his favourites being "Somaliland, which is north of Somalia and is a democratic stable country in a very difficult and dangerous region" yet "nobody will recognise it as a country!"

## "I nearly died"

Reeve also spoke of some of the dangers accompanying his job. "I have had scary moments" he said; one of which was driving on Indian roads whilst filming his most recent documentary, *Indian Ocean*. He labelled the roads of India as "a source of no small terror" due to the less stringent road safety regulations. "I was driving along dual carriage-ways there and there were cars coming down the other side

of the central reservation. There were trucks and lorries and buses coming straight towards me, sometimes in the same lane as us!"

He also described his time in Mogadishu in Somalia, where they needed to wear a "flak jacket, helmet" and even "blast boxers": a form of armoured underwear. "We were taken to the front line and witnessed urban warfare, essentially, in the 21st century. It's still going on, and that was very obviously a terrifying place to be."

Several years ago Reeve also caught malaria on a journey around the equator. "I nearly died, basically," he said. "I thought I was watching the A Team - which is very odd really!"

Reeve also discussed his time as a student, explaining that he got into media "by being a very unsuccessful, unimpressive student." He added: "I failed miserably at academic pursuits and got a D at my English A-level."

Leaving school at 17, a "hopeless" Reeve "got a job as a post-boy on The Sunday Times newspaper," allowing him to get his "foot in the door." Beginning as a "dogsbody" he then went on to write books on terrorism. "Nobody read the books when they came out" he said, "but 9/11 happened and the world transformed."



©Simon Reeve

In terms of the advice he would give to students wanting to get into the media, he initially joked "don't do it!" "It is interesting," he went on, "but you've got to be really committed and you've got to really, really work hard. People will say you've got to send out a hundred letters - add a zero to that."

## "be really committed"

A committed attitude, vivid imagination, and being assertive "in terms of pursuing opportunities when they arise" are qualities that Reeve outlined as being essential. He also suggested building up a portfolio along with different

experiences in "several areas of expertise."

Speaking again about his own career, Reeve emphasised that when he's not filming projects he just likes "normal life."

"I get a lot of excitement on my job and my adventures, I love that, but when I'm home I savour the normal things. I savour the fresh water that comes out the tap and the supermarket down the road; that's rare on planet earth, and I feel very blessed to live in a country where that's possible. So, I don't take things for granted and enjoy the little things."

Simon Reeve's most recent travel documentary, *Indian Ocean*, is currently being aired on BBC 2. Episodes are presently available on BBC iPlayer for a limited period.

# FASS announces new Dean appointment

Chelsea Chan

Professor Nancy Wright has been appointed Dean of Lancaster University's Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS), the largest faculty on campus, effective this September.

FASS is a research-intensive faculty which consists of 14 subject departments and the Ruskin Library and Research Centre, shared by 4200 undergraduates and 875 postgraduates.

Professor Wright comes to Lancaster from the

University of Queensland, Australia, where she is currently Executive Dean of the Faculty of Arts.

She earned her PhD and Master's degrees in Philosophy from Yale University, after gaining her BA and first MA from York University, Canada.

"I am very excited to be joining a Faculty as intellectually vibrant as Arts and Social Sciences at Lancaster University," Professor Wright said, adding that "I look forward to working with the Faculty to build

upon its already prestigious standing and reputation."

Lancaster Vice Chancellor Professor Mark E. Smith was pleased with Professor Wright's appointment to the University's academic staff.

"We were lucky to have an incredibly strong field and to be able to attract someone with such talent and experience from an institution of the University of Queensland's standing," he commented to the University's website.

He thought such an appointment "speaks vol-

umes for the profile" of the entire University and FASS.

## "We were lucky to have a strong field"

Known for her comprehensive teaching experience in English Literature at Yale University and more recently in Australia, Professor Wright's also has senior

management experience from roles at the University of Western Sydney and the University of Queensland.

She was recently awarded a substantial grant from the Australian Research Council for a three-year investigation on Indigenous and Non-Indigenous Collaboration in Australian Film and Literature.

Professor Wright is currently working on the concept of the apocalypse in the Great Depression representation in American cinema.



# Lancaster and Liverpool collaborate in new ways

**Emma Nelson**  
Deputy News Editor

Despite the recent proposal for a federal collaboration between Lancaster University and the University of Liverpool being dismissed, the two universities seem to be collaborating in other ways.

This collaboration comes in the form of a new Centre for Global Eco Innovation in the North West, which will incorporate the expertise, resources and global contacts of both universities.

As reported in Lancaster University News, the centre will create collaborative research and development partnerships, where businesses will be matched with fifty of the UK's brightest graduates. These graduates will then complete three-year research and

development projects with the business, developing products, processes and services for the global marketplace, which will provide positive environmental benefits. These collaborations will also be used by the graduates involved as the basis of a PhD programme of study.

## "50 of the UK's brightest graduates"

Lancaster University's involvement in the centre maintains ideas outlined by the Pro-Vice Chancellor for Research, Professor Trevor McMillan, in a previous interview with SCAN. In terms

of the research side of business collaboration, McMillan suggested that "one of the things that we are responding to is that an increasing number of funding opportunities are actually linked to projects where business and industry is involved. Inevitably we have to go that way".

The centre will benefit both the businesses involved and the North West region as a whole. The new products and services developed will help to increase profitability of the businesses, with each business making a financial contribution of £4,000 per year. The scheme will also offer a significant number of jobs to the North West, helping to aid the economy of the region.

Along with this, the centre will work closely with

international commercialisation consultancy Inventya Ltd, who describe themselves on their website as providing "market intelligence for science, engineering and technology ventures," to provide further opportunities for collaborative work with both universities, as well as creating a business support programme for companies exploring the export market.

## Benefiting the North West

Project Manager Dr Phil Leigh stated to Lancaster University News that some businesses have already been partnered up with experts within the two universities,

"kick starting some genuinely exciting possibilities".

"Our business and academic teams are already exploring new products and services with the potential to make a real difference to people's lives," he continued.

Leigh explained how these benefits can range from "developing domestic energy control for low carbon buildings" to projects "exploring technology for a novel transparent biopolymer that has the potential to revolutionise the design of contact lenses and corneal bandages."

The centre is set to receive £4.9m-worth of funds from the European Regional Development Fund's North West operational programme, and collaborative projects will start in October 2012.

# Learning Zone closure angers students

**Catherine Chorley**

An apparent lapse in communication left some students inconvenienced and feeling left out of the loop over the provision of study facilities during the Roses weekend of May 4th-6th.

Students not involved in Roses found themselves left in the dark by what they claim to be the University's failure to communicate its intent to shut the usually 24-hour Learning Zone early on the Friday and Saturday evenings.

Despite coursework deadlines and exams looming, those students affected by the evening closures of the study facility were more frustrated by the failure to adequately publicise this procedure than by the decision itself.

Third-year Maths student Conor Scrivener felt that "a lack of communication from the University over the decision to close the Learning Zone for the evenings of Roses is the biggest problem. If people had been aware then alternative measures could have been made by individuals."

The decision is a repeat of the procedure implemented two years ago, when York descended upon the campus in 2010. In each case it was felt that with so many additional people on campus, it would be too difficult for security to patrol in addition to the events taking place for the Roses tournament.

The University's Press Office confirmed the reported closure, defending both the decision and its publicity: "The Learning Zone was

only closed on Friday and Saturday evening and notices were displayed advertising this during the week."

Despite this, reports from students that they had no advanced warning about this suggest that such notices were inadequate for their intended purpose, leaving students feeling inconvenienced and frustrated.

Students who spoke to SCAN also expressed a general concern that the Roses tournament falls so close to the exam period, and said that under such circumstances the University ought to have had a contingency plan for making sure that there were adequate spaces for studying throughout the weekend.

Whilst the Facilities Department defended the decision by stating that the Library had remained open



Photo by Jay Theis

as usual, it would seem that this was not a fail-safe provision.

Third-year Physics student Jonathan Doyle, who broke the story to SCAN, said: "I was personally left with nowhere to work as the Library was full leaving me nowhere to revise for two exams that week."

Doyle echoed others' feelings that extra-curricular activities were being prioritised over the study-needs of students, saying, "I thought that Lancaster University was primarily an institute of education and in which case [it] should put students requiring somewhere to work first".





NEW RANGE OF  
**PRODUCE FROM  
LOCAL SUPPLIERS**  
NOW AVAILABLE  
LOOK OUT FOR THE  
**STICKERS**  
ON SELECTED PRODUCTS

**shop & central**





EST. 2010

# CAROLYNNE

STUDENT CULTURE AND LIFESTYLE

IT'S  
THE FINAL  
COUNTDOWN!

# CAROLYNNE WTF?

A TRIP TO COMET TO SIZE UP ALL TYPES OF FRIDGES AND KITCHENWARE ISN'T USUALLY MY IDEAL TUESDAY AFTERNOON. BUT AS I HOPPED, SKIPPED AND JUMPED AT THE THOUGHT OF A SHOPPING TRIP FOR COOKER HOBS, I REALISED I'D DEFINITELY HIT MY ALL TIME PROCRASTINATION LOW.

KEEPING UP A LEVEL OF CONCENTRATION AND COMMITMENT DURING IN EXAM TIME IS DIFFICULT, BUT DON'T BE TOO HARD ON YOURSELF FOR TAKING BREAKS ONCE IN A WHILE - EVEN IF THAT INVOLVES A SURPRISE INTEREST IN PURCHASING ELECTRICALS.

SO, IF YOU'VE PICKED UP CAROLYNNE TO HAVE A MUCH-NEEDED FIVE MINUTES AWAY FROM THE BOOKS, I HOPE OUR TAKE ON STUDENT CULTURE AND LIFESTYLE WILL MAKE FOR SOME NICE HEADACHE-FREE TIME. REMEMBER, THERE'S NOT LONG LEFT NOW, GOOD LUCK!

## IN THIS EDITION

DO YOU PLAY LOVE GAMES? .....	C.2
SEX AND THE CELEBRITY .....	C.3
THE TRUTH ABOUT STUDENT LIFE .....	C.5
COMIN' THIS MONTH .....	C.6
GIGS, PREVIEWS AND REVIEWS .....	C.8
DEGREES OF DEVOTION .....	C.11
CULTURE CLASH .....	C.13
THE PARENTS HAVE LANDED.....	C.14

# LET'S PLAY A LOVE GAME?



Do you roll the dice with your relationships? Photo by Jessie L

## LIFESTYLE

I like playing games as much as the next person. At my fifth birthday party, I remember begging to play yet another game of musical bumps. By fifteen, Truth or Dare seemed a more fitting choice. By fifty, it may be that Pictionary is more up my street. I doubt I will ever stop playing games. After all, they are fun, right?

A good game always has rules.

We have all been fed rules about how to act in the big bad world of love and dating. Some are logical, common sense, like "don't make yourself too available" - after all people are instantly more attractive when their life does not revolve around you. Any rule that stops you bringing out the inner-crazy, leaving thirty missed calls because you "wanted to hear the sound of his voice," is probably worth listening to.

On the other hand, some 'rules' are bordering on the ridiculous. I was flicking through a magazine the other day and came across this 'pearl of wisdom': "If you've been together more than a year and he hasn't proposed, start dating others. Do you really have another year to waste?" Sure, a good game has rules, but please know when it is time to disregard the rulebook!

A good game will always have a winner.

I can remember a time when a big argument broke out between me and my boyfriend. Being mature, well-adjusted adults, we chose to ignore each other for days. The one who caved first and apologised - well, they were weak! They lost! The other could triumph as being the more stubborn. I caved first, by the way. I lost... but since the 'game' wasn't fun to begin with, it was the best thing to do. Funnily enough, since we have swallowed our pride and focused more on "taking part" than "winning", it's been a happier relationship.

A good game can be ruined by a cheat.

If people choose to view love as a game, are they

making it more okay to cheat? People cheat at games all the time, and there is even a game called Cheat! In football, if you cheat, you get a red card. Disqualified. Unfortunately many people in love seem to have a bottomless supply of yellow cards... always one more before 'Game Over'. A game is more enjoyable for players and spectators alike when kept clean. Why should love be any different?

## WHEN IT COMES TO LOVE SHOULD WE THROW AWAY THE RULE BOOK?

To summarise, there are two big things that instantly suck the fun out of games: people who care more about winning than taking part and those who cheat. When the game in question is 'musical bumps', these inevitable things will cause sulking, temper tantrums and maybe a few tears. When the game is love? Let's just say the hurt will last long after the candles are blown out and the cake is served.

Love can be fun and enjoyable, just like a game. But don't ever forget the reason you started playing. Make up your own rulebook, play a clean game, and accept that there will be no winner and no loser.

After all, winning means the game is over.

Imogen Woods



# SEX AND THE CELEBRITY

## FEATURES

Unless you've been doing the equivalent of living under a rock when it comes to celebrity news and gossip, it was difficult to miss the recent scandal of X-Factor judge and singer Tulisa Contostavlos's sex tape. Featuring a young Tulisa and her then-boyfriend in an intimate moment, the video sparked outrage and initial denials from the star that it was even her. However, a YouTube video, in which Tulisa speaks out about the leaked footage, confirmed it was indeed the real deal, and the offending film was soon taken down. Since then, her single 'Young' (with the apt lyrics, "Forgive me for what I have done") went to number one in the charts, and looks set to stay in the top ten for a while to come. Not only that, Tulisa was also recently named as FHM's sexiest woman in the world 2012. Interesting coincidences, no?

## WHY DOES A SAUCY SCANDAL LEAD TO SUCCESS?

Many have reasonably speculated from this that the leaked sex tape was in fact a publicity stunt. But can we be angry about this when it has so blatantly worked? If the public react in a certain way, can we be surprised if the PR sprites jump at the opportunity to exploit this?

Whether it was a calculated tactic to boost Tulisa's fame, or an embarrassing accident as she claims, it must be remembered that Tulisa is just the latest to join the ranks of celebrities who have gained notoriety from their sexual exploits. Just look at Kim Kardashian, who was inexplicably catapulted to fame (along with the rest of her family) after the release of her sex tape with American footballer Reggie Bush. Now she has several reality TV series under her belt, along with various modeling contracts and even her own fragrance. And then of course there are the infamous Pamela Anderson and Paris Hilton sex tapes, causing no end of fuss and bother at the time of their release. Clearly a saucy scandal is something the public responds to.

The question then is, are there any negatives to the use of sex to promote celebrities? Generally, I'm not one to condemn anyone for what they get up to in the bedroom, and if it ends up online – well, no one's pretending these people are chaste virgins. You don't have to watch it. But in this celebrity obsessed culture, it's impossible to ignore that these people are role models (bizarre as it seems). Significantly, all the cases I've mentioned have been of women, and it's scary to think that there are girls out there hungry for fame, who think the way to go about getting it is to post sexual videos and images of themselves online. Not to mention

# ROLL UP! ROLL UP!

## LIFESTYLE

There are plenty of things we take for granted as students; cheap discounts, student loans and being able to roll out of bed two minutes prior to the start of a lecture. But one thing you may not think of at first is the market, which we at Lancaster have access to every Wednesday and Saturday in town, and Thursday on campus. So, why should your average student care so much about a few stalls?

We hear a lot nowadays about 'local produce', but a fair few of us don't really understand the importance of buying regionally. Buying local goods helps support the businesses in Lancaster, creating jobs and helping out the town's high street (many stalls have permanent shops or restaurants in town that their stalls help support). Not only that, but local produce also cuts down on air miles, meaning that those tubs of strawberries going into your smoothie haven't burnt a hole in the ozone layer to get there.

However, with the term 'farmers' market' comes an inevitable wince and grimace and students reaching to protect their purses. But why? It is a myth that markets are over-expensive. Fresh fruit and veg – which is a pricey luxury in supermarkets – is really cheap on the market. Our stalls sell eight apples for £1, grapes for 80p and best of all, if you get there later in the afternoon, you'll find loads of fresh goodies being sold off for a fraction of supermarket prices. So if it's cheap, stock up! Fruit salad is a mega tasty health-kick for summer days and homemade vegetable soup is a surprisingly simple alternative if Lancaster's rainy tendencies continue in May.

## GO WILD AND MAKE SOME VEGGIE SOUP!

If you haven't been convinced so far by cheap produce that helps your local town – and saves the environment – then maybe you need to know more about what's on offer. The magic of markets is that you can pick up treats you can't get elsewhere. There's plenty to satisfy any sweet tooth, from the gorgeous Yummy Cupcake Company (Oreo icing, anyone?) to the homemade fudge stall, with every flavour under the sticky, sugary sun. If you're in town for lunch, the hog roast is a real luxury at an affordable price, along with Chinese and Indian stalls (the Indian curries made before your eyes and tucked in a wrap are heavenly!) The market is a great place to go for gifts – gorgeous homemade bath bombs to hand-crafted jewellery to hand-wrapped pots of local jam.

So next time you're in town for market day, remember, we get so used to those busy stalls that it's all too easy to walk on past. Maybe it's time to have a look with fresh eyes. Oh, and a personal tip – the rocky road from Kay's Homemade Cakes is to die for. Lydia Warrender – Deputy Lifestyle Editor



Photo by Beacon Radio

the shady 'agents' who might exploit this view.

It's not the celebrities in the videos that are to blame, however. Fair enough, these people are in the public eye, and have some responsibility for what message they put across. But it's us, the consumer, who buy into these sex scandals and turn them into fame generating money spinners. How can we be outraged when they're only giving us what we want? Sure, 'sex sells' – but only if we buy it. Annie Gouk – Deputy Features Editor





IT'S ALL  
ABOUT  
YOU

**100%** OF OUR PROFITS GO BACK IN  
TO MAKING THINGS HAPPEN FOR YOU

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

LUSU



# IS UNIVERSITY REALLY THE BEST TIME OF YOUR LIFE?

## FEATURES

A-level results day; the brown envelope, the creeping sense of hysteria as papers were opened and the next three years of my life were cemented. I felt euphoric, yet scared at the same time. I had absolutely no idea what came next, yet I had waited and planned for this moment all through my college years.

The day my parents dropped me off at Lancaster was strange to say the least. Call me cheesy, but it felt like growing up. Surrounded by relics of home, I threw myself into university life. Two years later and it's a very different story; my flatmates are my dysfunctional family and I'm a stone heavier and hopefully two years wiser. Yet I rarely consider what I'm actually doing with my life.

I naively envisaged university as a slightly more intelligent vision of 'Skins', three years of hedonistic parties and forever friendships; but is that really the reality? Based on accommodation, education, and friendship, I conducted a survey on student experience at Lancaster and now, armed with some pretty searing answers, I'm here to dish the dirt about the truth behind the prospectus.

As I'm sure you'll be aware, students arriving at Lancaster in 2013 will be paying an eye watering £9000 in tuition fees. I'm not asking if this is right, of course it's not. I'm asking if it's worth it. I have experienced some brilliant lectures, but then I've also zoned out when assaulted by dreary power point slides. When I asked the main reason as to why you missed lectures, the overwhelmingly majority stated that they didn't seem worth going to. From English Lit to Engineering, lecturing style often compromises of reading from a power point which will inevitably end up on LUVLE. This may mean less work, but it's not exactly a scintillating experience.

I'm often accused of thinking ahead; give me some highlighters and I could draw a mind map of how my future should go. But sadly, I'm all too aware that university can't truly prepare me for the reality of the job market. The media displays depressing prospects for graduates, from unemployment to oversubscribed graduate schemes. When asked if you feel under pressure to obtain work experience, over 52% of you answered 'yes'. But has attending university in the top ten really given you that extra edge in the cut throat world of internships?

Whilst I've obtained work experience, the careers service offered little help despite their glossy placement posters. I could volunteer in a school, travel to Malaysia, help the environment, but what about placements in an actual work place? I'm sure I'm not alone in the worry that I am not making the most of my youth, as I'm so busy trying to impress. Students are meant to be all-singing, all-dancing churned out employees, but so far I've got further with my local newspaper than with supposed career's advice.

But enough of the doom and gloom. Let's get down to the real nitty gritty, who ate your last yoghurt, and where have all the damn teaspoons gone? Lancaster is rated as one of the best for accommodation, but I'm not talking about the colour of your curtains. Student life offers the opportunity to live independently, without your mum cleaning up after you. In theory it sounds an excellent idea, but the process of obtaining accommodation both on and off campus is slightly shambolic. Many of you felt strongly enough to recommend improvements, and what really stuck out was the complaint that first year and third year students shouldn't live together.



Photo by JSmith Photo

I lived with all freshers last year and will always look back on it as a truly brilliant experience. The same cannot be said for friends, two of whom were the only freshers in a flat of fourth years. Is that really fair? The boot is now on the other foot however, after the stress of trying to obtain a place on campus I'm now concerned I'll be the boring third year who shouts all the time. I've done Freshers' Week, I have my friendship group and whilst I'm excited at the prospect of meeting new people, I doubt there will be much common ground.

"First year is daunting enough without being the only fresher in the block," was a resounding complaint. Uncertain first years faced with final year students who have been there and done that is not really the best recipe for success. But it seems like it isn't much better off campus. Over 25% of you criticised the poor organisation of LUSU Living and to be honest I'm inclined to agree.

Upon arriving in my house last year repairs hadn't been completed over the long summer break and we were left without a shower for three weeks. But it's not even dodgy plumbing that seems to be the biggest issue. The system of applying for accommodation in second year dictates that you apply by Christmas. Two months to decide who you want to live with for the following year simply isn't long enough. "I don't know anyone who hasn't fallen out when living in a house, and become unhappy as a result," said my friend Claire. Disagreements are inevitable, but I'm talking about real bust-ups as a result of not really knowing your flatmates.

If you don't get on with the people you live with, where does that leave you in terms of friends? The generic Facebook picture of me in a big happy group in Sugar would suggest I have lots of friends, yet I could count my true friends on one hand and I know I'm not alone in this theory. "When I look round at a pre-drink party, the majority will be mere acquaintances," said my friend Hanah. So is the social life of university really just one big con?

"I often feel lonely, I'm not in the mood to go out but I feel like I should and then wonder if it's even worth it," continued Hanah. The overwhelming majority of you claimed that you go to a club for good company - I like a night out, but not when surrounded by swaying drunks and crying girls. The Sugarhouse toilets seem home to every depressed person out there; why do I witness so many tearful tantrums if we're all having such a good time? I suppose what I'm really questioning is the quality of student life when influenced by the above factors. We're young, healthy, and we'll never be this free again, yes we're not all wandering round as depressed as Eeyore, but why is our age group more likely to succumb to depression than any other?

It seems like society isn't really sure who students are meant to be anymore. Are we having threesomes in the library, staying in bed till three, or facing unemployment with a worthless degree? Nearly 20% of you rated your happiness on a scale of one to ten below six, so there are definitely issues, as there are with all universities. But Lancaster, I'd say, is a pretty tight knit student community. We may not have the clubs that other university towns boast of, we may be experiencing smelly cold bin wars as we live with others for the first time, but we're really quite alright.

Admittedly the sun rarely makes an appearance, and the number three bus never seems to turn up at Cartmel, but Lancaster is reassuringly real. We're doing our own thing, and can actually admit that every now and then Jeremy Kyle is the only way forward for a Tuesday morning.

My student life has truly been memorable, just not for the reasons you'd expect. I have four close friends and still make it home from time to time to see my cat. I still like to plan and I still lose my debit card/keys/anything of importance. I know I'll grow out of it, but right now I think I'm in the right place. I'm not dancing on tables and seizing the moment, it's hard to do that when the 2A seems to have taken half of my life up already, but let's just say I'm working on it. Note to self; find debit card. Ellie House

# COMIN' THIS MONTH



**CLOCKWORK ANGELS - RUSH**  
ALBUM - TUESDAY JUNE 12TH

Imminent environmental catastrophe, international terrorism, the constant nagging feeling that you'll die unloved and alone - these are all things that can ruin your day. But you'll never have to worry about them again, because Rush, the greatest rock band ever, are releasing a steam-punk themed concept album. Everything's going to be all right after all!



**JAPANDROIDS - CELEBRATION ROCK**  
ALBUM - WEDNESDAY JUNE 5TH

Japandroids are yet more proof that Canadians make all the best tunes. The Vancouver-based duo's debut 'Post-Nothing' was a powerful and refreshing piece of fuzz-soaked noise rock, but they've developed as songwriters and lyricists since then too. If early album cuts like 'Younger Us' are anything to go by, Celebration Rock will be making many end-of-year lists.



**LOLLIPOP CHAINSAW**  
GAME - FRIDAY JUNE 15TH

Suda51's mind must be a terrifying place. His latest game puts the player in control of stereotypical American cheerleader Juliet Starling, who, when faced with a zombie apocalypse at her high school, turns out to be rather handy with a chainsaw. It could be subversive and wonderful, but it could just as easily be a terrible, fetishistic mess of guts, blood and cleavage shots.



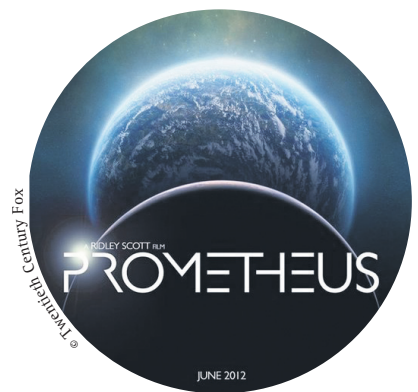
**SONIC 4, EPISODE 2**  
GAME - MAY 16TH

The first episode of Sonic's 2D reboot was released in 2010 to strong sales and a warm critical reception. But the big surprise was that 2010 marked the year finally, after ten horrible years, found his feet in 3D. So do we really need more 2D Sonic? Well yes, if the trailers are anything to go by, as Episode 2 seems to have benefited from the lessons SEGA learned whilst working on his latest 3D adventures.



**STALKING HORSE - SPECTERS**  
ALBUM - MAY 28TH

Neil 'Wu' Widdop made one of the most overlooked gems of the past ten years (The Baby Machine) as part of the now defunct Leeds four piece This Et Al, but his new solo effort looks set to be just as impressive. Ably assisted by super-producer James Kenosha, he's crafted ten wonderfully dark songs that sound like the music Radiohead would have been making had Thom Yorke never discovered dubstep.



**PROMETHEUS**  
FILM - JUNE 1ST

June sees Ridley Scott make his long-awaited return to the Alien series with the kind-of-but-not-quite prequel to the original film. The Alien name has been tarnished a little recently thanks to the dreary Predator cross-overs, but with an impressive cast and Noomi Rapace, Michael Fassbender and Idris Elba this looks set to be a return to form for the franchise.



# ANNUAL BEER AND PIE FESTIVAL

## THE GREATEST ALES AND PIES AROUND

### CULTURE

On the 26th April 2012 the 7th annual Beer and Pie Festival hit the city centre of Lancaster, where three pubs - the White Cross, the Penny Bank and Merchants - served up some of the greatest ales and pies around. To celebrate our return to Lancaster after a long Easter break, a group of us from County College set out to discover what tasty beverages and pastry goodness the city had to offer. The atmosphere of the festival was fantastic, with most of the pubs seeming very welcoming and comfortable, but the Penny Bank undoubtedly was the best experience not just for the hospitality and cosiness of the venue, but for the perfection of the food. Steff, over to you for a review of the meat pies...

The first stop on our bar crawl was the White Cross, where we got stuck straight in to an array of interesting meat pies. These included a Sunday lunch Pie, sausage and chorizo and a chicken curry pie with a naan bread crust. Despite rumours about the chicken curry pie being the best one around, I was a little unimpressed as I felt it didn't quite constitute a pie. It was really just curry in a bowl with an naan on top, which of course I didn't complain about as it was very tasty, but I was expecting it in a bit more of a pie form. We all had quite different impressions about which was the best meat pie the White Cross had but the general consensus was that the Sunday lunch pie was the most flavoursome, although its texture was a bit too much like a stew for my liking. I was quite satisfied with what we had gorged on so far especially as the portions were a brilliant size, but I did hope for some improvement taste-wise as we gradually made our way to the Penny Bank with our stomachs already verging on bulging.

The meat pies of the Penny Bank were a lot more impressive, the best being the fidget pie which was filled with apple and ham flavoured with some cider. The mixture of sweet and savoury was really interesting and all the flavours complimented each other well, along with the pastry having a gorgeous crispy texture and looking a lot more like a pie than others we had previously encountered. Throw in a huge meat calzone pizza pie that was ultimately cheesy and wonderful and it's safe to say the Penny Bank topped the White Cross by far. We felt like pigs at this point, but we quite happily and shamelessly rolled ourselves onto the last pub.

This final stop was Merchants, which started disappointingly as we were unable to try the very intriguing kangaroo pie. However, we managed to satisfy ourselves with what was probably one of the best pieces of our trip, the chicken, and pancetta and rosemary pie. This was beautifully creamy and the mixture of meat and the topping of herbs made it packed with flavour. Overall, despite an average start to the crawl, the meat pies had pleased me much with the best pub generally being the Penny Bank and the awesomeness of the fidget pie. This was also where our best veggie encounter also took place. Beth, over to you....

Being the only pescatarian on our expedition, I felt an extra challenge in finding the best pies. After all, not many meat-lovers would willingly choose a veggie option when there was so much meat about. At the White Cross, I proudly ordered the most interesting-sounding pie on the menu; Sweet Potato and Fiery Dragon Butter Pie.



Photo by Joe Henthorn

I simply had to know what 'Fiery Dragon Butter' was all about. Overall, it was a nice pie. A slight kick but it didn't blow my head off which I was sort of expecting based on the name. It was tasty and creamy without being too heavy but ever so slightly bland. Still, I concurred that I would order it again and would still recommend the food.

## THIS WAS CREAMY AND PACKED WITH FLAVOUR

Next was on to the Penny Bank, which was a celebration for all vegetarians out there. The pie we chose was the Calzone Pizza Pie, filled with feta, mozzarella, red onion, spinach and peppers. The danger here was that it might be too cheesy (if there even is such a thing). However, it was a classic combination of flavours which absolutely sang together. I resented having to share out my pie to the other tasters until they all agreed it was stunning. I believe the general consensus was also that it was better than its meaty counterpart - keep this on the menu Penny Bank!

At Merchants, I decided to extend my pescatarian privileges to the fish pie. This did exactly what it said on the tin; it was creamy, and chock-a-block full of smoked haddock, king prawn and sea trout. Had I not already eaten twice that afternoon I could easily have polished off the whole thing. Those who ate fish at the table also

seemed to enjoy it, and I found my fork wandering back as it was incredibly moreish. Needless to say, I'd thoroughly enjoyed my day, and I recommend the pubs for delivering wonderful vegetarian/pescatarian pies. I also enjoyed my first real tastes of ale on this day, but seeing as I'm not an expert I'll let Nick do the talking...

As a dedicated advocate of real ales, the festival held one goal for me: to sample as many of the drinks on offer as I could. The sheer number of beers on offer which offered as wide a range of different flavours and tastes, from pale, fruity beers that came close to lagers, through to black, oaty stouts and even a very nice barley wine at 8% vol and with a port-like flavour, became a favourite, and made the rest of the afternoon more interesting. The fair range of ales on offer meant that I was able to persuade both Beth and Steff, neither of whom are particular fans of proper beer, to try some of the speciality beers on offer, with more exotic flavours including beers that tasted of blueberries and one with strong overtones of strawberry. The wide array of local breweries showcasing their beverages created a lot of competition, and there were many stand out beers of all kinds, pale, bitter, amber, dark and fruity. The quantities of beer that were on offer meant that, when looking through the lists, choosing where to start was hard. However personally, I felt that the best pint was the Timothy Taylor Landlord; an amber bitter which was a mild, hoppy bitter. The two non-ale drinkers, however appreciated the toffee overtones of the Coach House Special pale ale.

The Penny Bank and Merchants, however, only had 11 beers each, which were easier to get through in order to give a full and complete review. Out of these, there were a few stand outs, the 8% Barley wine which, whilst tasting like a port and not strictly an ale, was very tasty. The Blueberry special, also from Coach House was another favourite of the non-ale drinkers, who enjoyed the fact that the whole thing tasted of nothing but fruit. The Beers served up at the Merchants were a mixture of light and dark drinks, which gave a good cross section of flavours, especially the local Lancaster Red beer. Steph Brawn, Nick Webb and Beth Palfrey-Smith

# GET CULT GIGS, PREVIEWS



Image courtesy of Cool Delta PR

## JODIE MARIE

What better way was there to soothe the stresses of a manic Monday than popping down to Lancaster Library this week for chilled tunes in an intimate setting with the next sweet thing – Jodie Marie. Sitting cross-legged on the floor amongst like-minded people, eating tasty cupcakes was the perfect way to enjoy the best thing to come out of Wales since Tom Jones's gyrations.

If you haven't heard of Jodie yet then check out 'I Got You' and 'On the Road' on her Youtube channel, both of which feature in her brand new album 'Mountain Echo', released just two months ago. The album – which is as ripe as a juicy peach – was produced by none other than Bernard Butler, the prolific producer responsible for Brigitte Bardot lookalike Duffy and was the man in charge of the epic cover of 'Stay With Me Baby' in The Boat That Rocked. Jodie Marie is a guaranteed hit if you've got a sweet tooth for rich, emotive lyrics sung with a voice that would make a wolverine purr. Her soulful sounds have summoned comparisons between Adele, the six Grammy Award winning superstar – which let's face it is better than a kick in the teeth. The crowd at Lancaster Library were left stunned by her harmonious melodies which went down smoother than a spoonful of warm honey – come back soon! Joe Henthorn – Culture Editor



Image courtesy of bradspearles

## LOW

You'd be a fool to miss Low's only UK gig outside of London – as well as gaining streetcred for seeing such a cultish band, you're sure to enjoy spending a night with the band that practically invented slowcore. Veterans of the music scene, Low have spent years undergoing many changes to their sound. What results today is a (slightly) more rocky, melody-based band than their previous incarnations have been – the band began as a joke between Alan Sparhawk and Mimi Parker (the joke being "What if we played this slow, quiet music to the grunge-obsessed scene of Duluth, Minnesota?"). The joke quickly became much more serious, and since then Low have been slogging away to much critical acclaim, releasing nine studio albums, nine EPs and endless contributions to compilations. Like a good bedspread, their music is very beautiful and often very soft – in fact, at many of their concerts the entire audience will sit on the floor, the better to appreciate the music. They are known for performing covers of bands like Joy Division and The Smiths, which sound like they'll be a treat to hear. Don't miss it! Stephanie Bell



Image courtesy of Man Alive!

## BETH JEANS HOUGHTON

Morning coffee, Sunday roast and duvet days are the usual Sunday tradition – but why not spice it up a little and venture to Lancaster Library for a relaxed Sunday matinee performance from the delightfully quirky songstress Beth Jeans Houghton? She'll be rolling into Lancaster after the Summer holidays, and I realise this is a bit of a way off, but tickets are selling quicker than proverbial hot cakes, so pencil her in now and you'll thank me later (unless you're a poor graduate-to-be who will have a job in London by then...). Mixing the melodious with the mad her songs possess an ethereal quality reminiscent of Kate Bush, but with slightly tamer hair. It is this otherworldly quality which led her debut album 'Yours Truly, Cellophane Nose' (I know, but go with it) to be backed by Ben Hillier, producer of Blur. Some of her most popular works include 'Nightswimmer' and 'Sweet Tooth Bird' which wouldn't be out of place being blasted at the Mad Hatter's Tea party. Her trippy tunings are the perfect cure for a Sugar hangover – don't think just listen to the airy fairy, plinky plonky goodness and be prepared to experience a transcendental level of chill. And remember, she's playing on the 23rd of September, so you've got plenty of time to trawl through her back catalogue! Stephanie Bell



# CULTURED S AND REVIEWS



Image courtesy of Cool Delta PR



Image courtesy of Fine Art Students



Image courtesy of LUSU

## HOWLER

This is one gig which should be a scream... or should I say howl? Howler, named by NME as third-best new band of 2011, are quickly building a reputation for excellent live shows. Which is probably a good thing, because although they aren't a particularly innovative band, their songs feel as though they have a huge potential to shine in a live sphere. The guitarist and singer Jordan Gatesmith, as well as being a charismatic frontman, was named forty-fourth in the NME's fifty coolest people of 2011, which in itself vaguely feels like a good justification to see Howler. They've also just released their debut LP on Rough Trade, famously the record label of The Smiths - although obviously they're a very different band. For one thing, they hail from Minnesota, and their guitar sound is very rarely clean. Rather it is harsh and abrasive, and as for their lyrics, Gatesmith himself describes them as "cute and snide." They may even showcase songs from their second album, set for release next year. All in all, certainly worth a watch!

Arun Takhar

## WE WERE HERE

After years of hard work third year Fine Art students of Lancaster University have comprised a collection of their varied works to be presented for their graduate show 'We Were Here.' The exciting exhibition features an eclectic mix of artworks ranging from traditional disciplines of drawing, painting, and sculpture to more contemporary practices such as photography, animation, video and installation.

As the title suggests, 'We Were Here' presents the "common urge to leave marks or legacies on places of importance" which is of particular relevance with the soon to be graduating students. The exhibition itself is entirely student-led, with members responsible for everything from administration to marketing to designing the catalogue to fund raising the necessary £2,000 needed for the show. This is the pinnacle not only of intensive studio practice but hours of gruelling ASDA bag packing and copious amounts of cake baking.

'We Were Here' is kicking off with a suited and booted soirée on Tuesday 19th June from 6pm - 9pm (where free wine will be available) and will run until Wednesday 27th June in the Peter Scott Gallery, the LICA building and the art studios. Entry is always free so there is no excuse not to miss your arty intake. For further details check out [www.wewerehere2012.com](http://www.wewerehere2012.com), like them on Facebook, We Were Here (Lancaster Fine Art Degree Show 2012) and follow the on Twitter @wewerehere2012.

Joe Henthorn

## GRAD BALL 2012

It's easy to criticise Grad Ball for being expensive and out of touch (I should know, I criticised Grad Ball for being expensive and out of touch in last issue's Comment section). But you have to hand it to the organisers, since they've managed to attract some of the biggest names to the Great Hall since it was used by the likes of AC/DC and Joy Division in the seventies and early eighties - and yes, they really did happen. And whilst the likes of Maximo Park and the Hoosiers aren't quite up there with Ian Curtis and Angus Young, they're still not to be sniffed at. The Mercury-nominated 'A Certain Trigger' remains a mid-noughties classic, and although their two follow ups didn't quite match the ecstatic highs of their debut, they're still packed with enough danceable hooks to get the whole Great Hall moving. And although the Hoosiers have some well known sing-a-long numbers, they've got a surprising number of synth-pop surprises up their sleeves. Further down the line up, the new romantic-inspired Kites are set to impress, and you can't go wrong with two of the best bands on campus, Underwater Gunfight and Soulrigg. Whether the line-up is worth the price of entry really is down to personal opinion, but if like most people you've shelled out anyway, you're in for a bit of a treat. Just don't be an idiot - stay away from the suits and dresses, people.

Joe Henthorn



# LUSU *Does* beachbreak *live* powered by DELL

THE UK STUDENT FESTIVAL

TICKETS £109  
+ TRAVEL & BOOKING  
ONLY £40 DEPOSIT  
Secure your ticket

PEMBREY COUNTRY PARK SOUTH WALES 14 - 18 JUNE

THE DELL MAIN STAGE...

CHASE AND STATUS LIVE  
FRI

DIZEE  
RASCAL  
SAT

FRIENDLY FIRES  
SUN

NERO

MAVERICK  
SABRE

LABRINTH

WRECK 32

DJ FRESH PRESENTS  
FRESH LIVE

BEN HOWARD

Delilah

GHOSTPOET

SCROOBIUS PIP | THE WHIP | THE MILK | CLEMENT MARFO & THE FRONTLINE  
RANDOM IMPULSE | ABANDOMAN | BROTHER & BONES | THE SAVAGE NOMADS  
FREE PEACE | LAZY HABITS | WILL & THE PEOPLE | YES SIR BOSS | ASBO DISCO  
CODA | JOE DRISCOLL & SEKOU | KING PORTER STOMP | MANKALA | BACKBEAT SOUNDSYSTEM | WINTERHOURS | DELVE

MERLIN'S FOREST...

MistaJam Presents  
SPEAKER  
BOX  
THE PLACE FOR BASS  
RODIGAN  
JAKWOB  
MISTAJAM  
PLUS VERY  
SPECIAL GUEST

FRI:

Skream  
& SGT POKES  
BENGA  
(LIVE)  
RUSKO  
YOUNGMAN  
DOORLY

SAT:

HOSPITALITY  
HIGH CONTRAST  
FEAT. DYNAMITE MC  
& JESSY ALLEN  
NETSKY  
CAMO & KROOKED  
FEAT. AYAH MARAR  
& YOUTHSTAR  
DANNY BYRD  
FRED V & GRAFIX  
HOSTS: WREC & CARASEL

SUN:

GHETTO BLASTER...

TODDLA T | JACKMASTER | ONEMAN | BLAWAN | GEORGE FITZGERALD  
PROPAGANDA | DJ PARKER | DJ CHEEBA | DJ MONEYSHOT | MYSTERY | SDM | MTD | DUTTY DAN

MORE ACTS ANNOUNCED APRIL

MIDNIGHT CINEMA | ROLLER DISCO | SILENT DISCO | HOT TUBS | FREE WORKSHOPS | COMEDY | STUDENT EXTREME GAMES | ZORBING | PARKOUR  
HORSE RIDING | VINTAGE MARKETS | SNOWSPORTS | BEACH SPORTS | FAIRGROUND RIDES | THE CELTIC GAMES 2012 | PLUS MUCH MUCH MORE



The power to do more



Book Now From...

BEACHBREAKLIVE.COM/LUSU

Pepe Jeans  
LONDON

Lucozade



# WOULD YOU ALTER A-LEVELS?

## FEATURES

Education Secretary Michael Gove has argued that universities should have more influence over the content of A-levels in order to better prepare students for undergraduate study. The proposition has been met with both positive and negative feedback from teachers and universities, with suggestions that universities lack sufficient resources and time to change A-levels. It has also been said that alterations would be unfair to those students not wishing to go to university, who would need different skills to aid them in employment. However, others feel that A-Levels ought to be reformed so to better prepare students for independent study and the increased complexity that studying at degree level poses.

## DO A LEVELS PREPARE US FOR OUR DEGREE?

Why not allow universities to alter A-levels? With many A-level students continuing to undergraduate level, surely they need as much help as they can get. If earning a place at university depends on A-level grades, the input from universities makes sense in ensuring students have the best chance possible. Some students struggle to reach the standards expected of an undergraduate, having never had the appropriate teaching to guarantee a smoother leap from A-level to university. Starting a degree is seen to be daunting because of the extra workload and the higher standard of work that is required. If universities influenced A-level content, students would feel as if they could cope more because their A-levels would have prepared them for the higher level of study. Time and money would also be saved because there would be less of a demand for extra classes to be created to help struggling students catch up.

It could be said that since not all A-level students continue to study further, it would be unfair to steer A-levels solely towards preparing students for undergraduate level. However, since many A-level students do intend to go to university, it is more beneficial to consider the needs of the majority of students. Those not continuing to degree level would still gain A-levels of substance that would prepare them to enter into a degree scheme in later life, should they wish to. If not, undergraduate study also allows students to acquire skills they could use in employment such as communication and organisational skills, so the university-influenced A-levels would still prove beneficial to them.

Furthermore, reformed A-levels would prepare students for the independent approach to studying they would face at undergraduate level. The prospect of having to collect individual research and use it to compose work that is marked on a first-draft basis seems extremely off-putting to students who have always been told



Photo by Elaine Faith

exactly what to do by their teachers, and who have had their work extensively checked during their GCSE and A-levels. If universities were allowed more input into A-level content, students would not feel as intimidated by the nature of study they must adapt to at degree level.

Although it has been said that input from universities at A-level would prove unsuccessful in a number of ways, I feel that it would actually be extremely beneficial. The intention of many A-level students is to go to university, so why should they not be helped as much as possible? Also, if those not going to university wished to study for a degree in the future, the A-levels they studied would have sufficiently equipped them with the knowledge required to successfully study at undergraduate level. The perfect balance would be to have more input from universities so students are ready to undertake a more complex level of study, however, to the extent that those not continuing to undergraduate level can still utilise the skills they gain during A-levels in employment. Amy Callaghan

# THREE YEARS LATER...

## LIFESTYLE

And so we enter that long-awaited period of post-dissertation freedom! Well, almost. Chances are most students still have a couple of essays and exams looming in the next few weeks, and no matter how much you tell yourself "I deserve a break" after completing those monstrous ten-thousand words with at least 24 hours to spare before the deadline, more work is still on its way. Now on the brink of completing my final year at Lancaster, and joining the masses in the search for graduate work and bargain holidays, I've found myself asking: do I still feel the same way about my degree subject as I did as a bright-eyed, bushy-tailed fresher, all those terms ago?

From whispered chats during lectures over the past three years it would seem that, by the end of it all, everybody absolutely hates their degree. It seems there is simply no end to essays, projects, presentations, exams – which always seem to be due in during the same week – and even so-called 'holidays' are often consumed with revision, writing, or jobs to cover term-time spending. On top of it all, the media seem intent on telling us that our degrees are increasingly worthless as unemployment rises, high grades become supposedly 'easier' to get, and recession strikes once again.

However, in spite of all the negativity surrounding my university degree, and the fact that my previous enjoyment of reading was thwarted by my being forced to read endless theory books and anthologies, somehow I've managed to cling onto some love for my subject; I am still intrigued by different theories and philosophies, and still get a bit excited when my essay finally starts to make sense.

## STILL DEVOTED TO YOUR DEGREE?

While I remember one of my teachers at college encouragingly (or, perhaps, discouragingly) telling us that people rarely go on to work in the area they studied at university, I can't imagine doing something that doesn't involve aspects of my degree; after all, this is something that I felt I could do well in and be passionate about every day for three years. Although I may currently feel resentful towards my end-of-year workload, I realise now that I wouldn't have been able to complete my degree had I not continued to enjoy it. I have friends that share the same sentiment, but also those that have ended up hating their degree (for example, a friend who studied law for four years, convinced that he wanted to be a barrister, is now a professional rower), and some that have quit just weeks before their final exams.

While this demonstrates that not everybody will still enjoy their degree by its end, it also shows that it is not the end of the world if this happens. Regardless of how you feel as you emerge from that last-ever lecture, your degree is something that you've worked hard to achieve and that you should be proud of – even if it doesn't feel like it when you're slumped, crying, over a desk in the Great Hall, just minutes into that three-hour exam. Enjoy! Jennifer Parkes

# purple<sup>®</sup> offers week 5

ALL OFFERS OPEN TO PURPLE CARD HOLDERS ONLY • T&Cs apply

## OFFER OF THE WEEK

### GOBURRITO

2X MEDIUM BURRITOS, 1X LARGE NACHOS AND 2 DRINKS TO EAT IN FOR JUST £9.95.

## THE BIG COMPETITION

### WIN 2 TICKETS TO SEE RIZZLE KICKS AT 53 DEGREES!

TO ENTER SIMPLY EMAIL [COMPETITIONS@LUSUMARKETING.COM](mailto:COMPETITIONS@LUSUMARKETING.COM) AND ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTION:

**“WHAT WAS THE NAME OF RIZZLE KICKS' FIRST UK NUMBER ONE SINGLE?”**

MAKE SURE YOU INCLUDE YOUR FULL NAME, COLLEGE AND A CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBER.  
THE COMPETITION CLOSING DATE IS 1ST JUNE 2011

## SOMETHING A BIT RANDOM

**SUPERDRUG**

**10% DISCOUNT**

**ALL DAY EVERY DAY**  
**TEL: 01524 849195**

**MINT**

**2-4-1 COCKTAILS**

**ALL DAY EVERY DAY**  
**TEL: 01524 844664**

**1725**

**20% DISCOUNT**

**TUES, WEDS & THURS**  
**TEL: 01524 66898**

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

**LUSU** 



# CULTURE CLASH

## DOES RED DWARF NEED A RE-BOOT?

YEAH IT DOES NEED A REBOOT YEEE HAAAA!!!!

I like to take the side of reason in these Culture Clash debates. Reason tells me that the X Factor is bad, that vinyl records actually have a lot going for them, and that Sonic the Hedgehog games will probably never be any good again. Reason also tells me that Red Dwarf Series X should be the most atrocious pile of space junk since... well, since the 2009 mini-series reboot of Red Dwarf.

But when it comes to Rob Grant and Doug Naylor's most famous creation I just can't bring myself to be so realistic. Sure, the series experienced a gradual decline over the its original ten years, and 2009's reboot is best forgotten about, but to hell with all that cynicism, because Red Dwarf X is going to be the best damn situation comedy set on an intergalactic mining ship three million years in the future EVER!

I admit, there's certainly plenty of nostalgia involved in this decision – Red Dwarf was my gateway drug to harder geek material – but the series has enough potential in it to warrant at least another series. It's won itself millions of devoted fans over the past twenty years, thanks to its generally excellent jokes and frankly brilliant characters; Robert Llewellyn's Kryten, the most socially inept android in this or any other Universe, remains one of the best characters in any British comedy. It's this cult appeal that means it's almost like a more obviously comedic Doctor Who – another beloved series which ran out of steam and was revived to brilliant effect much later on.

## THERE'S SO MUCH POTENTIAL TO DRAW ON

If the show's writers can stop falling back on the silly time travel plots and the badly handled sentimental stuff that plagued series eight, then there's no reason the show shouldn't reach its previous heights. It might be best to go Doctor Who-style and get a rotating cast of guest writers to pen the episodes (could they get Simon Pegg to write one? Neil Gaiman, maybe?). There's so much potential here, and so much to draw on already – an established cast of excellent characters, a unique setting that allows for plenty of creativity, and a core audience that absolutely loves the show – that if writer Doug Naylor focuses on penning tightly scripted and straight-up funny episodes then it should be a hit. There's even a bit of a gap in the market at the moment for traditional, 'filmed in front of a live audience' sitcoms. What could possibly go wrong!?

Well, the jokes could be bad, the acting half-assed and writing plain poor, that's what could go wrong. This argument is hinged on 'could's, 'should's and 'maybe's, but in the end, even if it is a terrible turgid mess, it's not going to detract from my enjoyment of the original episodes.

So there's every reason to get excited about Red Dwarf X. And if you're not, the problem is obvious – you're just a massive smeg head.  
Joe Henthorn – Culture Editor



©BBC

I can just see it now – Rimmer massively overdoing his humorous salute, Lister pretending that the acting tutorage he received in preparation for Coronation Street gives him license to try it out in a science fiction sitcom, Cat being less agile than he was over ten years ago, Kryten switching to 'flogging a dead horse mode' and Norman Lovett taking to the internet to bemoan his not being asked to return, before (rightfully) conceding that the episodes are crap and he didn't want to be in them anyway.

Now, where have I seen this before? Oh yes, in 2010. Oh yes, and in 1998, when the show came back from a lengthy absence, sans one half of the writing team. When will Doug Naylor realise that the story of 'the boys from the Dwarf' is now 'the fifty year old men from the Dwarf', and is so depressing that many want to quietly take Red Dwarf into the woods, shoot it squarely in the back of the head and have a modest ceremony? Now of course, for the first two series especially, Red Dwarf's excellence was always rooted in the aimlessness and tragedy of a man, a hologram, a humanoid cat and a supercomputer with nothing further in life except to irritate, annoy, and then the grave. What a perfect and poignant ending that series six would have been – the audience will never know what happens, safely assuming that they eked out the rest of their lives alone. How is this ruined? By the 2010 specials, where Lister is in his forties and no more mature, lovelorn and with no pleasure in his life. M'colleague Joe Henthorn crudely cites the success of Doctor Who's reboot as proof that Red Dwarf can work. He seems to forget that Doctor Who's return was not accompanied by Sylvester McCoy hobbling around on a cane and unable to roll his R's without sending his false teeth soaring out of his face.

The ageing is disconcerting not only viewers like myself, who no longer find the bickering between Lister and Rimmer funny because they are now as bored of it as the audience. There are the die hard dwarvians who will endlessly pick apart the biggest continuity error in history just waiting to happen; that Rimmer has aged despite being a hologram, and undoubtedly stress themselves out filling in the blanks themselves or filling web forums with reasons why any new episodes are definitely not 'part of the canon'.

In fact, Doug Naylor has shown enough disregard for the timeline that he and Rob Grant expertly mapped out as to toss into the growing, yellowing grass what made the show special. In series 7 he brought back Kochanski, the unseen centre of Lister's turmoil, a dead but omnipresent, outlook changing character up there with Daisy Renton in JB Priestley's *An Inspector Calls*. In series 8, he brought back... the entire crew of Red Dwarf – Lister was no longer the last human being in existence, which was central to his importance as a character. And then, in the specials, they returned to Earth, albeit whilst in a hallucinogenic state.

All of those previously unreachable utopias have been reached, and there is nothing left to motivate the crew. Not only will the jokes and stories be crap, but there will be nothing left to appreciate in this battered, skeletal horse of a comedy show.  
Ronnie Rowlands – Deputy Culture Editor



# DON'T WORRY BE HAPPY

## LIFESTYLE

We underestimate the effect we can have on each other's lives. We don't take into account how something so small and seemingly insignificant can have such a valuable impact on someone's day, whether it be how they view themselves, others, the world, or you.

The importance of looking out for each other and offering even the littlest things to brighten up someone's day is incredibly prevalent when at university of all places. Everyone can relate to that Monday evening, when you come home from all of your lectures or seminars, perhaps the weather's been crap and you would much rather curl up in bed with a magazine or film than do reading for the next week (or current one). It's the time when people need cheering up. So how uplifting is it to know we all have potential to remedy despondent feelings? We don't have to be overly extravagant, but perhaps personal little treats can offer that much needed boost to a day.

Perhaps you are a budding baker? I swear, do not underestimate how wonderful it is to receive a little homemade cupcake at the end/beginning of a long tiresome day. Also, if you don't hold culinary skills, Alex Square is the hotspot for wonderful charity bake stalls, selling goodies general half the price of shop sold confectionary.

## BAKE SOMEONE'S BLUES AWAY

Or if you don't have the funds or the fervour for cakey gifts, there are other lovely alternatives that can still be monumentally sweet little acts in someone's day. There's definitely something to be said for notes of motivation and care. Whenever someone's revising for an exam or completing coursework try sliding supportive notes under the door. It's encouraging things like this which we all underestimate and yet don't forget, showing they have an impact on us which we often forget to recognise.

There aren't really limits to the small reaches of kindness we are able to exhibit to each other. Making something to eat, drink, wear, read or hear will definitely be appreciated. Perhaps encouraging a friend or family member to just take a break and go for a coffee or a walk to clear their head will make for a nice reminder to keep their chin up. Little acts of kindness don't have limits or regulations, and can be something as seemingly benign as giving someone an out-of-the blue hug. Even a kind sentence is able to linger long enough to lift someone's deflated spirits.

Too often we claim to feel saddened with how we all behave towards each other and how the world behaves towards us. We can all make the very simple choice to try and invoke some happiness even in small degrees into the lives of the people who matter to us, or even the people we come in contact with, because we can. No-one really loses sleep over being too kind, do they? Becky Cutler

# THE PARENTS HAVE LANDED



Photo by photo\_gratis

## FEATURES

Your parents are visiting and you've spent the last hour creating the impression that you're a hardworking, conscientious student. The clothes which usually reside on your floor have all been tidied into your wardrobe, you've recycled all the empty wine bottles and you've even remembered to vacuum the floor. Then the hard part comes; what do you do when they arrive? As much as you enjoy drinking tea in the kitchen during the day, then spending the night in the Sugarhouse, that's probably not what your parents have in mind!

## A WEEKEND VISIT DOESN'T JUST MEAN AN EMPTY WASHING BAG

It's a good idea to find some information about the local area, especially if you don't venture off campus very often. Looking online is a good place to start, you can make yourself a list of places to visit or things to do. The council website is a little clunky and unhelpful at times, so look out for leaflets too. There's usually a good selection in the train/bus station and LUSU bunker.

It's nice to be a tourist in your own city sometimes. Lancaster has a wealth of museums, historical monuments and other attractions such as Williamson Park which always seem to be on my to-do list as something to see eventually, but something else always manages to take priority. But, this way, taking your family to see the sights becomes the perfect excuse to see them yourself.

You can also look out for events in the city which are more family-orientated. For example, on Bonfire Night, the city organises a huge fireworks event near the river. There are also events for the 400-year anniversary of the Pendle Witch trial. Not that I'm biased towards Pendle or anything.

As nice as your Sainsbury's Basics noodles are, one of the highlights of a family visit can be taking them out to dinner, or if you're lucky, getting them to take you! It can be difficult to know where to go as there's a wealth of restaurants in Lancaster, so it's a good idea to think back to meals you enjoyed at society socials or ask friends for recommendations. If you go to a particular pub regularly in town and they do food, it can be nice to take your family there as it's more personal and shows them somewhere you have a connection to.

Chances are, your parents have driven down to see you in a car. Any good student without a car knows not to waste this opportunity, but this usually means a trip to Sainsbury's without having to lug everything back on the 2A. However, a car is not just a shopping trolley, it's also transport which doesn't stick to the bus routes. Why not make the most of it to travel into the nearby countryside for some fresh air? If it's a rare day of nice weather, bring a picnic, if not, find a cosy country pub somewhere.

Most of all, enjoy their company for a bit. They've probably been missing you, but maybe not your dirty washing... Becky Cook



# Where will U take your unirider?



## Get around with a Unirider

The no fuss, no hassle student travel card, that gives you unlimited bus travel in the Lancaster & Morecambe area!

You can buy your Unirider in advance on-line at

**[www.buymyunirider.com](http://www.buymyunirider.com)**

or you can buy it from the following Agents:

Lancaster University Student Union Office

Stagecoach Travel Shop on Lancaster Bus Station

Routes 2, 2A, 3, 4 and X1 are regular bus services to/from Lancaster Univeristy to the City Centre.

3 & 4 operate to/from the South West Campus.

X1 operates to/from Lancaster Rail Station.

You can also enjoy a night out in Lancaster without having to worry about getting home. Our early morning nightrider N1 operates until 3.20am every Friday, Saturday & Sunday morning.

## Owt wi ya Mates!

This ticket allows up to 5 people a single journey from the University to Lancaster City Centre or from Lancaster City Centre to the University for just **£5**. Available to buy from your driver from 7pm until 4am.

Contact the traveline (7 days a week 7am - 8pm) for timetable information on 0871 200 22 33



# PUZZLES

## GET YOUR THINK ON

### SUDOKU - EASY

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

[www.sudoku-puzzles.net](http://www.sudoku-puzzles.net)

### SUDOKU - MEDIUM

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

[www.sudoku-puzzles.net](http://www.sudoku-puzzles.net)

### SUDOKU - HARD

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

[www.sudoku-puzzles.net](http://www.sudoku-puzzles.net)



# SPINE SPOTTING

## THE LOOKS BETWEEN LECTURES



Fia - first year Maths student.

Fia looks eye catching with her edgy style. Her denim cut offs are perfect for the summer and can be worn with tights when the weather is a little cooler. Why not update an old pair of jeans yourself? Fia's favourite high street stores are Topshop and ASOS. Kate Moss, with her grunge chic style, is one of her favourite style icons.



Joss - first year History student.

Joss is looking very suave around campus in his coral cords, proving that even men can pull off this season's hottest pastel trend. Joss likes to dress smartly and certainly looks the part in his brogues and shirt. A favourite item in Joss's wardrobe is a stripey jacket and he is never without his Rayban Wayfarers.



Elva - first year Media student.

Elva enjoys dressing in bold colours and in this outfit she is channelling this summer's tropical brights with her orange Givenchy bag and Only cobalt blue blazer. She loves her labels and Selfridges with its designer fashion and accessories, is her favourite shopping trip must. Her favourite item in her wardrobe is a strapless Topshop dress.



**ONLY 1P  
ENTRY  
BEFORE  
11.30PM!**

# **JINXED!**

## **NATIONAL PENNY DAY**

**WEEK FIVE**  
**WEDNESDAY 23RD MAY**  
**DOORS 11PM • ENTRY £2 B4 MIDNIGHT**

**DJ CAWKY'S RNB/MAINSTREAM  
& DJ MELO'S INDIE ANTHEMS**

**THE sugarhouse**  
www.thesugarhouse.co.uk

# COMMENT

## Iran is a problem without an answer

Leighton Hughes

The past few months have seen a tremendous spike in antagonism between the West and Iran's political leadership. Relations have never been too hot, but, with the latter seemingly closing in on obtaining nuclear capabilities, America and its allies have resolved to ratchet up the pressure: first, through diplomatic condemnation; second, through trade embargos; and, if that fails, where does that leave us at stage three?

Military action would seem the natural segue; but America does not hold the appetite for another war – certainly not one carved out with purpose identical to that of the Iraq invasion. However, fundamental to the very debate of Iran becoming a nuclear power is whether it is simply right for them

to do so. So, should we be concerned?

The simple answer is: 'yes.' Some deluded individuals might clamour that, as a sovereign country, it is Iran's right to determine their own affairs, as well the fact that, if the USA holds such nuclear facilities, why not Iran? Well, plainly: America is a force for good; acting as mechanism to proliferate democracy, liberalism, capitalism etc. Iranian nuclear capability is out of the question. It would equip them with a wholly disproportionate influence over the world. While cynics will instantaneously moan, America is undeniably, for the greater part, a land of peace, and a beacon of liberty.

Furthermore, if Iran is successful and we do nothing, it would likely induce a new Cold War in the Middle East; whereby Iran and an increasingly maverick

Israel would have the keys to a potentially 'mutually assured destruction'. Nuclear armageddon would remain a very distinct possibility. Would we really want a return to an epoch of total fear?

The reality of the situation, however, is that America and the rest of the West are consumed by fear and wracked with guilt about 'another Iraq.' The fiasco of an Iraq-style intervention whereby no nuclear warheads were found was undoubtedly a searing blow to American prestige. If they were to come around to the idea that developing a nuclear programme is against their interests, this crisis of potentially explosive proportions would ground to a halt. For this, I admire President Obama's principled decision of a diplomatic solution still being available to Iran. With Obama's foreign policy thus far having been



Mahmoud Ahmadinejad. Photo by Daniella Zalcmann

impeccable, there are high hopes of a sunny and tranquil resolution. What is clear is that Obama would not want to be another Chamberlain, appeasing the isolated state.

Therefore, Iran's volatility needs more than a degree of wariness from the West. Nonetheless, in the words of Winston Churchill, "an

appeaser is one who feeds the crocodile, hoping it will eat him last." And, not wanting to be eaten by any reptile, it is clear that any credible evidence – not falsified *la Iraq* – is sufficient warrant to legitimate military action and any discontents of that viewpoint are bare-faced apologists. If not, we are doomed.

## Why we still need feminism today

Lizzie Johnes

In recent years, feminism has fallen out of favour in the West. While some women have taken gender equality for granted, others are just fed up of the bra-burning jokes. Whatever the reason behind the decline of feminism, its effect is very clear that we are at risk of going backwards. In the absence of a strong feminist movement, women's welfare has been sidelined and undermined by policy makers. In what the Child Poverty Action Group called a "historic redistribution of income from purse to wallet," George Osborne's

budget has hit women three times as hard as men. As the main beneficiaries of public services and benefits, the female population has been disproportionately affected by cuts to the public sector. As of last year, the charity Working Mums found that 24% of mothers had been forced to give up their jobs because they could no longer afford childcare. By forcing women to choose between their children and their careers, austerity measures are encouraging outdated gender roles to seep into the next generation.

Although America has often been at the forefront

of progression, American women currently face losing their basic healthcare rights. Republicans have adopted an increasingly hard line stance on abortion in the lead up to the presidential elections. In doing so, they are legitimising political extremism and women are paying the price. Anti-choice campaigners have become increasingly aggressive, leading to the recent bombing of a Planned Parenthood clinic.

Even the morality of contraception has been called into question, in the debate over whether employers should cover birth control costs under the

Affordable Care Act. Considering that 98% of sexually active American Catholic women use contraception, religious objections to the requirement rang hollow. The true issue at hand quickly became clear when Conservative radio hog Rush Limbaugh blustered, "It makes her a slut, right? It makes her a prostitute. She wants to be paid to have sex." Limbaugh's comments betrayed the contraception debate for what it truly was – a thinly veiled attack on sexually liberated women. The existence of such a debate in the 21st century provides a disturbing

reflection of a society in reverse. Senator Olympia Snowe lamented, "I feel like it's a retro-debate that took place in the 1950s."

The threat of regression has triggered a much needed revival in the feminist movement. From Tahrir Square to Alexandra Square, from bloggers to slut-walkers, women have been speaking out against oppression. The Arab Spring reinvigorated the power of protest, proving that through unity and action, it is possible to implement positive change. Times may be hard, but we have every reason to feel optimistic about the future.





Photo by Jonnie Critchley

# LUSU Living lets us down

**Yasmin Jaunbocus**

LUSU is quite a helpful establishment. They run excellent programmes such as LUSU Involve and regularly hold events such as the Campus Festival which show case how well organised and brilliant LUSU are when it comes to going the extra mile. I would have thought this true of their housing agency too, but I was in for more of a surprise than I could have ever imagined.

LUSU Living are a letting agency which acquire houses from landlords with houses in the area surrounding the University and let them to students from the University. They offer an all-inclusive rent, including water rates, electricity and gas, 24/7, 365 day a year water, electricity, drainage, plumbing and drainage cover, TV licence, internet, telephone and even a regular cleaning service among a list of other promises which you can find on their

internet site. It sounds like the student dream right? A home from home if anything... right?

Wrong. The reality of LUSU Living has been an enduring nightmare and one me and my housemates can't wait to wake up from.

After signing our contract way back in Michealmas term of our first year we happily got on with our studies till it came to the summer holidays and we could get excited for off-campus life. We would have a student house, where we could have student parties and live in a room bigger than a shoebox. Though this could be true of some houses, when we got to ours, it was a very different story.

I know traditionally student houses have a bad reputation: leaky ceilings, cold showers, 70s carpet, but we were at least expecting our house to be clean. Instead we were greeted by overflowing rubbish bins in the garden which hadn't been emptied all summer, chicken bones in

the lounge, a layer of grime that bleach wouldn't touch in the kitchen, a flooding toilet and toenails on my bedroom floor - among other things.

**"I do expect there to be some standards and to get what I pay for"**

On calling LUSU Living, they claimed the house had been marked as having undergone a full clean already but they would send someone round after the weekend. By that time I had already cleaned a lot of the house but there were also a series of repairs which needed to happen. This included

fixing broken curtain rails, replacing a mattress, fixing a chest of draws and replacing the lino in the bathroom - all repairs which should have happened during the summer before we moved in.

As if all this wasn't bad enough, we had to survive three weeks without a shower, a hob that fused the house every time we tried to put it on and a microwave that electrocuted everything that was placed in it. The 'cover' was not 24-hour, as we discovered. Instead after placing a complaint in the afternoon of a Friday I was told I would have to wait all weekend before the electricity could be sorted leaving us without hot water or electricity for three days. Thankfully I persisted my case till they sent somebody out.

The cleaning service they offer is also far from regular and often I am puzzled as to what they have done at all. The office closes at 4pm so any problems you may

encounter when you arrive home from uni always have to wait and if you do decide to call the next day there's never any guarantee you'll get through to their phone line anyway!

I know we are students and don't necessarily expect or indeed want to live in a house full of luxuries but when I am paying rent every week I do expect there to be some standards and provided with what I have been told I am paying for.

Maybe I am living in the worse case scenario house, which at one point we couldn't lock either, but especially as a company affiliated with LUSU I feel the standards and reputation they are emanating is not one the University would appreciate or be proud of.

Most of the issues have been kinked out now, thankfully and we have received an apology from LUSU Living, just in time for the end of the academic year. Home sweet home eh?

# Electoral apathy affects all of us

## Rapid industrialisation has it on a collision course

**Peter Grundy**

You may not have noticed, busy student that you are, that local council and mayoral elections happened this week, so I'll summarise them for you. Good showing by Labour, bad losses for the Coalition, the BNP was annihilated, UKIP did surprisingly well, Boris got in for another term and no other city wants a elected mayoral system; those last two may be related. Now these things are all interesting and will impact the political scene for quite some time, but I'm not here to discuss them. Rather the most interesting part of this entire process is that all the above was decided by a turnout of less than a third of the eligible population.

The grand total turnout for local council elections was

32%, their lowest since 2000, and the figures are even more dire for the mayoral referendums, where smaller cities were asked if they wanted an elected mayor, with just 25% turning up to say a resounding "No, thanks." Even in the London mayoral election where an open clash of personalities, leading to the strongest-fought election ever for the post, could only bring up the turnout to 38%, compared with 45% for the much less interesting campaign between the same two conservative and labour candidates four years ago. All of this showcases the trend; people are currently uninterested, or apathetic towards the current political landscape.

It might have been expected that from this

smaller parties, such as the Greens, Plaid Cymru, Respect or UKIP, all those choices with which to rebel against the mainstream parties, could expect good gains, but it simply never happened. UKIP was the only party to make significant headway and in total 'Others' lost 173 seats. Voters aren't even fired up enough to vie for an alternative, a way to get back at our current ruling politicians, instead despondency towards all was to be the rule of the day.

It is interesting how in times of anger at politicians the default response is not activism or bloody-mindedness, but is usually translated into a much more dangerous disillusionment and apathy towards the entire political system. There is at the moment however, un-

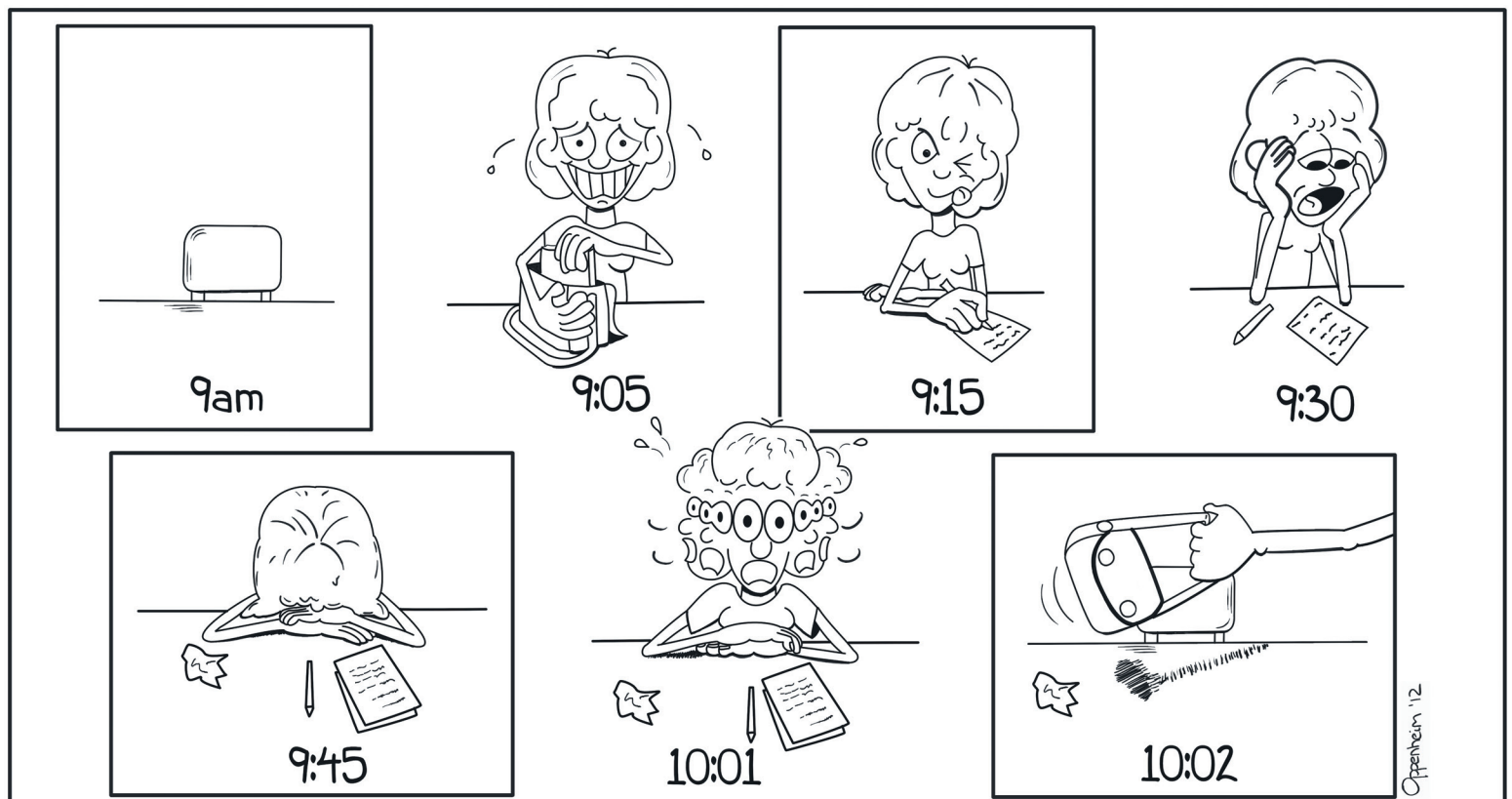
like at other low turnout elections a lot to complain about. We're back in recession, austerity is biting hard and there is still residual resentment towards the Liberal Democrats. So why have a significant amount of people this time simply stopped caring?

The roots of this current trend probably have their roots in the 2009 expenses scandal, which the establishment is still recovering from, add to this the somewhat unpopular Coalition and the questions being asked about the Government's relationship with Murdoch and you have a base for distrust. However it doesn't seem to add up to the level that we have reached; I really cannot explain it.

It is vitally important for

any democracy to have an active and voting populace. So what can be done to improve the turnout, other than to completely change the political landscape? Essentially there are two options. Firstly it's important that we modernise the voting system. It is a strange state of affairs where we can do internet banking but not internet voting, when people probably care about the security of the former. There are some tricky questions to ask about Internet Service Providers' access to the data but in this day and age having to plan and travel in order to vote is an unnecessary hassle. Secondly, and it's a wonderfully unpopular option, is mandatory voting as in Australia. That would at least get our turnout figures up, even if it'd be hated for every other reason.

## The 9am Lecture





# LETTERS

## Editorial

# The time has come to better represent our postgraduates

**Matthew Power**  
Editor

Graduate College is the largest college at Lancaster University, boasting over 3000 students from all walks of life. Postgraduate Taught, Postgraduate Research, part-time students, mature students, off-campus students, international students - there's a whole host of different categories that Grad's students fall into.

With so many different groups to represent, any model of representation is difficult. At the moment, we have a PGSA, made up of six students, who focus main-

ly upon social events and residential welfare issues.

However, the PGSA model is based on a similar structure to the JCR Executives that are found in our eight undergraduate colleges. Structures that are based on the timetable of undergraduates, who at times, find themselves to have less time-demanding subjects than postgraduates.

It is time that the Students' Union and University acknowledge that postgraduates are not undergraduates. They are completely different set of people, and thus, their representation needs to be

significantly different.

With this in mind, conversations began between Lancaster University Students' Union and Graduate College to create a brand new representation model for postgraduates.

The results of these conversations are currently going through a consultation period, and over the next few weeks, I hope as many postgraduates have the opportunity to view the model and have their opinions heard on it.

This representation model will form the main topic of conversation at the Graduate General Meet-

ing on Friday 1st June, in the Management School Lecture Theatre 3. A food reception will be held from 5PM, with the meeting beginning at 6PM.

## Our PG rep model needs to be vastly different

On Thursday 9th February, 370 students voted at the most-well

attended LUSU General Meeting in years, and unanimously rejected the University's Business Process Review. Since then, the Vice-Chancellor has called a halt to the entire process. Students turned up, had their say, and their voices were heard. The same now needs to happen without postgraduate community.

I urge all postgraduates to join in this crucial debate. For too long, your voices have gone unheard, your views unrepresented and your importance at this University unrecognised. That changes, and it changes now.

## Vinyl article hits the wrong note

Dear Sir,

I read with interest what was the latest in many an "old vs new music technology" article in Carolynne (week 2 edition) - "Vinyl vs. mp3", but the comparison of these two "opposite" formats is not really an appropriate one. Vinyl is indeed the flagship analogue technology, yes, but the digital world's champion is the CD, not the MP3 file.

Why? Because CDs contain uncompressed full range music tracks (or WAVE files) and are the true exponent of digital sound. MP3s are of course compressed, which is what your vinyl fan objects to. A proper comparison should therefore be between vinyl and CD, not mp3, since both are uncompressed.

Just for the record(!) being a 50-something ex-Lancaster student who grew up with vinyl AND cassette (groan!) I prefer CDs anyway. Anyone who says their sound is not as good must be bonkers. Only very occasionally do you get examples of a vinyl original moment not being as good on CD (parts of Who's Next, for example) but this is inevitable. And how can you compare the new Elbow CD with the vinyl?

**Tim Stevens**

## To recycle or not to recycle?

Dear Sir,

After reading Harry Bainbridge's comment on recycling ('Thank you for not recycling', SCAN Monday, April 30) I was shocked that such a view was possible with

even a modicum of common sense. The article asserts that recycling far outweighs the cost of making new products from scratch. Whilst this may be true in purely financial terms (and I'm not even sure that it is; a study conducted by the Technical University of Denmark found that in 83% of cases, recycling is the most efficient method to dispose of household waste), the full cost of continuing to make products from scratch is wildly more costly when externalities are taken into account. This is widely accepted and is the reason that governments have begun to take recycling seriously.

Although energy is of course expended in the recycling process, the amount of energy required to manufacture goods from scratch is greater. For example, making aluminium cans from recycled material uses 95% less energy than having to dig the metal up from already

rapidly diminishing reserves.

The alternatives to recycling - landfill and incineration - are both problematic. Landfill is filling up and incineration not only directly poses an unacceptable risk to human health, but also indirectly threatens it through the exacerbation of climate change. Recycling is not so much a choice but a necessity.

**Jack Filmore, County College**

## York Men's Thirds better than previously thought

Dear Sir,

A few facts are wrong here (<http://scan.lusu.co.uk/>

sports/2012/05/05/york-end-hockey-thirds-undefeated-streak/).

The York Men's Thirds Hockey team won the Roses match in 1997. I captained the team that year, it was reported in YorkSport, and a photograph of one of the goals being scored was used in York's prospectuses a year later. I'll dig out the YorkSport report when I find the correct box where all my undergrad news is buried.

Given the number of mentions of this mis-fact, you may want to check your sources.

Regards,

**Russ Grant**

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

# PGSA REFORM

## POSTGRADUATE GENERAL MEETING

FRIDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> JUNE  
AT 6.00PM

MANAGEMENT  
SCHOOL LT3

**FREE FOOD  
FROM 5PM**

HAVE YOUR  
VOICE HEARD

CHANGE YOUR  
GRADUATE  
EXPERIENCE



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

LUSU 



# SPORT

Team in the Spotlight

## SCAN meets: Lancaster Parkour and Tricking Society



Photo provided by LUPATS

### Stephen Jennings

Lancaster University Parkour and Tricking Society (LUPATS) is a society for traceurs, or anyone aspiring to become a traceur, who train on campus at Lancaster University.

Parkour is about promoting self-awareness, learning what you can do and about developing and improving your skill set.

The aim is to get from point A to point B as quickly, efficiently and as safely as possible, using your body to negotiate any obstacles in the way.

You may have already seen members of the society training as you have been out and about on Tuesday and Thursday evenings and thought that it looked difficult, challenging and dangerous. Well, know this: you are two-thirds right. Parkour certainly isn't easy. It's also challenging. Yet done correctly, parkour is a

very safe discipline where the emphasis isn't on competition, but on personal development.

As you may have seen already, the society trains just about everywhere on campus. Some of the most popular areas include the wall just outside of Venue, the LUSU area where the Spar is and behind the Management Building. They meet Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6pm at Ruskin Library and the sessions last for two hours.

**LUPATS is a fun, active society where you will make loads of friends**

The society does have strict rules about safety and as such there are very

few incidents resulting in injuries during LUPATS's training time. Even so, many of the members are also trained in first aid but you are taught how to perform the moves in the safest way possible, meaning that new members can enjoy themselves with almost no fear of injury.

The society also enjoys a bit of variation. In term one a 'Zombie Apocalypse' social was held, where members of the Exec dressed up as zombies and chased the members through campus. This was great fun for the society but also provided an opportunity for them to try out their skills in a unique way. Last term they held a 'Capture the Flag' social where they split into two teams, both guarding a flag. The objective was to take the opposing flag and return it back to their own base. LUPATS do not merely meet up and train, they enjoy using their discipline to have fun and are not shy to do so.

The society also regularly meets up for tricking sessions on Friday nights. Whereas parkour has a strong philosophy surrounding it, tricking is more geared up for those who just enjoy showing off. It involves flips, kicks, vaults. The society has equipment like foam blocks and crash mats so anyone can go down and participate in a safe environment.

Throughout the year the society has met in County South Lecture Theatre, but due to constraints put on by exams this recently has not been possible but the group have adapted to overcome this and are hoping to stage outdoor tricking sessions when the weather permits.

The society welcomes anyone who has ever taken an interest in parkour or tricking: regardless of past experience. LUPATS is built to allow new members to develop and train at their own pace so that skills are developed over time. All you need is £1 and your Purple Card number and you

can become a member of the society. All of the training sessions after that are free. Tricking is £1 per session, but that helps the society look after its equipment so that members can continue to enjoy their sessions.

**Tricking is more geared up for those who just enjoy showing off**

LUPATS is a fun, active society where you will make loads of friends. On top of all that you will learn a discipline which you will no doubt enjoy and will want to keep on improving at.

## Founders Series

# Lonsdale and Bowland prepare to go head-to-head



The A Football match at Founders 2011. Photo by Ferdinand Doepel

## Nick O'Malley

Founders Series 2012 is set to take place on the 15th, 16th, 17th June or for those that are regulated by the 'University weeks', the weekend of week 8 of Summer Term.

For those of you that don't know, Founders Series is an annual sporting competition between the two founding colleges of Lancaster University; Lonsdale and Bowland. For members of other colleges you may have not heard of it, care about it or even want to continue reading about it, but for some members of the respective colleges it is the biggest and best weekend of the year.

## Lonsdale have only won Founders once

The two colleges 'hate each other' but the majority are good friends through the rivalry.

Lonsdale have only ever won the tournament once, in its inaugural season, with Bowland winning every year since.

In all honesty the tournament requires a Lonsdale win to revitalise the competition. Although the Principals' Archery has quite often already taken place the weekend traditionally starts with the 'Boat Race'; the ladies drinking bottles and the gentleman drinking pints. The team that drinks theirs the fastest in relay wins. The weekend starts as it means to go on, somewhat drunkenly.

Last year's was the closest-fought series of the competition's history as Lonsdale had a chance to seal victory with the penultimate event, Men's A Team pool, before for the first time in the competition the series was decided with the Chess.

The tournament was first to 30 points; Lonsdale led 28-26 with just the pool and chess left to play.

Within the pool itself the scores were tied at 5-5 when the then University Captain (Lee Osborne) stepped up for Lonsdale but ultimately missed the black that could have won Founders for Lonsdale college, as the

black rattled in the jaws. Lonsdale were on their feet in celebration as the ball looked to be going in to the far corner pocket, before quietly returning to their seats as Bowland realised what had happened and roared louder than they had all weekend, as they could now win Founders, having been eight points behind overnight on Saturday and 28-20 behind after the Men's Rugby on Sunday afternoon.

## If it is anything like last year, it would make great viewing

The weekend orientates around the big events; Football (As, Bs and Cs), Netball (As and Bs), Men's Rugby, Pool and Darts, with easily over 100 people attending each of these

events. However it is some of the lesser 'sports' that also epitomise Founders, with at points over 60 people crowded around games of Dominoes, with people climbing on furniture and peering through windows for a glimpse of a game which many argue is determined by luck.

Equal or even greater to this was the attendance at the chess decider of 2011 with approximately one hundred members of each college eagerly watching and waiting for the outcome of the game.

It is hard to know if Lonsdale have passed up one of the greatest opportunities they will ever have to win the competition or if the heartbreak of 2011 will spur the college to glory this time round.

Last year there were deciders in Men's B Pool, Men's Darts, Men's A pool and a penalty shoot-out in the Men's As football; it will be almost impossible for the tournament to be as close and exciting as 2011 but if it is anything like last year, it would make great viewing for any neutral spectator never mind the two colleges involved.

## More to come this term

Marc Handley  
Vice President (Activities)

So now that Roses is all and dusted (yes I want to use the trophy as a paperweight, and what?) our next event to look forward to is the annual LUSU Activities Awards.

Taking place on the 13th June, this event aims to recognise our sporting achievements at both a College and University level. This year we have some extremely deserving college teams, and we're yet to see who will win the Carter Shield - all will unfold in the next few weeks for that!

## "This year we have some extremely deserving college teams"

Along with the College Awards we have the three main University sports awards to give out: Team of the Year, Club of the Year and the VP Activities Sport Award to honour our incredible BUCS groups. We also have some new accolades this year just for societies to echo the incredible work they have done this year.

For me, this event is up there with Roses in terms of importance in the Activities Calendar as there is no greater reward for me than to congratulate some of our incredible teams and groups both in the colleges and across campus, and I can't wait to be there on stage to acknowledge those who are more than deserving of their accolades.



## Cricket

# Cricket 2nds take Salford apart

**Jonnie Critchley**  
Assistant Editor

**Lancaster 2nds (219) beat Salford 2nds (67) by 152 runs.**

Lancaster University Cricket Club's 2nd team rebounded from a disappointing defeat to York at Roses earlier this month with a resounding away victory over Salford University 2nds.

Depending on an imminent recalculation of Division 5A by British Universities and College Sport (BUCS), the result could see the side promoted as champions.

On a sunny, but cold and windy day at Salford, Lancaster captain Adam Heayns won the toss and elected to bat first.

The away side batted strongly, quickly posting a total of which Salford would fall way short.

Lewis Tierney hit an explosive 35 runs of 33 balls, whilst Joe Molloy made

an impressive 67 from 115 balls in what Heayns later called "a flowing innings that Salford didn't have an answer for."

Josh Woolcott was looking good for a half-century, reaching 42 before being given out in controversial circumstances by a ball which Lancaster argued bounced three times before dismantling the stumps.

Lancaster having set an imposing total of 220 for victory, Salford needed a strong start to their run chase.

However, Lancaster's bowling attack set about toppling the home side's top order and quickly moved their way through to the tail.

Ryan Judson and Adam Heayns were especially dangerous, taking three wickets each. Judson, bowling his final spell for the University, removed three Salford batsmen in 10 overs.

Ranuak Guhathakurta joined in the demolition with a brilliant run-out off his own bowling,



**Lancaster's Men's Cricket 2nds at Roses 2012.** Photo by Sourav Mukherjee

instinctively tipping the ball back onto the stumps as the Salford batsman sent it back towards him.

Ollie Caswell also took two Salford wickets.

Salford could offer little resistance, their best batsman somehow staying around for 17 overs, riding his luck as he was very nearly run out and also dropped during what Heayns called "a very scratchy and not at

all dangerous innings."

Speaking to SCAN following the win, captain Heayns picked out batsmen Tierney, Molloy and Woolcott, as well as graduating bowler Ryan Judson for particular praise.

He added that "I couldn't have been prouder of the team performance, knowing that we had to perform in this game to have a chance to secure the league, the

team certainly stepped up.

"Excellent batting performances and bowling performances with the usual tight performance in the field led us to a crushing victory over a team who had narrowly beaten us earlier in the season.

As the last University game for myself, Ryan Judson and Lewis Tierney, we couldn't have asked for a better result."

## Activities Awards

## Annual awards become LUSU Activities Awards as societies are recognised

**Matthew Power**  
Editor

After the first year of a LUSU Vice President (Activities), which encompassed both sports clubs and societies, the annual LUSU Sport Awards will also see a change this year.

The LUSU Activities Awards, to be held on the 13th June at Barker House Farm, will present all of the usual sporting trophies, including the Carter Shield, as well as recognising the work of the many different societies the Students' Union has on offer.

There are four different categories at the awards. The first is recognising sporting achievement at a college level, and includes the presentations of the football and netball leagues, as well as the winners of each individual Carter Shield. This is followed by the main presentation of the Carter Shield.

Fylde, having won last year, top the league at the moment with 112 points. However, Graduate, who are having an incredibly strong year, are close behind on 100 points, and competition behind includes the two founding colleges, Bowland

and Lonsdale, respectively.

In the George Wyatt category, there will be presentations to the winners of the pool, darts and dominoes league, as well as the overall winner of the George Wyatt.

### Fylde top the Carter Shield as it stands

Within the LUSU Award category, there are trophies for the 11-a-side football

league and cup, as well as the 6-a-side league, and the presentation of LUSU Colours for sporting achievement.

The final category of awards recognises outstanding achievement by different sporting clubs and societies. There is an award for BUCS Team of the Year which is presented to the team who progressed the furthest in their competition. There is also BUCS Club of the Year, as voted on by the BUCS clubs at the Activities Annual General Meeting. A vote was also held at the General Meeting for Society of the Year.

As Vice President (Ac-

tivities), Marc Handley will present VP Activities Sports Award to any club or individual who he feels is most deserving, and similarly, VP Activities Society Award.

Handley has acknowledged how difficult the decision will be. "The standard of our groups this year has been absolutely incredible, many of them have done some incredible things, and I look forward to congratulating them at the LUSU Activities Award," he said.

The event is not ticketed but capacity is limited to those who are nominated for awards.



# SPORT



Photo provided by Alexandra Palmqvist

## Athletics Club victorious on debut

### Lancaster Panthers finish five points ahead of Sheffield Hallam

**Alan Littler**

Lancaster University Athletics Club, otherwise known as the Panthers, secured victory in a close affair at Sport City on Saturday 12th May to win the inaugural Lancaster Athletics Cup on their competitive debut.

The Lancaster Athletics Cup, set up this year by Club President Martin Burn, is an annual athletics competition between universities across the North of England, which saw tough competition from the likes of Leeds, Manchester and Sheffield Hallam.

On their way to a team victory on a points system, the Panthers saw no less than 23 podium finishes. This included three gold medals,

nine silver medals and eleven bronze medals.

Rihards Baranovskis secured the Panther's first gold of the day in the shot put, clinching victory with a throw of 14.02m before claiming silver in the discus. Alan Littler won gold, and Lancaster's second, with victory in the high jump after convincingly clearing a height of 1.65 metres, following a 400m hurdles silver medal. Courtney Alpaugh won the Panther's third gold medal of the day with a win in the women's discus with a winning effort of 16.70m. Alpaugh followed this up with a silver medal in the women's 3000m.

Alexandra Palmqvist Aslaksen won silver in the women's 800m and bronze

in the javelin. Millie Karn finished just behind team-mate Aslaksen in the 800m clinching the bronze medal. She also claimed bronze in the shot put. Faron Jones won silver in the women's 400m before grabbing bronze in the 200m. Katrina Hall won two bronze medals in the 100m and the long jump. Anna Meehan claimed a bronze medal in the discus to round off individual medals for the women.

Alex Hannay edged out team-mate Chris Jagger to win a bronze medal in the 1500m; this was followed up with a blistering finish to clinch silver in the 3000m. Henry Stratford came through the heats to finish second and win silver in the men's 100m final ahead of team-mate Alex

Adiele who finished sixth. Scott Civil claimed bronze in the men's 400m final ahead of team-mates James Howarth, Tom Sutcliffe and Martin Burn who also qualified from the heats. Laurence Hawker won bronze in the men's 400m hurdles.

The women's 4x100m relay team (Alpaugh, Meehan, Hall and Jones) won a silver medal and the men's team of Hawker, Stratford, Littler and Adiele won bronze ahead of the second string Lancaster team (Hannay, Civil, Sutcliffe and Dickinson) in an intense and exciting finale to the day's track events.

With the completion of the track events, the entire Lancaster team, who thought they had the title wrapped up before the beginning of the

women's triple jump, the final field event of the day, started a victory lap which prematurely ended so that the team could see Katrina Hall claim second place in the final event of the day with a jump of 10.01m.

Following a long, nervous wait for officials to tally up the points, it was announced that Lancaster had finished in first place, finishing five points ahead of Sheffield Hallam in second. Elliott Jackson of Leeds won the Matt Dimbylow award for outstanding achievement with an excellent performance in the 800m. The award was dedicated to Dimbylow, a Great British Paralympian, in honour of the support and hard work he provided the Panthers, ensuring a successful first year as a society.