

DO YOU HAVE PHONE FATIGUE?

Amy Coote asks if we are becoming too dependent on our mobiles. Lifestyle p34



JACK WHITE IN BLACKPOOL

Steff Brawn reviews the ex-White Stripes frontman at the Empress Ballroom. Culture p23



Department and College clash over Furness Foyer space

Rachel Stafford
Assistant Editor

On Saturday 17th November Furness College foyer had its "official" reopening with a guest appearance from celebrity chef, Simon Rogan.

Reuben Edwards, former Furness College Principal, who left his position at the beginning of August, was in attendance at the event and informed SCAN that there was an event earlier in the day "where Simon [Rogan] was made a Fellow of the College, with a wider event afterwards with the ribbon cutting and some food courtesy of Catering – presumably under a little bit of pressure knowing that there was a Michelin starred chef in attendance."

The Faculty of Health and

Medicine has now been located within the 'Furness Building' which means that the foyer and entrance are part of both this department, and Furness College.

"The college was consulted over the furniture but 'democratically' overruled on our feedback and I was never involved in the plans for its layout/décor."

It has been rumoured that there are disagreements between the Faculty and Furness college regarding use of the space. SCAN

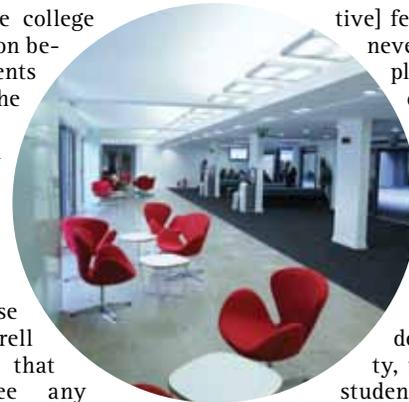
has been told that the Dean of the Faculty of Health & Medicine, Professor Tony Gatrell has insisted that the college ask his permission before holding events of any sort in the foyer.

Edward's on the other hand, insists that this area has been designated as a "shared space."

Despite these rumours Gatrell told SCAN that he didn't "see any 'problems' whatsoever" regarding the foyer, Edwards was less positive about the renovations stating that "the

college was consulted over the furniture but 'democratically' overruled on our [rather negative] feedback and I was never involved in the plans for its layout/décor."

Gatrell went on to state that he is "delighted to see the whole Faculty co-located in Furness, and to have a 'front door' to the Faculty, to welcome staff, students and visitors."



CONTINUED ON PAGE 6



NUS DEMO 2012

SCAN reports from the front line of the NUS' march through London on Wednesday Week 7. Around 10,000 students attended the protest, but as the rain came and the march headed towards Kennington in South London, there were anti-NUS chants, and the NUS President was forced off stage by hecklers and a stage invasion.

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LAST SCAN BEFORE CHRISTMAS

EDITORIAL

Rachel Harvey
Editor

Last Wednesday I attended the NUS National Demonstration, Educate, Employ Empower. Ten thousand students from across the country gathered in London to make themselves heard.

It was quite apparent that not everyone there understood why we were marching but non the less it was good to see students being active and getting their voices heard. More of a personal victory and a victory for the student body at Lancaster was the amount of students we took and seeing how enthusiastic they were about demonstrating. As a union we are not renowned for our activism, with exceptions of student groups such as Lancaster University Against Cuts (LUAC), and various political student groups, Lancaster is seen nationally as student body that rarely makes a stand, when an officer from Exeter asked us if

we were attending the DEMO of his colleagues quickly butt in, "Of course not. Its Lancaster, they don't do anything". I think we proved them wrong not only with this but when you made it known that you wouldn't take the Business Process review lying down. So lets use this DEMO as a platform.

Not everyone understood why they were there or what the point of the march was but lets keep making noise and keep the university on their toes.

'Just because there is no paper until after Christmas it doesn't mean we wont be reporting and keeping a watchful eye over the university'

In this issue of SCAN we report on a small victory on rent increase and what the university are going to do about it after we made it clear we are paying far too much. We also report on the counseling service and how students are not happy

with the way it is run.

We have reported on several instances where the university have made decisions on matters that effect the students most and forgotten to ask the students what they want. One day the university will learn and remember that if it were not for the students there would be no university, so keep shouting. I think we are starting to get the message across. On a side note you might notice that Scan is a bit heavier this issue. This isn't just because it's the last one of the year, you can expect this every issue from now till the end of my term in office. Here at SCAN we noticed there is so much going on around campus that we are having trouble fitting it all in the paper. This is by no means a bad thing. There is so much college and university activity this year that we just don't know where to look first. But just because there is no paper until after Christmas it doesn't mean we wont be reporting and keeping a watchful eye over the university.

From now until week 2 of Lent Term all of our news coverage can be found at SCAN online so keep an eye out and have an amazing rest of term and an even better Christmas.

In this SCAN



University Welfare

Investigation into student dissatisfaction with the University's counselling service

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The best of Movember

SCAN has scoured campus looking for the best examples of Movember moustaches

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The dust settles

Sarah-Jane Patel asks what Barack Obama's recent victory will actually mean for the United States

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NEWS

scan.lusu.co.uk/news

News Editors: Catherine Chorley & Emma Nelson
Meet Wednesday 12pm in Fylde Bar

scan.news@lusu.co.uk

Rent discussion continues

- University plan to provide more affordable accommodation in the future
- Students disagree with rent increases despite constant refurbishment



Rachel Stafford
Assistant Editor

The recent LUSU Council contained a discussion about rent increases. This dialogue around the rent topic began with the agenda for the in-quire General Meeting of Week 1, which contained a discussion point with regards to rent, raised by student Chris Witter. It bemoaned the fact that each year rent increases are higher than students can afford. As the meeting was inquorate the points were only discussed and it was agreed that this discussion would continue on to LUSU Council.

Following this, SCAN undertook an investigation which found that students were "concerned about the eradication of affordable flats." It also discovered that many of the increases were due to the cost of constant refurbishment of campus accommodation but that students "accept the notion of and the rationale behind the refurbishments taking place, but object to the resultant hike in their rent."

Since the last LUSU Council where the rent increases were first brought up, the Full Time Officers have been lobbying the University against the increases. This meant that it was a key agenda point at

LUSU Council on Friday Week 7, with The Director of Finance introducing a report on "the proposed increase in residence charges for 2013-14."

According to the agenda, Ste Smith, LUSU President "suggested that the series of increases over the past few years meant that the cost of living on campus was becoming excessively high for students."

The agenda for LUSU Council, goes on to state that "it was noted that the University planned to provide a more affordable accommodation alternative in the future."

Martin Hulland runs new craft beer pub

Jack Smith
Assistant Editor

Martin Hulland, former licensee of Furness College's bar, Trevor, is the Landlord at a new pub in town called The Tap House.

The pub, which opened on Friday Week 5, is located on Gage Street in the building which previously housed the Mood bar.

The Tap House describe themselves as a "world beer shrine" and say their ethos is to bring an array of artisan brews and International craft ales to Lancaster.

"We obviously want to build on this initial success"

Hulland said: "We are delighted with the positive response from customers on both our unusual range of products and the refurbishment in general. We are looking forward to a bright future in the Lancaster craft beer scene"

A spokesman from The Tap House told SCAN: "The pub has been open two weeks now and is doing very well, as we had hoped! We obviously want to build on this initial success going forward by constantly improving on our products and standards though."

Rob Lees, President of the Real Ale Society, has visited the pub and said: "The society and I went there on Tuesday the 13th and thoroughly enjoyed it. There was a vast selection of real ales both on draught and bottled, as well as a good variety of bottled cider. One small criticism I do have is that space is limited, especially if you are planning to visit in a large group."

Ali Shaw, a final year student from Lonsdale, said: "I got a bit of the vibe of old Trev in there, although that was probably down to Martin being behind the bar. The beer was great - it is very exciting to see something so different in Lancaster. I hope it maintains its success."

NUS Demo 2012: Educate, Employ, Empower

Burns forced off Rally stage as demo ends in negative scenes

- Thousands of students marched through London
- NUS president forced to leave stage as people storm it

Jack Smith
Assistant Editor

The Demo 2012 rally, which took place in London on Wednesday Week 7, ended in disunited scenes as the NUS President, Liam Burns, was heckled and booed at a rally in Kennington until a stage invasion forced him to leave.

Initially, the protestors - including many from Lancaster - were in high spirits as they began their march along the Victoria Embankment. According to the NUS, there were almost 10,000 in attendance.

However, as the rain began, some protestors attempted to block the route along Westminster Bridge in order to prevent the march moving south of the River Thames. These protestors were soon moved along and the demonstration left the centre of London heading towards Lambeth and Kennington.

"We wanted to create a route that meant minimum disruption for potential supporters but that allowed us to get our messages across"

At the final destination, a rally in Kennington Park, chants against the NUS were heard - particularly questioning the route taken by the organisers and the location of the rally, which was an area far from the centre of London and as a result was less media friendly. As the rally began, chants of "NUS, shame on you, where the fuck have you brought us to" became audible.

During Burns' speech, around 20 protestors invaded the stage; by this point, numbers in attendance had fallen to a few hundred. Reports suggested many protestors became disillusioned as the march proceeded through the largely residential area of Kennington in South London.

The march itself was peaceful, except for a few minor scuffles between protestors and police around Westminster.

10,000 students attended the demonstration according to the NUS

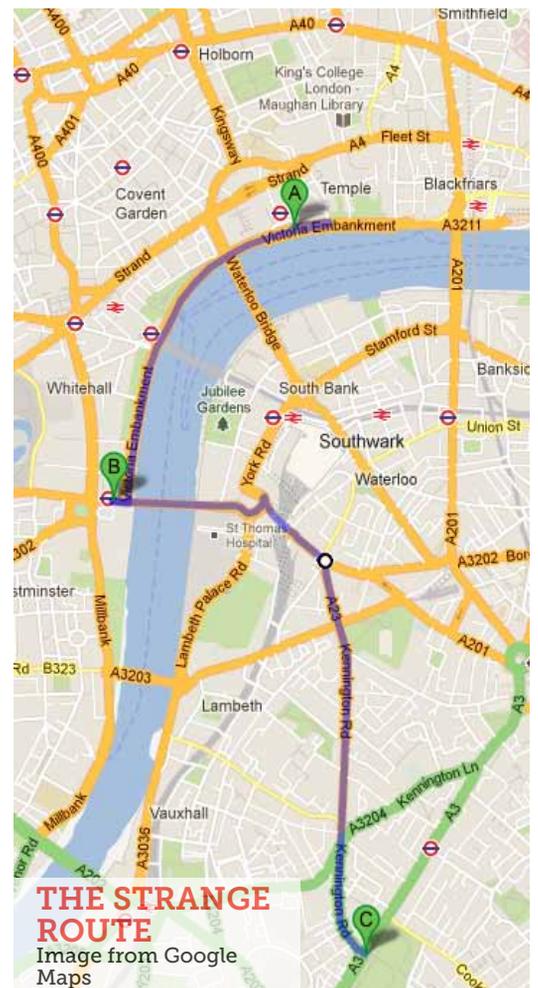
When asked by The Guardian why the route avoided the most high-profile parts of Central London, an NUS spokesperson said: "We'll be marching in full view

of parliament across Westminster Bridge and down to a good space for a rally."

"We wanted to create a route that meant minimum disruption for potential supporters but that allowed us to get our messages across to politicians."

The demonstrators met near Temple tube station and proceeded along Victoria Embankment, towards Waterloo Bridge. They then briefly passed Parliament, before crossing Westminster Bridge to proceed towards the rally.

It was reported that around 150 marchers attempted to break off from the protest towards Parliament Square, but police blocked their path. There were two lines of police blocking Portcullis House, which houses MPs' offices.





**THE DEMO
PASSES TEMPLE
TUBE STATION**
Photo by Rachel Harvey

From the scene

Rachel Harvey
Editor

NUS National Demonstration 2012, Educate, Employ, Empower. Ten thousand students from across the country gathered in London to let it be known that they... well... that seemed to be the problem. Around half of the students there did not seem to fully understand the reason for the DEMO. So much for educate. Nether the less students were enthusiastic, excited and ready to shout. Whether or not they knew the intention was to raise awareness of cuts to education didn't matter, they made noise. From Temple palace to Westminster chants could be heard for miles, the atmosphere was chilling when students booed at name George Osborne and when passing under bridges and tunnels shouts grew louder and the sound of drums echoed encouraging people more.

The same cannot be said for the rest of the march. Once we approached Westminster we came to a standstill as anti NUS groups essentially kettled there own fellow students onto the bridge chanting, 'there is nothing for you in Kennington', trying to force people into Parliament Square off the march. From that point on, the march became disjointed and slow, people lost their enthusiasm as the rain poured and we marched through the silent residential areas of London. As we approached Kennington park more people joined the anti NUS mindset. We were in the middle of nowhere and chants where now pointless. The park was turned into a festival like swap as the rain continued to pour and any spirit that was still alive was quickly stamped out as it became clear that most people had gone home. The atmosphere was not helped by locals walking dogs around the rally showing more and more that we could not possibly be making less impact on parliament if we had tried. The anti NUS cries grew and the stage was stormed by people that would just not listen to Liam Burns (NUS president) was forces off stage with chants and eggs. It is easy to see where the march fell apart. Non the less it was an experience and I like to think that HE was back on the agenda at parliament.

Analysis

The reasons behind the march

Catherine Chorley
News Editor

"No ifs; no buts; no education cuts!"

This was the rallying cry of the thousands of students gathered at London's Embankment early on Wednesday morning. Those in attendance were preparing for the National Union of Students' 'Demo 2012' protest against the impact of government reforms to Further and Higher Education in the UK.

Believing the security of their futures to be at stake, the NUS and those in support of their campaign were aiming to make sure that their collective voice was heard, and acknowledged, by those in charge of policies affecting students of today and the future.

The march was scheduled to begin at midday, as the NUS website updated its live blog indicated shortly beforehand:

'Ready to move in half an hour – the helicopters are out!'

The planned route began at Temple Place, Embankment, before heading southwest along the Thames bank, whereupon the demonstrators crossed eastwards over Westminster Bridge at approximately 1pm and proceeded on down Kennington Road towards the finishing point in Kennington Park. A Section 12 Public Order was issued by police in advance of the demonstration proceedings, meaning that participants were required to adhere to route-restrictions or else face police intervention.

Government initiatives such as the abolishment of the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) and the now-infamous raising of university tuition fees to £9K per year for Home students – all enacted with the objective of saving money in the Education Sector –

have left many students angry and dissatisfied with the way the legislature has handled the economic problems that have led to a situation necessitating such austerity measures.

The NUS website states that '[e]ducation should open doors, but the government is slamming them shut, both for today's students and the next generation.'

Feelings of unrest have never fully dissipated since the furore caused two years ago, when student protests over the proposal to increase tuition fees descended into scenes of anarchy on the streets of London. Memories of that day's events were no doubt at the forefront of minds in charge of organising this year's protest. Media coverage reported a 'large police presence' steadfastly guarding access to the area surrounding Parliament as a reminder that no disorder would be tolerated.

Lancaster students are first to receive Santander scholarships

Cathrine Chorley
News Editor

Nine students from Lancaster University have become the first cohort to benefit from the launch of scholarship funding provided by Santander as part of its Santander Universities Global Division.

The funding – approximately worth an overall figure of £45,000 – was agreed last year as part of a co-operative initiative between Lancaster University and Santander, through which the University will receive funding of £168,000 over three years to provide various scholarships and awards for students and staff to study in the UK and abroad.

For those in receipt of the scholarship funds, the news came as an unexpected delight.

MSc student Svetlana Volkova, studying Management Science and Marketing Analytics, was so overjoyed at the news of her £5000 award that she reportedly “jumped

around the room with joy!”

The financial bonus will provide many staff and students who are awarded funding through the programme with the means to become more independent throughout their education, as well as affording them the opportunity to continue studying in the UK.

‘They will receive funding of £168,000 over three years’

Luis Juste, director of Santander Universities UK, said: “We only signed our agreement with Lancaster just over a year ago and we are delighted to already see some positive results of this agreement with a group of talented young people who have been able to study in the UK thanks to our funding.

“We are extremely pleased with Lancaster University’s approach to internationalisation and the

transfer of knowledge between universities and we are proud to be in this long-term partnership with Lancaster.”

As well as providing students with financial security, the programme also includes initiatives to facilitate the recruitment of students from Lancaster’s partner, Brazil’s Federal University of Lavras, onto Master’s programmes offered by the Lancaster Environment Centre.

The money will also fund joint Master’s programmes between Lancaster University Management School and the Higher School of Economics in Moscow.

Prof Steve Bradley, Pro Vice Chancellor International, said: “We have a very successful relationship with Santander Universities and we are pleased at the funding and opportunities they offer to our students who also benefit from access to their international network of universities.”

Debate over Furness Foyer space usage

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

He also said that he was “pleased” to see that the “attractive foyer” was being used as “a high-quality social space.”

He went to say that “we also had to fight to have the college logo on the porter’s lodge – and had to compromise to having it in black rather than College colours which would have clashed with the new colour scheme (the Porter’s lodge and mailroom are also part of the college’s official footprint).”

“We also had to fight to have the college logo on the porter’s lodge – and had to compromise to having it in black rather than College colours”

There has also been some concern with regards to access to ‘Trev’ (Furness Bar) as the doors to the foyer are locked in the evening.

It has now become apparent that library cards can be used to gain access to the foyer yet this has remained relatively unpublicised until now with students having to walk round to the back entrance. This is now being publicised with a black board out on the spine, making it clearer and more accessible for students.

‘There has also been some concern with regards to access to Trev’

Alongside issues over integral college necessities, such as a sign for the porters/mailroom, Edwards wished to stress the fact that “the foyer is an important area of social space and part of the fabric of the College.”

“Although somewhat more clinical now than it was before – and I would hope it will continue to be used so by students and staff. I am sure attempts to discourage students/staff from eating/drinking in the foyer will come to naught!”

MedSoc panto gets campus festive

Emma Nelson
News Editor

On Sunday of Week 8, MedSoc will bring the festive spirit to Lancaster with their pantomime production of ‘Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs’. The production will be held in The Nuffield Theatre at 7.30pm.

MedSoc Charities Officer and Producer of the pantomime, Katie Walsh, told SCAN that there are around 25 cast members and a further 15 Medical students involved backstage.

When asked how the idea of doing a Christmas pantomime came about, Walsh said: “Myself and Tish Atherton (Director of the production) are the charities officers for MedSoc who decided to do the panto in the first place to try to raise money for charity. I had the idea since my first year at medical school but this year as charities officer I finally got to put my idea into action!”

“I know that other universities have an annual Christmas panto (Manchester Medics put on a panto every year for Manchester University students) but Lancaster Uni does not currently have anything like this as far as I’m aware!” she continued.

Walsh also expressed their aim to raise the awareness of MedSoc and show Lancaster University “that we work hard but play hard!”, also pointing out that “this is a good opportunity for medical students to take time out from their busy timetables in hospital and uni to do something fun and have a laugh.”

Walsh explained that after deciding to do the pantomime, they started planning for it at the end of the last academic year. She also pointed out that the production has promoted working alongside other societies, telling SCAN: “We have been working together with the Theatre Society who have been a big help to us by giving us advice on how to go about putting on the panto. They offered us a ‘creative consultant’, Jenn Pawley, who has been helping us to stage the panto.”

Abbey Barraclough, a third year student who will be playing the role of Snow White, told SCAN “We’ve all been loving doing the panto! It’s a brand new venture for the medics, everyone is having so much fun doing it and it’s all for a good cause because the money is going to charity.”

Evil Queen Caligula played by third year Charlotte Bolton added

“I am really excited for the panto and transforming into the panto baddie next Sunday. I will hopefully get plenty of boos! The panto has been a lot of hard work but hopefully it will all pay off on the night.”

The production will also see Panto Dame, Dolly Dumping played by first year Jamie Harrison and dwarfs Top Dwarf (TD), Grouchy, Snoozy, Sniffly, Cheerful, Dozy and Disney.

Walsh stated: “I am very excited to see people’s reactions to it! We have been working really hard and rehearsing for the last couple of months.”

She also pointed out that the production will be for one night only as it is their first year, although, “if the night is a success we are hoping that we can make it an annual event for everyone at uni to enjoy with possibly more nights in future.”

“The panto will have some medical twists and jokes in it but is not too full of medical puns so it appeals to a wide audience” she concluded.

Tickets cost £6 and are available from Medical School UG office Furness B46. Tickets can also be reserved by emailing medsoc@lancaster.ac.uk.

Bailrigg triumph at Student Radio Awards

Annie Gouk
Features Editor

Bailrigg FM returned triumphant from this year's Student Radio Awards, receiving a gold award in the category of Best Technical

Achievement.

The annual Awards have been running since 1996, and this is the first year Bailrigg FM have won since 2004.

Designed to celebrate the latest talent emerging from student radio,

the Awards are judged by some of the biggest names in radio.

The Awards claim to have launched the careers of many top dogs in the UK's radio industry, and it's true that many winners have gone on to glittering careers. Some past winners include Kevin Hughes, Scott Mills and Alex Zane.

The event was hosted by BBC Radio 1's Nick Grimshaw and Capital Breakfast's Dave Berry, with over 700 people attending, including students and radio industry professionals.

Prizes for the winners of gold awards included work experience on big radio shows, one-off shows on major networks, and even technical equipment

Bailrigg FM's winning entry was created by Grace Zarczynska and Chris Kalkov, formerly the Head of Music and the Chief Engineer respectively. It featured a computer program capable of switching between many different audio

streams, and was used during the recent Roses tournament to switch between the many concurrent commentary feeds from different areas of campus.

The award was received by members of the current Bailrigg team: Station Manager Charlie Edwards, Assistant Station Manager Curtis Kennington; also present to accept the accolade were former Station Manager - and current Vice President Media and Communications - Rachel Harvey, and entrants Chris Kalkov and Grace Zarczynska.

In speaking about the Station's success, Assistant Station Manager Kennington had this to say: "This is an amazing achievement for the station, with our last award being won back in 2004 for 'Best Station Sound'. I would like to thank everyone who was involved in the project and I hope this will be the first of many to more to come in the future and hopefully next year"



BEST TECHNICAL ACHIEVEMENT
Photo by Jordan Finneran

English and Creative Writing launch annual college and sixth-form writing awards

Catherine Chorley
News Editor

The University's English and Creative Writing Department has launched the first of what it hopes will become an annual creative writing competition for first-year college and sixth-form students across the country.

Head of Department Professor John Schad described the Awards' core commitment "to uncovering and celebrating the very best of sixth-form writing," by stating that "[t]hese awards are an excit-

ing new venture which [...] will encourage sixth-form students across the country to develop their work as literary critics and/or creative writers".

The first instance of the Department's Writing Awards, which include categories in Criticism, Fiction and Poetry, is open to any student in Year Twelve and offers students the opportunity to win cash prizes as well as a chance to be published in Lancaster's literary magazine, *Cake*, which specialises in publishing "the best in new writing, be it poetry, flash fiction or in-

sightful reviews of new work."

Judging the competition will be members of the University's own literary elite, including critic and Distinguished Professor of English Literature Terry Eagleton as a judge for the Criticism category, and Paul Farley, who was recently nominated for the prestigious T. S. Eliot Prize for Poetry, as a judge of the Poetry category. Also adding the benefits of their own experience and insights will be Helen Farish and Graham Mort (Poetry), and Jenn Ashworth, George Green and Zoe Lambert (Prose).

Current students of the University are being asked to spread the word by contacting their old schools and colleges with details of the competition. By entering into the contest, young writers will have the chance to showcase their talents and secure recognition for their writing potential.

It is also hoped that engagement with Further Education students interested in English and Creative Writing will foster links that will endure as they come to make their university applications: Professor Schad indicated his hope that the event would "develop the profile of the Department amongst potential

applicants."

Lindsey King, the Part II Secretary for the Department, confirmed that over two and a half thousand schools across the country had received notice of the competition via email, and that those orchestrating the event were "look[ing] forward to receiving [the] first entries soon."

"Celebrating the very best of sixth-form writing"

Social media websites have also been utilised in reaching out to as many aspiring writers as possible. King added, "I think it's a different way of getting students who might not think about Lancaster involved and interested."

The closing date for entries is January 31st 2013, with the longlist due for publication in March and the shortlist in April. The announcement of the winning entries will be conducted in conjunction with Lancaster's Sixth Form Conference, planned for July 2013, when a series of creative and critical seminars will also take place.



ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
Photo by Jay Theiss

Fees confusion leaves Social Work students in difficulty

Ronnie Rowlands

A confusion of communication within the Department of Applied Social Sciences' MA in Social Work course has resulted in a number of students unexpectedly having to pay tuition fees.

Students studying for an MA in Social Work receive an NHS bursary to cover a proportion of their tuition fees.

Historically, the university has covered the shortfall in the form of a grant, but this has not been the case this year.

Dr. Paul Iganski, head of the Department of Applied Social Science, explained the reasons for this; "In the past, the NHS bursary mostly covered the tuition fee. This year, given the rise in the university fee, and the continuation of the NHS bursary at a level lower than the fee, there is a larger difference."

A small number of students on the course have claimed that they were informally told by a representative of the course, at an open day prior to their enrolment, that the university would cover their fees for them.

In week one, students received an invoice from the university

asking for the full amount owed (£1650 per year after the NHS bursary), resulting in a number of them voicing their grievances through Lis Cox, their course representative.

A letter, sent in February to all applicants prior to official enrolment, states; "This offer of admission carries no implication that Lancaster University will provide financial assistance. If you are awarded a scholarship/bursary this will be communicated separately."

However, students have explained their continued confusion in light of the information given to them. Some showed the admission letter to past graduates of the course, who confirmed that it is standard practise for the university to send this, and that they would still cover the shortfall.

One student said; "... the university followed exactly the same procedures and issues the same payment letter a previous years. At no stage did they point out that previous information given to us had changed, nor did they point this out in their correspondence."

Professor Corinne May-Chahal,

who teaches on the course, confirmed to SCAN that no official literature had been given to students claiming that the financial shortfall would be covered by the university; "it was not even certain at that stage [the time students received their admission letter] that a bursary would be available. The whole matter of social work bursaries was under consultation with the sector and not resolved until late in the year."

"I understand how some may have reached the conclusion that they would not have to pay any top-up and I'm sorry they are now in a difficult position."

Professor May-Chahal also explained to SCAN that new students conversing with course graduates may be the reason for the new cohort's expectation that the university would cover their fees; "[students] may well have discussed the course with colleagues at their workplace

who would have told them that in previous years, the University made up the difference between the fee level and the bursary allowance for fees.

She added, "I understand how some may have reached the conclusion that they would not have to pay any top-up and I'm sorry they are now in a difficult position. The majority of students on the course did expect to make up the shortfall so there are clearly different expectations held within the student group."

Regardless of how the confusion came about, it is apparent that a number of students on the course have been left in serious financial difficulty, as they budgeted under the assumption that they would not have to pay tuition fees.

The nature of work placements on the course means that students can only work paid jobs for a small number of hours per week. Some also have child dependants.

While a flexible payment scheme has been discussed and agreed to by students, any student in financial difficulty would be well advised to seek help from the Access to Learning Fund, which is advertised and explained on the university website.

Lancaster hosts Interfaith week

Rachel Quin

Week 7 saw campus host its annual Inter-Faith Week. This is an important event which takes place every year at Lancaster University, and aims to explore the diversity and culture that our campus enjoys by appreciating many types of religion.

The point of the week is to raise awareness of different faiths in the UK and the work they do, as well as bring together all the religious groupings and faith systems at the University to discuss and learn from each other. To achieve this, a range of events, from tours of religious buildings to evening vigils took place, and welcomed all in a mission to explore the question of 'religion'.

Jennifer Ossei-Williams, the Equal Opportunities Officer for Furness College spoke to SCAN,

giving an outline of the week. On Monday, there was a stall in Alexandra Square displaying religious paintings, pictures, symbols and depictions of charitable work going on around the world. A raffle was held on every item in the stall, with all proceeds being given to Oxfam and Amnesty International.

On Tuesday, a film-screening of The Prince of Egypt was hosted by Lancaster University Cinema and all were invited to join in the proceedings. Wednesday provided an exciting opportunity for all to discover interesting new forms of worship by taking an informative tour of the Preston Hindu Temple in the afternoon. This provided attendees with an exciting opportunity to explore the Temple and ask questions. Thursday included a chance for people to bring their faith and their viewpoints to a Faith Share

Question Time. People were invited to the Chaplaincy Centre to discuss the question, 'Is religion oppressive?' Ossei-Williams described the event as a "lively interactive debate with some of the University's most experienced intellectuals", and added that it provided an amazing chance to brainstorm the topic of religion.

Finally, there was a vigil in the Chaplaincy Centre on Friday evening, with readings from various sacred texts and a live performance of a various types of meditative music.

"It provided an amazing chance to brainstorm the topic of religion."

Ossei-Williams said she had been particularly looking forward to the tour of the Preston Hindu Temple as it would be "an educational, eye

opening experience". Speaking of Thursday's Faith Share Question Time, which featured both academic speakers and religious leaders, Ossei-Williams added that it was "interesting to see both academic theology and spiritual theology clash, and [...] debate on what most people see religion as". She also thought that the vigil was a fantastic way to finish off, as it was a "calm meditative way to end the week".

Ossei-Williams hopes that the week will not only raise awareness for charitable causes around the world that link in with religions, such as Oxfam, but that it will also encourage people to think about religion more on a personal level, and encourage them to abandon the oppressive, constrictive stereotype it often receives in the media.

All in all, Inter-faith Week provided a chance to start viewing religion in a new light.

From the SCAN Archives

Revisiting and reprinting articles from SCAN's past

November 1996

Open University?

Lancaster University, in case you hadn't heard, is in financial crisis. Let SCAN give you the depressing details.

- Rents to rise bby 25%?
- Colleges to merge?
- Departments to close?
- Compulsory redundancies?
- Group 4 Porters?

Cut and Paste College

Wild rumours have been circulating on Bailrigg campus regarding the extreme measures, which will be proposed as part of the university wide cuts, aimed at the college sector.

Such measures will soon be set out in a to-be-published document by the Colleges and Residences Task Force, headed by Provost of Colleges, Dr. Maurice Kirkby. Students' Union President Lee Devlin resigned from the Task Force, claiming that the decisions had been made before he assumed membership of the group and that his resistance to certain proposals was largely ignored. He said that he felt that he could not be party to the proposals which would be made.

These proposals are likely to represent the most serious alterations to life on campus since the formation of the Graduate College. It is strongly rumoured that the four Northern undergraduate colleges will be merged into two (County combining with Cartmel and Lonsdale with Bowland, although a certain amount of reshuffling of residential stock could be expected).

'The lowest priced student accommodation on campus would cost £40 per week, while the most expensive would near £60 per week'

Alongside this measure, which would be likely to cause serious dissent in the Colleges involved, would be massive rises in campus rents, thought to be in the region of fifteen percent. It is likely that students will

be given options, with rents being inversely linked to the number of colleges. These rises, which, if they are approved, will be the largest ever levied at Lancaster, would be levied at the beginning of the 1997/8 session and will be campus-wide.

'The four Northern undergraduate colleges will be merged into two (County combining with Cartmel and Lonsdale with Bowland'

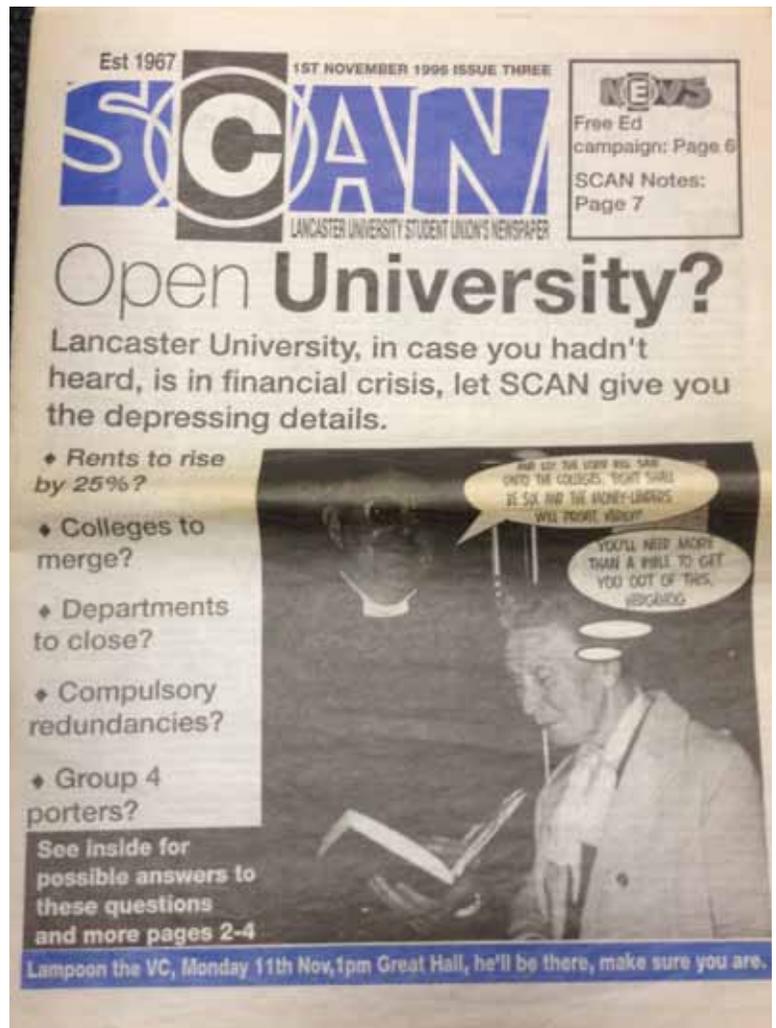
They would mean that the lowest priced student accommodation on campus would cost £40 per week, while the most expensive would near £60 per week.

It is also thought that a 'menu' of these unpalatable alternatives might be drawn up and offered to the student body. These would take the form of calculations of retaining the colleges which are linked up for merging: in other words, the price of retaining the full complement of currently existing colleges is reckoned to be an additional ten percent on rents (making the rise a total of 25 percent, while the loss of one college only would entail a total rent rise of 20 percent.

**Number 1
this week:**

**Spice Girls -
Say You'll Be
There**

Other measures expected to be contained in the document are a significant curtailing of portering across the colleges and the removal of the centralised Residential and Catering Services. This last measure would involve greater responsibility on the part of College Principals,



Secretaries and Services Officers for the management of college and residential business.

Comment: Let's be friends

Elsewhere in this issue of SAN, and around Bailrigg, you will hear the fervid mummings of the conspiracy theorists, the sad breed who find evil intent where there is only honest and mild incompetence, and who dish out blame where none is deserved. Never mind that such folk are members of, or have direct contact with, Senate and Council and as such are as much to blame as anyone else for allowing the financial situation to run out of control. Never mind that others have literally no idea what's going on.

Nobody, literally nobody, at the University wants this period of horror, panic and price rises. This writer believes that those in positions of

power have acted in good faith. To blame those unlucky or hapless enough to be in a position to try to get us out of this hole is perverse. We have to fight, and fight hard, to get the best possible deal for the students and staff. As one sensible observer at this week's inquorate Union meeting said: we must fight, but we must remember that the most we can hope for is a set of small gains, to limit the damage. (At least, he said something like that).

The Beadle's about

Two teenage lads from Lancaster were arrested on Sunday night following a serious act of vandalism. Furness laundrette was left in a sorry state following the incident, which left the main window smashed. John Sutherland, Deputy Head of Security, stated that witnesses were forthcoming and the police were progressing with their prosecution.

Investigation: The Counselling Service

University welfare: who cares?

- Research raises concerns over welfare provision at Lancaster
- YourVoice poll reveals dissatisfaction with counselling service

Catherine Chorley
News Editor

Extensive research conducted by Union Vice-President for Equality, Welfare and Diversity Rosalia O'Reilly has raised serious concerns regarding the provision of welfare support for members of Lancaster's University community.

Following the proposal and subsequent passing of O'Reilly's motion to LUSU's Union Council earlier this term, O'Reilly has been conducting research into the extent, and suitability, of welfare provision on campus in order to support her lobbying of the University Administration.

A particular area giving O'Reilly cause for concern is the allocation of counselling provision to the University's 2,500 members of staff, many of whom are unable to gain access to the counselling provision they need due to a significant rise in overall demand on the service.

The service provided here on campus aims to provide staff and students with appropriate support during what has the potential to become a time of hitherto unparalleled pressure – be that pressure academic, social, financial or otherwise.

The counselling service's spokes-

person told SCAN, "We strive to make our counselling service the best we can to support our students. Feedback from students who have used the service is generally very positive."

O'Reilly is keen to emphasise that, though her campaign pertains to the service provided by the University's counselling service, her efforts are in no way intended to disparage the work done by individual counsellors or the benefits of counselling in a Higher Education context in general. Indeed, figures provided by the British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy (BACP) indicate that those in receipt of counselling at university show significant improvements in their subsequent academic outcomes.

After a year-long study into the impact of counselling on academic outcomes in Further and Higher Education institutions across Britain, to which 65 institutions across the sector contributed data, BACP published findings which revealed that 75% of clients were either 'improved' or 'recovered' following counselling in Higher Education, compared to 71% of clients in primary care counselling.

HE counselling services also achieve, on average, shorter wait-

ing times for clients between referral and assessment (9 days in HE settings compared to 63 days in primary care counselling) and between assessment and the commencement of counselling sessions (16 days compared versus 84 days in primary care).

75%
of clients of HE counselling found that their situation had 'improved' or been resolved

The study acknowledged the particular saliency of counselling in educational environments, in which young people – already a statistically more vulnerable demographic – face the added burden posed by academic pressure and the challenges associated with leaving home for what is usually the first time. (www.bacp.co.uk)

Despite this positive national outlook, it is the situation at Lancaster that is O'Reilly's primary concern. There are aspects of counselling provision here on campus with which O'Reilly is not wholly

satisfied, and about which she is conducting a campaign enabling students to show their concern to those whose responsibility it is to ensure that students and staff here at Lancaster University receive the support they need to perform as they are capable of doing.

Throughout the Friday of Week Four, O'Reilly staged a preliminary campaign, held in Alexandra Square, in order to raise awareness of the issue amongst the student population in the first instance. She is now set to embark upon a follow-up phase of her long-term operation which will capitalise on support received during the Week Four consultations and prior canvassing of opinions. A key member of the University Management structure who is in line to be lobbied over this issue is the Pro-Vice Chancellor for Colleges and Student Experience, Amanda Chetwynd.

A LUSU Your Voice poll conducted over summer, along with separate emails sent to the LUSU officer in confidence, revealed significant dissatisfaction with key areas of the counselling service provided by The Base. Recurrent issues included the referral process (as many dislike the online self-referral system and would like the option to speak with an individual in person or – by way of compromise – via telephone) and subsequent waiting time; the difficulties faced by those wishing to refer someone else, who may not be at that point ready to admit that they have a problem; and the environment of the service itself.

This latter issue was one which formed a core argument in the motion to Union Council in early October. Reasons cited for the unsuitability of the (newly-refurbished) area within University House were the proximity of counselling 'pods' to the waiting area for students' general enquiries, the transparent glass panels of the pods, and the number of counsellors available for appointments.

SCAN contacted the service and asked for figures detailing the budget of refurbishment, and for details on who had been responsible for the layout and design of the space. No information was given in response to these specific re-



ENTRANCE TO THE BASE
Photo by Jay Theis

quests; instead, samples of positive feedback from students who have used the service were proffered in return

On the matter of the material suitability of the counselling facilities, a spokesperson had the following to say:

"The recent refurbishment was planned with students in mind, and we hope that the new layout is clear and makes our services accessible. Counselling appointments have the full range of consulting rooms available for their use but they normally take place in the more private rooms".

This somewhat-defensive response appears to miss the point of the Union's focus on welfare-provision for its members: the efforts of those involved in the service are not being called into question, just as the potential benefit, as indicated above, is not in dispute. The Union, and this paper, wish to draw attention to serious administrative and procedural complications that ultimately undermine the effectiveness of a service designed to help the most vulnerable amongst us.

O'Reilly is determined to use the

time she has as a LUSU Full-Time Officer to address an issue that was raised time and time again in her consultations with students over the summer vacation period. For her, the need for adequate mental health and wellbeing support is one which resonates with a particular poignancy, and she is determined to bring students' concerns to the attention of those with the powers to remedy them.

"If I want to change something at this university and do something good with the time that I've got here, then this - for me - is a really good project."



THE BASE HAS RECENTLY BEEN REFURBISHED
Photo by Jay Theis

Case Study

Catherine Chorley
News Editor

John*, Third-Year student

John was in the process of trying to get counselling through the NHS, but was not hearing back on the matter after having been on a waiting list for several months. Meanwhile, his university work was starting to slip as he couldn't concentrate during his lectures and found it difficult to get to sleep at night.

"I felt as if I were in limbo. I couldn't move forward in addressing my problems even though I

knew what it was that was troubling me. At the same time, I really didn't want to resort to taking a year out or withdrawing altogether, as I really enjoyed my subject and had made some great friends."

One of John's friends suggested he try getting access to counselling through the University's counselling service.

"I hadn't considered it because I thought it would be too generalised and wouldn't really help me get to grips with my individual issues, but actually I found my counsellor to be really insightful. It did help me to keep my head above water at a time when things were start-

ing to feel unmanageable, but then my sessions came to an end and I felt guilty about the idea of asking for more when others might be in greater need.

"I think the service itself is a valuable resource for students in need of an extra support-system while they're away from home. It's just a shame that it can't be made to realise its full potential, perhaps by having more counsellors available or by connecting with students through a variety of media as well as face-to-face."

Student Welfare: Access to first aid

Ronnie Rowlands

The alleged inefficiency of the Counselling Service is not the first issue taken with the standard of student wellbeing provision at Lancaster University.

The Nurse Unit was a 24 hour front line first aid service, and the first port of call in an emergency. In late 2010, it was closed as part of a series of cuts to NHS provision. Outcry from LUSU was ignored; outcry from students was non-existent because they didn't know until it was too late.

'The Nurse Unit was a 24 hour front line first aid service, and the first port of call in an emergency. In late 2010, it was closed'

The process in the case of an emergency was to convey the student to the Nurse Unit via the aid of a college porter. Now that the Unit no longer exists, the onus is upon the college porter to provide first aid care and await the arrival of an ambulance, which has been known to exceed two hours.

Bear in mind three things: college porters are not medical professionals and only have basic first aid training; the portering service was also reduced in 2010; and some colleges have over a thousand undergraduates living in them. Add to this the additional responsibilities of porters and the stretching of Lancaster's medical resources, and we are left with a near total lack of access both to immediate first aid care from an experienced professional and to other services such as pregnancy support.

The quality of physical and mental healthcare offered by the University may seem unrelated to each other. But it was agreed at a 2010 University Management Committee meeting that Student Based Services would "increase the amount of resources targeted on student well-being in the area of mental health" were the Unit to be closed. It is odd that the University would cut first aid care to fund 'increased' mental health care; one wonders why we cannot have both.

* Names have changed in this article to protect the privacy of the individual.

Bar Watch: 'Food, notorious food!'

Ronnie Rowlands reviews the College Bars' new food offerings

Bowland

Bowland Bar's new pie service isn't going to win any Michelin stars, but unlike the other campus bars, the food isn't promoted under the pretence that it should. It's a quick, no-nonsense post lecture affair, but it tastes great – exactly like Granny used to make it. There is always a choice of at least three types of pie, served piping from the hotplate with vegetables at a meagre price of £2.95. I had the fisherman's pie – the potato, filling and sauce were all shades of creamy, and you could be fooled into thinking it was home prepared, rather than produced centrally and served in canteen style.

Quite rightly, the bar is doing a roaring lunchtime trade as a result, but one wonders if it might do better if people knew they also offer a takeaway option. Bowland Bar pie is always a plate of creamy, flavour-some joy – go and get some.

Fylde

One of the things Commercial Services promised when trying to justify themselves earlier in the year was to improve the choice on offer for students. Fylde Bar has taken an unorthodox approach to this by halving its menu. Now serving food from 11AM (costing themselves a load of

breakfast business in the process), Fylde seems to view itself as the campus Wetherspoons'.

Despite installing a brand new kitchen, most of Fylde's produce is still prepared in the same way, yet somehow tastes worse.

I had a toastie and chips. Not 'fresh, locally sourced' chips, mind – they taste like they're full of Smash Mash and have the air / food consistency of a Rice Krispie. Fylde's food used to carry the same air as something you might eat in a nice little café on a trip to the Welsh Valleys. Now it's stagnant, greasy shite. That isn't a bad thing, but it certainly is a fall from grace.

Fylde – add burger and chips to your menu, serve it after 7PM on a Friday night, and reintroduce the food queue so that bar staff don't have to run around serving plates every ten seconds. Then, and only then, we might talk.

Grizedale

A Mediterranean inspired menu in Grizedale Bar. If there is a worse idea on God's green earth then I hope I'm not up a tree when I hear it.

Picture the scene. You've just come out of a lecture, it's a winter afternoon, and you glance at your watch. "Ooh, I've got an hour free. I'm really hungry. I think what I re-



BOWLAND BAR, NOW SERVING FOOD 12-3

Photo by Jay Theis

ally need right now is to sit in the ugliest bar on campus and spend £3.80 on four lukewarm dough balls and a postage stamp sized slice of toast with a slither of ham on it."

Grizedale Bar's 'Mezze and More' offering is the culinary equivalent of wearing a cheap fez and claiming to be deeply knowledgeable about Arabic culture. It doesn't look very nice,

and it tastes like someone has looked at a picture of genuinely nice Mediterranean food and tried to recreate it with cardboard and glue. Maybe it would work as a special, well prepared ceremonial offering during a hot summer period, but at the moment it's yet another hollow attempt by Grizedale Bar to emulate some degree of 'classiness'.

National Novel Writing Month

Rachel Quin

November is not just a great time to raise some money for a good cause by growing an impressive moustache: November also introduces a time for aspiring writers to chase their dreams by putting pen to paper for an entire thirty days as part of National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo).

Established in 1999 by a group of Americans in San Francisco, NaNoWriMo had seen over 200,000 participants take part in the event by 2010. The Facebook page for NaNoWriMo describes the event as "a fun, seat-of-your-pants approach to novel writing... [it] is a novel-writing program for everyone who has thought fleetingly about writing a novel but has been scared away by the time and effort involved".

NaNoWriMo also boasts of a string of successful writers, who, after participating in the event, found their work being published,

such as Erin Morgenstern, whose novel 'The Night Circus' smashed its way through the book charts this summer.

Just because this event started in America does not mean that Lancastrians and the United Kingdom in general are not able to get involved. NaNoWriMo has spread across the globe, and in the interests of creating a warm, friendly community, the programme appoints Municipal Liaison officers, who volunteer their time and support to encourage the people of their region to get together and take part.

For students, this could be the best time to seize an opportunity like this and begin writing their first novel in their very limited free time. Gareth Holt, a graduate of Lancaster University, spoke to SCAN, saying: "It wasn't until my time at uni that I actually began to think of myself as a 'writer'". Furthermore, one aspiring writer on

the Lancaster forum for the project emphasised that "if you can find the perfect balance between your work and your writing, undertaking NaNoWriMo at university is one of the best times to discover what you're really all about".

'Chase their dreams by putting pen to paper for an entire month'

The Lancaster Creative Writing Programme, which encourages young writers to get involved with different literacy pursuits, advertised the event earlier on in the year and it seems many Lancastrians are dusting off their keyboards, temporarily setting aside their seminar work and embracing the so-called "Great Frantic Novel".

George Green, a Creative Writing lecturer at Lancaster University, described NaNoWriMo as a "good

thing". He claimed, "In particular... it has the virtue of setting hard but realistic targets with a measurable and useful outcome"; by asking participants to write 1500 words a day with the goal of reaching 50,000 by the end of the month, the project breaks up the novel-writing process into bite-sized chunks. As Green says, "A lot of people's problem is that they have unrealistic expectations about how much work it takes to write a novel". He also sang the praises of NaNoWriMo's support system, and the Municipal Liaison officer for the Manchester area, Kelly Oldham, added that "the support networks and life-long friendships... often spring up from these writing groups... it's a wonderful thing for a writer to feel less solitary when they do need a gentle push in the right direction".

Overall, Green says that he "would recommend it to anyone in the early stages of writing a novel".



CHRISTMAS MARKET

ALEXANDRA
SQUARE
07.12.2012

LANCASTER
UNIVERSITY



upp

University Partnerships
Programme

LUSU

JCR Elections

Rachel Quin

Following the nomination-window in Week 7, the time for students across campus to climb atop their sop-boxes in a bid to gain the votes of their peers is once again upon us, as this year's JCR Elections begin in earnest.

Throughout the evening of Monday, Week 8, hustings will be conducted for each position up for election across the eight undergraduate colleges, and for the Cross Campus Officer and Students' Union (LUSU) Councillor positions. Candidates will be required to give a brief speech indicating the most salient points of their manifesto; they will then face a grilling from the outgoing JCR member of their contested role, along with questions from the floor, which usually consists largely of students of the college.

Positions range between colleges, though each college will be electing new representatives for its core Executive positions, such as President, Vice President (many colleges have differentiated elected positions with the remit of a Vice President), Social Secretary, Chairperson, Treasurer and Welfare Of-



ficer. Certain colleges have roles specific to the facilities available within those communities; Lonsdale, for example, has the position of DJ Manager up for election, and Cartmel is seeking an Audio-Visual Technician and a Magazine Editor as part of the college's co-ordination of its unique provision.

In total, there are 92 JCR positions across all eight undergraduate colleges, nine Cross Campus Officer (CCO) positions, six LUSU Councillor positions, and one posi-

tion as a student representative on University Council up for election. However, students may only vote in elections taking place either within their own colleges or across the whole of campus.

The nine CCO positions up for election are: Media and Communications, Socials, LGBTQ*, Welfare, Education, Democracy, Activities, Environment and Ethics, and International.

Current JCR members are gearing up in anticipation of what they

hope will be a positive show of engagement from the student population. Pendle Democracy Officer Grace Parkin had the following to say:

"I hope that participation in all aspects of elections will be up from last year not only because it will prove that jazzing up the publicity campaign with a cow was not a ridiculous idea but also because it is always good when the student body actively has a say in what happens at university."

Campus Blackout: 29th November

Rachel Quin

A proposed 'campus black-out' is currently in the works to raise awareness about Lancaster's use of energy. Planned for Thursday 29th November between 6pm and 9pm, the event aims to encourage students to think about how their uses of electricity are affecting the environment.

The scheme, which is being led by Rosalia O'Reilly (Vice President for Equality, Welfare and Diversity) and Laura Hyman (Environmental Cross Campus Officer), follows in the footsteps of the 'Save the Penguins' campus campaign. It is hoped that all staff and students will get involved by turning off their lights and plunging campus into darkness for one night. This is especially pertinent given the University's recent poor energy rating.

Hyman spoke to SCAN, saying: "A problem we face on campus is that bills are included within accommodation fees and so many students don't bother to do even the simplest of things that would save energy, as they are not having to pay for the amount of energy they consume".

The Lancaster University website states that 'the management of energy consumption and carbon emissions are arguably the two most important issues currently affecting Lancaster University' and poor rating comes in contrast to the University's recent attempts to improve the way buildings are managed and made eco-friendly. The LICA building, in particular, was created with energy-preservation in mind, for which it gained an 'Outstanding BRE Environmental Assessment Method' accreditation.

The University website also states that the energy targets they hope to meet over the next few years are being achieved through 'optimisation of building management systems and implementation of a variety of energy efficiency projects'.

Josh Walker of SCAN also reported recently on the installation of the new campus wind turbine, which is thought to provide 11-17% of the University's electricity and is part of a chain of improvements which the University plans to implement in order to become more eco-friendly.

However, it is not just the Uni-

versity which can make a difference. By encouraging students to take responsibility for their own carbon footprint, Lancaster will become a greener place much more quickly.

Both O'Reilly and Hyman strongly encourage all students to participate. It is important to remember that the only way to really make an impact is for every student living on campus to participate by turning off their lights and embracing an eco-friendly attitude.

LA1: TV will be filming the events as they happen, and O'Reilly hopes that they will be able to get a panoramic view of campus to capture the impact of the black-out, saying that the equipment used to film the event will be calculated as part of the energy emissions for the evening: 'We are hoping to run it off the equivalent energy it takes to boil a kettle and light a bedroom'.

There will also be a wide range of activities in Alexandra Square to persuade people to get out and get involved. Hyman explained: 'LUSU Gives will also be at the event... and they will be raising money for a local community group called the Fairfield Association, with whom

Green Lancaster quite frequently volunteers'. O'Reilly added that there will hopefully be live on-stage music, as well as 'food vendors, and small marquees held by environmental societies... to spread awareness'.

There will also be a chance to learn more about energy-saving measures and how to help sustain our planet, as 'throughout the event [those involved] are going to try and inform students of how much energy things use and how much energy can be saved by making simple changes to the way people do things'.



TURN OFF YOUR LIGHTS

Photo by Jay Theis



VOTE

Voting opens 9am on Wednesday 28th November and closes 5pm on Friday 30th November (week 8).

Check your email at 9am on Wednesday for your unique Voter Codes - one is for your college and one for cross campus. Then enter these at mi-vote.com to vote and be "herd".

For more information go to lusu.co.uk or email lusu.vp.ed@lancaster.ac.uk

mi-vote.com

LUSU 

SCANDal of the week

Lancaster Rugby team played Manchester Metropolitan University in Week 6 and SCAN were told that following the game MMU wreaked havoc across campus. There were reports of MMU students urinating in Bowland Bar food units and setting off fire alarms on South West campus. The team were eventually refused entry to County Bar in their drunken state.

There's more....

It later came to our attention that it was not MMU; it was in fact University of Cumbria students who had checked the BUCS leagues and impersonated the MMU team in order to get them into trouble. This became apparent after complaints and sightings were reported after 10pm, when the MMU coach had left a lot earlier than this.



THE HOME OF THE PERPETRATORS
Photo by Matthew Flemming

LUGRAD'S GOT TALENT

WEDNESDAY 28TH NOVEMBER
GRAD BAR, 7PM
SIGN UP AT:
GRADUATE.LUSU.CO.UK
FIRST PRIZE £50 CASH
SECOND PRIZE £20 CASH
THIRD PRIZE £10 PIZZETTA VOUCHER



CAROLYNNE

CULTURE

FASHION

FEATURES

LIFESTYLE



Getting ready for winter

CAROLYNNE

CULTURE

CHARLI STEVENSON AND RACHEL QUIN FIGHT IT OUT WITH LIGHTSABERS IN **CULTURE CLASH** – P. 15

CULTURE EDITOR STEPHANIE BELL SITS DOWN WITH **LOCAL DESIGNER LUCY PASS** – P. 16

THE CULTURE TEAM PICK SIX OF THE BEST **SONGS TO KEEP YOU WARM THIS WINTER** – P. 20

FEATURES

FEATURES EDITOR ANNIE GOUK ASKS WHY THE UK IS SO SMITTEN WITH **BARACK OBAMA** – P. 24

RACHEL QUIN MEETS UP WITH **THE GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PAST** AND EXPLORES THE HISTORY OF THE HOLIDAY – P. 25

MOUSTACHES. **MOUSTACHES**. MOUSTACHES. MOUSTACHES. **MOUSTACHES**. MOUSTACHES. MOUSTACHES. - P. 26

LIFESTYLE

HAYLEY SCHUBERT ASKS WHY PEOPLE JUST CAN'T SEEM TO PUT DOWN THEIR **MOBILE PHONE** – P. 30

BETH PALFREY-SMITH REVIEWS THE **BLUE MOON RESTAURANT** – P. 30

LIZZIE MORRISON DISCUSSES THE BEST WAY TO SPREAD **CHRISTMAS CHEER ON A BUDGET** – P. 31

FASHION

KELLY WALDEN DIVES INTO A GIANT PILE OF SEQUINS AND BRINGS OUT THIS SEASON'S **PARTY WEAR** – P. 32

LAURA DEMPSTER AND SOPHIE GRACE BARRETT INTERVIEW **MALCOLM FROM THE ASSEMBLY ROOMS** – P. 33

WELCOME TO CAROLYNNE

I sit, utterly dazed, on the top deck of the 2A. I feel awful. Even though there is more caffeine circulating in my blood than oxygen, I am still, somehow, impossibly tired. I keep falling asleep in little four second bursts – and it's always four seconds, because that is exactly amount of time it takes for my neck muscles to completely give up and for my head to go crashing into the seat in front of me. To make matters worse, every time I do fall asleep, I do a tiny little bit of drooling, and it is totally gross.

I glance out of the window and look at the sheep in that field next to the University, sheep that are nonchalantly chewing on some grass in the middle of fucking thunder storm. Sheep are definitely the best animals, I feel. Mainly because they are born with built in winter clothing, but also because they are extremely stupid. They couldn't care less about the fact that the Tories are in power, or that the economy is a mess, or that everything is falling apart around them. Those sheep ain't got no essays due, either, come to think of it. Those sheep ain't got no blues.

I am deeply envious of these animals for about six seconds. I then remember that lamb is delicious, and so I am no longer envious. And then almost

instantly I realise that I have not had enough money to afford lamb for dinner in roughly three years. And so I am deeply envious of these animals for the rest of the day.

Friedrich Nietzsche, who was well known for falling asleep on the top decks of buses on his way to University, wrestled with these problems too. 'Why do you not speak to me of your happiness but only stand and gaze at me?', Nietzsche once asked a sheep. 'The reason is I always forget what I was going to say', said the sheep. 'But then the animal forgot this answer too, and so stayed silent.'

I don't really have a message of hope for you, kind reader. I have been looking at those sheep for three years now, and I have never seen even one of them hastily adding footnotes to the bottom of an essay. You will learn to hate those sheep, because the last weeks of term are invariably horrible. But the other side does exist. It is there. It can be done. Everything will be OK! And you will be a better person for it. And if you ever get too down, just think; there's always the chance that you'll get home for Christmas Dinner and find a whopping great chunk of lamb on your plate. As Nietzsche rightly concluded, 'if you can't beat them, eat them'.

THE TWEET OF THE WEEK



NOW WHAT CAN I MAKE WITH PEPPERS, CHEESE AND MILK? #EATINGLIKEATRAMP
ILLUSTRATED BY JESS OLIVER

CULTURE CLASH - ON LUKE, LEIA AND MICKEY

Charli Stevenson

At the end of October George Lucas sold his production company Lucasfilm to Walt Disney Pictures and divided Star Wars fans from all over the world. Star Wars fans are notoriously die-hard so of course any change, never mind one so major that it could result in more Star Wars films, would cause uproar. However, I don't see the four billion dollar sale as a bad thing and believe it could ultimately benefit fans of the original saga.

Disney bought Marvel Cinematic Universe prior to the making of the brilliant Avengers Assemble and they made the right call in keeping Kevin Feige as President of Production. This allowed Feige to put Joss Whedon at the helm of the Avengers film which went on to become the third highest grossing film of all time. Ultimately, Marvel has had huge success, the biggest of which was under the control of Disney. If Disney can create similar

success with Lucasfilm everyone will forget what all the anger was about.

From seeing people's reactions to the sale it seems that most Star Wars fans don't want to see any more films from that franchise. However, the story of Star Wars has already been continued through other mediums such as books and comics, so there is clearly a place for the storyline to go, even if it hasn't reached the masses yet. They just need to put the resources and right people behind it, like they did with Marvel's Avengers Assemble, in order to make a decent film, and potentially a big success. I do believe the biggest concern with the inevitable Star Wars Episode 7 being made is that it will end up more like episode 1 than episode 4. I understand this concern, but question whether it can get any worse.

Of course Star Wars fans were offended by George Lucas' decision to sell Lucasfilm, but I struggle to understand why the buyer being Disney managed to offend so many people.

Although Disney is responsible for some of the worst things to hit our TV or cinema screens (The Jonas Brothers) they know how to make a film that will appeal to the whole family. Even in recent years they have managed to produce several films that were highly accepted by all family members.

Many Star Wars fans already feel that the franchise has been ruined and turned into something for kids thanks to its animated film and TV series. As much as I agree that these won't help fans restore their faith in Lucasfilm I believe they were created to introduce a younger generation to the franchise, something that should be encouraged. The benefit of this would be this younger generation growing up with an interest in and respect for the whole franchise.

Regardless of low expectations for the film, I am personally excited to see what will become of Star Wars Episode 7 and believe that it will help to redeem the Star Wars franchise in the eyes of the fans.



Rachel May Quin

Disney buying out Star Wars is inspiring a mixture of reactions in fans of the galaxy far, far away; and not all of them are positive. The initial reaction from fans has ranged from mild deflation to angry snarls worthy of the Sarlacc. There are two sides to every story, as Darth Vader would be quick to tell you, and here's why old Walt seizing the reigns of the galactic empire is inherently evil and wrong.

Every true fan loves George Lucas for being the father of Star Wars, but, his re-hashing of the films rapidly became irritating. Just because Disney has the rights, doesn't mean Lucas is out of the picture altogether. He will still be involved with the saga as an executive producer, a role which sometimes exerts more creative control than the director; therefore Disney's willingness to create more films could lead to them flogging a dead horse.

Let's not forget, Disney has a reputation for dragging out an idea for as long as possible, in order to make all the money they can. Classic examples include: Lion King one, two,

and one and a half and countless Pirates of the Caribbean's. 'But Rachel', you cry, 'what about Toy Story 3? Wasn't that an incredible sequel?' - My response? It took eleven years for Disney to produce Toy Story 3, if it takes that long to create a decent Star Wars, what on earth will the 2015 release be like? Better hold back from pre-ordering your tickets.

'WHAT ON EARTH WILL THE 2015 RELEASE BE LIKE? BETTER HOLD BACK FROM ORDERING YOUR TICKETS...'

Another main concern is the unlimited possibilities Disney now have. Although it is true that the purchase of Star Wars will mean the creation of more films and possibly more exciting possibilities for the franchise, there's also the risk that Disney could incorporate their colourful trademark characters into the new creations and destroy its integrity. Now that Disney officially own the franchise, there's

nothing at all to stop them casting Goofy as Jar Jar Binks (although this could make him less annoying), or shoving some mouse ears on R2-D2, as shown in the promotional pictures, featuring Toy Story 3, if it takes that long to create a decent Star Wars, what on earth will the 2015 release be like? Better hold back from pre-ordering your tickets.

Also, as much as you might claim to love Star Wars, imagine wandering around Disneyland and bumping into the Rancour, or being forced to cuddle a Space Slug. There is no place in the Magic Kingdom for these sad outcasts, could you picture children running and screaming from a gang of Sith warriors? Not the ideal Disney image.

One would hope that they don't decide to convert every Star Wars creature into an adorable cartoon - 'not if anything to say about it I have'.

Overall, there are plenty of reasons why Disney shouldn't inherit Lucasfilm's legacy. But, As disturbing as the news may be, hopefully you don't feel as strongly as one particular Jedi Master, who described the takeover as "like having your Mum have an affair and remarry". It's a dark day for Star Wars lovers, but look at it this way: everybody loves a dark side.

INTERVIEW: LITTLE LOST SOUL

CULTURE EDITOR **STEPHANIE BELL** TALKS TO LANCASTRIAN ARTIST AND DESIGNER, **LUCY PASS**, FOUNDER OF LITTLE LOST SOUL

Stephanie Bell
Culture Editor

Contemporary freelance artist Lucy Pass, founder of Little Lost Soul, talks painting, t-shirt printing and pipe dreams. You can see more of Lucy's work at www.littlelostsoul.moonfruit.com, treat yourself to some of her handmade designs at www.etsy.com/shop/littlelostsoul and like her on www.facebook.com/littlelostsoul.uk.

WHAT IS YOUR ART BACKGROUND?

My high school encouraged creativity, some of my work was completely mad, I've no idea how I got away with it! The natural progression after A-level seemed to be higher education, but because I'd got so much experimentation out of my system, I already had a firm idea of where I wanted to take my art. After school I basically spent a year frustrated, so I decided I had to go it alone and work towards actually being an artist. I'm still learning all the time, but now I'm able to take my work in the direction that I choose to.

HAS CREATING ALWAYS BEEN YOUR CALLING OR A MORE GRADUAL PROCESS?

I don't remember the first thing I ever drew (I'm sure my mum could dig out something embarrassing) and I don't remember the moment I knew I wanted to be an artist, it's just always been the obvious path for me - I try to remind myself how lucky I am when I'm tearing my hair out over a big deadline or a painting that won't behave itself!

WHICH ARTISTS DO YOU MOST ADMIRE AND WHY?

There are so many! I guess the established names would be Lucian Freud and Jenny Saville. If I can paint one portrait in my lifetime with that amount of honesty and rawness, I'll die happy!

However, I look for 'fresh' talent all the time! My recent crushes are Jeremy Geddes, Marco Mazzoni and Andrew Salgado. Look them up if you aren't familiar with their work - you won't be

disappointed. It's good to find work that turns you a bit green - envy can be really great fuel for work!

AS AN ARTIST MYSELF I AM USED TO THE IGNORANT SLANDERS THAT ART IS POINTLESS - WHAT WOULD YOU SAY TO SUCH NARROW MINDED VIEWS?

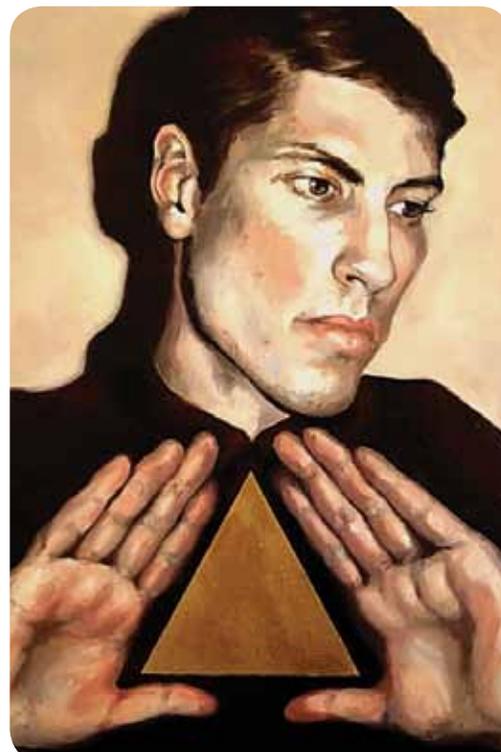
At a recent exhibition, I overheard two (rather drunk and very loud) men discussing my work with reference to how pointless and overpriced it was. I should have asked them to expand, tell me what they would have preferred to see and what the value of art was to them, but I'm afraid I was too busy being a pansy.

People are free to have whatever opinion they want about my art - it's all down to personal taste, but the people who blanket all art as being worthless and futile are the people I want to knock a little sense in to! The truth is that art is absolutely everywhere in so many wonderfully varied forms and the world would be horribly dull without it! Sadly, I do think art has developed a bad name and is often seen as something that only elite circles can access, so it's no wonder people feel alienated and make such sweeping statements!

HOW DO YOU VIEW LANCASTER'S ART SCENE?

There is so much talent in Lancaster, but sadly there hasn't been an outlet for it because of all the recession doom and gloom. Most of the artists I know locally, I'd never have found without social networking - a small group of us have set up a collective called The Make District which is basically a way of supporting each other (and having a bit of a moan over a bottle of wine) but at the same time organising events and workshops which make art and design a little more accessible to the lovely folks of Lancaster!

DO YOU FIND YOU GET MORE INTEREST FROM YOUR PAINTINGS OR FROM YOUR T-SHIRT DESIGNS?

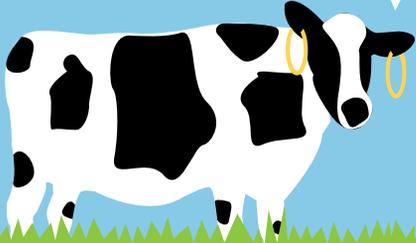


I'd say it's about 50/50, but I think the two go arm in arm. Art isn't the easiest thing to sell at times! It's a lovely thing to own an original painting, but it's a pleasure that many can't afford. Art should be for everyone, I decided to apply my work to varied platforms to suit all pockets! I've always had an interest in fashion and making my own clothes, so I decided to use my paintings as a starting point. The clothes and accessories are like a deconstruction of my art... that you can wear!

ANY ADVICE YOU WOULD OFFER YOUR YOUNGER SELF?

Just get on with it! Nobody else really knows what they're doing either! And while you're at it, stop underselling yourself! - That's to my younger self, my present self, my future self and anyone else who needs to hear it!

JINXED!



Farmyard Rodeo!

**WEDNESDAY 28TH
NOVEMBER**

ENTRY £2 B4 MIDNIGHT
WITH PURPLE CARD
£3 WITHOUT
DOORS 10.30PM



NOVEMBER

**DOORS 10.30PM
'THE SHAGGA' £2.50**

**FRIDAY 30TH
NOVEMBER**

SWEET AS

SATURDAY 1ST DECEMBER

DOORS 10.30PM | £2 B4 11.30 WITH A PURPLE CARD

FREE BUSES FROM CAMPUS: 10.30PM UNDERPASS
11PM INFOLAB | 11.30PM UNDERPASS



all prices & promotions correct at time of print

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FILMS FOR THE FESTIVE SEASON



Tis' the season to be jolly... and plan your film festivities over the holidays! Here's a selection of some of the films picking up serious hype on the film festival circuits (with some added festive cheese), all heading to your local cinema over Christmas and New Year.

GREAT EXPECTATIONS

Arguably Charles Dickens's best book, *Great Expectations* tells the story of humble, penniless orphan 'Pip' (Jeremy Irvine - *War Horse*) who is pulled into the falsely glittering world of Victorian high life after being favoured by an unknown benefactor - the eccentric Miss Havisham (Helena Bonham Carter). With great expectations on the shoulders of director Mike Newell to adapt this novel into two hours of screen time, the film received mixed reviews when it opened at the Toronto film festival this September. Said to be visually stunning but with some performances falling flat, it's difficult to decipher how well this film will do. Worth watching? The jury's out on this one. In cinemas Nov 30th.

TROUBLE WITH THE CURVE

It's been a while since we've seen Clint Eastwood on the cinema screen, but his return to the front of the camera doesn't disappoint. In this moving tale of family reconciliation, we see Eastwood play 'Gus', a legendary baseball scout who has a few months left on his contract with the Atlanta Braves. As he heads on his final scouting trip, his workaholic attorney daughter 'Mickey' (Amy Adams - *Enchanted*) takes some time off work to join him for fears of his health. The trip becomes complicated as tensions arise between their uneasy father-daughter relationship. We learn that Gus sent Mickey to live with relatives when she was six years old after her mother, and his beloved wife, passed away. If you want a story that will warm your heart this Christmas, this is it. In cinemas November 30th.

RISE OF THE GUARDIANS

If you enjoy your children's Christmas films, then this is for you. 'Rise of the Guardians' is an epic adventure telling the story of a group of heroes (guardians), each with their own powers. When an evil spirit known as Pitch lays down the gauntlet to take over the world, the immortal Guardians must join forces for the first time to protect the hopes, beliefs and imagination of children all over the world. From the animation geniuses that are DreamWorks, 'Rise of the Guardians' offers some festive 3D fun for the big kid in all of us. In cinemas November 30th.

THE HOBBIT

The *Hobbit* is finally here, the first part that is! After a hiatus of almost ten years since the last instalment of *Lord of the Rings*, Peter Jackson is transporting us to middle earth once again. For those who haven't read the books, the tale of *The Hobbit* is very different to its darker, more sinister sequels. Despite the perils along the way, *The Hobbit* depicts a much warmer, rosier adventure as it follows the lead character, Bilbo Baggins, in his quest to save the lost Dwarf Kingdom of Erebor from the fearsome dragon Smaug. Expect this film to sell out on its opening weekend, you can book your tickets now to save disappointment. In cinemas December 14th.

LIFE OF PI

Based on the best-selling novel by Yann Martel, 'Life of Pi' is about a young man, Pi Patel, who survives a disaster at sea and gets hurtled into an epic journey of adventure and discovery. While cast away, he forms an unexpected connection with another survivor - a fearsome Bengal tiger. Receiving rave reviews from critics at the New York Film Festival

this October, director Ang Lee has achieved the incomprehensible in bringing Yann Martel's vivid work to the screen in what has been described as the most immersive and beautiful 3D cinematography since *Avatar*. Make sure you catch this stunning film in the cinema, released nationwide on December 20th.

GANGSTER SQUAD

Have you seen the stylish trailer for *Gangster Squad* yet? The line "No Badges. No names. No mercy." seems to sum this film up. The story surrounds the ultimate gangster, Sean Penn, who travels to Southern California and quickly sets up a "cash machine" built on drugs, prostitution, gambling, murder and bribes. Hot on his case is a squad of LAPD's tasked with bringing him and his criminal underworld down - by any means. The squad has no ordinary line up, starring some of the coolest young actors in the industry, we get some stellar performances from Anthony Mackies (*The Adjustment Bureau*), Giovanni Ribisi (*Avatar*) and the 'it man' himself, Ryan Gosling. Also starring the beautiful Emma Stone, this film really is a slick slice of sinister crime action. In cinemas January 11th.

LES MISERABLES

It is perhaps the most anticipated film adaptation of the successful stage musical in history! Based on Victor Hugo's classic novel set in 19th-century France, in which a paroled prisoner named Jean Valjean seeks redemption, the film has some serious A-list casting including Anne Hathaway, Russell Crowe, Hugh Jackman and Helena Bonham Carter. Taking direction from Tom Hooper (fresh from his Oscar sweep with *The Kings Speech*), this film is destined for success. Arriving in cinemas after the New Year, make this your post party season treat.

ON THE ROAD

Lauren Silvestri

There are some books that simply were not made to be films. Jack Kerouac's *On the Road* is unfortunately one of them. The novel has a notorious history for attempting a screen adaptation; Francis Ford Coppola has been trying to create an adaptation since he bought the rights in 1979. After several previous failed attempts, Coppola snagged *The Motorcycle Diaries*' director Walter Salles in 2007, and a completed version was screened at the Cannes Film Festival and released this year.

Salles and screenwriter Jose Rivera definitely faced a challenge in translating *On the Road* to the big screen. Kerouac's 1957 acclaimed semi-autobiographical novel chronicles the time he spent travelling across the United States with his friends that included Neal Cassady (character Dean Moriarty in the book), William S. Burroughs, and Allen Ginsburg. *On the Road* is considered to be the definitive novel of the "Beat" generation, the godfathers of hipster. Surrounded by a conformist culture, the Beats thrived on jazz, drugs, poetry, and individuality. Kerouac exhibits such jazz-influenced energy in his writing that it produces a struggle to capture that energy in a script.

The film starts off promising, with Garrett Hedlund and Sam Riley displaying great chemistry as Dean Moriarty and Sal Paradise (alter-ego of Kerouac) respectively, which is so vital to the story. Hedlund has been receiving rave reviews for his performance of the unstable and eccentric Moriarty, and while I think he achieved a believable performance, I would have liked to have seen him wilder and more spontaneous. Hedlund's version of Moriarty is more subdued, but the essence and appeal to Moriarty in the book is his almost fanatical attitude towards life.

Kristen Stewart's performance as Mary Lou, the young wife of Moriarty, was a disappointment. The film received some publicity buzz as a star vehicle for her, but Mary Lou's role in the book is a minor one and it should have stayed that way. Mary Lou epitomizes a young, confused, sexpot, something that Stewart did not deliver.

The over-two-hour film drags into its middle section, due mainly to the fact that in order to really understand Kerouac's message, you have to read his words. The film remains visually appealing throughout and features exciting moments of the Beat culture (such as the moments in the jazz clubs), although there needed to be a bigger emphasis on the socio-cultural context. The Beats lived in a time of the Red Scare, McCarthyism, and extreme conformity, which fuelled their desire to just go 'on the road'.

Overall, while I believe the novel *On the Road* is ultimately unfilmable, I do believe that this film adaptation could have achieved more. The film does end poignantly, however, and in a last ditch effort tries to send *On the Road*'s main message home: that even people you briefly befriend can impact you for a lifetime.

JACK WHITE REVIEW



JACK WHITE'S GOT THE BLUES

Photo by Third Man Records

Steff Brawn - Deputy Culture Editor

Blackpool; the home of ballroom dancing, bright lights and the wildest hen nights around. It's a place that never seems to lose its energy and individuality, just like the eccentric music of Mr Jack White, who was warmly welcomed back to the Empress Ballroom stage to put more than just a bounce in the floor.

The Empress Ballroom is an extremely special venue for Jack and The White Stripes after being chosen as the perfect place to film their DVD "Under Blackpool Lights" back in 2004, so it's safe to say there would be lots of nostalgia and fond memories in many fans hearts. This time round though, Jack was stepping onto the stage as a solo artist, with a helping hand from six ghostly looking girls lined up behind, expanding on the familiar sound of the Meg White's icky thumps. It was definitely going to be interesting to see if he lived up to previous performances after a long wait for new material.

THE INTENSITY AND EMOTION OF JACK'S PERFORMANCE MEANT THAT FANS WERE ON EDGE CONSTANTLY

Jack's explosive new album "Blunderbuss", focusing on heartbreak and collapsing relationships after his recent divorce, has received phenomenal reviews from all angles of music critique and there was a part of you that knew that even before that first note was played, the performance was going to be electrifying. The clock struck 9 and the light of the elegant chandeliers dimmed and it wasn't long before the springs in the floor were shaking as the crowd went mental for all the delicious flavours of Jack's mu-

sic. From classic White Stripes numbers such as "Hotel Yorba" and "The Same Boy You've Always Known" to the gems of his solo album and some creative covers, Jack really proved his ability to work with pretty much any genre and at the same time make it his own. What was particularly surprising about the set was that the majority of songs were actually White Stripes numbers, with solo hits such as "Missing Pieces" and "Love Interruption" slipped in between, which meant that this carefully constructed set list was able to please everyone, no matter whether they'd been a lifelong fan or had recently discovered White's talents.

WHITE HAS PROVED HIS ABILITY TO WORK WITH ANY GENRE

As well as a colourful set list though, the intensity and emotion of Jack's performance meant that fans were constantly on edge as the insecure and experimental sound of his turbulent love life was mixed with an alternative 60s sound and classic White Stripes garage rock.

White's encore included the long awaited "Blunderbuss" favourite "Freedom at 21", which along with "Hypocritical Kiss" spread around that thrilling bitterness that was the real spark behind his new work. A surprise Hank Williams cover again kept everyone on their toes before finishing with the unforgettable sound of "Seven Nation Army" which despite the switching off of the promenade illuminations, undoubtedly re lit the town. This was a brilliant performance from start to finish and with such an intense presence like Jack's, words are perhaps really not needed; he injects a fever that is truly indescribable.

SIX OF THE BEST: WINTER HITS



LUCY ROSE - SHIVER

Lucy Smalley

Every once in a while you come across one of those exceedingly irritating music snobs that say something along the lines of; 'oh, well I loved them way before they got famous' when a new song comes on. Unfortunately, when it comes to Lucy Rose I become one of these aforementioned snobs; having tracked her on YouTube for years and followed her to various gigs around the country, it doesn't exactly make me jump for joy when her songs become backing music for Hollyoaks.

'IT'S BEAUTIFULLY MELLOW, WITH A WARM ACOUSTIC FEEL THAT SUITS LUCY'S SILKY SMOOTH VOCALS'

Nevertheless, I was highly anticipating the launch of her debut album in September of this year and as Lancaster's winter pretty much begins around that time it couldn't have been released at a more appropriate moment.

'Shiver' – one of my favourites from the album just leaks wintery coldness, I mean, it's in the title. It's beautifully mellow, with a warm acoustic feel that suits Lucy's silky smooth vocals to a T. It's not exactly a cheery song but, let's face it, aside from Christmas excitement winter's on the whole quite a dark, brooding season. This song is perfect for those 'dark, brooding' moments; the lyrics somehow manage to make you contemplate absolutely everything, and there are times of intensity amongst the quiet serenity of the guitar and vocals that sort of just makes you want to cry a little bit.

Whether you're inside with the radiators on full, a gazillion blankets and a mug of hot chocolate, or walking home in the rain after a crappy day at Uni, I can guarantee this song will make your winter a little bit lovelier.

THE NEIGHBOURHOOD - SWEATER WEATHER

Stephanie Bell
Culture Editor

In 1987 Ray Charles sung a duet with Dionne Warwick, telling my mother; 'Baby, it's cold outside'. She responded by staying inside, drinking a lot of eggnog with my father and involuntarily conceiving my sister. Let that be a lesson to you. Frank Loesser's classic tune is a pretty sexy Christmas song, as sexy as the average Christmas song goes, so my mother, on this occasion, can be forgiven.

But as we have thankfully moved on from the 1980s, we enter the 2010s without a perm or shoulder pad in sight, seeking a new musical accompaniment for when the urge to grab some wintry afternoon delight strikes. For this we look to the warmth of Californian five-piece, The Neighbourhood, and their latest release 'Sweater Weather.'

The track has a good balance of lyrics which range from suitably flirty; "put my finger on your tongue 'cause you love to taste" and exceptionally twee; "Use the sleeves of my sweater, let's have an adventure". Together, the words melt into a modern, seasonal serenade full of promise and passion as; "inside this place is warm, outside it starts to pour," evoking the same sentiment as good old Loesser had intended. The Neighbourhood however, have cranked it up a notch to suit the more sexually accustomed ears of 2012 at the most wonderful time of the year.

In a nutshell (or chestnut if we're being festive), 'Sweater Weather' is an upbeat winter warmer with a catchy riff, sturdy tempo and a merry smattering of seasonal smut to see you through cold dark nights. It's a short, sweet song wishing goodwill to all men in some way or another. So take heed and strip off your Christmas jumper, sit by the fire and warm your cockles. It may be the only way of staying warm.



DANNY ELFMAN - ICE DANCE

Steff Brawn
Deputy Culture Editor

When I'm on a chilly walk home in the dark, or when snowflakes are landing on your nose, this is the ultimate track to listen to. Taken from the ice sculpting scene in Tim Burton's "Edward Scissorhands", this beautiful piece soundtracks Kim dancing in the ice that is shedding from the sculpture Edward is making, creating the effect of falling snow.

'ICE DANCE FILLS YOU UP WITH WARMTH'

Of course, we don't see much snow here in Lancaster being so close to the coast, but it does get painfully cold at times, and I highly recommend this piece to set the perfect mood for your frosty days this Winter. The plucking of the harp, the gentle glistening sound of the wind chimes and the Christmassy warmth of a choir are all fabulously put together to illustrate the shimmer of frost on the trees, the icy winds and the magical sight of pure white snow falling on the ground. No words are needed to further enhance the enchanting atmosphere this work grasps; the harmonies will give you goosebumps and the delicate instrumentation will send a tingle through your bones, bringing feeling back to those numb fingers and toes.

Despite how it captures the tingly chill of winter, "Ice Dance" fills you up with warmth that will undoubtedly make you smile, however much you may want to get to that toasty fire at home. It takes a very talented film composer to be able to come up with a piece that is enjoyed outside of the scene it is associated with but Danny Elfman has succeeded here in producing something that will bring pure magic and joy to your winter this year.



HAVE YOURSELF A MERRY LITTLE CHRISTMAS

Charli Stevenson

Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas has all the elements for a beautiful holiday ballad; the melody expresses the sadness of the cold weather and dark evenings, whilst the lyrics convey the hope and joy of the Christmas period. Together these help to brilliantly portray the winter season, and make it the perfect Christmas song for any activity of the season.

With its lyrical focus on family, friends and gathering together at Christmas this song allows itself to resonate with people who celebrate Christmas all over the world. It talks of the important side to Christmas rather than just the presents and snow, which is often the focus of many other Christmas songs, so manages to become a heart-warming song that will bring a smile to my face, even if I only hear the opening line. It also manages to create that warm, Christmas feeling in people without the use of any Jingle Bells!

Originally recorded in 1944 by the iconic Judy Garland for the film *Meet Me in St Louis*, this song sent a message of hope to the US troops fighting in World War Two and helped them to get through the difficulty of being at war, and away from their families, at Christmas time. Although it has been covered by everyone from Frank Sinatra to Lady Antebellum, the song retains its beauty and meaning... except for when the Cheeky Girls took a bash at it.

Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas is my personal favourite song for every aspect of Christmas. It was the first seasonal song I heard this year, as a friend at work sang parts of it in between serving customers.

It is also the perfect song to listen to when wrapped up in winter clothing and shopping during the late night openings. It has remained a huge favourite among Christmas song fans after nearly 70 years and does not look to be going away too quickly, the sign of a truly remarkable song.

EFTERKLANG - CUTTING ICE TO SNOW

Joe Henthorn
Carolynne Editor

Despite having one of the most fun-to-say names in all of pop music, the Danish trio Efterklang have never seemed to make the sort of impact in the UK that their stupidly beautiful music deserves.

Their second album, *Parades*, left a trail of smitten critics and entranced listeners in its wake, and even impressed listeners in their home country so much that they spent some time touring with the Danish Chamber Orchestra (but still, no one bought it. What the hell is wrong with you, Britain?).

Parades is my perfect winter album for a number of reasons, not least because I first heard it on a Christmas Day. On the first spin *Parades* impresses as an album of cold and icy precision; an all-too-perfect arrangement of pianos, horns, harps and a whole *det kolde bord* - that's the Danish for smorgasbord, you idiot - of other obscure noise making devices.

But it's an album that reveals new charms each time you come back to it; the snow gradually melts, revealing a little bit more of a truly gorgeous musical landscape after every play through. Nowhere is this more apparent than the album's final track, the suitably titled *Cutting Ice to Snow*, a delightful mix of tinkling pianos, yearning horn parts and choral vocals that swirl and grow and build before exploding into life in the final minutes with a bombastic, Arcade Fire-esque outro of playful piano, anemic guitars and a stomping drum beat.

Listening to *Parades* feels like spending a day playing outside in the aftermath of a heavy snowstorm. It can sound a little cold and imposing at times, but given time it becomes apparent that it's just a base for an immensely powerful yet playful experience.

And if *Parades* is like frolicking in a blizzard, then *Cutting Ice to Snow* is akin to stumbling back into a warm house with a bunch of friends, kicking off your sodden boots and socks in front of a hissing, crackling fire, and sipping from a steaming mug of mulled wine. A true winter treat!



SUFJAN STEVENS - GET BEHIND ME SANTA!

Joe Henthorn
Carolynne Editor

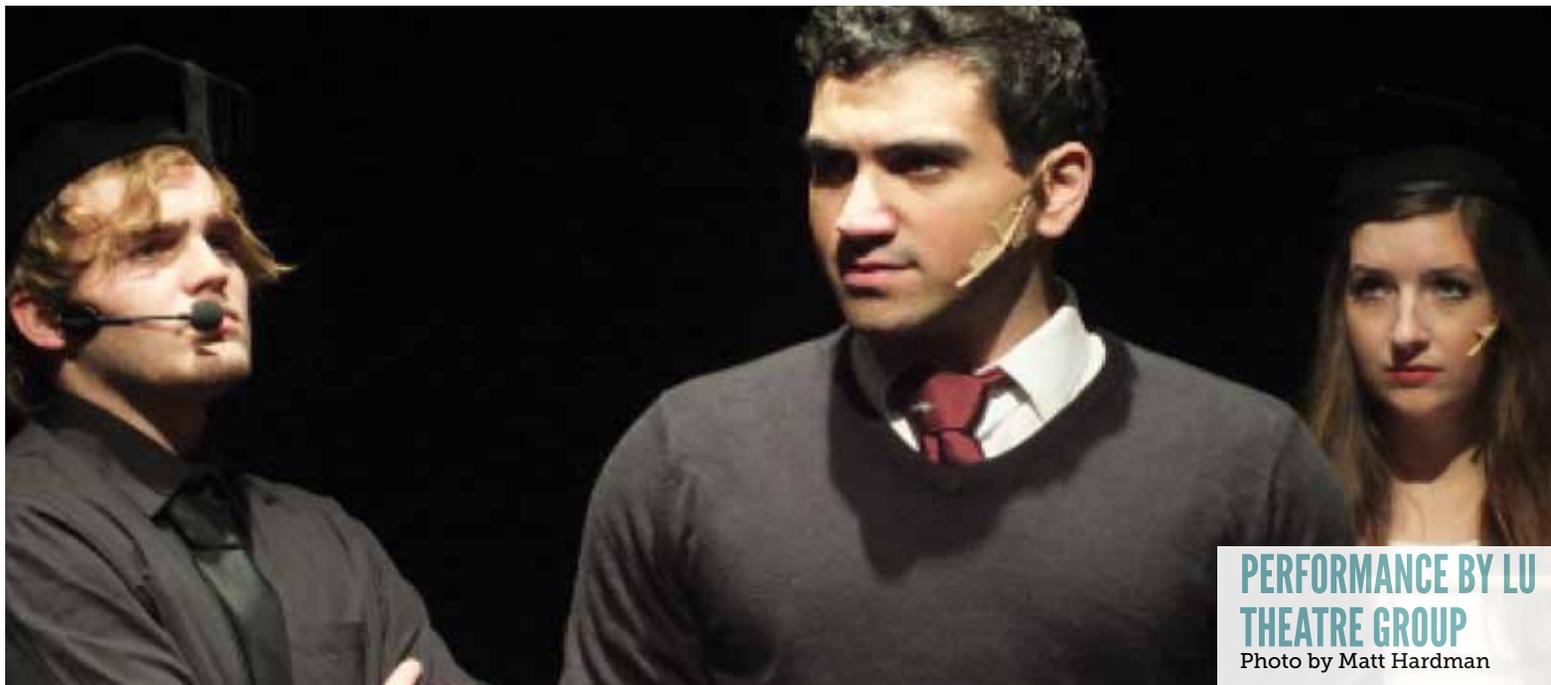
Whilst he may be better known for the likes of the beautifully orchestrated 'Chicago', and haunting banjo-and-voice pieces like 'To Be Alone With You', Sufjan Stevens also does an impressive line in semi-legendary Christmas albums. In the context of Stevens' wider body of work, these festive splurges aren't that odd at all. His jolly Christmas tunes are relatively tame compared to the Glass-esque repetition of *The BQE* (a musical exploration into the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway), never mind the bizarre and compelling electronic experiments of his little-known second album, *Enjoy Your Rabbit*.

Since 2006 he's released ten massive (really, really massive - like, 23 songs on each disc massive) discs of festive goodness, with the songs themselves spanning everything from obscure 15th Century German carols to completely original pieces. The man really loves Christmas - as is evident from the silly pun, exclamation mark and unconstrained musical glee of fan-favourite 'Get Behind Me, Santa!'

The song does a remarkable thing - it turns the tortured maximalism of *The Age of Adz* inside out. So instead of the inward-looking, soul-searching lyrics and all-consuming orchestral breakdowns, we get lyrics that basically equate to 'Holy shit! It's Christmas!' and enough major chords to make Ebenezer Scrooge break into a smile. The frenetic trumpet noodling and hilariously corny organ sounds hammer the spirit of the season home from the moment you press play and don't let up for four minutes, and then, as if you hadn't already had enough festive delight for one day, the whole thing climaxes with a frantic C-H-R-I-S-T-M-A-S sing-a-long part.

It's basically the perfect way to get in the mood for Christmas, but due to its absolutely relentless festive cheer, it does have the power to irritate, especially since it's not quite December yet. I listened to the song a couple of times whilst writing this article, and already I'm wishing it was January. Like brandy and Christmas Pudding, it's best enjoyed in moderation.

LUTG REVIEW: SPRING AWAKENING



Ronnie Rowlands

Based on Frank Wedekind's controversial play of the same name, which premiered in 1906, *Spring Awakening* follows the naïve life plodding of fourteen year old Wendla Bergmann (Katie Gledhill), and how her ignorance of the birds and the bees leads her to conceive the child of schoolmate Melchior Gabor (Adam Atlasi), before descending into imposed abortion and tragic suicide.

Gabor's radical, anti-establishment viewpoints permeate the life of his best friend, Moritz Stiefel, who fails his exams and also goes on to end his own life. Meanwhile, a host of other children wrestle with puberty, sexuality and all other taboos that, these days, we know perhaps too much about. To a university audience, by their very nature predisposed to open minded and liberal thinking, the very idea of being chastised for such an outlook is almost alien and oddly enlightening.

Adam Atlasi, who has made his name playing boisterous macho types, made an impressive shift in style as Melchior. Atlasi cut a fine figure of rebellion and assurance throughout, yet he had the odd ability to display guilt and insecurity behind it all, without ever channeling the standard Broadway hero that is all too easy to slip into. Katie Gledhill was revelatory as Wendla, the female lead - while establishing herself as a full Broadway package of teeth and smiles when required, Gledhill's air of helplessness and scattershot frustration with the world was utterly untouchable, and seeing her share the stage with Atlasi's Melchior was a case of clenched buttocks all round.

Undeniably, the consistently strong faith to the text is down to directors Chrissy Horsepool and Josh Cannon, and the performances each upheld of *Spring Awakening's* tragic aspect over a descent into Broadway bounciness and smiles. Even when the chorus were inactive and sat at

the side of the stage, they reacted to every event, from a questionably violent sex scene at the end of act one to the death of the main characters.

'THIS PITCH-PERFECT PRODUCTION SHOT ANY PRE-SHOW WORRIES SQUARELY IN THE BACK OF THE HEAD'

The Nuffield Theatre's sparse, empty stage might seem an odd choice for a musical peppered with feelgood rock, and yet its starkness brought some much needed depression to match Wedekind's original text, the bleakness of which was always diluted by the Broadway smiles of its musical counterpart.

When the house lights came down, the audience were left with the kind of shadowy classroom setting usually reserved for flashbacks to miserable school days. Matt Simpson, who played all of the oppressive adult males of the story with ever-so-subtle venom and glee, cannot avoid praise for his imposing omnipresence on the stage, almost part of the scenery, which glued together each of *Spring Awakening's* many tragedies.

Most strikingly for an amateur production was the togetherness of its musicality - Andy Ainscough's impeccable musical direction saw to it that the harmonies and orchestration were as one, an impressive achievement considering the long history of actors and musicians not getting along with each other in *amdram*. Indeed, there was no gulf to be found between the two, and the absence of glaring clashes between instruments and voices was let down only by occasional microphone popping and un-miked chorus singers. Though dominated

by the lead roles, enough time was dedicated to showcasing some incredibly talented singers in the chorus. Big sacks of kudos must particularly go to Emma Geraghty, who boomed soul throughout the auditorium as though she were channeling Janis Joplin. Luke Leahy, theatre group newcomer, has quite a remarkable set of pipes on him too, but another testament to the musical direction was most certainly the fact that individually great singers never stood out from the ensemble numbers, all of which brought the vital, intense anger to *Spring Awakening's* story. If there's one nugget of knowledge to take away from Lancaster University Theatre Group's latest offering, it's that the society can actually produce a decent musical.

'MOST STRIKINGLY FOR AN AMATEUR PRODUCTION WAS THE TOGETHERNESS OF ITS MUSICALITY'

Last year's disastrous performance of Stephen Sondheim's *'A Little Night Music'* joins the usual wagon-load of preconceptions - that six weeks isn't enough time to rehearse, that the amateur cast won't be able to handle live music and all its complexities, and that the society would be scraping the barrel in terms of singing talent. But this pitch-perfect production of *Spring Awakening* shot such worries squarely in the back of the head, and undoubtedly has paved the way for a bright future of increased technical and performance-based capabilities from the society.

Lancaster University Theatre Group are staging two more shows this term. The first is Patrick Hamilton's *'Rope'*, on the 30th and 1st of December at the Dukes, and Brecht's *'Mother Courage and her Children'*, at the Chaplaincy Centre on the 6th, 7th and 8th of December.

BON IVER: LIVE IN MANCHESTER

Sophie Grace Barrett

The American band Bon Iver performed at Manchester Arena on Friday 9th November. The music performed challenged my pre-conceptions of the band – the sound was surprisingly different to the polished acoustic vibes from the CDs. The impact of the orchestral elements in such a vast space produced a sound that clashed and sometimes screamed, but with fabulous effect. The instruments could not be calmed and softened as they can upon an audiotape, and so the audience was carried away with sheer relentless energy.

Hollering 'how're y'all' in his American drawl, lead signer and founder of the band Justin Vernon commanded the stage. There was an ethereal quality to the set design – tendrils of white fabric cloth, entangling and entwining, fell downwards from the lighting rail, threatening to wind around the heads of the band. Upon this material were projected obscure natural images such as faint outlines of blowing leaves and opening flowers (Lana del Rey eat your heart out). These images developed and moved according to the rhythm of the music, as did the levels of billowing smoke, which swept across the stage floor. A light display was constant throughout the performance; make-fix cages which seemed to separate the 'Ivers' (the

orchestral side of the band), had candelabra style lights attached which glittered and changed colour according to the mood of the track. The entire artistic set-up therefore, rendered Bon Iver an ethereal orchestra that seemed to float upon a cloud and transcend reality and normality.

The haunting nature of Bon Iver's 2008 album 'For Emma, Forever Ago' was somewhat replaced by an orchestral blues and jazz / punk-esque quality which featured some super-natural sounds. Within 'Lisbon OH', for example, there is a definite allusion to extra-terrestrial space sounds on the keyboard. The introduction to a more experimental side of the band results in a sound that is more bizarre, but more adventurous and therefore exciting. The band have become less folksy and more orchestral/electro punk/pop.

The new album 'Bon Iver, Bon Iver' dominated the concert – with the new tracks 'Calgary' and 'Hinnom, TX' carrying the audience through a mystery tour of ethereal strangeness. The tracks, with their strong backing-music and subsequently sometimes inaudible lyrics, were powerful and punchy; with clashing gratings of sound that were bizarre yet fantastic. However, my personal preference bent towards the tracks played from the 2008 album, which were played at the very end

of the concert. 'Skinny Love' (though perhaps the most conventional and therefore the most 'uncool' to admit to prefer) is undoubtedly my favorite track. It is the most commercial track, but I believe that this is because it is accessible. The lyrics are riddles – they are extremely hard to pick apart, but there is a definite sense of heartbreak and nostalgia which I feel is extremely relatable; Bon Iver are not afraid to write about the flaws associated with relationships and therefore they are comfortingly realistic. The musings on blanching heartbreak have a 'piquancy and serenity' according to the Guardian.

The addition of the 8 piece orchestral band (a new addition following the 2008 album) definitely gives it some 'welly' – the sound resonates in a way that does not necessarily correspond with the intimacies and fragilities of Vernon's more acoustic sounds. His voice was once a haunting ghostly whisper, but now it has evolved into a deeper, resonating maturity.

I was devastated to discover, however, that according to 'NME', lead signer Justin Vernon has said of the band; 'I really feel the need to walk away from it while I still care about it. And then if I come back to it – if at all – I'll feel better about it and be renewed.' 'If' leaves a tiny grain of hope that the band will continue to create beautiful transcendental sounds.

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Photo by Patrick J. Somervell.
For your photo to be considered for this space, please email scan.photography@lusu.co.uk. Submit at the highest resolution you can. Photos from Lancaster are preferred.

WHERE THE HEART IS

Jim Tracey

Having attended a boarding school for the entirety of my secondary education, it is perhaps unfitting for me to write about the joys of going home as, naturally, being away is something I have long been accustomed to. Or, looking at it another way, perhaps having spent much of my childhood away from home is precisely why I would want to write about it. I still get the same sense of excitement and anticipation about returning home now as I did when I was a scruffy, disorganised eleven year old. Relishing the same things now as I did back then – actual meals (shamefully, even after three years at university I am limited to bland pasta dishes and Sharwood's curries), your own bed, a working shower (a rarity if you've ever lived in Bowland accommodation!), and not having lectures. The list goes on.

However, I think that these more tangible, materialistic things can often overshadow the real bonuses of being home. Too often we preoccupy ourselves with notions of Sky+, rent-free accommodation, and a fridge which is seemingly always full.

This, I believe, is especially true at Christmas; a holiday which has become so commercialised (I was particularly irked when I heard Christmas songs being played in the Penny Bank on November the sodding seventeenth!) that I fear many of us have lost all sight of what the festivities are actually about. The enjoyment of giving rather than receiving, for example.

The point of this is that we should take a moment to pause and appreciate being at home with our parents – and while I don't want to add to an already, albeit inadvertently, condescending monologue by reiterating the clichéd mantra of 'while we're growing up, they're growing old', this is certainly something that is too often overlooked in the hectic hustle and bustle of our student lives.

Being at home will also provide some respite from a term which, especially for second and final years, will have been very busy indeed. And whilst we supposedly attend university for the kind of intellectual stimulation and enrichment which our studies nurture, I find that it also has the paradoxical faculty of fostering our innermost childish behaviour. My conduct on nights out, for example, has – if anything – become worse whilst I have (apparently) become a more intelligent, outgoing and independent individual.

So here's hoping that, with this in mind, we can make the most of the time spent at home in the safe knowledge that it's the only break before the typically arduous and depressing Easter term.

BRITAIN'S LOVE AFFAIR WITH OBAMA



Annie Gouk
Features Editor

Almost three weeks ago, the world witnessed a very important event. No, I'm not talking about the beginning of the latest series of 'I'm a celebrity... get me out of here'. On the 7th November 2012, Barack Obama was re-elected as President of the United States. You can't have missed it. Seriously, it was everywhere.

Understandably, the world was paying attention – with America being such a huge global power, what happens there effects us all. And everybody (I mean everybody) had an opinion. Even people who hadn't been following the campaigns had something to say when election day arrived, and Facebook and Twitter were flooded with commentary as the votes unfolded. People were definitely giving more of a shit than they do for most of British politics.

As I've said, this amount of bother over the elections was to be expected, considering the implications it would have on a global scale. What was interesting, however, was the vast majority of support Obama received across the world, and especially here in Britain.

While in America the polls suggested it would be a close call, and people were split pretty evenly between the two, over here the polls were at 70% for Obama, while a mere 7% were Romney fans. While this made perfect sense to me as an Obama supporter myself, it did make me wonder why the difference between support for the candidates was so comparatively high in our country.

The answer can be found in what the two candidates stand for – not necessarily in the finer details of their economic plans, but rather in the bigger picture of what they represent. With Obama, you have a liberal: aiming to provide affordable health insurance to all US citizens

through Obamacare, supportive of gay marriage, and addressing issues such as climate change and immigration in a positive way. While he has perhaps not lived up to all the promises he made before his first term in office, you have to consider what he was up against – Romney: a conservative who is against gay marriage, who wants to limit women's rights when it comes to rape and abortion (while seemingly having no concept of how the reproductive system works), and who favours military action over diplomacy.

When looking at the candidates stances on various subjects, it's easy to see why we would support Obama over Romney. Overall, we are a largely liberal country (even those who support the Conservative Party are rarely as right-leaning in their views as Romney). We already see health care as a basic right, and are granted it through the NHS. While same-sex marriage is not yet legal in this country, many of us would like it to be. As a nation we are nowhere near as devoutly Christian as the US, and are on the whole open-minded about people's sexuality, and about women's rights to abortions.

Those who take similar stances to Romney on issues such as Gay rights, abortion, immigration and so on do exist in this country, but are clearly not as prevalent as in America. Indeed, mostly these attitudes are deemed homophobic, sexist or racist by most of our population, and those who hold them are seen as unsavoury individuals by the rest of us. This attitude of tolerance we clearly hold in this country explains why there was such a strong outcry from us against the possibility of Romney winning the election.

I'm proud that as a country, we've shown that we stand for these principles in our support of Obama – principles of equality, human rights and forward thinking. Now, if only we can apply these principles to good use in our own government...

FEATURES

A CHRISTMASSY HISTORY

RACHEL QUIN DELVES DEEP INTO THE HISTORY BOOKS TO EXAMINE THE EVOLUTION OF CHRISTMAS.

As Michaelmas term lurches to an end, it seems we are officially reaching the most wonderful time of year, and even though Lancaster is never kind enough to bless us with snow to really boost the festive ambiance, that doesn't mean we can't all embrace the coming of Father Christmas and his loyal reindeer. As the Coca-Cola advert helpfully loves to remind us, "holidays are coming" and for most, Christmas is probably the highlight of the winter season – if not the entire year. So whether you're a Grinch or a Cindy Lou, here is your dose of Christmas cheer!

Occasionally, in the glitter and glamour of Christmas we can forget its real meaning, although everybody has played an angel in the nativity play at least once in their life. Christmas dates back to year one, and the birth of Jesus Christ is deeply embedded in our culture, something we like to celebrate through nativity plays. We all know the story, but to refresh your memory, the tale goes that Jesus' parents, Mary and Joseph, were required to travel from Nazareth to Bethlehem for the census that was taking place.

Mary was heavily pregnant at this time, after being visited by an angel and being told that she had conceived a child by God, although still a virgin. Upon their arrival at Bethlehem, they could not find a place to stay, and were eventually offered a stable at an inn, as it was the only place left for them. In that (probably filthy) stable, Mary gave birth to Jesus. Not only that, but shepherds came a-flocking and three wise men who had been following a star in hopes of finding the King of the Jews arrived at the inn with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

Although nobody can be sure when exactly Jesus was born, his birth is celebrated as a massive festive occasion and a public holiday on the 25th December in many countries around the world, including non-Christian countries; although some prefer to celebrate in early January.

As the centuries progressed, the birth of Jesus became known as Christmas, which is derived from old English and means Christ's Mass. Christmas became interlinked with church attendance and pious behaviour, particularly after the fourth century when Christianity became the religion of Rome and therefore the rest of the empire.

Christmas inspired artists to paint depictions of nativity scenes, carols were created singing the praises of the event, and it could be suggested that the original three gifts brought to Jesus upon his birth inspired the tradition of giving gifts to loved ones. In modern times, some of the more secular aspects of the season such as gift-giving have been emphasised upon and overly commercialised by retailers and businesses – making Christmas one of the most expensive times of the year and causing a huge boost in sales.

Christmas trees are another wonderful tradition embraced by all, particularly this year when our wet summer has led to a stunning crop of green fir trees. The decorating of homes and trees dates back to the fifteenth century, and the use of trees is thought to have come from the pagan tradition of the Winter Solstice. Red and green are the traditional colours of Christmas, red representing the blood of Jesus and green symbolising eternal life, particularly in evergreen trees which keep their leaves in the winter. White, silver and gold are also popular Christmas colours – often seen in the twinkly lights and baubles that people use to decorate their trees.

The modern Christmas dinner with turkey and trimmings did not develop for centuries; in medieval times peacock or boar were a popular choice. King Henry VIII is the first English monarch who is reported to have had a turkey for Christmas.

Mince pies and Christmas pudding are both Christmas foods which have existed for centuries, originally made with meat, fruit and spices.

In modern times, the religious themes are often overshadowed by the coming of the mythical Santa Claus. A jolly red giant known for his elf-filled palace in the North Pole, he brings joy and happiness to children all over the world, by slaving away the whole year building presents and checking his naughty-or-nice lists and then doing an all-nighter to deliver these presents with his trusty team of reindeer.

Santa Claus was originally based on St. Nicholas, a man known for his giving nature and generosity, whose day was celebrated in December. Father Christmas was an invention of the English seventeenth century, associated with holiday merry-making and drunkenness and depicted as a jolly, bearded man who embodied all things wonderful and happy



about the winter season. Santa Claus inherited his characteristics and was perfected by the Americans.

It hasn't always been merry though. Unfortunately, Christmas has been somewhat corrupted in modern times – it seems that every year the Christmas advertising comes earlier and earlier, occasionally appearing before Halloween decorations have even been put out for sale. Although annoying (I believe the Christmas songs shouldn't be cracked out until December 1st), advent calendars, carol singers and those heart-breakingly beautiful John Lewis adverts all contribute to the magic of Christmas.

Overall, Christmas presents itself as the perfect time of year to get the family together and spread some love – curling up in front of a crackling log fire, building a snow man and gorging on chocolates with a glass of something warming and alcoholic is all part of the excitement of the season, as well as honouring a tradition that reminds us of simpler times and our ancestry.

It gives you a reason to connect and share with the most important people in your life, if only for one day of the year.

THE BEST OF MOVEMBER

I moustache you a question, SCAN readers. Do you have what it takes to make the cut? We've combed through campus to bring you the best of the best of Movember efforts so far, settling for nothing less than cream of the crop. Through your hairy labours, both money and awareness is being raised for the men's health charity. Now go, and grow, and let your facial fuzz rise like a phoenix from the (moust)ashes.



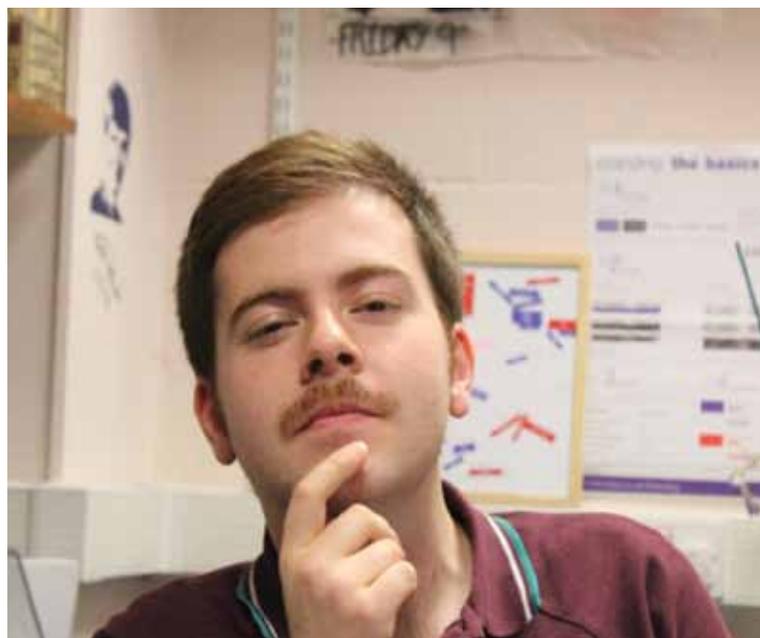
Jensen Toldt - 'The Standard Fuzz'

While Jensen Toldt's attempt is only in its infancy, his take on the archetypal moustache promises to flourish by the end of the month.



Douglas Meikle - 'The 3-in-1'

Douglas Meikle was also all smiles when he explained the thoughts behind this face-piece. "I wanted something a little bit different to the classic plain or handle bar moustache".



Jack Smith - 'The Anchorman'

Our very own assistant editor, Jack Smith, is sporting this debonair classic. He finds it makes him look so suave, he says "I might even keep it".



'Swazi' - 'The Enigma'

While Swazi refused to reveal his real name, one thing is certainly real – his excitement at growing this fine specimen!

Organisation, write up and puns - Annie Gouk, Features Editor

Photography - Jay Theis, Photography Editor



Annie Gouk - 'The Girls-Can-Join-In-Too-Dammit'

Not to be left behind, Features Editor Annie Gouk also wanted to get in on the moustaction. Unable to grow face fur of her own, she had to settle for the tools at hand...



Tapi Nxele - 'The Truck-o-bar'

Opinion differs on whether this moustache is a handlebar or a 'trucker', but one thing's for sure – Tapi Nxele's effort is badass! "I felt naked without it" he confessed.

A SPECIAL MENTION FOR THE STAFF OF WIBBLY WOBBLY...

The staff of Wibbly Wobbly burger bar made an exceptional effort this year when it came to grow out the ol' whiskers. Here are our two favourites.



George Glass (left) originally had a full beard, but decided to throw some shapes in creating this wonder. Specially died to make it stand out, this number breaks all the rules by totally avoiding hair in the lip region – a kind of anti-moustache, if you will. But that's George all over – he's a rebel.



In what he calls "an ode to Mexio", Steve Cottam (right) has pulled out all the stops in growing this bad boy. Combine your classic 'trucker' with a little bit of soul patch, and what you'll get is 100% man. It's nacho typical moustache!

CAN YOU DO BETTER? SEND YOUR MOVEMBER PICS TO SCAN.FEATURES@LUSU.CO.UK AND WE'LL PUT THEM ONLINE.

FEATURES

THE COLDEST PLACE ON EARTH

Stop complaining about the weather. You don't know cold until you've visited Lancaster's Low Temperature Lab, writes **Heather Guy**.

The coldest place on Earth... The bottom of the ocean? Antarctica perhaps? Room A521, Physics Building, Lancaster University? You'd be forgiven for getting this wrong. Most people, students and staff alike, walk around campus completely unaware that they're perhaps no more than 500ft away from one of the world's leading Ultra Low Temperature laboratories. Lancaster University actually holds the world-record for the coldest temperature ever reached; a chilly 0.000006 Kelvin (or about -273 C to you and I). That alone is definitely an achievement worth bragging about, but how have they managed this? And perhaps more importantly, why have they bothered?

Believe it or not, 'coldness' does not go on forever. Temperature is related to the energy inside a substance and there is an Absolute zero value of temperature (zero Kelvin) which represents zero internal energy; it is impossible for anything to be colder than this value. Below certain temperatures substances begin to lose 'degrees of freedom', for example water turning into ice; below 0 C, it no longer flows. The colder a substance gets, the simpler it becomes to study; just as measuring a block of ice with a tape measure is easier than measuring a block of water. This brings us to one of the main reasons why low-temperature physics is useful; it makes very complex situations easier to understand and quantify. Another reason is that at these extremely low temperatures matter begins to take on some very peculiar properties, Helium becomes a super-fluid with zero viscosity and can crawl up walls or creep into spaces which are only the size of an atom.

In the lab at Lancaster, there are three cryostats (big fridges) which vary in size, cryo meaning 'icy cold' and stat meaning 'stable'. Each of these are cooled by roughly the same process. The cooling process begins like that of a conventional refrigerator; a substance with a low boiling point is compressed into a liquid, the liquid is then allowed to expand and evaporate, absorbing energy from its surroundings as it does so and therefore causing the surroundings to cool down. In the cryostats, liquid helium is used, which has a boiling point of a mere -269 C. To bring the temperature down those last few degrees, a more complex process is used called demagnetisation which, as its name suggests, involves applying a strong magnetic field to a metal (copper in this case) cooling it down and then demagnetising it. To get back to its original state, the copper is forced to absorb energy from its surroundings cooling them as low as -273 C.

There are two main experiments running at Lancaster as the moment, the first involves cooling Helium-3 (a rare isotope of helium) until all its different states are 'frozen out' and it behaves simply like one large molecule. Helium-3 is used because of its incredibly low melting point and because of certain properties which make it behave more interestingly than Helium-4 (the helium used to fill balloons).

When Helium-3 is cooled to 0.0001 Kelvin, it is a super-fluid and takes on the simplest form that it is possible for it to be in. In this state it can be used to study several different phenomena.

'LANCASTER UNIVERSITY HOLDS THE WORLD-RECORD FOR THE COLDEST TEMPERATURE EVER REACHED'

One application is related to the rapidly developing field of nanotechnology; the manipulation of matter on an atomic scale, which is being used heavily at the moment to help develop new and better materials and devices with a vast range of applications from medicine to mobile phones. When you're trying to manipulate atoms at nano-scale (around 1×10^{-9} m) the effects of quantum mechanics (a complex and poorly understood area of physics) are very prominent. These quantum mechanical effects can be frozen out at low temperatures and manipulating nanotechnology instantly becomes much simpler and much more similar to dealing with everyday macroscopic objects we're more familiar with.

Another interesting phenomenon is that in this state, the Helium-3 has properties remarkably similar to the theorised structure of the metric of the universe (the structure of space-time) and for this reason can be used as a tool in the study of cosmology (the study of the origin and evolution of the universe). Cosmological theories are notoriously difficult to test due to the impossibility of re-creating scales and conditions present in the early universe. Super-fluid helium-3 can provide a solution to this problem by modelling the different ways

space-time may have behaved and warped as the universe evolved.

Perhaps the most exciting results these experiments can achieve are the ones that no physicist has predicted. Like high speed, high temperature, or small scale physics; low temperature physics is pushing at the boundaries of science as we know it. Humans have never investigated temperatures this low before, and we just don't know what weird and wonderful phenomena we might discover.

Is it safe? Is all this talk of the structure of the universe making you think Large Hadron Collider and destruction of the earth? Worry not, as one of the leading research supervisors Prof. G R Pickett informed me, the biggest danger is falling down the three metre hole. Helium gas is extremely safe and inert.

Is it worth it? I'm sure you can imagine how much an experiment on this scale might cost, Helium-3 is extremely rare, and the technology needed to create and maintain the temperature

in addition to the technology needed to make the observations during experiments is very advanced and very pricey. If the uses I've described here haven't convinced you, however, remember that this is the very frontier of science research - we simply do not know what we're going to find. The same could have been said about the people researching into the composition of atoms, yet without that research, we'd never have reaped the benefits of nuclear physics.

So next time you take a stroll past the Physics department just pause to consider, whilst you're stood there sipping your Greggs' coffee, that there are people in that building growing ever closer to unlocking the secrets of the Universe. And appreciate how warm you really are!



A VIEW THROUGH THE DOOR INTO ONE OF THE REFRIGERATOR ROOMS, WHICH IS COMPLETELY SHIELDED AGAINST OUTSIDE RADIO RADIATION

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IT TEXTS ONE TO KNOW ONE

HAYLEY SCHUBERT MANAGES TO PUT HER PHONE DOWN AND WRITE AN ARTICLE



TWITTER OVERLOAD?
Photo by Jay Theis

I'm sure you can all relate to that heart-stopping moment as you rifle through your bag or pocket and are met with the unwelcome greeting of no phone. Only after recruiting half of your house to help you search, and emptying the entire contents of your bag, can you breathe a huge sigh of relief as you clutch your beloved mobile -reunited at last (even if you didn't actually have any texts or calls). Or there's that frustrating moment as your signal slowly fades from five bars to zero - no amount of randomly thrusting your phone to the sky can save it, and you need to find out where you are pre-drinking tonight.

Welcome to the world more scientifically known as 'nomophobia' - that's the fear of being without your mobile phone and 53% of British phone users suffer from it. Do you too have the inability to never turn your phone off, obsessively checking the screen and constantly topping up your battery life... just in case? Then you may well be in the majority of the population who just find it too unbearable to even go to the toilet without being accompanied by your trusty mobile device.

Whilst it is sad, who can blame us really? Phones are like an extra body part we have acquired, one that can video call your best friend, whilst ordering a Christmas present for your boyfriend and planning your entire week's calendar with a mere touch of a few buttons. It sleeps beside us as we recharge our own batteries, joins us on dinner dates and keeps us connected as it receives the juiciest gossip before we even do! Let's not forget that fundamental alarm clock they offer either - a godsend for waking us up in time for nine o'clock seminars,

even if your ringtone makes you want to scream blue murder.

As for lectures, a cunning game of Temple Run to stop you from drifting off, or a quick check on Facebook to laugh at last night's drunken photos makes everything that little bit more bearable. Not only can we contact to whoever we need whenever we need them, but mobiles act as our own personal photo albums - capturing photos and videos, mainly to embarrass your friends at a later date and to laugh at in years to come.

'DO YOU TOO HAVE THE INABILITY TO NEVER TURN YOUR PHONE OFF, OBSESSIVELY CHECKING THE SCREEN AND CONSTANTLY TOPPING UP YOUR BATTERY LIFE?'

Whilst we now depend on our phones like we would an extra limb, it may be wise to take some extra precautions before you have one of those nights out where you unintentionally lose it and find yourself in a pool of tears the following morning.

Ensure photos and music are backed up on your laptop and leave your phone zipped up in your bag or trouser pocket unless it's entirely necessary to remove it. After all, waking up without your treasured mobile is like forgetting to get dressed before you leave the house: either way you feel naked!

RESTAURANT REVIEW

BLUE MOON

Beth Palfrey-Smith

Blue Moon is a little bit of Thai extravagance tucked away opposite Flames with friendly staff, a warm atmosphere and good food. The restaurant is very clean-cut; modern without looking like Ikea has gotten hold of it. Thai food seems to be a real crowd-pleaser, especially when the Asian style of food is integrated with Western ideals. Blue Moon offers this style of food, although there are plenty of authentic dishes on the menu too.

I chose the classic duck spring roll as a starter. At first I thought the duck was a little under seasoned, despite being a flavoursome meat. However, I concluded that the meat was supposed to be the hero of the dish, accompanied by a vibrant hoi sin dipping sauce. The vegetable spring rolls were most definitely not lacking on the seasoning and were consequently packed with flavour, plus a little extra texture thanks to the vermicelli.

'BLUE MOON IS A LITTLE BIT OF THAI EXTRAVAGANCE'

I opted for what is described on the menu as a 'favourite Traditional Thai dish', Pad Krapow. The beef was very tasty, shallow fried in an oriental sauce with onions and peppers, although a little heavy on the chilli. I'm a fan of spicy food, and Thai definitely does spicy right, but I believe that even if a dish is spicy the other flavours still have to shine through. If you're a fan of chilli I'd point you in the direction of this dish.

I also tried two of the curries, a classic Red Prawn Curry and Massaman Chicken. Both were delicious; creamy and packed full of well-balanced flavour. I would thoroughly recommend either if you're new to Thai cuisine as they're incredibly moreish. The rice we had no complaints about apart from perhaps the size of the dish for the price. If you're not planning to overeat then one between two would be sufficient, unless you like mountainous portions (think Joey from Friends).

Even after this mass of food we tried desserts, which allowed me the enjoyment of tasting the Banana Fritter and Mango Sorbet. Both were delicious, the doughnut-texture of the deep fried banana combining smoothly with the vanilla ice cream, and the mango sorbet was punchy and sweet.

I concluded that due to the less-than-student-friendly prices, the cool, calm and collected atmosphere and the absolute choice of dishes that encourage sharing, Blue Moon would be a lovely place for a date or a celebratory dinner. I'd recommend it to anyone who's just been paid, is looking to impress a special someone or fancies spoiling themselves.

NOT LOOKING FOR LOVE

IT IS MORE THAN OK TO BE SINGLE THIS CHRISTMAS

Marsha Dowie

Christmas and New Year are now approaching as quickly as ever, and we will soon once again hear Mariah Carey squeal 'All I want for Christmas is you!'. At this time of year couples snuggle up on the sofa with a bottle of mulled wine and a good film; they go for romantic walks in the crisp air; and if you're not yet loved up, Christmas is pitched as the perfect time to find that special someone. Why not top it off with more snuggling and smooching couples at the stroke of 2013 under a starry sky filled with fireworks?

This is how I spent the dawn of 2012 - in the middle of a dance floor by myself, watching London on Sky News surrounded by couples that were all over each other. I died a little inside and spent the rest of the night with three strangers in a gay club in Brighton. Yay! But it seems to me that Christmas is not the only time of year where I'm meant feel like I'm seriously missing out on something that's apparently so amazing and so extraordinary. Why is it that nowadays we are under such pressure to be in a relationship? How dare I be single! We're told that if you're single there must be something wrong with you.

If I asked a couple 'so where did you find her?' or 'how's your sex life?' it is highly likely that I would get a raise of the eyebrow, silence or even a middle finger. But ask me how my love life is and I feel obliged to answer as though I am the one who is the wrong. Apparently I need to find someone... and soon! 'Spinster' is currently a familiar and overused word in the English Language which has further extended to the concept of a 'male spinster'.

However, why should there be this perceived age limit on when someone should find their Mr/Miss Right? In fact why should there be this pressure to find someone special in your life at all? In the 21st Century it appears that not only is it important to have a great career, a stunning body and a wide social circle but also to find your other half by a particular point in your life. Don't get me wrong, society is certainly more individualistic and more career-focused than ever, but we are still bombarded with images of perfect couples, tips on how to find someone, and constant TV adverts for dating sites. If you're not settled and in a relationship then there's the fear of Bridget Jones syndrome - a major relationship with a bottle of wine in a small one-bedroom flat.

'IT SEEMS TO ME THAT SOCIETY HAS DEVELOPED A FEAR OF BEING ALONE'

It seems to me that society has developed this fear of being alone. To be honest I think many couples are together because both members of the relationship do fear loneliness. Don't get me wrong, I'm friends with several couples who I just know will spend the rest of their lives together and fair play to them. I don't really have anything against couples as such, I just have something



against the pressure of having to be in a couple. What I want to reiterate is that being single is not synonymous with being lonely. I presume that the majority of you reading this now are between 18 and early 20s. Make the most of the years where you are free to do exactly what you want when you want. Even after graduation when you go into the 'real world', go and find a career path, a life you want to lead. Another half can wait.

TIS THE SEASON TO BE THRIFTY...

Lizzie Morrison

It's nearly the end of term and the holidays are on the horizon. Although it may soon be the season to be jolly, Christmas spending can put a serious dent in your finances. So here's some top tips to help you get into the holiday spirit without running your bank balance dry.

When it comes to traditional Christmas dinner, let's face it, nothing will be a patch on your Mum's. But if you so happen to be a Gordon Ramsey wannabe then feel free to stock up on turkey, carrots and roast potatoes galore. If you don't fancy going to all that effort- or you just don't want to risk giving your flatmates food poisoning- you can always hop into town and treat yourselves to a slap up meal. Plenty of places have special Christmas menus that will get you in the mood for the holidays. Another great alternative to a traditional turkey dinner is to hold a buffet with all your party favourites. We're talking sausage rolls, mini quiches, satay chicken skewers - the lot. Most of the supermarkets do great deals on buffet spreads, so there's no reason why we should be celebrating on an empty stomach.

'IF YOU'RE GOOD IN THE KITCHEN, WHY NOT WHIP UP SOME TASTY TREATS FOR YOUR LOVED ONES?'

When it comes to decorating your uni home, you don't have to deck the halls with boughs of holly to give your home some festive cheer. Last year, my housemates managed to get a five foot Christmas tree from Wilkinsons for a tenner, and the offer is on again this year. Divided between a few of you, it's a bargain. After all, Christmas wouldn't be Christmas without a tree.

Be sure to add plenty of tinsel and there are all sorts of weird and wonderful trinkets on sale at the market which can help give your tree your own special touch.

Now for the biggest penny-saver of them all: presents. Let's be honest, buying for our friends and family would be a lot nicer if it wasn't so harsh on our purses. A great way to save some dough is to do Secret Santa with your house. That way you only have to buy for one, and the added element of mystery makes it more fun. If you have a talent for all things arty, why not consider making your gifts? Hand-made jewellery, a collage of photos, a magnificent masterpiece of art all have a personal touch and are considerably cheaper than many shop-bought gifts.

If you're good in the kitchen, why not swap a paint pallet for a mixing bowl, and whip up some tasty treats for your loved ones? And don't forget to keep an eye out for Christmas recipes in SCAN Online for some inspiration. I mean, everyone loves free food, right?

Finally, no matter how you choose to spend your cash this holiday season, be sure to have a very Merry Christmas.

VINTAGE EXTRAORDINAIRE

INTERVIEW WITH MALCOLM FROM **THE ASSEMBLY ROOMS**

Laura Dempster
Sophie Grace Barrett

Malcolm, the man who owns the largest vintage clothes collection in Lancaster, is the kind of rare person who you meet once or twice in a lifetime. Found in amongst the rails of clothes at The Assembly Rooms is a man who clearly lives life to it's very full, and yet self-admittedly never takes it too seriously. Born in 1939, Malcolm has lived all over the world, starting off at Liverpool Institute studying at Art School to later become a pattern cutter. He went to school with the likes of Paul McCartney and George Harrison and later became good friends with Ringo Starr. He has met designers such as Ossie Clark, and can boast involvement in fashion shows in Germany and Holland.

'WHEN I WAS A TEENAGER GROWING UP IN THE 50S & 60S, EVERYTHING WAS FRESH, NEW AND EXCITING'

He lived in these countries, and also visited San Francisco in the 60s and 70s. Bringing back jeans and Elvis records on his return to England, his group of friends were known as 'Liverpool Yanks.' He was the cool teddy-boy, one of the rare youth-group members who wore denim, pink shirts, and rode a Vespa as a means of transport rather than a mere fashion statement. "When I was a teenager growing up in the 50s and 60s, everything was fresh, new and exciting." "In my scooter riding youth I was a 50s Teddy Boy, wearing coloured shirts and suede shoes, you could look really unique because everything was so new, not like your Dad who only wore a white or blue shirt. I had the pleasure of experiencing everything first hand."

This fresh vitality is still present in Malcolm's demeanour – he spent over 2 hours with us sourcing different clothes and styles, whilst providing us with information and nostalgia from different fashion eras. When asking him about his favourite era, he responded: "To me, there's a difference between men and women and that was shown in my favourite fashion era, the 50s...I love the femininity of the full skirted dresses which had real movement to them when you went dancing."

"If you think about it, today is already going to be history by tomorrow; sometimes we don't always grab every opportunity." "Remember, it's only 32,000 miles around the globe, so you're never more than 16,000 miles from home, you can always go back if you don't like it!" Malcolm emphasised that life is long, rather than short, and as long as we search for them, we will find ample opportunities to make lives for ourselves. His outlook is one of total positivity, and he recommends travel as a way of finding happiness.



THE ASSEMBLY ROOMS
Photo by Jay Theis

The Assembly Rooms shop is stacked floor to ceiling with costumes – the walls cannot be seen amongst the masses of materials and colours. "This room is just the tip of the iceberg!" Malcolm has stock and contacts all over the country (in fact, all over the world) and if there is something specific you are looking for, it's more than likely that he will be able to source something for you. "I've got so many things in here in bags, under rails, hung up under other things that you're best just to ask if you're looking for something specific!" In terms of affordability, we couldn't believe how cheaply things were priced, a genuine 1930's mink fur coat for only £30-40?! "I just want to get rid of it really" said Malcolm. "I think young people are so interesting and I know that students are often lacking in money, I'll always try to help them out with

swaps, exchanges or part exchanges."

"I think that since we are all unique people anyway, why not dress uniquely? Vintage fashion is a great way to do this since no one will ever be wearing the same as you."

This view is something to bear in mind when considering the purchases we make; to wear vintage clothing is to make a statement of individuality. Vintage pieces are timeless, classic and unique.

If you want an improved wardrobe at a fantastic price, then visit Malcolm. He will also tell you exactly the source of your purchase – where it came from and the story that comes with it. His collection is a timeless treasury of the wonderful and weird, and you will not enter without leaving with a huge amount of inspiration.

FASHION

BE THE STAR OF CHRISTMAS PARTIES

KELLY WALDEN GIVES US HER TIPS ON HOW TO DRESS THIS CHRISTMAS

Whether you're going to a family Christmas meal, a night out with the girls, or the college ball, Christmas is the time to don that dress and your highest heels. What with buying everybody Christmas presents and all the social occasions that go with it, cash can be pretty tight at Christmas. So here are a few statement pieces that won't break the bank but will propel you to the top of the style Christmas tree.

New Look is a firm favourite for affordable party season dresses, and this year Kelly Brook has expanded from the usual swimwear range to include an array of party frocks. The silver heavily sequinned mini dress at £50 is my favourite from the collection, it's flirty while still edging on the safe side with the high neck and ¾ length sleeves. What is really special about this dress is the daringly low cowl back, so if you want a dress that will make you stand out from the crowd this year then this is the perfect dress for you.

Brocade is all over the high street at the moment and the foil prints are perfect to see you

through the party season. In a range of different styles from waterfall hem dresses, to bodycon, pencil or skater skirts, you will struggle to find a piece you don't like. Check out this gold sequin bodycon number from Missguided.

If you're not really into print or the bold sequinned look, then Topshop's stunning 1920's take on a little black dress is for you. The gold bib gives just the right amount of glitz to the Christmas proceedings, and means you could probably get more wear out of the dress later in the year. What's more, the fringing is very figure flattering, swinging around as you twirl across the dance floor. I would steer clear of a necklace with this dress and accessorise with a statement pair of earrings and a bangle.

If dresses aren't your thing then don't worry, leather shorts, cigarette pants, disco trousers, and the old faithful playsuit are all current alternatives that you could wear this party season. The main thing is that you feel comfortable and you can always glitz up any outfit with your accessories and make-up. However with Christ-



MISGUIDED.CO.UK
SEQUINED DRESS
Photo from PRShots

Your Student Sound week 8

87.7 Bailrigg FM Schedule						
MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN
GML 8am	GML 8am	GML 8am	GML 8am	GML 8am	Holley's History	News on Sunday
Down with Music 11am	Charlie and Lewis Have Brunch 10am	Radio Nowhere 12pm	NML 1pm	NML 1pm	12pm	political discussion with special guests and debates
Red Cups 12pm	Genre 61 Revisited 12pm	NML every weekday we bring to you the best, new music 1pm	The Adam Bond Show 2pm	Loose Blokes 2pm	Ron and Arthur present Anything Goes 1pm	10am
NML 1pm	NML 1pm	The Phil and Dan Show 2pm	Taking the Michael 4pm	Thank F it's Friday 3pm	The Saturday Hangover 2pm	Talk of the Devil 1pm
Sophie Marshall Show 2pm	Screen Team 3pm	The Vinyl Hour 5pm	Have you heard the news? 5pm	Man Feelings 4pm	The Saturday Sports Show 3pm	Unlimited Enthusiasm 2pm
De-stress, Re-chill 3pm	TransEurope Express 4pm	Campus Correspondent 6pm	HMS Ron and Friends 6pm	Bailrigg Football Weekly 5pm	The Saturday Sports Show 3pm	An Idiot's Guide to Video Games 3pm
Humble Sam's Invisible Friends 4pm	Bez and Tom's Late Afternoon Tea 5pm	Highlights, Pebbles and Palms 7pm	Live Sessions live music and chat with your favourite campus acts 7pm	Newspeak 6pm	Chart Show the week's chart countdown: who will get the number one spot? 7pm	Film Spiel 4pm
Tell Me Why 5pm	Curtis and Rachel Show 6pm	Nostalgia Hour 8pm	A Thousand Apologies 9pm	Aktiv8 sessions get ready for Sugar with Aktiv8: a live DJ set on air every week 7pm	7pm	Sunday Night Mosh 5pm
Newspeak our bi-weekly debate show on current affairs 6pm	Tuesday Night Sport Show stay update on the week's sport news 7pm	Trycolour 10pm	Bangin' & Mash 11pm	Cool Beans 9pm	The Academy 8.30pm	Jiggle Me In 6pm
Now for Something Completely Awesome 7pm	There's no F in Ekoku 10pm					Cringe 7pm
The Ska Show 8pm	Brooksy and Townsend 11pm					Late Night Literature 8pm
Acceptable in the 90s 10pm						Driven by Steam 9pm

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KEEPING IT VINTAGE ON CAMPUS

SARAH WARSAW INTERVIEWS THE CO-PRESIDENTS OF THE VINTAGE SOCIETY: ALICE YOUNG AND BECKY EASTHAM

Vintage shoppers, bargain hunters and general quirky fashion lovers, listen up! Not only has Lancaster's number of vintage shops increased, Alice Young and Becky Eastham are the joint presidents of the all new, yet old inspired, Vintage Society. This group hopes to seek out great pieces from decades gone by, find bargains and incorporate all things vintage into shopping, parties and nights out. I met up with Alice and Becky to find the future plans for this exciting new society!

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN INTERESTED IN VINTAGE CLOTHING? WAS THERE SOMETHING SPECIFIC THAT TRIGGERED THIS INTEREST?

Alice: Probably since I started going to college, I got really into vintage clothes and stuff, I can't really think of anything in particular that triggered it, just being a bit fed up of the high street, trying to save money.

Becky: My mum brought me up charity shopping, but think it was probably the end of high school when my friends started vintage shopping, then when I came to Lancaster I started with Alice!

WHAT IS THE REASONING BEHIND SETTING UP THE SOCIETY?

Alice: We're both incredibly passionate about vintage clothes and we realised so many other people are too; there really was a niche to target. Two vintage shops have been set-up in Lancaster over the summer, so it's getting even more popular. We thought it was an opportunity to come together and create a society.

THERE DID SEEM TO BE A SHORTAGE OF SPECIFIC VINTAGE SHOPS IN LANCASTER. WHEN I FIRST STARTED HERE THERE WEREN'T ANY...

Alice: There is more now, and I think it's a case of letting people know where everything is. We went to Morecambe at the weekend and the charity shops there are awesome. Vintage shops too, we'd love to do a trip there despite the poor reputation that it holds amongst Lancaster students!

WHAT ARE THE PLANS? WHAT WILL PEOPLE BE ABLE TO DO?

Alice: We want to do lots of events and trips, especially as there are loads of vintage shops in Manchester. We're really excited about a vintage tea party, little tea-cups, cakes and things like that. Nights out with various themes, such as 1920s for example. A visit to the costume museum, a charity shop crawl, there is lots we can do.

Becky: We also wanted to do things to do with eBay as well, help people sell things. A lot of people have said to me, "I've got all this stuff and I don't know how to sell it, I just buy more stuff." It would be great to give people a few tips- as students we are all short of money after all.

WHO SHOULD JOIN THE SOCIETY? HOW AND WHERE? COST?

Alice: Anyone who is interested in vintage fashion, clothes and style. Guys can join too! We're thinking of charging £3 membership fee, which will go towards making these events really good. I'd say join the Facebook page, (search Lancaster University Vintage Society), we'll keep everyone updated through there.

WRAP UP WARM

Alice Chen

Winter is fully upon us, along with harsh, cold weather and unforgiving winds becoming a regular fixture. It is downright mandatory to layer up and dress warmly. While your first impulse may be to grab whatever you can and put it all on in efforts to avoid hypothermia, that may lead to you looking like a potato.

Jumpers are a staple in any winter wardrobe. It is just not possible to live in Lancaster without owning a couple (or ten) jumpers. But as warm and comfortable as jumpers are, sometimes they're not the most flattering; you may end up looking boyish. This does not have to be the case; it's possible to stay nice and cosy, while avoiding looking like a cloth snowman.

Try pairing a chunky, oversized sweater with some leggings or skinny jeans and boots. Or accessorize the sweater with a belt to give your outfit some shape. Popping a shirt underneath the jumper creates a more structured, preppy look. Mix it up and pair the jumper with a skirt and tights. If shorts are your cup of tea, throw on a pair of tights underneath for a classic combo. Tights in the winter are not the most ideal but there are some warmer options. Marks and

Spencer has wool tights for £8 to £12.

Bright obnoxious colours are not a common sight in the wintertime. It's a breeding ground for dark and neutral colours but you can combat those winter blues and break the monotony of blacks, greys and browns with a pop of colour, like pink or orange, in your jumper, accessories or jeans.

Embellishments on jumpers make things more interesting. Topshop has some fab cardigans with studded shoulders in burgundy, grey, khaki, and nude for £48. And with the holidays just around the corner, there are plenty of opportunities to sport the classic Christmas jumper.

While summer is the season of skin, winter is all about layering. Accessories are your best allies against cruel Lady Winter; do not be shy about pairing your jumper with scarves, mittens, toques, earmuffs, and/or gloves. I personally love extremely chunky scarves, I mean, it doubles as neck support for when you're falling asleep in class, what could be better?

Jumpers are lovely defences against winter woes until you can seek refuge in the safe confines of indoor heating. So bundle up and stay warm!



PRIMARK FAIRISLE JUMPER

Photo from PRShots



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COMMENT

scan.lusu.co.uk/commentComment Editor: Alex Littleboy
Meet Monday 6pm in Pendle Barscan.comment@lusu.co.uk

The media have to earn back our trust

**Marcus Johnson**

Over the past month everyone in the media seems to have had an opinion on the so called "crisis" at the BBC. The government even grilled the main man in question George Entwistle on his handling of the Jimmy Savile allegations, along with generally having a pop at the BBC for their culture over the past fifty years. You may agree with John Simpson that the BBC are going through their "worst crisis" in fifty years, or you may share the view of many that journalists and politicians are exaggerating the role of the BBC in order to play down their involvement, or lack of action, in the Jimmy Savile affair. Either way, I don't believe that answering this question is the most pressing issue in the British media at the moment. The question that does need considering is will the British public ever trust the media again?

As the nation has acknowledged, the allegations facing Jimmy Savile along with the horrendous reports that are surfacing about him are terrible and must be dealt with by the police as thoroughly as possible. But as this investigation continues, the British media has a lot of thinking to do about its current role in society. The BBC's late cancellation of the Newsnight documentary last year has once again re-surfaced the issue of the transparency of actions within the media. The public negativity towards the media that the phone hacking incidents caused has now been evoked again from one of our most trusted institutions.

As outraged with News Corporation the public may have been, for many the phone hacking just seemed like another addition to the list of News Corps negatives. Therefore as shocking as these revelations were, "respectable" journalists could still look down and laugh at the tabloids. However what the BBC have succeeded in doing by highlighting the lack of transparency within their organisation and then topping that off

by giving the leader of the pack a £450,000 fair well gift is well and truly lose our trust and disconnect the whole media from the general public.

With the BBC being one of Britain's leading broadcasters, this loss of trust could potentially have a substantial negative effect. As well as reporting news and keeping the public fully informed on current affairs, the role of journalist should be to challenge people with power and be critics of negative changes within the country. By doing so governments can be held accountable and scandals such as the Jimmy Savile investigation can be unearthed and then dealt with. Therefore if journalists and the media as a whole no longer have trust and public support how can they possibly criticise people in power and ensure issues that need to be raised are being raised? Within the current climate of resentment towards the government, for MPs to be criticising journalists in parliament rather than the other way round just highlights how bad the state of affairs has become. According to a YouGov survey, for the first time

more people distrust the BBC than trust them. Although the BBC is a respectable broadcaster and forever will be. It is clear that they haven't done themselves any favours in convincing the public that this is true. Even if the BBC haven't done anything wrong, the perceived delay to reveal such important any information regarding the Jimmy Savile case provoked more questions than they could answer.

Maybe their downfall is circumstantial and that the more allegations that are made the more the BBC are going to suffer for withholding the initial information. Either way it is an issue they are going to have to deal with. Our country continuously prides itself on its free press. However if the public can't trust the press how can they hold institutions like the police and the government to account? Our democracy would not be strong if it weren't for an informative and critical free press. Therefore if the BBC and other media organisations alike are going to earn the right to report and criticise they are going to have to earn back our trust if they want us to listen.

What will Obama's re-election actually mean for the US?

Sarah-Jane Patel

Last Tuesday the most recently elected president of The United States gave a speech at the Democratic National Convention, reflecting on the last four years of his presidency and expressing hopes for the future. The reasons for the enthusiastic cheering of the crowd could be manifold; was it for joyful certainty the president will help the US become the best it can be? Was it in faith he will bring the country through to certain victory after recession? Or was it because of love of the man himself? History shows few positive changes for the US since Obama's leadership. He spoke about maintaining hope 'in the face of uncertainty' however and the need for common effort and exportation which would strengthen the power of the United States.

'History would suggest Obama has been a strongly supported leader'

Obama promised it is a positive time for the US and suggested plans to expand the economy through increased export and less outsourcing of jobs. But what does the renewed presidency actually mean for the US?

History would suggest Obama has been a strongly supported leader, going on to win himself the votes of 26 states out of the 50 in America and 50.6 percent of the votes, although he is not necessarily one who makes all the wisest decisions economically. The US still has the largest and most technologically powerful economy in the world, with a per capita GDP of \$48,100 although it has taken a significant downturn in the last three years with GDP contracting, creating the deepest and longest dip since the Great Depression. This could be the result of Obama's predecessors however his the nature of his up and coming policies warrant question. Raising tax rates on upper income earners reduces their incentive to work and take



BARACK OBAMA CELEBRATES HIS VICTORY
Photo by Scout Tufankjian

risks, threatening small businesses and taxing dividends received and capital gains earned could cause benefits to be outweighed by the risks of setting up small businesses, leading to a reduction of growth in the economy. Obama talks about a future of 'common effort and shared responsibility' as the way forward for the economy however economic upturn is yet to be seen particularly for states such as Michigan with an all time-high unemployment rate of 16%.

Obama's presidency could cause US domestic policy to become increasingly liberal. Obama's policy decisions have gradually come more and more against Christian beliefs reflecting a different style than those made by presidents previously. This could be too much too soon for the people of the US, particularly as levels of support for Obama are already low in inland states. Decisions involving families in society have lead people to question Obama's choices more and more and challenge the motivation behind his policy amendment proposals, and also present opposition to the values represented by those who founded the United States. This

choice shows Obama may be interested in seeking popularity insofar as to change policy to being contrary to his beliefs to please the majority. Alternatively it could show that he would prefer to sacrifice his beliefs to gain favour with some of the electorate. Obama has also agreed to a new 'pro-choice' route on abortion, whilst Romney would have disagreed. This decision could have dramatic consequences on culture and the future relationship of families. Some argue Romney would have been the better choice morally as a president, despite not holding the same spiritual beliefs as Christians.

Whilst it is clear that Obama is popular because of agreeing to such changes it is important to question his motives. Does he really agree with these choices or is he willing to sacrifice standards for self-promotion? This is always a dangerous political game. His views in relation to Palestine suggests does not make decisions for popularity; the non-mainstream news shows Palestinians continue to be terrorized by air strikes hitting the Gaza strip with agreement from Obama whilst this is not a popular campaign with

many. On the other hand, Obama favours moving out of Iraq which could have negative consequences on the work towards creating democracy in the Middle East.

'Obama talks about a future of 'common effort and shared responsibility' as the way forward for the economy however economic upturn is yet to be seen'

Obama has been trying to connect and give a message that resonates with the majority of US citizens so he could be voted in as the leader of the United States, but we have yet to see how this outplays in domestic, economic and foreign policy, and it could be the same outcome with Romney. Now the task is to wait to see what Obama's leadership unfolds for the economy and policy at home and in the rest of the world and to see whether he will be worth being voted in for another four years.

Head to head

Should the UK leave the EU?

A recent poll says that 54% of Britons would choose to leave

Yes

Rachel Quin

One of the main arguments to stay is that it will cost too much to leave, but in the long-run, leaving would more than likely benefit us. No longer would Britain be obligated to bail-out other failing European countries, such as Greece. Britain has contributed around £12.5 billion to help other struggling countries; which adds up to about £500 in tax from each British household. The Daily Mail reports Conservative MP Peter Bone, as saying “we should not be using money from hard-working British taxpayers to bail out a currency that we have nothing to do with”. Despite having the best of intentions, Britain has its own problems and it is time for us to stop pretending to be the hero of every situation and focus on ourselves. Overall the EU is becoming a drain on Britain, and it should no longer be the responsibility of hard-working British taxpayers to bail out people thousands of miles away.

A withdrawal from the EU could work in our favour with regards to our legal system. A story that is prominent in the news at the moment, and was debated in the last issue of SCAN was whether prisoners’ should be given the vote. At the minute, Britain is in direct violation of EU law, which states that a complete ban on voting for prisoners’ is not only illegal, but a violation of their human rights. EU laws tend to supersede our law, which effectively undermines the way we rule our country in the eyes of Europe. If we were to leave, it would reintroduce full ruling power back to Westminster. Furthermore, it could be suggested that the EU is a huge body of nations which is far too large to efficiently create appropriate legislation for each Euro-

pean country.

In addition to this, our current laws on immigration are lax at best, as we are forced to comply with EU regulations which demand that we accept all immigrants from EU countries. Although it might be seen as politically incorrect to say so, choosing to leave could improve our current situation, which leaves thousands of people unemployed, by keeping British jobs for the British. It is undeniable that immigrants who chose to work in our country have a positive impact on our economy and can be beneficial, but it also leaves British workers in a difficult position when it comes to finding employment. We should aspire to be like Australia - a nation founded on criminals that were outcast from British society - who now have one of the strongest economies in the world. It could be argued that the reason the Australians enjoy such a thriving economy is because they are selective about who can live and work in their country, and leaving the EU would enable Britain to follow suit with a similar policy.

Finally, leaving the EU would end the eternal question of: should Britain relinquish the British pound coin for the Euro? With the Euro, you cannot devalue if the currency becomes uncompetitive and has led to problems in Spain, Italy and Greece. Being able to devalue encourages competitiveness and gives the economy more flexibility compared to countries that use the Euro, who face high inflation. Embracing the Euro would also mean no independent monetary policy, which during an economic crisis means we can quickly cut interest rates in order to prevent further recessions. Although we’ve resisted it up until now, continuing to remain in the EU could eventually lead to us taking up the Euro due to pressure from other European countries.

No

Alex Littleboy
Comment Editor

I feel strongly that leaving the European Union would be a mistake for the United Kingdom. To start, I believe that the free movement of goods and people throughout EU member states is a positive aspect of the EU. Although it has been criticised by those who consider immigration from inside the EU to be a problem in the UK, for instance those who consider foreign workers to be “stealing British jobs”, this also allows us to travel freely throughout the EU without a visa and for British businesses to sell products in Europe without tariffs. This also greatly simplifies the process of studying in other countries, with initiatives such as Erasmus encouraging cultural exchange between students in European universities.

The “membership fee” of the EU is often criticised. This money goes towards maintaining the structures of the European Union, for example the European Parliament and European Commission, as well as various EU initiatives, such as agricultural subsidies. However, one particular area that is often forgotten by critics of the EU is the way in which it provides funds in order to help stimulate economic development and job creation throughout the EU, not only in other European countries, but also in the UK, for instance in Yorkshire and the Humber. Although the UK doesn’t see a complete return on this fee, it could be said that it is because, as one of the major economic powers in Europe, do not require it as much as some of the new EU member states, those that have joined more recently, emerging from Communist regimes that fell in the 80s and 90s, for example Poland and Romania.

Another issue that has been attacked by Eurosceptics is the cur-

rent floundering of the Euro. The Euro, while admirable in purpose, was doomed to have these problems when a global downturn came. However, being outside of the Eurozone, we would have been in the same situation anyway, as bailout packages are not merely to keep countries stable, but to protect investment in economies overseas and maintain the image that first-world countries will make debt repayments. If Greece were to default, it would reflect badly on all European countries, as investors would realise that these countries are not guaranteed to make their payments. There is no force from Europe urging us to adopt the Euro, and many other EU member states still use other currencies.

Although the idea of compromise with other European member states is frowned upon by many groups, I personally believe that greater cooperation in a supranational framework such as the EU is one of the ways that the United Kingdom will continue to be able to compete in the future, as rising economic powers such as India, China and Brazil start to overcome the shadow of colonialism and totalitarianism to become superpowers in their own right. We cannot hope to match China’s GDP alone, but through the European Union the continent may continue to be relevant as the West declines and developing powers begin to become the centre of international business and affairs.

I will not argue that the European Union is perfect. The Euro has been proved to be poorly implemented with the current Euro Crisis, and the perceived democratic deficit in the EU must be addressed. However, the answer to difficulty in the European Union is not to leave the European Union, but to work with the system, attempting to create a fairer Europe that better reflects British interests.

The Facebook View

Yes 19%

No 81%

SCAN asked its Facebook fans: “Should the UK leave the EU?”

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Talk of benefits masks other problems

- Children growing up in poverty as some owe millions in tax
- Labour will make cuts in Welfare if they win 2015 General Election

Sam Smallridge

As debt rises, standard of living worsens and 3.6 million children are growing up in poverty we are presented with pathetic solutions from government. Caps on welfare, whether it is limiting it to £25,000 or stopping child benefit when a family has more than two children are now openly discussed by a government that has lost its course and forgotten its purpose. Government has allowed itself to be distracted by media outlets that are too concerned with right wing scare stories about public sector workers and benefit claimants. Beyond these sensationalist stories the real endemic problems which caused the Global Economic Crash remain, as many seek to attack the perceived glutony and greed within the most vulnerable of society.

An old fashioned Victorian definition is beginning to rear its unwelcome head as some seek to define the jobless between the deserving and the undeserving poor. It is an argument as irrelevant as it

is old as for thirty years now mass unemployment has, for many, become a fact of life. It is a callous definition and a desperate form of scapegoatism which has only served to create divisions within society.

In his address to the Conservative party conference this year, David Cameron reinforced this belief by saying 'if you choose not to work, you can get housing benefit, you can get a flat.' A statement that would not look out of place in the Daily Mail, it is not totally a lie but one that ignores the uncomfortable truth. No one who is a benefit claimant is a criminal and the victims of a housing market crisis which no government has sought to solve in the last few decades.

An old fashioned Victorian definition is beginning to rear its unwelcome head

With Shadow Work and Pensions minister Liam Byrne saying that Labour will make cuts in welfare, should they win the 2015 general election, there appears a cosy consensus around the idea that slashing the welfare bill is a necessity. This has led to other more practi-

cal methods being ignored. Cutting the cost of the welfare bill may save money on spending but offers no solution for reducing a spiralling deficit. Instead talk of a living wage and lower rents, plausible methods of reducing reliance on welfare, are ignored now dogma has replaced necessity in the present cuts agenda.

There is a malevolent attempt to divert discussion away from those to blame for the crash and the vulnerable who themselves are easy targets. Or to put it even simpler those who claim a basic £56.25 a week are denigrated, while Philip Green, who is estimated to owe Inland Revenue £300 million, is given a government job.

It is estimated that benefit fraud costs the treasury an estimated £7 billion a year, a high figure but one that pales in comparison to the estimated £70 billion a year lost to tax evasion schemes. It is an utter failure of the tax system that cunning lawyers exploiting loopholes deprive the treasury of hundreds of billions of pounds in a parliamentary term while nurses, teachers and doctors pay every penny in tax. And yet only shallow statements are made on this topic while wealthy men based in the Cayman Islands and Belize load the coffers

of the Conservative party.

Labour will make cuts in welfare, should they win the 2015 general election

It is a diversion which threatens communities within Britain as those in work are angered by exaggerated reports of benefit claimants with plasma TVs and regular holidays as they struggle against the backdrop of a double dip recession and rocketing living costs. This fabrication of an army of benefit claimants living in luxury without desire for a job or fear of any repercussions is both factually and morally wrong.

Too much blame has been afforded to the most vulnerable instead those who hold the wealth in this country need to be held accountable by a parliament prepared to do what is morally right and take on the comfortable elites and establish a system of fairness within Britain, one which does not demonize its most vulnerable citizens but seeks to help them at a time when it is most needed.

scan says

The Colleges need a break

Yet again, it has emerged that the Colleges are being undermined by departments within the University. Furness College have had to fight for such luxuries as a sign indicating the location of their Porters' Lodge, and had their (apparently negative) comments on the furniture of the new Foyer "democratically" over-ruled. In addition, access to Furness Bar is incredibly frustrating for many.

The University needs to start taking the College system seriously and give them the respect - and space - they deserve.

Sports teams need to remember they represent the University

Some of the behaviour that has been reported over the last few weeks about members of various sports teams, including those from other Universities, on campus is disgraceful and does nothing to remove an old stereotype of the actions of sports players..

While it is important to remember that the incidents are certainly limited to a small minority of players, teams as a whole should remember that they represent their College and their University, and should think twice about their actions.

Get engaged with the elections to make sure your voice is heard

We are now well and truly in elections season for JCR and CCO positions. It is highly unlikely that the entire student population agrees with all the decisions made by the Union this year. If you want to make a difference and ensure your voice is heard, be sure to vote and get down to your College's hustings. Ask questions of the people who want your vote and hold them to account. Contrary to popular belief, these elections do make a difference to your time as a student at Lancaster.

Congratulations to Bailrigg FM

Bailrigg FM, Lancaster's student radio station, recently won a Student Radio Award for the Best Technical Achievement. SCAN sends its congratulations to everyone involved.

SCAN needs writers

As you can hopefully see, we have been working tirelessly in an attempt to improve the paper over the last few weeks. We can only go further with your help and ideas. Please do consider writing for a section. Meeting times and contact details are at the front of the paper.

The laundrette debate is all washed up

Julia Molloy

Everyone hates doing their washing. Although using the washers and dryers at Lancaster is significantly cheaper than at other universities, it can be confusing, particularly if you're not used to doing your own washing at home (I still never know how much detergent to use).

As a Bowlander, my nearest laundrette, County South, is tiny compared to some of the others, with fewer washing machines than tumble-dryers for some unfathomable reason. Annoying if, like me, the majority of your clothes say 'do not tumble-dry'. Further, there isn't even any room to sit down, except for a very uncomfortable window sill. It's definitely a challenge to avoid busy times whilst still finding a convenient time for you.

Perhaps finding a convenient and quiet time to do the laundry is why there's been such a negative attitude to the closing of the laundrette in Cartmel College overnight. Instead of being open and freely available 24 hours a day, the doors will now be locked at 11pm, potentially causing in-

convenience to many students. Both Furness and Pendle already close at 11pm, whilst the smaller laundrettes like those in County and Grizedale remain open. With such high rents for accommodation, even higher tuition fees and the expense of using the laundrette itself anyway, should we expect the laundrettes on campus to be constantly available?

Despite all the trials and tribulations of doing the washing, I would argue not. Yes, there are issues concerning peak times, and yes some would expect a constant service after the amount of money we're spending, but is it really necessary to do washing at night? Some students may be virtually nocturnal, but surely we can find better things to do at night than washing our clothes.

Perhaps it's the disparity between the bigger laundrettes closing overnight but the smaller ones remaining open that has angered uses of the laundrette in Cartmel. Surely this can't be right. If some laundrettes are going to close overnight, why not all of them? It would be fairer considering the irritatingly specific top-up card system that restricts you to using one laundrette only. We all pay the same amount to do our washing, and we should all expect the same amount of availability. The



question is, though, just what that availability should be: 24 hours or during the day only? As far as I'm concerned, during the day there is plenty of time to be doing the laundry, even if it means visiting the laundrette between lecture hours. Just think of the waste of electricity if the laundrettes were to stay open overnight, with bright lights on at three o'clock in the morning when most students are either in bed or out partying. Surely nobody would want to be doing their washing at that time; it makes sense to close the laundrette overnight.

What needs to be addressed is the continuity of the laundry service across campus. It isn't right that some laundrettes are closed and some aren't during the night; a decision needs to be made to cover them all, whether it means reopening or closing them all at night. We're all paying similar sums of money for our accommodation, and the same amount for doing the washing. We might all be in different colleges, but when it comes to the laundrettes, we should expect the same level of service across campus.

Furness Foyer should be College space

Jack Smith
Assistant Editor

Furness Foyer was always more than just a space. The place had charm. The bizarre patterned carpets, the grotty leather sofas, and the wooden doors leading to Trev. It was a place students felt comfortable using, and - more importantly - a space for Furness College to use.

And make use of it they did. The space was used for many events, most notably the Furness Ale Festival which - coincidentally - used to happen around this time of the year. The Foyer would play host to bands through the night, while people were able to spill out from the bar and drink in the area. The space proved to be welcoming, useful and versatile.

Which is precisely why it is such

a shame that it appears the Faculty of Health & Medicine are averse to this sort of usage by Furness College.

While there have been rumours, covered elsewhere in this newspaper, of the Faculty attempting to put their foot down on use of the space for the grand opening of Trev, there are many obvious and apparent restrictions on usage of this space by the Faculty. These include the requirement that people swipe their library card to enter the Foyer - and therefore, Trev - in the evenings, as well as the bizarre mini-foyer airlock (perhaps a quarantine zone?) one must pass through before being able to enter the bar.

In addition, Reuben Edwards, the former principle of the College, has told SCAN of some of the trials and tribulations Furness had to go through in order to win some concessions. For example, the Furness sign next to the Porters'

Lodge - unbelievably, considering how trivial it is in the grand scheme of things - proved to be a great point of contention. Edwards said Furness had to fight for this, and that the Faculty only relented once it was agreed to colour the sign black rather than using Furness' colour - purple - so as to not spoil the precious new colour scheme.

'The place had charm. The bizarre patterned carpets, the grotty leather sofas...'

The Dean of the Faculty, Professor Tony Gatrell, has described Health & Medicine as "co-located" in Furness. This term should perhaps be used in the loosest of senses, considering a compromise over ownership of the space led to just 25% of the space

being designated as College space. While this is, technically, the norm for colleges - this 25% figure includes the bar cellar. It remains to be seen just how much usage the members of Furness will make of that particular area.

I am not against the refurbishment of the space. While it has lost some charm and moved dangerously towards the front pages of the University's prospectus, there is increased seating and it did need some modernisation. I am also a fan of new Trev.

What I am categorically against is the removal of this space from Furness College and the apparent animosity towards the idea of the Foyer being used for what it has been for many years. This could be positioned as another prong of a sustained attack on the College system. Hopefully, the Faculty will see sense and grant the SCRs and JCRs of Furness College permission to hold events there as they see fit.

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The age old accommodation debate

Rachel Harvey

It is the time of year again when we are all looking for houses and accommodation for next year, but the big question that faces pretty much all of us is: should I live on campus or in town?

In my first year, I alternated between wanting to move off campus and wanting to stay on. Between the endless building work that went on just outside my flat in County for eight months and the ability to roll in to my lectures in Bowland five minutes before they started, I just could not make up my mind. By the time it was time to make a decision, I had only known my flat mates for a matter of weeks; living

in town was still a terrifying concept.

About two months later, it seemed that the builders had decided to start their work even earlier - and the routine of lectures had become second nature. This led me to wish I had chosen to live in town. Throughout my second year, I wished I lived off campus, and when I was somehow convinced to live on campus again in third year, all through that year I wished I lived off campus more than anything. I could see into my lectures office from my bedroom window, my tutors would pop into my Townhouse kitchen to say 'Hi!', as they walked past, and the luxury of being able to roll on over to the art studios within seconds of waking up just became a harrowing reminder of how I was living in a

bubble.

Living off campus this year has, of course, shown its down sides. Waiting for the bus in the rain, full buses driving past you and of course the inevitability that you will be late at least once a week. But as a whole I have loved it. The separation from work and home gives you the ability to switch off and relax.

Having a space that feels more like a home that you can shape to fit you, rather than a flat-pack room desperately plastered in posters in a vain attempt to make the room personalised. But I think I am one of the lucky ones.

I found a pleasant house, a good landlady and a house-mate I have known for years. I know that not everyone is as fortunate. I know people whose landlord have told

them to expect their ceiling to leak regularly, people that have to deal with piles of rubble in their back yards all year round and have neighbors that are under the opinion that having a student live next door to you is on par with having Metallica living in the next room. So I can sympathise and I fully understand why people would choose to live on campus with like minded people, where a plumber is just a phone call away and the structural quality of your house is not the last thing you worry about at night.

Personally I much prefer being off campus and do enjoy the responsibility of looking after a house, but I do see why people like living in the bubble that is campus. My advice is - don't make the decision too quickly.

Lancaster University's Suicide Rate: The Truth

Daniel Hall

Why do some people choose to take their own life? Is there something inherent about Lancaster University that causes suicide? Almost everyone who has any association with the university has heard some variation of the urban legend: 'Lancaster University has the highest student suicide rate of any university in the UK'. What is worrying is that this assertion is usually told as fact rather than speculation, and many people even cite it as a reason not to study here. Another legend is that Bowland Tower was made obsolete after a series of students committed suicide by jumping off the roof. A bit of old fashioned journalistic investigation proves that there is a lot of conjecture and folklore unduly branding Lancaster with a darker history than it merits, though there is a disturbing explanation as to where the rumours came from.

It should be made clear from the outset that there is no easily accessible, annually observed 'student suicide rate'. Whilst there have been several studies into specific universities about mental health issues and student wellbeing, there

is no record comparing figures of suicides of all of the universities in the UK. It seems that the university archive does not keep a constantly updated record of student suicides, nor do any of the university's publications acknowledge them when such tragedies do occur. So, when someone says Lancaster has the highest student suicide rate, where are they getting their figures from?

Whilst one document was located in the archive on the subject of student suicides (which shows that in the 15 years from 1980 to 1995 there were five incidents of suicide at Lancaster), there is no paper trail that comprehensively paints the entire picture from the time the university opened. What is needed is someone who knows the university, and its history and no one has a better knowledge of Lancaster University's history than Marion McClintock, university archivist and author of *Shaping the Future: a history of The University of Lancaster*. According to her certain significant rumours can be immediately dispelled. The first was Bowland Tower.

The Tower's tired appearance and current lack of occupancy has acted as a catalyst for stories of dramatic suicides. However, it was not closed because a large number of suicides occurred there. The actual reasons are much less exciting, McClintock says. 'Since its opening in

1968, the Tower had not once been refurbished, and it was therefore deemed unfit for purpose. Upon its closure, it was also questioned as to whether it would ever be suitable to use as accommodation - not because of the risk of suicides, but because small children might fall through the bars of the balconies on the upper floors'. So whilst the tower may have been considered dangerous, the university's concerns are out of pragmatism, not fear of sinister catastrophes. Some also refer to the fact that the lift in the Tower does not go directly from the ground floor to the top as evidence of a response to prolific suicides. In reality, this again is merely a practical issue, as many people frequently disturbed the occupants of Bowland Tower by going to the top floor simply to enjoy the spectacular views.

So if its closure was not due to suicides, where did the Bowland Tower stories originate from? This is where some of the myth unfortunately overlaps with reality. In the early January of 1990, McClintock recalls there was a fall from Bowland Tower. McClintock was at the university that afternoon and recalls the shocking circumstances around the death. She recounts how at dusk on a wet Monday, a student fell from the top of the tower onto the verandah below. So dramatic was this fall that this single in-

cident appears by itself to have caused a perception that Lancaster and suicide had an unduly close connection.

There is also perhaps a further and unsettling explanation as to where the legend originates. Once again, there is no paper documentation of the incidences, but it seems there was one particularly disturbing academic year early in the new millennium in which there may have been as many as seven completely unrelated student deaths, involving people who did not know one another and seemingly had no connecting circumstances with one another whatsoever. McClintock recounts: "Not all the deaths were certainly suicides, and all of them arose from completely different circumstances. Nevertheless, they seem to have been conflated in people's minds with the earlier tragedy."

So it seems likely, that the reason so many people believe Lancaster has the highest student suicide rate is not down to any researched evidence, but rather an unprecedented succession of student deaths, that coincidentally clustered together here some 10 or more years ago, and which became connected in the collective memory with the earlier and single death. This anomalous spike should be remembered as just that - an anomaly.

With thanks to Marion McClintock

Time to stand and represent

Pendle's president on the JCR and CCO elections

Laurence Pullan
Pendle President

The JCR and CCO election period, for me, is one of the most exciting and intriguing fortnights of the academic year. It's a time when the clear favourite faces the dark-horse; where the naïve, enthusiastic optimist is pitted against the knowledgeable but perhaps complacent expert. It is, in essence, the perfect opportunity for anybody to get involved in their colleges and with the Union as a whole.

So why run? What sort of influence could you possibly have?

Well, actually, any student officer is elected into a position of responsibility for a reason. Every college JCR will need a media and communications officer or a social sec as much as a President. To use a cheesy and over-used metaphor, a JCR is much like a well oiled machine, that only works at the optimum rate if all the cogs (the officers in a JCR) work effectively and most

importantly, together. It's same for CCOs (cross campus officers); LUSU president Ste Smith has managed to pass a new CCO Bye-law which means that there are fewer officers, but that hopefully they will work better as a team and to help support the Union. Don't forget, too, that six positions are now available for anyone to sit on Union Council, a major decision making body, for anyone that wants to be more involved in Union politics.

Okay, enough of the boring info. Here's why you should run to be a student officer. In fact, if you don't, you're really missing out on a great opportunity.

Being a student officer is one of the most fun and rewarding things you can do. Yes, it looks good on a CV, but it's worth so much more than that. How many people can say they have made a college magazine that more than 500 people can read? How many people can say they have organised socials to big cities for more than 100 people? How many people can say they have influenced the decisions and directions of their college?

You could have the chance to be

part of a group of dedicated volunteers that want to make a difference. Challenge yourself; you'll soon find that if you are on a JCR or hold a position as CCO, it will become a way of life, not a "job". Challenge yourself and push your self-confidence to the limit.

I've been fortunate enough to be JCR College President of Pendle as well as a cross campus officer for Media. I can safely say it's the best thing I've ever done. It's so rewarding, fulfilling, exciting and absolutely knacker. But it's the best way to take a "hands on" approach to student politics.

For the cynics out there that love to complain about the Union, or don't like the way it works in certain ways, now is YOUR chance to make a stand and make the difference you've been longing for. Don't let someone else who you don't think could do a better job than you take your position just because you "can't be bothered" or "because it's a waste of time". Student Officership is inevitably the driving force behind our Union. JCRs and CCOs are what make things happen. Be a part of it.

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STUDENT COMMENT AND NEWS
ESTABLISHED 1967

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LETTERS

Please send any letters to scan.assistanteditor@lusu.co.uk, along with your name and college. If you would like your letter to be printed anonymously, let us know. SCAN reserves the right to edit letters for publication.

Dear SCAN,

Being a long term resident of Lancaster Uni I have been quite used to waiting. I waited for the Underpass for two year, I have waited to see what will happen with Bowland Tower for even longer. But I find myself waiting to even begin waiting for the indoor beach which SCAN reported on in 2011. It was the best news I read all year, but so far I haven't seen even a grain of sand. What has happened to this wonderful plan? Please find out!

Faithfully yours,

Dougal Kirk
Grizedale

Dear SCAN,

I remember reading an article in a copy of last years SCAN that said there would be a glass observation booth built at the top of Bowland Tower when it is eventually refurbished. My flat mate told me yesterday that that was a fake article. Is that true or can we look forward to a greenhouse a-top the tower?

Thank you

Emma Reddish

County

Dear SCAN

I very much enjoyed the last issue of SCAN it was the best one by far. I particularly enjoy the sports section and coverage of womens sports.

My one complaint is lack of coverage of womens bars sports. People often say womens bar sports isn't as good as mens. Any chance we could prove them wrong with a bit more coverage?

Nichole Hartford

Bowland

CORRECTIONS

SCAN endeavours to be accurate at all times. However, sometimes mistakes do slip through the net. If you notice one, please contact the Editor or Assistant Editors and we will aim to rectify the issue as soon as possible.

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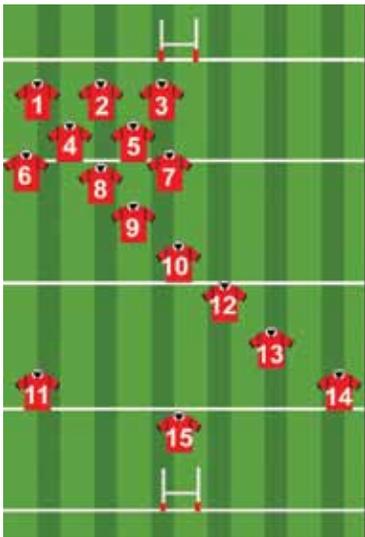
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Lancaster Cats End Liverpool 2nds unbeaten start in dramatic fashion



Charlie Edwards
Arthur Haynes

LANCASTER 1st XV 26

LIVERPOOL 2nd XV 24

Tries: Edouard Whyte, Jonathon Preston, Jake Hawkins

Conversions: Ed Whyte

Pens: Ed Whyte (3)

The dreary Wednesday afternoon of the 15th of November saw the Lancaster University Mens' Rugby Union 1st XV take on the team to beat in their league. Sitting on the top of the Northern 2A division, the undefeated Liverpool University 2nd XV made the coach trip up to the Lancaster Cats' fortress for a match that was always going to be brutally physical and fiercely paced. Liverpool appeared on the pitch wide-eyed and bushy-tailed, while Lancaster looked lethargic from the night previous; promoting the club's "Second Home", a particularly popular bar at the top of town.

The contest as a whole simmered very nicely through the first half:

1. Jacob Saunders
2. Niall 'Swazi' Parkhill
3. Salvador Torres
4. Jonathan Preston
5. Jake Hawkins
6. Jordan Driffill
7. Jacob Henchcliffe
8. Luke Dilley
9. Arthur Haynes
10. Harry Roe
11. Chris Weeks
12. Rob Field
13. Ollie Simmons
14. Edouard Whyte
15. Elliott Fowler



LANCASTER VS. LIVERPOOL

Photos by Jay Theis

putting the Lancaster boys ahead, the score being 26-24 with five

minutes left on the clock.

The crowd were ecstatic, and were it not for the risk of slipping on the wet verge, would have probably jumped for joy at this point. The Cats finally managed to secure the victory through the combination of a well organised defence and raw determination of the forward pack.

The tension mounted as the boys stoically defended the line in the final few minutes of the game. Despite a barrage just yards from the try line, Lancaster ensured victory with a last ditch tackle from centre Rob Field to close the game out. The game finished with a brilliant victory for the Lancaster Cats. The only thing miserable surrounding Lancaster's performance was the weather.

The boys travel to Manchester University to take on their 2nd XV next week in the hope of replicating their good home form with an away win!

tries from stand-in captain Edouard Whyte and Jonathon Preston were more than matched by the brilliance of the Liverpool full-back and some well-worked Liverpoolian tries.

Even the ever-accurate boot of Whyte –whose glorious kicking outshone the mediocre attempts of his Liverpoolian counterpart- wasn't good enough to put Lancaster in front going into the last 10 minutes, 24-19 the score in Liverpool University's favour.

It seemed at some points that injured captain Huw Marsden was sorely missed as Liverpool rallied strongly. Lancaster's eventual and perhaps deserved break, however, came from a wonderfully crafted move in the second half.

Pack leader Jonathon Preston sent Jake Hawkins (Sharky) hurtling towards the green pastures that was the Liverpool try line. The pace of the Lancaster lock-forward proved too much for the sharp Liverpool '11', so in under the posts Sharky went, levelling the scores in style. It was an elegant move that reaped the rewards for the Cats. In dream form, the stand-in skipper Whyte didn't for a moment look like missing from under the posts,



Lancaster 2nd XV thrash Chester



Will Taylor
Sports Editor

LANCASTER 2nd XV 77

CHESTER 3

Tries: Blackmore, Lemon 3, Wiki 2, Vaughan-Fowler, Tracey 2, Seymour, Lewis, Ekweremadu, Wilson

Conversions: Lewis 3, Williams 3

Lancaster's 2nd XV carried on their run of form with a resounding thirteen try rout against Chester. The visitors were hard pressed from kick off, with Chris Wiki scoring in the opening minutes with a charge down try underneath the posts, and with the successful conversion by fly half Toby Williams, Lancaster looked to be off to a good start.

The next score came from a fantastic break up field from blindside flanker Matt Wilson, whose barrelling run allowed the Lancaster backs to fire past the broken defence of Chester. The resulting try was scored by experienced hooker William Blackmore, and it wasn't long before wingers Fowler and Lemon added to the tally, Lemon's score coming from a fantastic individual effort down the left wing. Shortly after, Wiki scythed through the defence yet again on his way to his second score of the half.

Alongside from the rampant running rugby on display, Lancaster excelled in open play, their forwards displaying versatility and determination at every challenge. Chester appeared to be flustered by conceding so heavily so early in the game, and their passing became sporadic and inaccurate. This played wonderfully into the hands of the Lancaster backrow, whose constant ball pilfering and disruption of play was a testament to the

darker arts of the backrow forward. It was this attitude that led to Wilson crossing for a well deserved try, followed swiftly by fullback Seymour and substitute Tracey. This rounded up the first half, with Lancaster going into the break with a 44-0 lead.

The second half saw Chester finally get themselves on the scoreboard with a penalty conversion, but it did little to stem the tide of Red Rose players, who were now treating the affair as a training exercise. It is easy for teams with such an advantage to implode through over complication and outright arrogance, but the Cat's showed no such inclination, with Wiki, Captain Ollie Lewis, and Tracey all going over for further scores in quick succession. The final flourish came from replacement Ike Ekweremadu and a final try for winger Lemon, rounding up a hat trick for him.

Lancaster were sublime throughout, the lack of handling errors testament to the training and skill that is present in this current crop of players. Captain Lewis was full of praise, but keen to look forward to the future. "It was a great result, and is definitely the stepping stone needed to welcome the game next week, against the top of the league team, Edge Hill. The players cannot wait to carry on from where they have left off."

Such a solid team performance made it difficult to pick one individual who stood out. Centre Chris Wiki's running lines were impressive, and huge credit must go to Lewis and flyhalf Williams, who directed the backline with effectiveness and precision. The finishing of Josh Lemon on wing was impressive, but all credit must go to the Lancaster backrow, especially blindside flanker Wilson, whose numerous carries and yardage gained were worthy of a Man of the Match performance.

VP Activities: Liz Ashworth



By week five, the following results were produced for our BUCS teams; Women's Badminton, Women's Basketball, Women's Football, Men's Football 2nd's, Rugby League and Table Tennis 1st's. The following teams are all in second spot in their respective leagues: Men's Fencing, Men's Hockey 1st's, Men's Hockey 3rd's, Men's Lacrosse, Men's Tennis 1st, Men's Tennis 2nd and Men's Squash 1st.

I've really enjoyed watching people train or play and regardless of the positions in their relevant leagues, it's amazing to see people taking part in something that they love. Many of the teams I have spoken to have obtained a record number of sign ups so I can understand how difficult it is going to be picking teams!

The Handball society were set up as a group this year and have already won one tournament. Having only met for three training sessions beforehand, the girls won all four of their games. Their next tournament will be in London in February and judging on these results, I'm sure they'll do equally as well.

Our different societies have been doing so much already this year and I hope many of you have taken the opportunity to watch or experience some of these events. LUTG's production of Spring Awakening was the first famous musical Broadway production the group have done in years and it was brilliant. Theatre productions at Lancaster has always been high quality in acting and directing and it was brilliant to hear beautiful music voices as well.

Growing in numbers and publicity through their numerous events on campus, the Ballroom society have gone from strength to strength as a group. They have now won the bid to hold the Northern Universities Dance Competition in Blackpool Tower, beating Sheffield, Birmingham and Saint Andrews. World Amateur Latin Champions

have agreed to come and do a demonstration in the evening. They will have judges who have been on Strictly Come Dancing and a world winning dance champion. The event will be covered by our numerous media and communication teams and will nationally be putting Lancaster, once again, on the map for a large scale event.

The CSSA and Performing Arts society have put on a number of events this year including their X Factor style show Top Voice. The winner of this competition was picked on Monday 19th November in an event in the Great Hall.

The Indian and Asian society put on an event for Diwali in County South on 12th November. There was henna, dancing, music, amazing food and pictures made from chalk paint. For all round cultural experience, entertainment and audience involvement, it has to be one of my favourite events that has gone on on campus.

Raising the number of charity events held on Campus was a huge goal for me over my year in this position. From the events held by individuals and groups so far we have raised the following amounts' Oxjam £733.15, the Baking society cake sale £100.28, Fylde £142, Water aid selling books on campus £1103.69, Bowland auction £1403, Cartmel's quiz £150, Water Aid's street collection, half marathon and cake sale raised £551.23, two marathons by Jade Braithwaite and Kate Lowe raising £750 and £438. I am waiting to hear how the trampolene society's 24 hour bounce for children in need, the Islamic society's bucket collection and there are more to come. Look out for the Rugby vs Dance style switch on the 30th November and hopefully the Santa Dash and a number of other events I'll keep you posted about.

On Friday 30th November, me and Symi Jackson are having our hair off in Furness bar, come along from 8.30pm if you are on campus nor fancy coming along. It's a once in a life time thing that we are both doing and would like as much support as possible! We would both be grateful for any donations as every pound helps. Symi is raising money for Macmillan Cancer Support and I'm raising money for Motor Neurons Disease as my Uncle died from it a year ago. If you would like to help us raise some more money, please text 'LIZZ69' or 'SYMI99' to 70070 and enter any amount. Thanks!

LUDans and Womens Rugby in charity swap

Siana French,

Jenny Tait

On Friday 30th November the Lancaster University Dance Society (LUDanS) will be taking on the Women's Rugby team (LUWRUFC) in a ruck-and-roll battle of epic proportions. Whilst the Rugby girls discard their stud boots for dance shoes, LUDanS will be transforming their tutus into rugby shorts for an afternoon that will test the physical prowess of two of the most prominent teams on campus.

LUDanS will be gate crashing the rugby training sessions in order to brush up on their tag rugby skills, and LUWRUFC will take the leap from training to rehearsals in an attempt to master the styles of ballet and street. They're getting ready to loosen those hips and show off some attitude to the soundtrack of their pre-match motivational song "Here comes the Boom".

Rehearsals are already well under-way, and whilst LUDanS are busy talking tactics (anything to keep us safe!), the rugby girls have been impressing with their rhythm and natural feel for dance. The

dance girls' battle plan seems to be a simple case of get the ball and run as fast as possible, preferably away from the competition, whilst the rugby girls plan on shaking everything they have got and just hoping for the best. No matter what the challenge, both teams are determined to show that they can hold their own, on the pitch and on the dance floor.

This clash of sports and styles is of course all in aid of a good cause. All money raised will go towards LUSU VP Activities Officer, Liz Ashworth's donation to the Motor Neurone Disease Association. Hopes are high that Ashworth will reach her total of £7500 by the deadline, Friday 30th November, to ensure that she will fulfil her pledge and shave her hair off. Ashworth has been a member of LUWRUFC as well as a valuable help to LUDanS and this has been recognised by both societies in their wish to support her.

Motor Neurone Disease (MND) is a progressive disease that attacks the motor neurones, or nerves, in the brain and spinal cord. This means that messages gradually stop reaching muscles, which leads to weakness and wasting. MND can

affect how sufferers walk, talk, eat, drink and breathe, and yet unfortunately there is currently no cure for it. The Motor Neurone Disease Association is the only national charity in England, Wales and Northern Ireland that funds and promotes global research into the disease and provides support for people affected by MND. As members of two teams who heavily rely on their bodies and physical fitness on a regular basis, in order to be able to take part in the sports they love, it seems particularly appropriate for both LUDans and LUWRUFC to be getting involved in helping such a worthy cause, and supporting Ashworth in her campaign to raise awareness of the disease and help in giving support to those less fortunate.

Undoubtedly, the main question on everyone's mind is, will the dancers be able to swap their jazz hands for safe rugby hands? Will the rugby girls manage to swap their line-outs for turn outs?

There's only one way to find out. The swap will officially be held in Sports Hall on Friday 30th November, 5-6pm. It is an event not to be missed.

If you would like to help LUDans, LUWRUFC and Ashworth, then you can find out more information by visiting our Facebook event 'SocSwap 2012 DANCE VS RUGBY' or the website www.socswap2012.weebly.com

Donations can also be made online at: www.virginmoneygiving.com/team/DanceVsRugby.



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Lancaster represented in Formula Student racing event

James Judge
Laurence Pullan

Formula Student UK is Europe's most established educational motorsport competition, run by the Institution of Mechanical Engineers. Universities from around the world are challenged to design and build a single-seat, F1-style racing car in order to compete in a range of static and dynamic events. The competition rules are designed to allow teams to demonstrate engineering innovation, and to push the performance of the vehicles to their limits.

Lancaster University Engineering Department has used Formula Student UK as an ideal fourth year Master's project, giving students real-world engineering experience. This year will be the fourteenth successive year Lancaster Racing Team has entered a race car in this challenging event. Lancaster Racing Team put in an excellent performance in the 2012 Formula Student competition, ranking 34th out of 103 cars. Engine problems, however, prevented the team from completing the endurance event costing them a considerable amount of points in the final standings.

Formula Student has been held in the UK since 1998, and has been staged at Silverstone Racing Circuit since 2007. Points are scored in all

static and dynamic challenges which include costing, design, presentation, economy, acceleration, sprint, skid pad and endurance events. Last year's competition was won by Chalmers University of Technology in Gothenburg, Sweden, who scored consistently well across all events accumulating a total of 850.5 of a possible 1000 points.

This highly respected competition is backed by industry with partners including Airbus, Jaguar Land Rover, Mercedes AMG and Shell. Ross Brawn OBE, Team Principle of Mercedes AMG Petronas Formula One Team, often attends Formula Student events to meet the teams and look at their cars. He was full of praise for the scheme: "What I find most appealing about Formula Student is the innovation that it encourages, as the competition rules give the entrants a lot of design freedom. This results in many different solutions to the same issues."

Lancaster Racing Team 2013 is a combination of thirteen fourth year Mechanical, Mechatronic and Computer Systems Engineers. The team has been divided into a range of technical sub-groups, each responsible for individual aspects of car design, including front chassis, suspension, wheel assembly, brakes, steering, power-train, electronics and rear chassis. In addition to



technical roles, each team member has been allocated a non-technical role to perform throughout the duration of the project. Non-technical roles include finance manager, IMechE liaison, planning, sponsorship, health & safety and website design. These roles allow students to acquire management, marketing and people skills - so vital across all sectors of future employment.

Design for Lancaster Racing Team 2013's race car is progressing quickly, with all technical sub-groups working in unison to ensure all vehicle components integrate efficiently. The race car will be powered by a 600cc motorbike engine, housed

by a tubular steel space frame chassis using double wishbone pushrod suspension, with a target weight of sub 200 kilograms. The team's aims include finishing the competition within the top 10 UK teams and top 30 overall.

The project team leader, Benj Ceen, who competed at last year's event as a driver and oversees all aspects of the project, explained his excitement about the upcoming competition: "I am massively looking forward to producing a home-made race car with a great team of lads for the Formula Student event in 2013. The project is a fantastic learning experience for us all and I am sure we will all have a lot of fun along the way."

Lancaster Racing Team must raise sponsorship every year to form a budget that can be used to design, manufacture and procure vehicle components. If you are, or know someone who may be interested in providing a financial or other positive contribution towards Lancaster Racing Team, please contact James Budge (j.budge@lancaster.ac.uk). The team has a range of partnership opportunities which may be of interest so please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Lancaster Racing Team 2013 would like to thank - SeaTechnik, MSL Motorsport Preparations and Shermaynes who have already committed to partnerships in this year's project. The team would also like to thank Caparo AP Braking who have allowed members of our team to visit there facility and meet Ben Scott-Geddes, a former McLaren engineer who also designed the Caparo T1, to discuss and overcome design challenges for the race car.



Carter shield round up

Laurence Pullan

Sports Editor

Cartmel snatched a victory that left the Carter Shield league wide open as Pendle and Bowland, the league leaders, failed to capitalise on their strong starts.

The first round of games saw Cartmel soundly beat Pendle 3-0, with cartmelians Chetna Sahai and Salman Ruhksar playing with intensity and purpose. Furness were pitted against Bowland which ended in a close fought 1-1 draw, and current Carter Shield holders beat a strong Lonsdale side 1-0. The last game of the first round saw Grizedale play County, who had failed to field a team in the dodgeball in week 4, which ended in a disappointing but evenly contested 0-0 draw.

The second round of the korfbal saw a surprise result as Cartmel lost against Fylde 2-1. Pendle beat Lonsdale after a very close game after bar-sport stalwart Jamie Lee scored an opportunistic goal from long distance. Furness beat Grizedale 2-1 in a deceptively one-sided game, and Bowland drew against County 1-1 despite the towering Thorge Hiebner's best efforts to hold onto the lead. Cartmel could only manage a draw against Lonsdale as the game finished 1-1, and although this meant Lonsdale has been eliminated Cartmel still stood a chance of qualifying for the semi-finals if results went their way.

The third and final round saw Furness cement their place in the semi-finals at the expense of County, who lost 2-1. Bowland completed a seemingly routine victory against a plucky Grizedale set-up, but the most intriguing game saw Pendle, who needed a victory, play against Fylde; their biggest rivals in the Legends Shield. Pendle outplayed Fylde and took the lead when Jamie Lee scored a simple goal from close range. Gareth Wagstaff was sturdy in defence against Fylde Netball A team captain Emma Herron, but it was ultimately heartbreak as Fylde seized upon a lapse in concentration by Pendle Sports officer Sean Mooney and scored a lucky but perhaps deserved goal in the final three seconds. The game ended 1-1, with Pendle losing out on the semi-finals by goal difference.

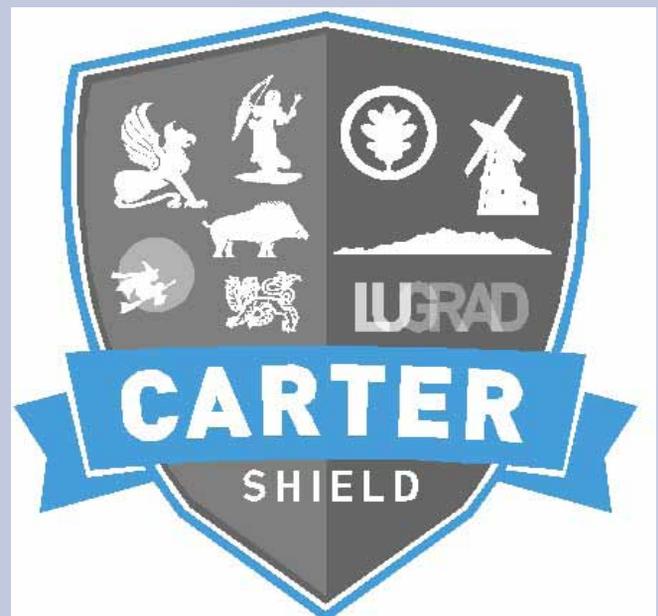
The semi-finals saw Cartmel pitted against Furness, which Cartmel won by a close 1-0 scoreline. The second game saw Fylde flaunt their sporting prowess as they easily disposed of Bowland, 3-1. The match for 3rd place saw Bowland narrowly beat Furness 3-2 in the highest scoring game of the day.

That meant the final game and ultimately the winners of the Korfbal came down to a hard fought game between Fylde and Cartmel. It was worth noting that earlier in the day Fylde beat Cartmel 2-1 and this seemed to spur Cartmel on as they emerged victorious, the score-line ending 3-1.

Cross campus officer Lexi Lingwood, who is also in Cartmel, was full of enthusiasm for how successful the day went: it was great to see the colleges' supporters cheering everyone on. Even Graduate, who failed to field a team, brought supporters down!"

The results of the Korfbal mean that the Shield is still all to play for, as the tag rugby in Week 8 looks set to draw to a conclusion the most tightly contested first term of the Carter Shield league in recent years

1 - Cartmel
2 - Fylde
3 - Bowland
4 - Furness
5 - Pendle
6 - County
7 - Lonsdale
8 - Grizedale



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SPORT

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Sports Editors: Laurence Pullan & Will Taylor
Meet Monday 7pm in Pendle Bar

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Lancaster batter Bangor in women's basketball

Vital Statistics

1st Quarter Lancaster 30	Bangor 3
2nd Quarter Lancaster 54	Bangor 5
3rd Quarter Lancaster 86	Bangor 9
4th Quarter Lancaster 118	Bangor 9
(final score)	

Field Goals Made & Attempted = Shot Percentage:

1st Quarter:	15/26 = 58%
2nd Quarter:	11/25 = 44%
3rd Quarter:	15/31 = 48%
4th Quarter:	15/29 = 52%

Free Throws Made & Attempted = Shot Percentage
6/12 = 50%

Chetna Sahai

Lancaster -118

Bangor- 9

So far this season, Lancaster's Women's Basketball Team stands undefeated. With strong wins in the previous two games against Liverpool John Moores (53-23) and Manchester Metropolitan (79-24), Wednesday Week 5's victorious game against Bangor University took the team to an even more impressive standard and left spectators astounded by the final score of 118-9. With a strong start of 30-3 in the first quarter, Lancaster's ladies continued to play powerfully and with intensity throughout the rest of the game.

The team had been practising with purpose and rigour all week for the game against Bangor, remembering the team that lost to them only by one point last year. This year however, it was clear that Bangor's team had lost some of their strong players and was at an unfortunate disadvantage, as they brought only 8 players and did not have a coach to support

them. While understanding the situation of the Bangor team, Captain Vasiliki Makou stated that Lancaster still "played Bangor as if it was the team [they] faced last year. That is the way to show ones respect to the game and to your opponent".

With a strong start of 30-3 in the first quarter, Lancaster's ladies continued to play powerfully and with intensity throughout the rest of the game. By the end of the first half, the score difference was just over 50 points, while the second half saw them score another 66 points. Bangor was soon weary, but Lancaster continued to play in a level-headed but relentless manner, not letting the score difference affect their concentration on the court.

Coach Steve Rutt, a post-graduate student at Lancaster University was full of praise for the ladies' strong offensive and defensive performance: "In all my years of basketball I've never coached a game with such a blend of strategic offense which outmaneuvered the visiting team, and also combined this with intensively tight defence which stopped Bangor from scoring any points in the 4th quarter. I was so proud of the ladies' work ethic on the court"

Makou also praised Coach Rutt

who "helped [them] with his experience, his love and passion for the game to become better players as well as better individuals in and out of the court". His effort and dedication to the team was definitely seen by the reflection of Lancaster's performances in the League so far this season; where Lancaster stand first. He recognized the team's victories as an "outgrowth of their willingness to be stretched beyond their comfort zones but also the fact that they never forgot to enjoy the games and show their love of the sport in any situation."

With another two games against Keele and Liverpool, Lancaster continues to prepare with energy and drive, aiming to retain their position on the Northern 2A League Tables.

Skydiving in the spotlight

Sareena McHashmat

Skydiving is one of the most exhilarating and exciting sports there is. Jumping out of a plane 14,000 feet in the air is not something you come across on a daily basis, or is it? Lancaster University is fortunately located 15 minutes away from a drop zone that offers this adrenaline kick every weekend.

What's it like? Amazing, exhilarating and unexplainable. Ask any skydiver what it's like to jump out of a plane 14,000 feet up and they will tell you the same thing: nothing compares to free-falling. The adrenaline of throwing yourself

out of a plane is second to none.

For those who want a one off thrill, to beat their fear of heights or to have an unforgettable experience, you can take part in a tandem jump. You will be attached to a professional instructor who will throw you out, 14,000 feet in the air, and after falling 50 seconds at 120mph towards the ground, the parachute will be deployed and carry you safely back to the ground.

Solo Courses are available if you want to become a qualified skydiver allowing you to jump by yourself, all over the world. The RAPS course is the most popular course for students as it is afford-

able and allows you to jump when it suits you. You start with 6 hours of ground training followed by a small quiz reinforcing everything you have learnt. Then weather permitting; you will get to jump out of a plane at 3,500 feet on your own.

Don't worry though. You won't be completely alone! A static line is attached from your parachute to the plane so when you jump, your parachute deploys automatically. This course is all about self-progression so after some good exits you move onto pulling your own parachute, then free-falling, moving onto learning turns, barrel rolls and side slides. The cool stuff!

What can you gain from joining the society? The Lancaster Freefall Society provides the opportunity for adrenaline junkies to meet, to enjoy discounted prices on jumps. We have weekly meetings on campus where we talk about all things skydiving; and socials are also offered to other drop zones. University is all about having an amazing time right. What could be more amazing than free-fall?

You can find the Lancaster Freefall Society on Facebook or email at lancasterfreefall@gmail.com