

## Engineering department in exam paper debacle after mistakes found

- Department launches enquiry after a series of mistakes were discovered in second year exam papers.
- Complaints have been made by multiple students, as errors were not noticed until 40 minutes into the exam; as well the invigilators making announcements that were “too quiet to be heard”.
- As well as formatting errors, some engineering students were also given the wrong formula book.



Jack Perry  
News Editor

The engineering department has launched an inquiry into why there were a series of mistakes in one of their second year exams, which some of those taking the exam have claimed gave an unfair advantage to some students over others.

The exam, for module number ENGR203, took place on Friday Week 2 in the Great Hall, and involved a series of mistakes which hindered students taking the exam. Discrepancies included printing errors, as well as discrepancies in the distribution of exam materials.

One of the discrepancies involved a formatting error on one of the questions, in which a table was printed without the numbers mentioned in the question, leaving just blank spaces. It is believed that a diagram and table of values had moved across the page during the organisation of the paper in such a way that the required information was not legible, and that this was not noticed during any of the successive checking stages the paper went through.

Once the problem had been raised with the invigilators in the



Photo courtesy of ABC Net

exam hall, one of the members of staff went back to the Engineering department and printed off legible copies of the question before returning to the Great Hall to distribute them. The paper took between 20 and 25 minutes to be reprinted, and an extra 30 minutes was added to the length of the exam to compensate for the error. A source close to the department also emphasised the fact that there were three questions in the relevant section of the paper, of

which the students had to answer two, and that the formatting error did not affect the other questions in that section of the paper.

Another mistake was apparently spotted at around 40 minutes before the end of the exam, when a student complained that the data book given to them by the department was missing some formula necessary for the exam. It was then that staff realised that the student had been given a copy of last year's formula

book, which was now out-of-date with current examination arrangements.

When invigilators asked the other students, it transpired that a majority – but not all – of those taking the exam had also been given the wrong formula book. To exacerbate matters, while some students were given a correct formula book immediately after the problem had been reported...

**Continued on page 5**



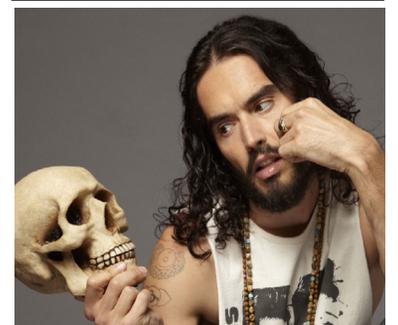
### SCAN EDITORIAL APPLICATIONS

Applications are now open!  
Find out more on p. 7



### CHOCOLATE RECIPES

Resident SCAN Chef Skye King gives you some sweet treat inspiration.  
p. 41



### BRAND OF THE HUMAN RACE

Julia Molloy discusses addictive personalities.  
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**SPINE** scan

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### scan Fashion

Chelsea Eddy talks about must-have summer shoes for both genders.  
Read more p. 32

### scan Lifestyle

Fed up of awful club photos? Check out the definitive guide of posing perfectly.  
Read more on p. 37

## EDITORIAL



**Rachel May Quin**  
Editor

Greetings to you all this fine day, at the time of writing this Editorial it's a balmy 18 degree outside and I'm enjoying absolutely none of the beautiful sunshine due to exams and, well, writing this editorial.

It's that time of year where the library is inexplicably rammed with people and my Facebook is full of petrified people worrying over their upcoming exams – or the other extreme, jubilant students who have already finished all their exams – which is weird and depressing as my first one was last Friday, oh well.

I hope that all of your exams are going well and you're not completely stressed out.

I am very pleased to announce that at our SCAN Annual General Meeting, we elected a brand new Editor who will be taking my throne made of newspapers (cheaper than an Iron one) and guiding SCAN through the 2014/2015 academic year: Mr. Jack Perry, our lovely News Editor and who also held the position of Bailrigg Assistant Station Manager. Joint media is wonderful ain't it? Congratulations.

The Editor, however, is the only elected position which means that all the other important positions – listed helpfully to the left – are up for grabs. We have full descriptions of the requirements of each role listed online and you can find out how to apply on page 7 of this issue. Applications close June 1st, so I would recommend you get started as soon as you can.

The one thing I would like to say, is that you shouldn't be put off applying because you haven't been involved before. SCAN, in the past, has had a reputation for being exclusive. It is true that my Editorial Team this year has been wonderful and we've become good friends, but our writers are a diverse bunch of people and I really want to encourage anybody who has the skill and dedication to apply – friendship does not guarantee a position. Many of the team this year were applicants whose names I'd never

heard before, and they have all worked so hard.

I am keeping things short and sweet this issue as I have revision to do. I wish you all the best of luck in yours, just keep in mind that we're excruciatingly close to Extrav Week and the summer – by the time we release the next issue of SCAN (the penultimate one overseen by me, sob) it'll all be over.

We do have a bonus special edition issue coming out in Week 10, which will be celebrating 50

years of Lancaster. If you'd like to get involved, do email me at scan.editor@lusu.co.uk.

For my cute animal of the week, I believe I promised my lovely Assistant Editor Jess French a bunny rabbit. This week on the wonderful world of the internets (yes, the pluralisation of internet was intentional), I came across a video of a rabbit eating raspberries. It was adorable, even if in this video still the rabbit looks like a lipstick-stained vampire. Happy Week 6!



*Rachel. x*

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## The next and final edition of SCAN will be released on Monday, Week 8.

After that, we will be releasing a 50th Anniversary special edition in Week 10 – in collaboration with Lancaster University. We are currently looking for contributors for the 50th, to write articles and to suggest ideas. If you are interested, please contact: scan.editor@lusu.co.uk.

Thank you in advance for being such a loyal reader of SCAN this year.

# News

## LUSU agree that it is Time to Change

**Nathalie Farrugia**  
Deputy News Editor

In Week 4 of Lent term, LUSU Gives hosted their second Time to Talk event. The event, organised as part of Mental Health Awareness Week, saw LUSU take the Time to Change pledge.

The pledge, signed by both VP (Welfare and Community) Tom Fox and the Time to Change North West Regional Co-ordinator Karen Machin, means LUSU are committed to helping reduce mental health discrimination.

**As part of the campaign, the Union must set out an action plan of what they're going to do, and do their best to achieve it.**



Photo by Jay Theiss

Machin said "It's great to have the university on board and building up the social movement."

After signing the pledge, Machin gave an introductory talk about the Time to Change campaign, stressing that the campaign was a social movement by the people and not for them. One of the messages of the campaign was the power of social contact and "treating people as equals." Machin emphasised how exchanging information between people who suffer from mental health problems and those who do not helps to "challenge discrimination."

Like the previous Time to Talk event, the night followed by speakers sharing stories or poems they had prepared, which covered a variety of mental health issues that they themselves had experienced as well as witnessed. Following this, the floor was opened up to anyone else who had an experience to share, which received a great deal of responses from the audience.

Bowland Welfare Officer Shannon Regan, who contributed her story, said "after the first event I regretted not contributing and

after anonymously sending in my speech for this event I regretted not reading it myself.

"The event was such a safe space where many people felt comfortable enough to stand up and speak about their experiences even though they hadn't planned to, which was incredibly inspiring and brave."

Meanwhile Fox said he was "lost for words" by some of the stories. "It kind of shows that there's a lot more to be done [regarding mental health awareness], not just nationally but here at Lancaster and with the atmosphere we create on campus," Fox told SCAN. "There are still students who feel like they can't ask for help."

"Even though we've signed the Time to Change pledge and we've got that extra counsellor, there's

still a long way to go."

Mia Scott, Cross-Campus Officer (Charity) and VP (Welfare and Community)–elect said the night was definitely more emotional than the last event and that the speakers were "more personal." Scott also said she thought the two representatives from Time to Change were brilliant and that "they didn't come to the last event and I think it made a big difference that they were here."

At the end of the discussion, Machin even suggested that the Union look into "making some value of the stories" and sharing them with next year's students in an online blog, similar to the blogs Time to Change have. Scott said this was something she wanted to look into: "I'd really like to put a magazine together

or an online blog of some sort, because as they were saying, it needs to be sustainable so we should put all the stories and poems people have read out at past events online to be viewed."

LUSU Gives had invited a representative from the University to attend the event which Scott said she hoped would "spur them on to sign it jointly with LUSU next term" but the representative did not attend. However, Scott was still positive that LUSU could persuade the University to sign the pledge.

**Fox also said that lobbying the University to sign**

**the pledge was still something they were trying to push.**

He said "The University are open to the idea and we're going to work with them on that and hopefully by the time I've gone and Mia's here, she'll have a University that's taken that pledge and is working towards mental health."

Fox also told SCAN: "We've seen that they can do it when they want, but I think the more that we can get them to support us the more that we're going to see those services get better and more going into supporting the students."

# Lancaster University ranked 11th in the UK & best in the North West



Jack Perry  
News Editor

The 2015 Complete University guide has ranked Lancaster 11th best in the UK, and the number one University in North West. The guide included 123 different Universities across the UK and ranked them in terms of nine categories, including student satisfaction, research assessment and entry standards.

This follows the announcement that Lancaster was awarded a top ten place in the Times Higher Education's '100 under 50' rankings, a system that ranks all of the top 100 higher education institutions

which are under 100 years old.

Lancaster's score of 866 was enough for 11th place on the list, just four points behind 10th placed Exeter and four points in front of 12th place Surrey. Cambridge topped the list, followed closely by Oxford, whilst St Andrews in fourth and Durham in fifth were the only two northern based Universities inside the top ten.

Lancaster's position of 11th is the same as last year's ranking, but still two short of ninth position in 2013. The University's peak came in 2011 when it held eight place on the table, just three years after it had finished 19th.

Lancaster's position as number one in the North West was far more comfortable, finishing ahead of Manchester (25th),

Liverpool (31st) and Manchester Metropolitan (73rd).

The guide



Photo courtesy of Lancaster

also produced separate, individual tables for 67 subjects including Mar-

keting, for which Lancaster was deemed the best in the country for the second year in a row.

Lancaster University Management School's Department of Marketing is the longest established in the UK and following the announcement of the results, the department responded to the positive feedback, tweeting: "Thank you [sic] - we are rather pleased with ourselves!"

Lancaster were ranked top 10 in the country for 12 of the 31 subjects that it offers, with Social Work in second place, both Art and Design and Linguistics in third place and Communication and Media Studies in fourth place. Meanwhile Accounting and Finance achieved a fifth place position; Business and Management Stud-

ies came in seventh place; and Drama, Dance and Film Studies and Religious Studies both coming in 8th place. Physics, Sociology and Geography and Environmental Science all received ninth place positions in the table.

Subject tables were ranked in terms of entry standards, student satisfaction, research assessment and graduate prospects, forming an overall score at the end. Other factors taken into account into the ratio between the number of staff and number of students; the amount of money spent on academic services and student facilities, as well as the number of good honours degrees achieved.

The Complete University Guide's league table was announced on Monday, Week 4. Currently Lancaster are ranked 12th on the Times/Sunday Times list, 11th on the Guardian's and even cracked the top ten of THE Student Experience Survey.

# LUSU attends parliamentary reception after green successes

Henry Saker-Clark  
Deputy Sport Editor

England to develop proposals for ambitious green projects, leading to improvements in pro-environmental behaviour across higher education. Representatives from each of the 25 projects over 26 students' unions attended the reception, including the Lancaster representatives.

Representatives of LUSU attended a parliamentary reception on Wednesday, Week 3, to celebrate the successes of the National Union of Students' (NUS) Students' Green Fund. LUSU Involve Manager Joe Bourne, Head of Service Delivery Lisa Williams, and VP (Welfare and Community) Tom Fox all attended the event on behalf of LUSU, celebrating LUSU's own successes aided by the Students' Green Fund.

Students' Green Fund has been set up to support environmentally friendly initiatives across higher education establishments, aiming to engage 50,000 students across the country and improve university standings in the green league. In the University Green League 2013, Lancaster University only found themselves in joint 85th from all institutions involved, and thus LUSU have followed intentions to improve the Union's and University's green credentials.

Using £5 million of funding from the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE), NUS has helped 25 students' unions from across

**Fox spoke at the event about Lancaster's attempts to ensure an environmentally friendly environment for its students.**

"It was another great opportunity to show off the fantastic work that Green Lancaster has been doing with the Edible Campus project this year. The joined-up approach between the Students' Union and University Facilities has led to the beginning of a transformation in our green areas on campus, with over 200 student volunteers and 10 student staff focusing all their energy on growing a vast array of food."

The Green Lancaster campaign has sought to ensure sustainable



Photo courtesy of LUSU

eating, reduced CO2 emissions through the promotion of cycling and have set up an eco-hub for students to share innovative green ideas. Fox went on to state Lancaster's progression towards becoming a leading institution for changing green attitudes. "I think Lancaster is up there with some of the best in the country when it comes to creating a behaviour change amongst our community."

NUS President Toni Pearce stated that the financial

incentive will really benefit students as there is an existent fervour from students to support environmentally friendly causes. "We knew that the opportunity to be awarded £300,000 to drive green projects would be extremely popular because students and students' unions have long been dedicated to doing what they can to adopt pro-environmental behaviours, and to be part of a wider movement towards global sustainability."

Pearce also spoke of the successes she has personally seen across the projects that have directly aided by the Students' Green Fund. "I'm so proud of everyone that has taken part in this programme. The 25 projects which we have supported over the last two years are truly transformative initiatives; projects which will put English higher education on the map for its world-leading sustainability credentials."

# Bowland mourns passing of beloved bar manager Ian Thomson

Nathalie Farrugia &  
Rachel May Quin

In Week 5, SCAN was sad to hear the news that former Bowland College Bar Manager Ian Thomson had passed away in Lancaster Royal Infirmary, having lost a battle with pneumonia.

Bowland College Principal Joe Thornberry gave this statement: "I've known him since I came to work in the university in 1988 and he was probably the best known face in Bowland College. He was a great favourite with students and he really cared about the students here. He used to put up this sort of grumpy gruff exterior sometimes but actually, he was one of those people with a genuine heart of gold. There was

nothing he wouldn't do for friend and he was just generally there to listen to people. He had a great fund of stories and that's what you want really with someone working behind the bar, you can go in and you can chat. He had a great knack of making everyone feel welcome, but you didn't want to rub him up the wrong way because you'd soon know how he felt!

"He was really devoted to Bowland College and although he'd been off ill for quite some time, he kept on asking 'how's the college going?'. He was a great great believer in the college system. He's going to be sadly missed. We're thinking now and talking amongst ourselves about what we can do to remember him and to make sure that the name of Ian Thomson lives on."

"Obviously now we're thinking about Yvette, Kirsty and Cameron, his family and supporting

them as best we can. When all the arrangements have been made for the funeral I'm sure we'll have some sort of celebration in Bowland, possibly even in the bar."

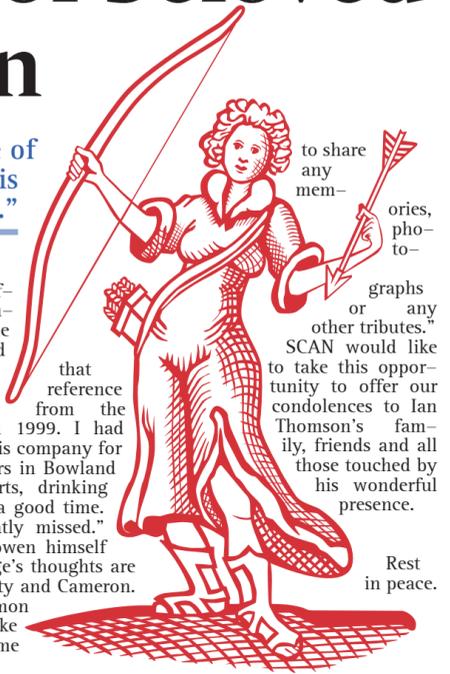
Since his death, Dan Bowen, Acting Bowland College Administrator has created 'The Ian Thomson Memorial Group' on Facebook so that Alumni, Students and friends can share memories, photographs and tributes to Thomson, which has received a large response already. At the time of print, the page has snowballed to a momentous 500 likes, with friends, students and colleagues offering their condolences and remembering Thomson fondly.

**One wrote: "Not only was he a really good friend, but he was a shining**

**example of all that is Bowland."**

Another, in reference to Thomson's nickname 'Chomps', shared "I gave Chomper nickname as a reference to 'Gummy Joe' from the Simpsons back in 1999. I had the pleasure of his company for nearly eight years in Bowland Bar playing darts, drinking beer and many a good time. He will be greatly missed."

On the page, Bowen himself said: "The College's thoughts are with Yvette, Kirsty and Cameron. The Senior Common Room would like people to take time



to share any memories, photos-

graphs or any other tributes." SCAN would like to take this opportunity to offer our condolences to Ian Thomson's family, friends and all those touched by his wonderful presence.

Rest in peace.

# Engineering exam riddled with faults

Continued from front page

...others had to wait for extra photocopies of the relevant page to be made. A student taking the exam also told SCAN that some students were even ignored when they put their hands up to receive a book.

Another student complained that there was very little assurance during the exam that the members of staff involved were taking steps to solve the problems. "The few announcements that were made were too quiet to be heard past halfway back," the student told SCAN.

In an email to students Professor Xi Jiang, the Engineering department's Director of Undergraduate Studies, said that the department was treating the incident as an "exceptional matter," and had launched an inquiry into why the discrepancies had taken place.

"As you will be aware there were some difficulties in the ENGR203 examination on Friday 2nd May 2014, associated with a formatting error in the paper and inconsistencies in some of the data books," Professor Jiang said. "An enquiry is being carried out by the department.

**treating this exceptional matter very seriously with students' best interests at the focus of discussions."**

Since this exam was taken the Head of Engineering, Professor Malcolm Joyce, has consulted the External Examiners about how to allocate marks for the paper, with the department keen to compensate for the mistakes. Professor Joyce has also consulted the Head of the Student Registry about the appropriate action to take. At the time of writing it was unclear whether the student registry or external examiners would be taking those recommendations into account.

The department has been active in assuring students that they will not be disadvantaged by the mistakes, with second year department reps expected to meet Professor Joyce during Week 5 or Week 6. All of the staff involved, including external authorities, have also been informed about the incident. Professor Joyce is also expected to meet a member of the LUSU Full-Time Officer team to discuss the issue.

Several members of staff have given support of the Engineering department's handling of the debacle. We will post updates to this story on the SCAN website.

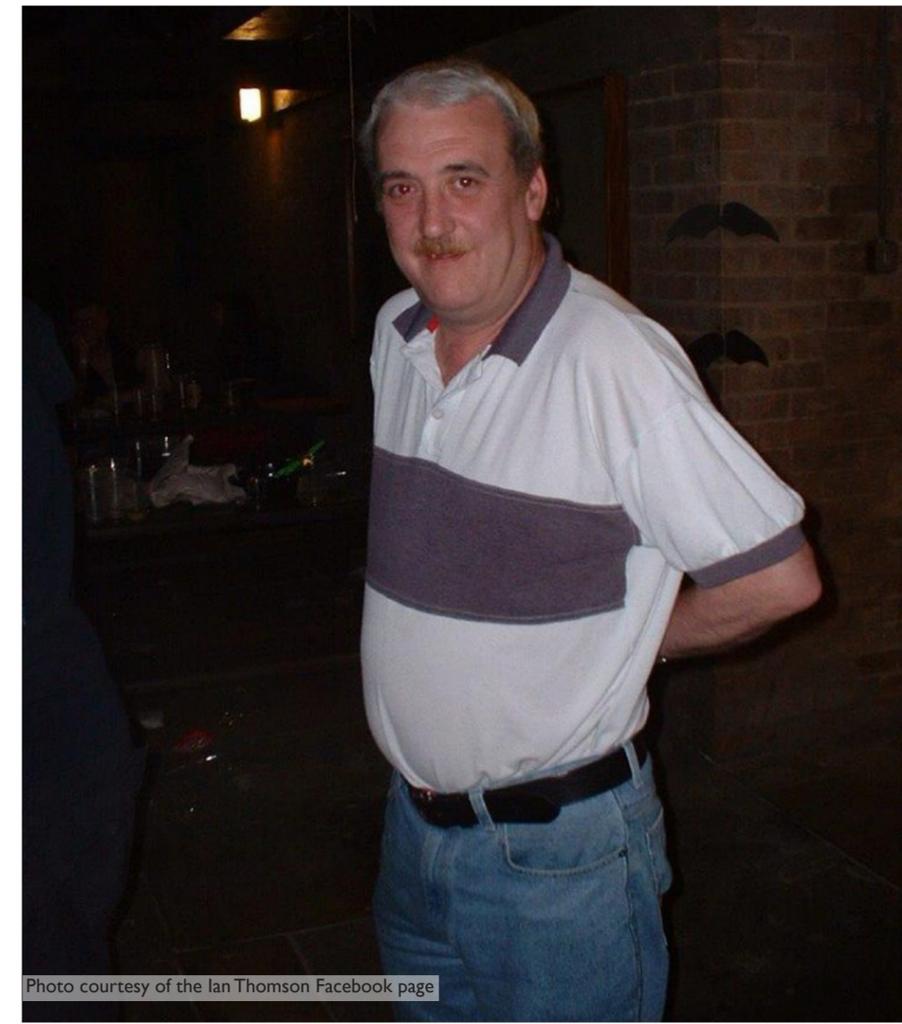


Photo courtesy of the Ian Thomson Facebook page

**"I wish to assure you that the department is**

# South West Big Chill cancelled after safety requirements not met



Jack Perry  
News Editor

Cartmel College announced the cancellation of the South West Big Chill, after health and safety requirements were not met. The announcement comes off the back of a successful hosting of the Ertz Cup, the darts competition Cartmel Men's team and Cartmel Legends.

South West Big Chill, which the college has hosted intermittently over the past five years, was unable to go ahead on Sunday Week 4 as planned, because of the limited procedures in place to ensure that both JCR officers and students attending the event were enjoying the South West Big Chill in a safe environment.

**Whilst organisers have told SCAN that nobody was to blame for the cancellation, it is believed that problems arose from LUSU updating its health and safety procedures to be more thorough, while some officers on the JCR were unaware of these changes.**

Cartmel College President Tom Stapleton told SCAN that the cancellation was "all in the interest of safety." "South West

Big Chill was unable to happen in the time period we set as in the past there were limited procedures in place to ensure the students, and ourselves, enjoy a safe South West Big Chill," Stapleton told SCAN.

Stapleton drew attention to the more lax approach towards health and safety in previous years' South West Big Chill events. "The procedures followed in previous years were frankly laughable, as various items of equipment and electronics were simply unsafe to be used in this context," Stapleton said. "This year there has been a more thorough approach to health and safety forms across all exec activity. Certain members of South West execs were simply not aware of the new, more safety conscious, procedures that have been put in place.

"Welfare teams, Social teams and all other exec teams are now standardised in the relevant forms needed for submission for such events to take place."

**Throughout the procedure, it is also believed that there was a lack of communication between LUSU and the relevant colleges.**

The South West Big Chill was intended to be the final of seven events taking place during Week 4 to mark Mental Health Awareness Week. South West Campus' event was intended to take place on the Sunday of the week, with other events including free food and drinks events, as well as guest speakers. The week culminated on Thursday Week 4, with the signing of the Time to Change pledge in George Fox Lecture Theatre 1.

The news of the cancellation follows Cartmel College's successful organisation of the Ertz Cup darts competition. The competition took place on Saturday Week 4, and pitted Cartmel's current men's dart team against a Cartmel "Legends" team.

To commemorate the University's 50th Anniversary, the college also invited three notable figures from the darts world to attend the event. The guests included darts referee Russ Bray, former professional darts player Peter Manley and current professional darts player and World Masters champion Stephen Bunting, who goes by the nickname of "The Bullet." The event took place in Barker House Farm to a large audience, with the student team finishing the competition as the victors, beating the Legends six games to five. Whilst the Big Chill may not have gone ahead, Mental Health Awareness week was a success.



Photo sourced from Flickr

# scan



## EDITORIAL APPLICATIONS

**We've appointed our brand new Editor for next year, Jack Perry, which means SCAN Editorial Applications for 2014/2015 are now open!**

Being a part of SCAN's Editorial Committee is an excellent opportunity to take on some extra responsibility, learn valuable skills and make new friends – most importantly, as part of the team you'll influence the direction and content of SCAN next year.

**Deadline for all applications is June 1st 2014, 6pm.**

Please include a daytime phone number. Short informal interviews may take place between June 2nd and June 6th 2014 – if you are you are not available during this period then please indicate so in your application.

To apply, please send a personal statement. For all positions, you will also need to submit two pieces of writing – for Web & Mobile, Photography and Production, please check the website for requirements.

Of the two pieces, one should be what you consider to be your best piece of writing, the other your worst.

You don't need to have written for SCAN to apply: you can send pieces of coursework, fictional stories or any other writing sample you choose. Though there is no word limit, try to keep it concise and be sure to evaluate your writing examples so we can see how capable you are of self-editing and recognising the strengths/weaknesses of a piece.

### AVAILABLE POSITIONS:

- Assistant Editor
- Carolynne Editor
- Production Assistant
- Head of Web & Mobile
- Head of Photography
- News Editor
- Comment Editor
- Sports Editor
- Lifestyle Editor
- Culture Editor
- Features Editor
- Fashion Editor
- Spine Editor



Applicants wishing to apply for a position should send a personal statement to [jackperry810@gmail.com](mailto:jackperry810@gmail.com).

You should highlight your experience, suitability and vision for the role you are applying for.



**Go to [scan.lusu.co.uk](http://scan.lusu.co.uk) for more information!**

# Lecturer wins international poetry prize



Jack Perry  
News Editor

include barrister Robert Francis QC and Mumsnet editor Sarah Crown. Crown said: "Reading them awakened me to the stories behind the science, and I found myself in tears on more than one occasion. Congratulations to everyone who submitted a poem, and particularly to the winners."

A lecturer in the Department of English and Creative Writing, Draycott was a Poetry Book Society "Next Generation" poet in 2004 and second prize-winner in the National Poetry Competition 2012.

The Hippocrates Initiative was founded in 2009 by clinical professor Donald Singer and Michael Hulse, a poet and translator. The Initiative began as the Hippocrates Prize for Poetry and Medicine for an unpublished poem on a medical subject. The Hippocrates Initiative now also includes the international Hippocrates Society for Poetry and Medicine, the annual international symposia at which the Hippocrates awards are also presented, and The Hippocrates Press, an international research forum for poetry and medicine, as well as workshops, the first held in Venice in September 2013. The 2014 Young Poets Award were judged by poet Kit Wright. The International Hippocrates Prize for Young Poets was launched in 2012, also given for an

unpublished poem on a medical theme. The Hippocrates prize is believed to be one of the highest value poetry awards in the world for a single poem. In an article in respected medical journal *Lancet*, Singer and Hulse argued for medicine and poetry to work together more frequently. "An initial scepticism is often evident when medicine and poetry are mentioned in the same breath," Singer and Hulse suggest. "In part this arises from lingering preconceptions concerning the proper subject matter of poetry." The article concludes: "The response to the Prize and Symposium confirms our sense that the meeting of poetry and medicine is attracting growing national and international interest... Poetry and medicine—with all the beauty and all the harsh reality that either discipline can bring into our lives—are too big to belong to the 'experts', and must be shared by us all."

Other judges for the awards



Photo courtesy of Lancaster University

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## Lancaster Award Deadline

Careers

LANCASTER  
UNIVERSITY



The Lancaster Award deadline is fast approaching.

The deadline for submission is 23 June.

Remember the Award is a penultimate year programme.

Placement and study abroad students please contact Careers about your deadline

Do call into Careers in the Base if you need any help with your submission



DATE 2012 Press Office

# VP Education presents NUS report



Rachel May Quin  
Editor

After the recent National Union of Students (NUS) Conference, VP (Education) Joe O'Neill – colloquially known as #Ftj0e – has presented a 12 page document which analyses policy passed as the Conference and proposes recommendations for best future practice to Union Council. O'Neill was one of three delegates that was sent to the Conference, alongside second year Lonsdale student Charlie Edwards and Pendle third year Anna Lee.

The document not only addresses policy, but highlights amendments that need to be made with Lancaster delegates and a discussion of Lancaster's place in the NUS. O'Neill writes that delegates sent to the Conference have a unique opportunity to shape NUS policy, yet it is an opportunity that LUSU have not yet grasped and "which is arguably not even fully understood by the wider student body." In the opening page of the document, O'Neill claims that "delegates do not properly understand their role or the various nuances of NUS procedures until they are at Conference" and goes on to state that we should not be sending under-prepared representatives to such important events.

Lizzie Houghton, a postgraduate student of Lancaster, recently submitted a full report of the Conference to SCAN – in the Week 2, Summer issue – however O'Neill's report provides an interesting insight into policy passed at the Conference and, most importantly, discusses the implications of policy changes to Lancaster University Students' Union.

The first topic on O'Neill's report deals with the upcoming General Election, which will take place in 2015. It was overwhelmingly agreed that "young people are largely ignored and marginalised due to their low voter turnout and that this is something the NUS should deal with." As such, policy was proposed and passed, which included: campaigns to fight against any and all cuts to education; a pledge to highlight and campaign against MPs who voted for higher fees, despite previously signing the NUS' pledge against such a rise prior to 2010; to oppose the political party UKIP; oppose the privatisation of student loans and so on. However, an amendment calling on the NUS to call its own national demonstration fell.

O'Neill summarises that Lancaster's delegates "voted to give

leave to the NUS to fight an election strategy for students", as no political party is representing the interests of students and young people. He acknowledges that opposing UKIP is "somewhat contentious" but explains that such a party holds values which Lancaster is not interested in promoting. Actions regarding this proposal are also recommended, including lobbying prospective parliamentary candidates to adopt policies in the best interests of LUSU members; to publicly engage with local candidates to ensure accountability; and also states that Lancaster's student media should ensure fair debate and coverage of the electoral process – should they be interested in covering the General Election at all.

The next policy highlighted on O'Neill's report is that of Higher Education, with the aim being to "encourage new thinking... and to explore how best to ensure HE qualifications were of maximum benefit to the graduate of 2014." The standard buzzword of 'employability' is mentioned, with the need for a student-focused employability agenda. The main motion in this policy, and the motion which O'Neill focuses on, is that of Motion 215 – glamorously titled 'A New Deal for Higher Education' – which aimed to ensure that HE was sustainable and would continue to be publicly funded. Amendments made to this included reviewing student opportunities funding, to provide as much financial support as possible; reviewing how immigration policy affects international student and "maintain the student movement's progressive attitudes towards people of all nationalities"; and the ratification of policy calling for free education. The free education point is one that seems to have been discussed in detail, as it was outlined that the government could afford it through "tougher regulation of tax evasion [and] bank bonus tax[es]" – an interesting proposal in theory but one that the NUS would probably struggle to enforce. O'Neill concludes in this section that all candidates in elections – parliamentary, local, European or otherwise – must be aware of LUSU's stance.

A pressing issue for all students that was discussed is welfare, specifically that student homes must be adequate, fit for study and affordable. The NUS recently published a shocking report which showed that thousands of students were dissatisfied with their homes and exposed to poor standards of living – for example, landlords failing to address mould, leaks and general disrepair of their students' homes. O'Neill states that "Lancaster students will be largely unaffected by the Home Fit For Study should they... rent with LUSU Living", but does also recognise that many students do not use LUSU Living and

choose to go with private landlords or letting agencies. As such, the Union cannot be complacent in this matter or pretend that students at Lancaster are perfectly happy with their accommodation. He suggests a thorough review of LUSU Living's marketing and communications so that members can be made aware of the benefits of the service; and that the Advice Centre should promote itself in order to offer guidance in terms of student accommodation and other matters.

Perhaps the most controversial motion of the Conference, which failed last year, was Motion 701 and 702 which sought 'Fair Representation on NUS Committees' and 'Fair Representation on NUS Conference delegations'. 701 resolved that there should be 50/50 gender balancing on NUS internal committees and structures in order to "reflect its membership more accurately", with 702 proposing all delegates sent to the Conference must be gender balanced "to be more representative of the wider membership of the NUS." The second motion was voted on by three of the four Lancaster delegates. Whilst 701 does not affect Lancaster, O'Neill believes 702 "raises a mixed bag of challenges which will need to be overcome to successfully implement, as well as a number of opportunities to better engage self-defining women." The motion also mandates all unions to run 'Women in Leadership'-esque campaigns and workshops.

In his closing comments, O'Neill makes several recommendations.

That Lancaster delegates need to be given preparation and direction before attending Conference, and that the VP (Union Development) should put together "a programme of training and guidance for delegates no later than two weeks before the date of Conference." Furthermore, whilst an official LUSU media delegate attended the NUS Conference, changes can be made to increase efficiently and transparency, including engaging the student media and sending two delegates from SCAN and the student radio station in order to publicise the event. Finally, O'Neill makes a general point about LUSU's engagement with the NUS, and suggests that it would be a "positive move to request NUS Officers attend our Councils where necessary", with the purpose of aiding discussions and increasing the reputation of LUSU as nationally significant and active members of the student movement.

The full document, and further information, can be found on the LUSU website.

Photo by Jay Theis



Steve Start  
News Editor

## Lancaster engineer honoured with IMechE Award



Dr Stephen Quayle of the Engineering Department has been awarded the '2014 Andrew Medd Young Engineer Award' for his significant contributions to Engineering in the North West of England.

Dr. Quayle has been responsible for increased participation and enthusiasm for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) and has been instrumental in producing competitive engagement across the Mechanical Engineering disciplines.

Dr. Quayle has also been involved with the Engineering

Department as an Undergraduate admissions tutor as well as being at the forefront of additional outreach projects with local schools. He has also led several teams to success in ImechE competitions.

Speaking to Dr. Quayle, he told SCAN, "Many people have the misconception that engineering is about greasy overalls and a set of spanners whereas in reality modern engineering is far from this stereotype offering an exciting, challenging career. My work with schools and inspiring the next generation of engineers is one of the many positives about my job and I'm therefore very pleased to receive the award."

The Head of the Engineering Department, Professor Malcolm Joyce, commended Dr. Quayle's achievements: "This award is terrific recognition of Dr. Steve Quayle's dedication to ImechE activities across the STEM agenda."

# NOTICE OF ELECTIONS & REFERENDA

Be loud and heard

## CROSS CAMPUS/STUDENT TRUSTEE ELECTIONS

### POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Activities - Democracy - Environment and Ethics - Education - LGBTQ\*  
 Student Trustee - International - Socials - Welfare - Charities - Students with Disabilities  
 Media & Communication - Ethnic Minorities - Women's Liberation - LUSU Councillors

HAVE YOUR SAY

## REFERENDA

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

You have told us what you want, now let us know if we have got it right to ensure your University experience is the very best it can be!

### NOMINATIONS

Week 7, 2nd June

### CAMPAINING

Week 8, 9th June

### VOTING

Week 8, 10th-13th June, Tuesday 10am - Friday 4pm

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



## University establishes Quantum Technology centre

Nathalie Farrugia  
Deputy News Editor

On Wednesday Week 6, Lancaster University are launching the first phase of the new Quantum Technology centre in a two day event at the Lancaster University Conference Centre. The centre will help to enhance Lancaster's status as the UK's top ranked physics department for research quality and will also exploit the behaviour of matter at atomic and sub-atomic levels to create new products. These include products for computing, communications, measuring and sensing, medical diagnostics and a range of other technologically-disruptive applications which have the potential to make existing technologies obsolete.

Professor Yuri Pashkin, who was recruited by Lancaster from the leading Japanese IT Corporation NEC to be a director of the Quantum Technology Centre, said "Quantum technologies are an exciting

field of physics that has the potential to offer huge advances in technologies that cut across many fields including energy, medical science, and financial security and computing."

The official launch will start on Wednesday between 4pm and 6.30pm and will feature speakers such as Professor Mark E. Smith, Vice-Chancellor of Lancaster University, Professor David Delpy and Chair of UK National Quantum Technologies Programme Strategic Advisory Board, Dr Lesley Thompson. The Director of Sciences and Engineering at the EPSRC Hermann Hauser CBE will also speak, as well as Amadeus Capital Partners Professors Tony Krier and Yuri Pashkin, who are also Directors of the Quantum Technology Centre.

This event will be followed by further conference talks on Thursday between 9.15am and 5pm. This event will see talks by both external and internal speakers on themes such as Superconducting quantum circuits, Quantum technologies at ultra-low temperatures, Semiconductor nanostructures and quantum devices and Quantum information. There



Photo courtesy of Cryogenics Web

will also be talks on Quantum nano-mechanics and Quantum technologies with 2D materials.

For the University, the launch of the centre means they will be actively communicating with the business world to exploit the market potential from the centre's research. This research aims to help develop a new group of high-tech companies setting up in the region, in order to take advantage of the centre's research output.

The centre is also a very significant development for the Lancashire and the North West region as the Government are currently pushing regions to

identify smart technologies that can give them a competitive advantage and drive economic growth. Pashkin said "We believe the centre has the potential to be a very important strategic development for the region's economic future through the commercial exploitation of our research."

The investment in quantum technology is part of the Lancashire Strategic Economic Plan which was developed by the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership. It will enable the Quantum Technology Centre to work with regional enterprises to develop and commercialise the

centre's research outcomes.

Currently, Lancaster is pursuing the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) and the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership for investments of around £35 million to gain additional facilities and equipment for the next phase of the centre's development. If they acquire this extra funding then it will increase the centre's capacity for quantum research and will mean that Lancaster will be able to train a new generation of technologists to work in existing businesses and provide new quantum technology device manufacturing facilities.

## TEDx Lancaster moves Towards Pangaea



Steve Start  
News Editor

On Wednesday, Week 2, Lancaster University hosted 'TEDx - Towards Pangaea' an independently organised TED event that gave 12 speakers from a variety of disciplines a platform

to express their own inspirational experiences and ideas.

This year's annual TEDx event featured more speeches than ever before and was intended to break down the boundaries between individuals, as well as tackle collective problems more intelligently. A talk that typified this sentiment was given by Tom Nash whose technology crowd sourcing venture hoped to establish individuals in a network of "neurons like in a collective brain" and create a "worldwide platform of information."

Current Lancaster Marketing

student Dovas Zakas gave a poignant presentation on Networking and its growing importance in an ever increasingly connected world.

Speaking exclusively to SCAN after his TEDx presentation, Zakas said: "Networking is something that can start in schools but is something that is never actually understood. People tell you to network, network, network, but they never tell you how. I took my own perspective of networking and realised that instead of asking for something, I would have to give something without

asking for anything in return. I think it is that sort of discovery that a student can reflect on and use in their own experience."

Zakas put his words into actions in his own experiences job hunting and on his approach to a large company he offered them an idea about how to improve their current business model. This confidence and entrepreneurial vision earned him a place on their graduate scheme and spurred him on to share his inspiration with others.

Following speakers shared similar sentiments with Yvonne Battle-Felton telling the audience to be "the main character of your story" in her talk 'Writing Your Future, Revising Your Past, Moving Forward'.

Other presenters spoke about developing products as well calls to confront future problems. 'Food Insecurity in Our Time' given by Professor Bill Davis of Lancaster Environment Centre highlighted the difficulties faced by nearly one billion people on this planet who go without sufficient food. Davis highlighted the need for inspirational individuals and a multi-disciplinary approach in facing these challenges.

Engineer, Christian Welchel spoke about 3D printing in his talk 'Beyond Fabrication' and in an interview with SCAN elaborated on the future of 3D printing and its future as a consumer product. "Smaller printers are around for around £1,500 - however they only print using plastic. We have printers that can print a whole

shoe including stiffness levels modelled to the users feet. We can do all that but the machines cost upward of £300,000 and you have to keep running them otherwise they dry up and you have to spend more money to get them up and running again so that is just not feasible for a private household. Designing things is also really hard and you have to be an engineer. So unless those two things change I can't see them being feasible as a consumer product."

Whilst it might be a while until 3D printers become a domestic product, their efficacy as a commercial enterprise seems to be growing into a niche market. Welchel went on to tell SCAN how, "You can print in pretty much any material that you can think of. For example many parts of the Airbus A380 are 3D printed and here at the Engineering Department they regularly 3D print aluminium for local companies. On a really practical level my mother had an old wheat grinder from the 70s. A couple of years ago one of the sprockets inside broke. Now you won't get any spare parts for old machines like that so my dad and I remodelled the part and sent it off to Shapeways.com who 3D printed it and now she has a working machine again. Business models like Shapeways will become more common. Soon you will go into town and you have your local 3D printing shop."

If you'd like to watch the conference in full, you can find it on the TEDx website.



# The scan archives

Taking a look back into Lancaster's history

Monday April 30th 2012 (Summer term)  
No. 1 this week: **Carly Rae Jepsen - Call Me Maybe**

## Uni bin £1.5m BPR

Professor Mark E. Smith, the Vice Chancellor of the University, has written to all staff informing them "no further work" will take place on the Business Process Review (BPR) strands unless agreed by University Management Advisory Group (UMAG), the weekly meeting chaired by the Vice Chancellor.

The news has come in the week a University statement confirmed the full cost of the project is expected "to be £1.5m."

The decision to cease the current activity of the Business Process Review comes after widespread concern from both academics and students. At the beginning of February, 370 students unanimously rejected the University's plans at the Students' Union's first quorate General Meeting in three years.

These concerns were acknowledged within the Vice Chancellor's letter to staff. Writing on the 20th April, Professor Smith

wrote: "it is clear from the review that, regrettably the BPR raised unnecessary anxieties in many of our colleagues which should whenever possible be avoided."

He added that "lessons learnt about how best to communicate with and involve staff have been noted for future reference."

The Business Process Review was announced officially by former Vice Chancellor, Professor Paul Wellings, in November of last year, labelling it as having an objective to "create a more responsive and consistent model of administration."

The project has been sponsored by Andrew Neal, the University's Chief Operating Officer.

In February of this year, a University statement affirmed that "the review covers a range of University processes including finance and marketing as well as those processes that directly support students. The finance and marketing projects are on track for key decisions to be made by March."

The message sent to staff from the Vice Chancellor confirmed that the "Finance and Procurement strand has commenced implementation," and that a small group will be established to monitor the progress of that strand.

Similarly, a group will be established for the admissions process as Professor Smith describes "this as a vital area."

One of the most contentious issues of the Business Process Review related to student administration, particularly as there was great concern that this would lead to redundancies.

Following the General Meeting, LUSU President George Gardiner commented: "this unanimous show of support for our administration staff cements the view that they are an indispensable part of this University. We will continue to show our support for them."

Commenting on the announcement, LUSU Vice President (Academic) Alex Carlin said: "I welcome the news that the University are serious about listening to our concerns. We must now ensure that the future projects described by the Vice-Chancellor include student representatives so that we are not affected by some of the retrogressive proposals of the original BPR."

Carlin added: "I am certain that were it not for the scrutiny and passionate rejection of this BPR from students, we could not have got the ball rolling towards this announcement."

## Toast reopens under new management

Alongside the launch of Hustle Tuesday, Toast has re-opened under new management revitalising Lancaster's nightlife.

Toast's re-launch comes following its closure at the start of Lent Term due to the previous owner's outstanding debt.

The news has been welcomed by many following the closure of the Carleton's student night last term, amid criticism that LUSU are monopolising Lancaster's student scene.

The club is now under new ownership and has re-opened temporarily until July for the

bank holiday period. Owners Illustrious Lounging intend to close the venue for the month of July while internally refurbishing the bar and giving the club a face lift. This £100,000 renovation is due for its re-launch, under a new name, in August.

The new management own two other nightclubs in Warrington which offer two alternative genres: an Indie-music venue, which welcomes live bands to play, and a dance-music orientated club which hosts a night with Ian Austin, Rock FM's DJ and former resident DJ of Blackpool's Syndicate.

Toast offers two student nights at present. Mondays' "Vodka Heaven" which boasts double vodkas at £1.50 with £3 admission, and Wednesdays' "Fuzzy Duck" with £1 entry and selected drinks at £1 too, hoping to fill the Carleton's void. Free

entry is offered to those who gain a photo with the 6 1/2 foot blue "fuzzy duck" which roams Lancaster's streets.

The opening night, over the Easter bank-holiday weekend, was a huge success. The club reached full capacity by 12.30 and had to turn over 300 people away; and similar success has been seen subsequently witnessed.

Darren Reynolds, manager of Illustrious Lounging, appealed to his future clients. The company wants to know what Lancaster wants from its nightlife and urges students to comment on the club's Facebook page with ideas and opinions so that they can create a club which offers exactly what the nightlife of Lancaster wants.

The refurbished venue will remain divided into club and bar sections and the club's future facelift hopes to liven up the venue.



## Uni bin £1.5m BPR

VC calls halt on the Business Process Review



The Business Process Review was officially announced towards the end of last year. Photo by Mohit Gupta

## LA1:TV station win national award

Lancaster University's television station, LA1:TV, was awarded the title of 'Highly Commended' in the 'Best Factual' category at the recent National Student Television Awards.

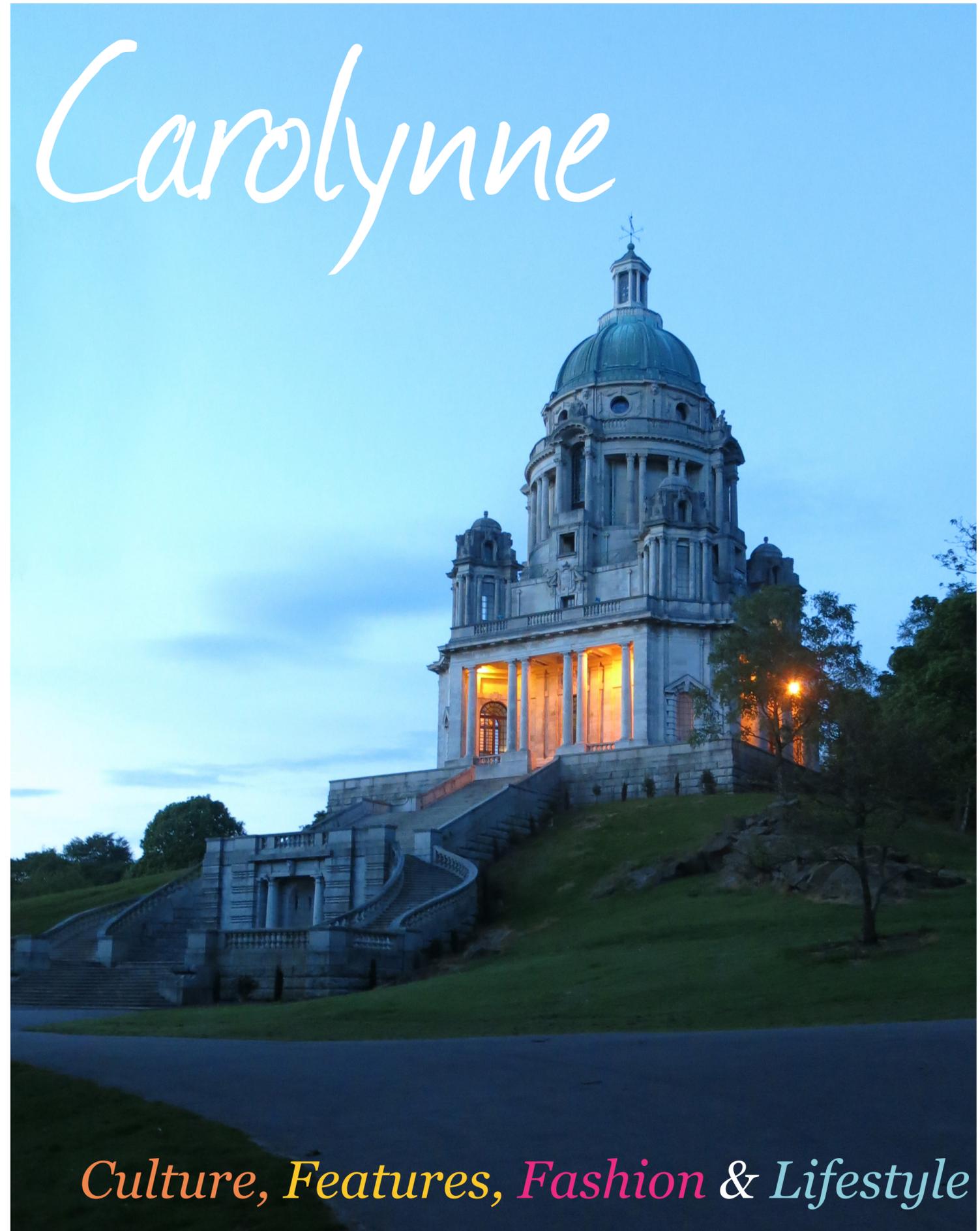
Their entry for this category was "a shortened edit of the second episode from 'The LA1 Show', focusing on the Lymphoma Awareness story that [they] ran at the beginning of the year" said station manager Will McDonagh who was "very happy and appreciative" of the award and feels that it is a "great way" to end his year as station manager.

The show focused on the story of cancer survivor Blair Ward and was produced by Will McDonagh and presented by Laura Johnson, Josh Dean and Abby Newbery.

Newbery pitched the story idea and met with students across campus to find out what they knew about the subject. She said: "it feels fantastic to know that something I helped work on not only won national recognition,

but has also reached a much wider audience than I thought possible." The award for Highly Commended Station in the 'Best Factual' category was judged by Nick Shearman (BBC Commissioning Editor for Documentary & Factual) and James Laidler (Senior Producer BBC Breakfast) who commented on the "excellent presenting and interviews."

LA1:TV took 14 members to the award ceremony to represent the 17 categories that they had entered, with the ceremony internet feed raising 7000 views on the night. McDonagh felt that the award ceremony was a great representation of "how much bigger student TV in general is becoming year on year." He went on to say that his goal as station manager was to "represent LA1:TV successfully across campus," which he feels they did, "but also to represent [LA1:TV] nationally, which [they] managed to do this weekend."



Culture, Features, Fashion & Lifestyle



# Carolynne

Culture, Features, Fashion & Lifestyle

Photo of the Week

This week: Jonathan Eldridge

SCAN values creativity and not just that of the verbal sort, which is why we are giving the photographers amongst you a fantastic chance to showcase your talent; every two weeks, we will be choosing the best photographic submission to feature as our *Carolynne* cover.

All you need to do is attach your photo(s) in an email to [scan.photography@lusu.co.uk](mailto:scan.photography@lusu.co.uk), along with your name and a few words about the image(s) you've chosen. Make sure you send us the best quality version of your work so it looks superb on the front page, and good luck!



## SCAN Editor's Picks:

- *Six of the best: Upcoming summer blockbusters*
- *How to: Be an appalling flatmate*
- *Stephen's Story: Gone, but never ever forgotten*
- *Why I love Eurovision*
- *A Spotlight On: Alexa Chung*
- *How to boss the beach look*
- *How to increase your reading speed*
- *The most annoying library habits*
- *Lifestyle at Lancaster*
- *SCAN Recipes: Chocolate treats*

# Film Review: Captain America - The Winter Soldier

Doug Medland

Captain America: The Winter Soldier has become the top-grossing April release of all time in North America bringing in \$224.9 million domestically and making \$645.2 million globally.

**But is it really worth the hype or is it just another mediocre movie to add to Marvel's ever growing library?**

With Marvel Studios boss Kevin Feige recently revealing that he has 'a map of films reaching as far as 2028 on the wall of his office' it seems that the megabucks Marvel movie machine will not be going anywhere for the foreseeable future, with plans for two Avengers sequels and one apiece for Thor and Captain America in the next five years alone. With this in mind those seeking more than the bright, fun and (let's face it) predictable superhero films of recent years, such as the delights of a dark crime thriller like Christopher Nolan's Dark Knight trilogy, may be waiting a while yet.

But let's not be too hasty, for the latest Marvel creation, Captain America: The Winter Soldier, under the direction of the Russo brothers, cements Marvel's more recent winning streak, delving into the murky depths of subterfuge, espionage and politics; not quite reaching the majesty of the Batman franchise but nonetheless packing a powerful and refreshing punch.

While the first film certainly delivered, with intense character portrayals and internal struggles, set against the ever fascinating backdrop of World War Two, this second installment amps things up to the next level, with car chases matching the ferocity of such films as Bourne Supremacy, and exhilarating,



brutish action sequences that rival the best of the scenes in the Avengers.

But more than that, Marvel finally offers us some gritty realism, with superheroes Captain America (Chris Evans), Black Widow (Scarlett Johansson) and the magnificent Nick Fury (Samuel L. Jackson) who finally gets properly into the Marvel Studios action, all grappling with real-world issues such as national security, civil liberty, and intelligence gathering. Johansson in particular is scintillating and is a perfect foil for the titular hero, her shades-of-grey worldview grating against his black and white vision of morality. The sombre integrity of Chris Evans is still not nearly

as entertaining as the screen filling personality of Robert Downey Jr, but his role as the patriotic soul of the nation is none the less a great improvement on Marvel's usual uninspiring characters.

Combine three-dimensional heroes with unexpected plot twists that owe as much to 1970s conspiracy thrillers as comic books, and brilliant casting, the pick of the bunch being Robert Redford, and you are left feeling that Marvel are finally heading in the right direction.

All in all then, the Marvel Franchises' appointment of custodians Kevin Feige and Joe and Anthony Russo has worked and the inter-connected Marvel Universe they have created, with each film linked

in a cinematic web, leaves audiences on the edge of their seats, waiting for the inevitable reveal at the end of the credits giving us an insight into what's coming next.

**Perhaps then, another decade of Marvel films is not too bad after all.**

What's certainly true is that Captain America gives the image of flagging comic-book movies an adrenaline shot of relevance that cements Marvel's current run of form. Long may it continue.

## Culture Update: What's been going on?

- An art exhibition called What is Left? is running in a house in central Lancaster. The intimate exhibition features photographs of people with inherited objects, accompanied by recorded interviews and transcribed booklets about what the objects mean to them. The exhibition runs until June 16th, and runs 4pm-8pm on Tuesdays and Fridays and 2pm-7pm at weekends.

- Jason Manford is coming to Lancaster: The Manchester comedian will be performing at the Lancaster Grand theatre on July 18th. Tickets are still available and can be booked on their website.

- Lancaster University Theatre Group have thee upcoming shows. The Nuffield Theatre will see Fiddler on the roof (June 3rd and 4th) and An Ideal Husband (June 6th and 7th), and the Dukes Theatre will be treated to a performance of The Beggar's Opera (June 14th and 15th). For more information on the show and how to get tickets, visit LUTG's website.

- Oasis have released a remastered version of their first album, Definitely Maybe this week. As well as the 11 songs which made them the biggest band in Britain at the time, the album contains B-Sides, live performances and unreleased tracks from 1994. Liam Gallagher didn't seem pleased that his old band's music was being tampered with, tweeting 'HOW CAN YOU REMASTER SOMETHING THATS ALREADY BEING MASTERED.DONT BUY INTO IT. LET IT BE'.

- The first image of Ben Affleck as Batman in the upcoming Batman/Superman film has been released online. Although Affleck has been a controversial choice for the role of Bruce Wayne, the image has met with a positive response, showing Batman in a new grey and black suit stood with serious muscle definition next to the new Batmobile. Go and have a look yourself!

# Albums *celebrating* big birthdays this year

**Bryony Seager**

Often on websites aimed at students, you'll see articles entitled 'This Will Make You Feel Old' followed by a list of things which are celebrating a birthday at the given time. Well guess what, this is one of those; and to top that you probably started high school about a decade ago,

and that's not going to change so let's just celebrate some of these awesome albums that have significant birthdays this year.

**2004 feels like yesterday: when people actually cared about Lindsay Lohan's ca-**

## *You need to know...* Milky Chance

**Andrew Sharp**

Have you ever listened to the intro of a song and knew instantly it was something to sit up and pay attention to? That's exactly what I thought when I heard Down By The River, the debut single from Milky Chance. They're a hidden gem from Germany looking more and more likely to burst onto the alternative scene any moment now.

Upbeat, energetic, enthusiastic and youthfully optimistic, Milky Chance is a fusion between singer-songwriter Clemens Rehbein and DJ and producer Philipp Dausch. The two have been writing together since high school whilst studying music, and admit that they never dreamt of the online reaction they would receive. Having previously been dubbed as "hippy music on steroids", their electronic and reggae infused spin on indie-folk is an infectious sound bound to be a success. The duo, hailing from Kassel, dropped their debut album, 'Sadnecessary', in Germany last summer where it unexpectedly boomed and went platinum but progress away from home has been surprisingly slow. It's a

pretty common scenario, especially from a country that isn't renowned for exporting music on mass, but Milky Chance are something a little bit special. Nevertheless, they look set to go big now so better late than never I guess.

The singles taken from the LP, Stolen Dance and Down By The River, have been nothing short of easy-to-listen-to excellence and I'm confident that anyone that gives them a quick listen will agree and find themselves hooked by the beautifully raspy vocals, pacy rhythms and general sun-soaked vibe. Perhaps it's good timing then that the debut LP will hit British shores in July when, fingers crossed, you can blast it out over your car stereo on that one gorgeous day in summer with the windows down and not a cloud in the sky. The duo are currently out on an extensive tour of Europe which has already seen them sell out venues in Germany, Austria, Netherlands, Switzerland, Belgium, France and Italy. They will play some of the continent's biggest festivals in the next few months such as Frequency in Austria, Europavox in France, Melt in Germany as well as a rare cameo appearance in the UK at Latitude. So eyes peeled and ears to the ground, you definitely need to know Milky Chance.



**reer, Paris Hilton was still the 'it girl' and nobody had heard of Kim Kardashian.**

**Other bands that released career-defining albums in 1994 were Nine Inch Nails with the album The Downward Spiral and the ever divisive Oasis with Definitely Maybe.**

Aside from those things, the album that made Green Day's decade, American Idiot, hit the shelves in September. Spawning singles such as 'Jesus of Suburbia', 'Holiday/Boulevard of Broken Dreams' and 'Wake Me Up When September Ends', it was an album that was heard by millions and bought by millions more. It was a political statement that ripped right at the heart of the Bush administration when it needed it the most. Two other landmark alternative albums that smacked people over the heads that year were My Chemical Romance's Three Cheers For Sweet Revenge; love it or hate it you cannot deny the impact it had, creating hundreds of look-a-like bands and a huge fan following - the album made a massive splash in the rock world. The other, on the more indie side of things was Aha Shake Heartbreak by Kings of Leon, the second album from the group. Interestingly it was the only Kings of Leon album ever to carry the 'Parental Advisory' sticker on the front cover. Keane's Hopes and Fears was also released in 2004, with the now perpetually famous 'Somewhere Only We Know' appearing on that record.

Time-travelling back another decade, to when most of us were still in carrycots and baby cribs, albums that are turning twenty years old in 2014 are equally worth noting. Another Green Day album, the one that ripped them on to the mainstream stage and provided an anthem for a generation, Dookie dropped in February 1994. Aside from the fallout of the explosion (props to anyone who gets that reference) that the band had to deal with, it cemented them as the nineties kings of punk rock, with other bands like The Offspring quickly looking to follow suit. I promise I'm done talking

It can sometimes seem a little arbitrary to select albums based on the year they were released; good music comes out every year and it can be celebrated as whole, but I think these albums are pretty special. 2004 especially marked the beginning of my interest in music, and without the plethora of great albums that came out that year I would have been a different person, so select the decade of your choice and revisit those old favourites.

# MEGAZZONE

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# Lancaster Fine Art Degree Show

## Ben Hands



He began through drawing, experimenting with geometric shapes and Spiro graphs, quite controlled and mathematical shapes, but then showed how they applied to the natural outdoors. Sequences and geometrics exist already in nature, and Ben aims to make a commentary on these occurring sequences and mark them out through colourful string; this way it is brought to the viewers' attention as something completely new, and approached as an art work instead of just dead space.

His work is centred not just on what he himself creates but also on the viewer's enjoyment and experience of seeing the work. For instance the final pieces for his degree show later this year will be exhibited in various spots around campus and

**B**en Hands is inspired by the belief that art is all around us and that we as a viewer should take more joy in the natural beauty we see every day. His work does not adhere to predetermined rules and focuses on the natural spaces that are created by our environment. He makes art for art's sake, in an effort to appreciate true, naturally occurring beauty.

This coming term and last term Ben has concentrated on creating pieces outdoors in natural woodland spaces, using strings of wool and pins to geometrically divide the space between objects and focus on the empty space that would usually go unnoticed. This allows the viewer to reassess the spaces that they see every day and make it new. Ben originally decided on this topic in a bid to bring his artwork out of the studios and in to the outdoors, he was inspired by the natural world around him. Taking stimulus from a trip outside of the studios into the woods surrounding campus, he was struck by the natural materials surrounding him that he could use for his art, but with a desire not to destruct the space and the materials and only add to them.



a map will be given out for people to go and discover them. He hopes the visitors will get as much out of this journey and way of exploring art as they will from the actual pieces themselves.

The work introduces the public to the idea of exploring art not just in typical gallery spaces but in everything we do and discover around us, seeing the beauty that is there already. Through his use of the space, a canopy of strings through the trees is laid out for the viewer. Ben's way of exploring the world around him allows it to meet its true aesthetic potential using such beautifully simple, raw and basic materials.

## Artist Profiles

Written by:  
Jessica Kadel & Elle Gilligan



Ellie's artwork strives to reflect the absurdity of human nature and her thought-provoking pieces exhibit quite satirical suggestions. For example, a traditional copper warming pan, previously owned by an elderly woman, has been altered to reveal a series of nipples. This bizarre combination of an archaic object with provocative body parts creates a juxtaposition between the avant-garde and the conservative, which Ellie executes in a successful and comical manner.

**E**llie Doggett's outlandish sculptures test the compliance of metal by moulding impressions of the human form into materials such as copper, pewter and brass. Her work acts as a sort of appropriation art, in which she finds ready-made metal objects from charity or antique shops and then deconstructs them, sculpting selected bodily details into the metals. For example, her current work displays a nose, a mouth, nipples and a belly but-

ton. She conveys the uniqueness of each individual body part by presenting one singular feature per metal object. She selects which body part to display by deciding which one would create the most interesting composition and enhance the space offered by the metallic object. Her process of sculpting then starts with sketching out the basic design for each piece. The selected body parts are often drawn from her own features, her sculptures then work solely from these sketches and do not require

## Ellie Doggett



any bodily moulds. She hammers at the metal to make it thinner and then heats it up to make it more malleable. Finally, through a process of 'repoussé' she uses chisels and hammers to create precise bodily shapes and detailed features within the metal structures.

Ellie's practice of manipulating metal forms was inspired by a metal workshop last year on the Fine Art degree scheme. She has always enjoyed hands on, physical artwork and experimenting with the limits of the malleable qualities in metals. Inspired by artists such as Grayson Perry, she's also interested in blurring the distinction between art and craft, by combining the two through such a physical medium.

For the degree show, Ellie plans to exhibit her current metal sculptures. Specific pieces include a copper coil combined with a protruding tongue to fully express the satirical connotations of her work. She is also preparing to create additional pieces, for example, she plans to transform a large metal panel by incorporating several different bodily impressions, such as hands and facial features. Unlike the other pieces which often

demonstrate defined detail, Ellie aspires to create subtle suggestions of bodily features in the panel, faintly presenting forms that are almost fighting to escape their metal surroundings.



# *Six of the best:* Upcoming summer blockbusters.

## GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY



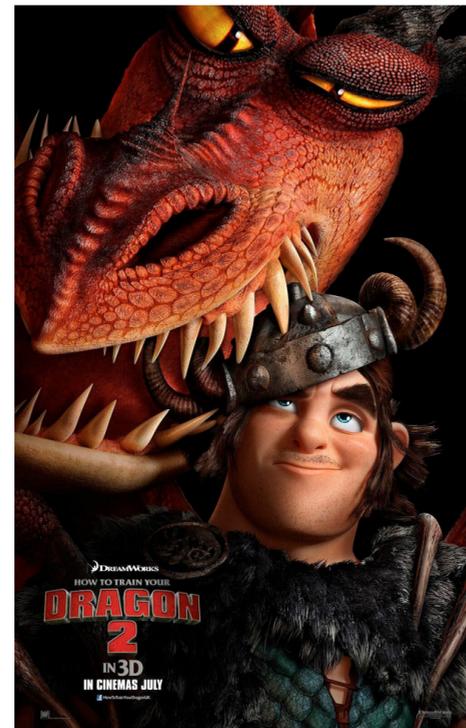
Rory Mellon

## X-MEN: DAYS OF FUTURE PAST



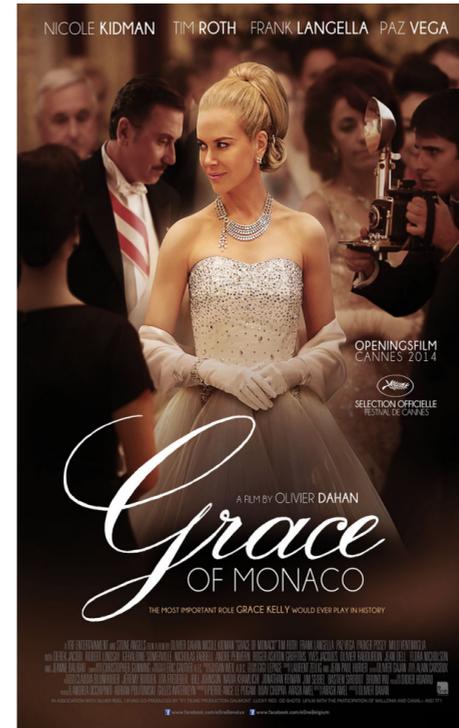
Simon James

## HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON 2



Jane Hodgkiss

## GRACE OF MONACO



Bryony Seager

## MALEFICENT



Bryony Seager

## THE FAULT IN OUR STARS



Jane Hodgkiss

**G**uardians of the Galaxy is Marvel's most ambitious film yet, it's also the studio's most risky. Having moved into phase two of its Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU) the Disney owned studio could have played it safe, instead they're hoping to shine the spotlight on a lesser known superhero team.

The Guardians of the Galaxy consist of five members: Star-Lord (Chris Pratt), Gamora (Zoe Saldana), Dax (Dave Bautista), Groot (Vin Diesel) and Rocket Raccoon (Bradley Cooper). This isn't your typical group of heroes though. Firstly they're often not on the best of terms; their alliance is more born out of desperation than friendship. Secondly they're not a noble group of heroes fighting for justice - instead they are in it for themselves.

A lot of faith is being placed in Chris Pratt who plays the human lead; it will be interesting to see if Pratt is up to the task of gluing together what could be a fragmented film if allowed to run wild. Bradley Cooper is an interesting choice as the wise cracking Rocket Raccoon, despite his strange nature Rocket is a brilliant character that could really set Guardians of the Galaxy apart from other films in the genre. Whilst we have only seen a snippet of the film from the first trailer, the early signs are pointing to another winner from Marvel.

Release date: July 31st 2014.

**2**014 is shaping up to be a lot better than last year in terms of superhero films, with The Winter Soldier and The Amazing Spider-Man 2 both doing the business. But if anything has the potential to top them both, it's Days of Future Past.

The film, directed by Bryan Singer (the man behind the first two X-Men movies) will see the X-Men of two time periods fight to save their species, and quite possibly humanity as well. Never before has time-travel been used so explicitly in a superhero film, but by teaming the young mutants with the old, the film acts as a sequel to both First Class and The Last Stand. This means there is a huge ensemble cast, with big names such as Hugh Jackman, Patrick Stewart, James McAvoy, Ian McKellen and Jennifer Lawrence pointing towards a blockbuster - a serious attempt to replicate the scale of 2012's The Avengers combining superhero franchises.

It's not just the ambition of the film that's got moviegoers itching for May 22nd, it's the brilliance of the two-part comic book on which the film is based. It's the intensity and emotion of the trailer that chillingly fits into real-world events. It's maybe even the fact that the time-travel could fix the glaring continuity errors that exist within the franchise. But perhaps that's asking for too much.

Release date: May 22nd 2014.

**A**fter the tremendous success of How to Train Your Dragon (nominated for two Oscars and one Golden Globe), it's not surprising that Dreamworks are releasing a sequel. Children and adults alike adored Hiccup and Toothless' adventures on the island of Berk because, let's face it, dragons are always cool.

The second instalment promises even more action, adventure and excitement. Taking place five years after the first movie, dragon racing is now the favourite sport of the citizens of Berk. However, Hiccup and Toothless are now journeying further, mapping their progress as they discover new lands and skies to explore. They soon discover a mysterious ice cave, home to new dragons and an enigmatic dragon rider who threatens the peace. The pair are facing their biggest challenge yet as they change the fate of the world forever.

Many of the cast from the first movie such as Jay Baruchel, Jonah Hill, Gerard Butler and Kristen Wiig are reprising their roles. There are also new voices, including recent Oscar winner Cate Blanchett and Game of Thrones' Kit Harington. All in all, this promises to be a great movie for both kids and adults packed full of fun and adventure. Just don't forget your dragon!

Release date: July 4th 2014.

**M**ost people have seen the culturally iconic picture of Grace Kelly on her wedding day to Prince Ranier III of Monaco - it has been the inspiration to a hundred thousand wedding dresses since that day, and probably will be for many more to come.

It is sometimes a little difficult to give something so well remembered and visualised a new face, The biopic Grace of Monaco out in early June is going to try and give the princess' story a retelling, with Nicole Kidman cast in the title role. The script, once it was picked up in 2012, was filmed in Italy and Monaco, supposedly with the support of the principality, although the Royal Family of Monaco have since come out and said that the film needlessly glamorises a short part in Monaco's history and that it should not be considered a biopic due to "historical inaccuracies".

Whatever your opinion on the matter, it seems it is going to be an exquisitely made film with cast appearances from Derek Jacobi, Tim Roth and Milo Ventimiglia. The first appearance of the film will be at the Cannes Film Festival in late spring May 2014.

Release date: June 6th 2014.

**T**he much talked about movie starring Angelina Jolie in the title role is out in late May, just out in time for the end of exams for most people (sorry first years!).

It seems like this summer has a bumper crop of movies but this seems to be the one I've heard a lot about; a rethinking of the classic fairy tale of Sleeping Beauty. The story is of course told from the evil witch's point of view, exploring how she becomes the villain we all remember appearing in a puff of green smoke from the original Disney movie.

Maleficent was also one of the more terrifying antagonists for me; she just seemed so evil with no redeeming qualities, and judging by the trailer for this it seems like we're going to get much of the same.

The film definitely appears to have gone down the darker route, seemingly more like the original Grimm tale rather than Disney's re-imagining, with Jolie is as the centre piece with her cut glass bone structure, her demonic headdress and blood red lips.

Release date: May 30th 2014.

**B**ased on the New York Times bestseller by internet vlogger John Green, The Fault in Our Stars tells the story of Hazel Grace Lancaster and Augustus Waters, who meet at a cancer support group and bond through their love of bad video games and slightly pretentious but forgivable metaphors. It's a love story, but with a definite twist.

The all-star cast is a testament to how loved the book already is. Shailene Woodley (star of the recent Divergent movie) leads it as the very lovable Hazel Grace, even cutting off her own hair to play the part. Augustus Waters is played by a new actor, Ansel Elgort, who had his movie debut in the most recent adaption of Stephen King's Carrie. Willem Dafoe is the main name here, playing the Dutch author Peter Van Houten. I for one can't wait to hear his Dutch accent.

With John Green's big internet following, it's fair to say there's a lot of pressure surrounding the movie. However, if his behind the scenes vlogs with the principal cast are anything to go by, fans aren't going to be disappointed.

Release date: June 20th 2014.

# Lancaster Fine Art Degree Show

## Artist Profiles

Written by:  
Jessica Kadel

### Zara Bojovic



body building. Body building presents real human beings in an unrealistic manner; this artificial aesthetic inspired her to create similar bodily sculptures. These sculptures varied from hands, to knees, to muscular chests, until Zara found her sculptural calling - feet.

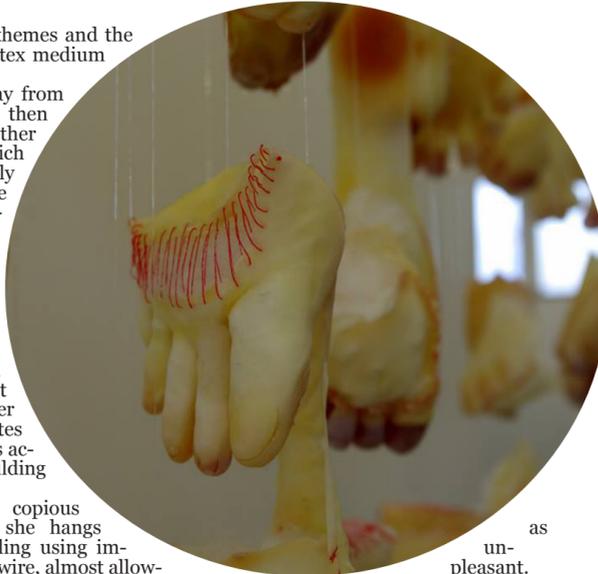
To create her foot sculptures, Zara produces hundreds of moulds of her own feet using dental alginate. Having already made an excessive amount of moulds, she still continues to make multiple moulds on a daily basis, in order for each sculpture to differ. The alginate moulds dehydrate after around five days which causes them to shrink; this allows Zara to create further sculptures which display various sizes. The process then involves pouring liquid latex into the moulds which takes around 24 hours to dry; she often has to apply two layers due to the delicacy and fragility of liquid latex.

The latex dries in a fine, skin-like fashion and the shrivelled, wrinkly aesthetic of the medium lends itself perfectly to feet. Zara only recently started to explore the possibilities within sculpture. Her work has previously focused on painting and drawing, but she felt they could not

convey the bodily themes and the fragility that the latex medium captures perfectly.

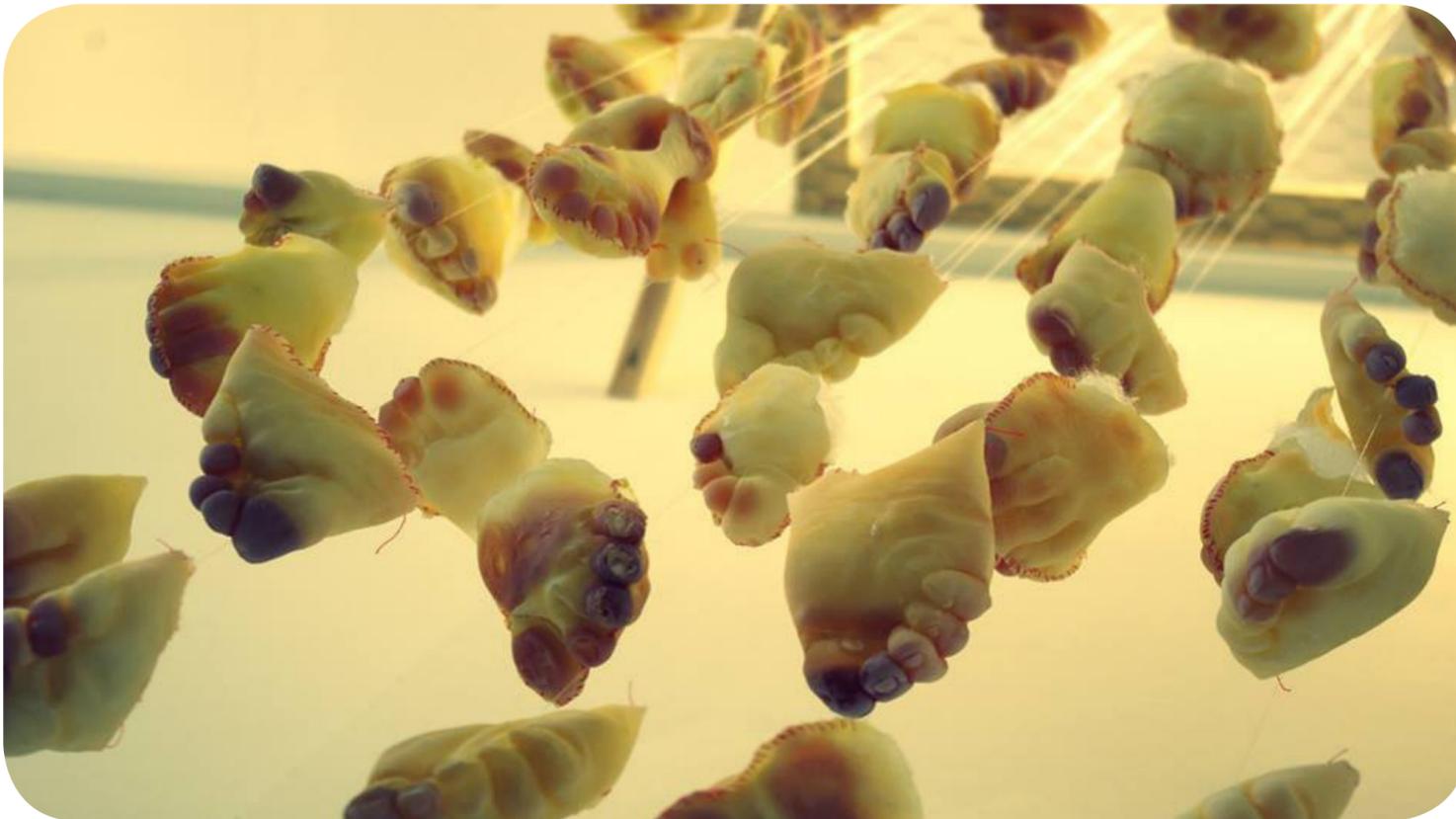
Once peeled away from the moulds, Zara then sews the latex together with red thread which connotes the bodily fluid of blood. She also fills the sculptural forms with toy stuffing for a three-dimensional, realistic foot. The repetitive process involved with sewing and stuffing each sculpture is an intentional concept to add labour to her method, which relates back to the arduous activity of body building and exercise.

After sculpting copious amounts of feet, she hangs them from the ceiling using imperceptible fishing wire, almost allowing them to float mid-air. Zara likes this notion of representing feet as weightless, juxtaposing their usual burden of carrying the whole weight of the human body. Taking feet out of their original context also allows greater contemplation of a body part that would usually be disregarded or deemed unattractive. She wants to idealise what is frequently seen



as unpleasant.

For the degree show, Zara aspires to present around 400 feet, hanging in an arch. Therefore, the audience has to walk through the arch and confront the previously grotesque ideals. She also hopes to exhibit photographs of feet and her original bodily sculptures of hands, knees and chests.



After inspiration from regular gym trips, Zara Bojovic concentrated her art practice on representing the human body; examining skin, muscles and in particular,

### Dani Cleeland



there is still within death. They are taken either as portraiture shots with a white background, or through a microscope to reveal the fly's abstract forms. Dani arranges each series of photographs in grid forms varying in size. The series primarily differ on the level of magnification and the background composition.

For these series, Dani often collects dead flies that she finds in their natural environment. However, she frequently requires help from others as she herself has an irrational fear of the insects she portrays. This is an important concept within Dani's work, which connotes ideas of facing fears and appreciating beauty in what she, and society, has deemed unnering.

Dani's artwork has always been concerned with the environment. She has dabbled in other mediums but fundamentally labelled herself a photographer last year. Making the unnoticed noticed has constantly echoed throughout her practice, for example one of her previous projects examined rubbish. She did this in order to draw focus to the disregarded aspects of society, presenting beauty in what is perpetually ignored as an attempt to make a positive environmental change. This particular project originally

started by photographing birds, however the inspiration to exclusively exhibit insects stemmed from observing and photographing a fly during a walk. She was influenced by the concept of them being everywhere, yet virtually invisible at the same time.

For the degree show, Dani wishes to present her various photographic series in a grid format. Each series will vary in size, depending on the number of photos the grid encompasses, in order to present each



Insects are the focal matter for Dani Cleeland's fascinating work. She likes the idea of bringing something small, insignificant and unnoticed into the limelight through photography, representing what is previously seen as a nuisance in a new, positive manner. Despite their impact on the ecosystem, insects have a life which we usually deem unimportant and trivial; Dani's artwork therefore strives to demonstrate their significance through grids exhibiting multiple photographs. The photographs solely focus on "dismissed insects" rather than focusing on conventionally beautiful ones like butterflies. Dani predominantly presents possibly the most unappreciated insect, the fly, which is often merely associated with waste and decay.

Her work consists of four series of photographs. The first series displays photographs taken throughout her daily walks, which present the insects in their natural habitat to demonstrate their ubiquitous

man-  
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The other  
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stead incor-  
porate deceased flies in  
an attempt to reveal that



particular  
set of images  
in the most  
relevant way with  
regards to what they are  
depicting.

# Album Review: Wye Oak 'Shriek'

Eden Jinks

The Baltimore duo of Jenn Wasner and Andy Stack released their forth full length studio album on April 28th in the U.S. and the 29th in Europe. This album goes in a different direction from their previous work, which was led by Jenn's melodic guitar and atmospheric vocals. Andy is behind the trap and also plays keys, usually both at the same time.

The new sound came to be due to Wasner being unable to write music on the guitar. It was a severe case of 'writers block'. At one point it was in doubt whether or not this album was going to be made. This in turn, led Jenn to change from a 6-string guitar to the 4-string bass as her main weapon of choice, and Andy staying on drums and keys.

The album kicks off with the song 'Before'. It immediately states the pairs intention for the album, a synth comes in setting the slow tempo, followed by a simple drum beat and Jenn's swirling vocals; it is a mellow track that is a good opener. Following this is the title track itself, 'Shriek'. In this song Jenn's voice shows its strengths, hitting some great notes that create an atmospheric experience. I even noticed a bird chirp in the music which I appreciated as I only heard it on the third occasion of listening. It is a credit to them for putting such nuances in to the music, it adds a deeper dimension, something for the listener to

discover with each listen. 'The Tower' is up next. It was the first song to be shown from the album before its release, so set the initial impression for all their fans. And what an impression that was: one of the strongest songs on the album, a catchy number with a simple constant beat that plays throughout the song. I believe that lyrically 'The Tower' divulges Wasner's experiences and struggles of feeling helplessness, echoing throughout the record.

'Glory' is the best song off the album. It is a memorable upbeat song that is the centre piece to this work. Highlighting the great relationship between Wasner and Stack, who have been playing together since high school. It has an extremely hook-y chorus that will get stuck in your head because it is so great. The amazing bass line that is at the front of the track leads the way, and coupled with the mesmerising vocals it creates an epic pop song that deserves more recognition than it will get. I have found myself wanting to listen to it over and over and I certainly have done. Skipping ahead four tracks to the jungle-style 'Paradise', this is a song that transports you to wherever your paradise is, be it a sand beach or a tropical jungle tree house. With its tribal feel it adds another dimension to the record.

Last on the album is 'Logic of Color' a mid-paced track that is a very bright and uplifting number - a good way to round off the record. The song is up there as one of the strongest out of the 10 tracks, it will leave you humming the tune a long time after the last note is played.

All in all, Shriek is a strong album that infuses heavy synths, drums, captivating vocals and groovy bass. It leaves you wanting to listen again and again. Yes, it is a different sound that Wye Oak has gone for here but I commend all artists that change their sound. Do something

different and keep it fresh, rather than doing the same stale thing over and over, creating a mechanised sound that everyone gets bored with - including the artist themselves. The crisp, new sound has added another string to the bow that is Wye Oak.



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**LUSU**

# How to: Be an appalling flatmate

Emily-Jayne Nicholls

Do you know what's worse than sharing a flat with people you don't know? Sharing a flat with messy people you don't know. University largely consists of shared kitchens, hallways and bathrooms. Bathrooms are relatively easy to share. Without including graphic detail, if you can't share a bathroom like a civil human being, you probably shouldn't attend a top 10 university. However sharing kitchens is a different story. Many people will have spent little time in a kitchen before arriving at university - thanks to relying on mum's home cooking - and it's fairly easy to make an epic mess with very few resources. However, there are certain things when it comes to sharing a kitchen, and indeed a flat, that are simply unacceptable and should be prevented at all costs - unless of course you are intending to be the world's worst flatmate.

## Food in the fridge

Guess what? Food has a sell by date. So if you leave it in the fridge for months past that date, it will go off. Cheese will get mouldy, milk will go sour and raw meat will turn into a goopy foul-smelling mess. To become a really bad flatmate, wait until one of these products explodes

## Seven types of people you'll come across in an exam

Bryony Seager

We all know that feeling, when you're stood in front of an exam room waiting to go in, silently hoping that what you've done is enough, that the questions will



Photo courtesy of Comedy Nose

and raw chicken juice drips down to your flatmates' shelf. This works especially well if they have anything open or unpacked, although you'll only have yourself to blame when they eat the only safe thing in the fridge - your food.

## Noise

Don't get me wrong, music, chatting and the occasional drunken karaoke session singing 'The Circle Of Life' are all fine, however, singing 'What Does The Fox Say' at 2am in the corridor during exam season is not. If you want a load of people over - invite them with your flatmates, if you want to sing in the shower - make sure it's in tune and if you want to drunkenly Gangnam style down the corridor to become the next YouTube sensation - well there's clearly not much I can say to stop you.

## Alcohol

This is fairly simple, don't be a drunk moron in the flat unless:

- Your equally drunk flatmates are involved.
- Your poor studying flatmates are out.
- Your sober flatmates are allowed to film you and repeatedly show you the footage as a constant reminder of your mortifying drunkenness.

To earn extra bad flatmate points: spill some horrifically cheap florescent alcoholic substance that may as well have come straight out of Homer Simpson's powerplant onto the table and don't clean it up: EVER.

## Mess

There's nothing nicer than coming into the kitchen and finding the lean mean grilling machine dripping with fat, or spag bol splattered up the walls, or especially a leftover meat carcass littering the work tops. For all really bad flatmates out there, don't be a douchebag - clean your stuff up otherwise an unceremonious battle of wills will occur until you are living in squalor. Literal squalor.

## Notes

It's funny how the person who can hear you in the shower would rather leave you a note requesting you to empty the bins than have an actual face-to-face conversation. A lesson to all aspiring bad flatmates, nothing ticks off your flatmates more than post-it notes around the



Photo by Conor Lawless

draining board. The first thing to address here is be a grown up and have a conversation with them; also secondly that's what draining boards are for.

So there you have it, the useful hints and tips for those who aspire to be a terrible flatmate and inevitably live alone. Basically ladies and gents, be a decent human being, show a bit of respect to your flatmates, it's their home too. But if really bad flatmates do rear their heads, feel free to point out you know exactly where they live!

the hope that you will absolve them, tell them they'll get the grade they desire and be absolutely fine. It's a coping mechanism of sorts, the only problem with that is that it can make you wonder why you didn't know what Henry V ate for breakfast on the morning of the Battle of Agincourt, and whether this will be important for that crucial question. Equally nerve-wracking, and possibly more unsettling is the person who is dead silent and whey-faced, you can't decide whether they're going to fall over in a faint, or whether they're about ready to kill someone. Either way most people outside of the exam hall seem to be giving them a wide berth as they stare into the middle distance; hopefully they'll perk up a little bit once they're in there.

**Once inside the exam hall there's a dead hush as you wait for the clock to tick to the hour, and check for the nine-zillionth time that you do not have your mobile phone in your pockets.**

Then the exam begins and there's a flapping of paper. Instantly people divide into groups; you have the hare, who races off writing without formulating

any sort of plan and they've covered two sides in fifteen minutes, but then run out of things to talk about and spend the next ten minutes staring into space trying to figure where to go next. Along from them is the tortoise, who you notice seems to be taking an excruciatingly long time to start writing, but hey who knows, once they get going maybe every word they write is pure gold. Aside from the way people actually write, the other things you notice in the exam hall are the daydreamers, who never seem to actually put pen to paper; the obsessive bathrooms users, who you would swear have been out at least three times in the last twenty minutes; and then there's always that guy, the one who gets up with an hour to go and leaves. Maybe this guy is a superhero, whose ability is to be able to write 50 words a minute and somehow stretch his brain so he has the capacity to think of the next paragraph whilst writing the one he formulated before. However it's done, there is always a tinge of disbelief, respect and jealousy when they leave that early.

Aside from whether exams can bring out the best or worst in people, and you get to see traits that the people in your seminar might not necessarily want to show, in reality all that matters is you. You know what keeps you happy right before an exam, so if you're a chatter go find the other chatty people, if you like to rock backwards and forwards in the corner then that's equally okay - whatever keeps you happy.

# Stephen's Story: Gone, but never ever forgotten



Rachel May Quin  
Editor

We often hear that modern society is dominated negatively by social media. I'm sure that I'm not the only one who wakes up in the morning and almost immediately checks the home screen of my smartphone for any notifications or messages I might have missed in the night. Years ago, a Facebook group floated around named 'Waking up and checking your newsfeed like it's the morning paper' - I heartily related.

Most of the time when I browse Facebook in the morning, my feed is peppered with pictures of cute animals (not

complaining), drunk statuses posted at 1am, people moaning about exams/coursework/partners and the odd Buzzfeed article. It's very rare that I'll stumble across something so touching - and most importantly, memorable - as Stephen's Story.

Stephen Sutton was an inspiring young man with incurable cancer, who decided that with the time he had left, he wanted to do something amazing. He created a Facebook page, on which he outlined a bucket list of 46 things he wanted to do in the near future - one of which including raising money for the Teenage Cancer Trust, who were instrumental in giving Stephen the treatment he has needed to stay alive since age 15. Stephen received the attention of multiple celebrities, notably Jason Manford, who succeeded in furthering his cause by actively posting photos, tweeting and starting a campaign calling 'Thumbs Up For Stephen'; which began after Stephen

suffered a particularly serious relapse and did not expect to live much longer.

As he neared his final days, Stephen wrote about how he wished he could reach one million pounds for the Teenage Cancer Trust. That morning was when I discovered the page and immediately donated; since then I avidly followed Stephen's progress. Miraculously, Stephen recovered from his severe relapse and wrote about how the doctors believed he had "coughed up" a tumour which had the potential to be fatal and that evening as his story gathered momentum, his fund-raising total breezed past the one million mark.

Stephen continued to do well, but also continued to remind his followers that his cancer was indeed, incurable. Stephen's Story is not a "sob story", according to his Facebook page, and it would also have no fairy-tale ending. I was devastated last week when a member of Stephen's family posted on the page that

Stephen had passed away in his sleep, after a four year battle with cancer, on May 14th. I cried a little then and I'll admit that simply writing about it is making me blurry-eyed.

Stephen's Story is one of the most astounding uses of social media I have seen in years. We might berate Facebook and Twitter for destroying the way we communicate with others, but Stephen managed to reach out to thousands - maybe even millions - by making a Facebook page and sharing his story. By deciding to utilise social media and talk about his experience, his life and his goals, Stephen immortalised himself and left behind a monumental legacy despite his tragically shortened life. At the time of print, Stephen's Just Giving page has raised £3,930,908.98 - an astronomical 393 percent of the initial target he set for himself. Stephen might be gone now, but his impact and selfless nature will resound in people for years to come.



Photo courtesy of Stephen's Story page.



*Because cats are for life, not just for Instagram.*

# Why I love EUROVISION

**Andrew Sharp**

While a lot of people hear 'Eurovision' and roll their eyes, sneer and complain about how awful it is, I can happily sit here and instead of being one of those worked up, cynical killjoys, I smile. Eurovision fanatics like myself can appear to be a little eccentric or just downright deluded. Well, I'm not attempting to challenge that image because it's pretty darn accurate. For most Brits it is that overly camp and glittery Saturday night in May hosted by the overly camp and glittery Graham Norton. The nation sits down with the rest of the continent - and even those further afield, with the contest covered on the likes of Australian national TV - to waste three and a half hours of their lives to watch a singing competition that showcases both a lack of ability to sing and a lack of competition because "it's all political" after all. Well, not quite. Any Eurovision fan will tell you this is far from the full picture. Here is just four reasons to embrace it:

**1. It's not all political** – So yes, Cyprus will probably give 10 or

12 points to Greece, and the Balkans will probably share the votes amongst themselves just like the Scandinavians will, but that's not really why we watch. We don't actually care which country wins. It's a clichéd but accurate view that anyone sucked into the Eurovision bubble has respect for every performer no matter where they are from. It's unavoidable that people will prefer some nations over others, but for true Eurovision fans it's about the song, staging and charisma. Obviously political tensions between certain nations will always throw up a little drama but it's all part of the excitement. Add to this the fact that 50% of the voting is now made up by independent national juries of industry professionals, the voting is in no way perfect, but for most fans it's merely an elementary formality at the end of the show to pick a host for next year.

**2. Yes, we know the songs are terrible!**

Believe it or not, Eurovision fans don't watch it for the music. So lighten up and take it for what it is: entertaining and horrendously kitsch. From year to year you find Finnish rock bands heavily

costumed to look like monsters and let's not forget; a tinfoil-clad cross dresser. The songs are awful but also insanely catchy. I've found myself mumbling my way through lyrics in a language I didn't know I could speak. I still have no idea what they're saying but it's all good fun and that's what it's all about. Some carry tacky messages calling for a change in attitudes whilst others simply shout about the most random of things. Take this year for example; whilst Iceland was trying to put an end to prejudice, France was just craving moustaches.

**3. It's HUGE - Eurovision is undoubtedly one of a kind.**

I enjoy revelling in the fact that I'm just a tiny bit obsessed with Europe's most popular television show because of the sheer spectacle and uniqueness of the occasion. The corny part of this speech is that it's the one event that annually brings our slightly disparate continent together for a night of wacky, light-hearted entertainment. But a nod has to go everyone involved in making it happen. From song-writing and

national selections of each entry, to the venue, the theme, the stage design and the hospitality of the host nation also the technical broadcasting, voting and coverage from the EBU and the national broadcasters - so many people work so hard to put on what is, at the end of the day, an incredible show on the grandest of scales.

**4. If nothing else, it's an excuse to party – Eurovision parties are as amazing as they sound (and for anyone who isn't sure, they sound amazing).**

It's one night a year where, instead of huffing and puffing in your armchair wondering why Saturday night TV is so poor, you can get together with your friends and have some fun. You could try a sweepstake, some unusual foods from around the continent or why not play the legendary Eurovision drinking game. Wind machines, key changes, awkward presenters, national dress and every song that has the word love in its title require copious amounts of alcohol.



Photo courtesy of Eurovision brunch news

# The important things you learn at University *besides* your degree



Photo by Sammie Caine

## Ceri Hall

So you tend to forget about going to that seminar you're paying £9,000 for, and it turns out you pretty much failed that essay you thought you had aced. But not to worry, even if you are not learning as much as you thought you would academically, you are more than making up for it in other ways. Don't believe me? Well, maybe some of these sound familiar to you...

### You have learnt how to blag a seminar presentation.

We've all done it. Some of us will have prioritized a night out and, consequently, the world's worst hangover, over a dull presentation that you have been "working" on. But not to fear. The alcohol still in your system gives you the extra boost of confidence you so desperately needed, or in some cases, it just made you unaware of how much of a painful public speaker you truly are. Either way, just spitting out all the information did get you an A.

### You now know how to live in the library.

Only at University have I seen a full

grown man snoring in a library. This has become a regular occurrence now that the University has become a convenient 24/7 learning environment. It's as if people have forgotten that they already have a home so they just don't leave. It seems that leaning against a book case makes a pretty good bed, you can brush your teeth in the sinks in the toilets, and you can even nip out to, let's say, the LICA building for a refreshing shower. You've even got a cute little garden to look out on.

### Procrastination has become an art and you discover your true calling in life.

Coursework, internships, exams, no matter what you are doing, you will always find a good way to procrastinate like a boss. It's even better for those of us who, somehow, have found their true passion. Instead of finishing off your dissertation why not start up your own business selling those 5p bracelets you just love to make?!

After your first assignment, you soon discover that the amount of alcohol you drink indicates what level degree you'll leave with.

We all know someone who lives in the bar, never attends lectures, and is ecstatic when they get 40 percent on an assessment. Additionally, we all also know the kid who has yet to discover vodka and is

unsurprisingly averaging at a first. Oh, how the other half live!

### It won't have taken you long to recognise that names are not important.

Some of my best friends at University didn't have names until a couple of months ago and I certain that some will never have one. I would sit next to them in my lecture, go shopping with them, grab a cup of coffee, and still would not be able to introduce them out of fear that they would realise I do not know their name. But at the end of the day, as long as you can give them a funky nickname like "Sleegan", "Nails", or even "Blondie", real names do not matter that much. That is of course, only at University.

### You discover that plates and bowls are not needed as long as you have a mug and a microwave.

Mugs are no longer reserved for coffee, oh no, they can be used for noodles, ready meals, and even baking cakes!

### What's the most important item in your

### wardrobe? A onesie!

I have to admit, I love a good onesie. Whether it's my dinosaur onesie I wore last year to Fylde's Extrav, or my super-warm one which means I can live like a true student with little heating, my onesies are always a must have. Not only are they fashionable, but they are fairly cheap to buy, comfortable, and very relaxing. All you need to go with them is either a nice hot chocolate, or a classic cold beer.

### Finally you discover your love for sport during the annual Roses competition.

This year Lancaster witnessed its 50th Roses competition against York University and the majority of us were truly inspired. Witnessing all the sporting talent Lancaster has to offer will have undoubtedly convinced a number of us to take up new challenges, whether it be to be a part of Lancaster, to develop new skills, or simply get close to those rugby men, we have learnt to love sport!

This relatable list is only the beginning of things we learn at university besides our degree. Hopefully most of it will be positive, and to those who are leaving us very soon, we wish that you use this knowledge wisely.

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REVOLUTION BLACKPOOL



REVOLUTION

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Vodka Rev Bull 2-4-1  
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# Three shoes you **MUST** own this summer

## Chelsea Eddy

Girls have a million shoes right? Wrong. Fortunately you only need three. These are androgynous trends, efficient for me in the sense that I don't have to think specifically in gender suitability, and well, just efficient for me. So boys and girls here are your non-sexist, no pain just gain, gender indifferent trends for spring and summer - which is almost here!

the ease of these sandals: you can literally just slip them on. Shoes aren't that simple anymore. They look good on both men and women, on holiday and at home; a sandal I can finally agree with. Do: wear them with shorts, skirts, CROPPED jeans. Don't: wear them with anything ankle length or longer.



sometimes wooden, cork or rubber with a coloured stitching that serves as another winning detail. To update them as a summer piece try the lighter coloured suede with turned up trousers or jeans. Girls, if you're a fan of pas-

practical slight wedge, a mid-heel (about two inches) and super high wedges. They make any outfit look summery and are quite casual in the sense that they look at home just as much in the day, as they are in the night. For men and women the fabrics are really interesting. You can go for leather if you'd like to play with texture, want something a bit different, or something more hardy. You can also play with patterns on the fabric variants; nautical, pastels, bold block colours.

The ones with rope laces look cool for men, more of a

## The Birkenstock.

You know the ones. No ankle straps, just a strap across the mid section to hold you in - then you're free to flip flop. They come in a variety of neutral colours for versatility and some more outrageous patterns too. I love



## The Suede Derby.

Like a brogue but without the detailing. They're a great summer update if you've been stuck in brogues all winter. I like the contrasting soles to the upper material. They are

tels, they cater for you too! Try teaming them with some dainty ankle socks and tea skirts for a vintage

## The Espadrille.

There are many takes on the espadrille and you can't really go wrong with any of them. For girls the espadrille wedge now comes in varying heights; a



trainer if you're concerned about looking too

trendy.

# scan Fashion-O-Meter

Because somebody needs to keep things stylish around here...

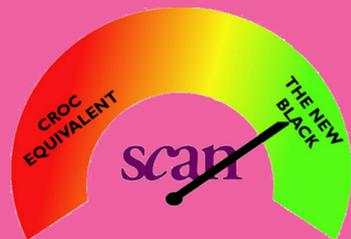
## Damian Gray

### The New Black

- Gravy: We have an addiction on our hands but thankfully us northerners are all in the same boat. The gravy boat that is...
- Elections: Blue, red, yellow or green? No not the parties, what block colour to wear when you go to vote. It's gonna be glam.
- Tropical Prints: Not just for the overdone shite shirt nights. Big. This. Summer.
- Smoothies: The fruit theme continues.... this time it involves cleaning your blender for an hour a day. Hurray!

### Croc Equivalent

- The Movies: The price of a 3D film cinema ticket is similar to the cost of tuition fees. And both take up about two hours of our week. Fewer films more focus!
- Short shorts: If the barely-there vests and overdone sunbed tans weren't bad enough already we've got #lads in the smallest shorts imaginable and they're unsightly. Keep 'em in Ibiza, boys.
- Headphones: Just because you've got Beats by Dre doesn't mean you can blast them so loud that the whole train can hear Kiesza's Hideaway involuntarily.
- The Death of Lucy Beale: We miss her and Lauren's matching suits. RIP and our love to Ian.



# How to wear: *Jumpsuits*



Jumpsuits from: (L-R) Mango, Warehouse, Love at ASOS, ASOS & True Decadence at ASOS

## Anna Meng

When it comes to style, there's nothing more versatile than a jumpsuit. Casual and yet effortlessly chic, it's easy to take this piece from day to night. I've picked out five of my favourite jumpsuits from the high street this season (all available on ASOS, in case you need a mid-exam splurge!) and added my hints and tips on how to keep your jumpsuit looking stylish all summer season!

Simplicity equals sophisticated dressing, something proven by both the polka-dot chifon panel jumpsuit (Mango, £69.99) and the Warehouse jumpsuit (Asos, £68). Next up are the floral patterned Love Bandeau (Asos, £50) and Asos Strappy Jumpsuits (Asos, £50) which are the more flirty and playful alternatives. If you're looking for something shorter, the True Decadence Wrap Front Playsuit (Asos, £35) in pale pink is a definite must-have.



suit. Think of your jumpsuit as a dress and feel free to experiment with colours, patterns and materials. Depending on your mood, lace velvet or satin work too. When it comes to patterns, bold styles work with simple accessories and vice versa.

replace it with a larger, colourful piece at night. Pull your hair back up and out of your face to draw attention to your earrings. Instead of stud earrings that are practical during the day, opt for longer chandelier style earrings for a striking effect. Alternatively, to add a bit of bohemian flair, try a matching silk headscarf.

## Make-up

During the day, lighter colours and bright blush are the keys to a fresh, understated and natural look. At night, up the ante by going for a darker shade of lipstick. Nothing says 'I've made an effort' more than a vibrant red lip, either matte or glossy, especially when paired with a darker jumpsuit. Wear it with a minimalist eyeliner cat eye or go all out with a smokey eye. Don't forget your nails - a subtle pearly or peachy shimmer during the day can be replaced by bolder colours at night.



black, orange with beige. If it's a hot day, reach for a pair of flirty, strappy sandals instead. At night, swap flats for heels. The basic, black leather court shoe always adds instant elegance. For a more glamorous look, wear peep-toe heels or, if you're somewhere warm, a pair of stiletto shoes.

So now you've found your perfect jumpsuit, how do you style it?

## Jewellery

For simple jumpsuits, statement pieces work best. Add a large cuff bracelet in gold or silver matching to in-

## Layers

A little layering is key to making your jumpsuit look evening ready. For a night out, add edge to floral jumpsuits by wearing a black leather jacket. For a splash of colour, pair your simple black or white jumpsuit with a brightly coloured blazer. For summer barbecues, try a short wrap cardigan over a sleeveless jump-



## Shoes

Like a signature red lip, the right shoes can take any jumpsuit to the next level. During the day, there's no need to sacrifice comfort and convenience for style when you choose a pair of elegant, pointy-toed ballerinas. Depending

let-tos. Satin or suede both work well.

# A Spotlight On: *Alexa Chung*

Rhea Cairns  
Deputy Fashion Editor

Alexa has been one of my fashion favourites for a long time now, and it seems that a lot of people agree. Not only is she a frequent visitor of the Front Row for fashion shows all over the world, she's also inspired Mulberry's must-have 'Alexa' bag, topped Vogue's list for the most stylish women, frequently writes for and is featured in both British Vogue and Vogue.co.uk and has also written her own book: It.

At just 16 years old, Alexa was scouted by modelling agency 'Storm' and turned down places at both Kings College London and Chelsea College of Art and Design. Known for her tomboy-glam "I just threw this outfit together in two minutes" look, her style is envious. Who else could wear clothes that should only look good on a twelve-year-old and still look like they've just stepped off the runway? Not many. (Seriously, I tried the full-length dungaree trend - it wasn't pretty.) Alexa is loved for her relatability, as she frequently posts make-up-less photos that

remind the rest of us that we don't need to cake ourselves in make up in order to look fabulous.

As well as being loved for her style, having dabbled in journalism for the Independent from November 2008 to June 2009, Alexa was made contributing editor of British Vogue in June 2009, an achievement which ignites jealousy in many aspiring journalists. However, it's not all sunshine and daises surrounding Alexa, who has herself been the subject of controversy. In 2012, the model-come-IT-girl was criticised for uploading a photo onto Instagram that sparked the widely known

'Thinspo' debate, after which Alexa removed the debated photo and made her Instagram account private.

Despite the brief negative coverage that Alexa consequently received, she was announced as spokesperson for the annual British Designers Collective in March 2012, and has gone on to be the face of many campaigns including French brand Maje and Stella McCartney's Comic Relief t-shirt collection. However, she hasn't stopped there; just last December Alexa announced that she would be designing her own fashion collection set to launch this year.

It seems like Alexa never stops. From journalism to modelling, to acting and presenting, Alexa always has a project on the go. And yes, it's probably extremely obvious that I am a huge fan of the thirty-one-year-old model, and I'm therefore probably very biased towards any negative comments that might be out there. But to be fair, there aren't a lot! In the world of fashion it appears that Alexa can do very little wrong, she does not seem to have been sucked into a one-track career like many other models have.

**So, how do we sum up Alexa? In a word: effortless.**

There are few other models (come actress, come journalist, writer, presenter, soon to be designer...) who portray a simple air of not needing to try (okay, obviously I'm not regarding the likes of Kate Moss, who, let's face it, is like the Queen of the fashion world). What's more, it doesn't seem like the power of Alexa is going to die down any time soon either; I predict that she'll be modelling on the moon in a few years - anything for a new challenge!



# How to boss the beach look

Chelsea Eddy

Sentenced in life to fail at any kind of fake tanning process, summer holidays are the only respite from my perpetual jaundice. Being a serious perennial tanner usually means that I have to expose an amount of flesh that falls precariously close to being risqué. I also rotate myself in the direction of the sun; I imagine myself to look like a blooming flower following the light, but I am more likened to the unappetising doner meat rotating in the back of Mighty Bites.

I am not the most confident in a bikini, despite grafting my ass off in the gym, but I'm not a page three model so it's okay. One thing I didn't understand until I was older - and a little more fashion literate - is that the bikini style you choose is actually crucial to how you look overall. With the help of abikiniaday.com, the wonderful ladies that they are, I have managed to reproduce their guidance specifically for this summer season.

This is what the girls classify as the main body types:

**Pear Shape:**  
**Wider on the bottom than you are on the top.**  
**Great hips!**

Ideally you want to balance out your hips and chest - so try tops that will accentuate, like halters, underwire and padded cups. Wear fuller bottoms to

even out, or if you are Beyoncé'ing it, go for a Brazilian brief. **TRENDING:** The white crochet bikini has always been a cult classic, but now you can get them in an array of colours and patterns. This would be a great style for you.

**Hourglass:**  
**Slightly curvaceous and shaped like an hourglass.**

Choose supportive styles that will firstly, look good and secondly, provide support. Choose high-leg briefs that elongate your legs and lengthen your entire profile. Try halternecks where you can undo the neck strap, so it can double-up as bandeau. **TRENDING:** So long as you have found the perfect fit, bold colour blocking looks amazing in this style, such as; corals, burnt oranges, cobalt blues, real rainforest hues. Choose a colour that you love and makes you feel confident. It will soon be your go-to bikini.

**Fuller figure:**  
**More curvaceous or heavier figure.**

You're not 60 years old, and therefore, it's just not acceptable to let yourself think that the only style you should wear is the tankini. Quite frankly, it just shouldn't be a thing. However you can pull off, in my opinion anyway, the best trends of swimwear this season. **TRENDING:** the 60s bikini. The pin-up style was

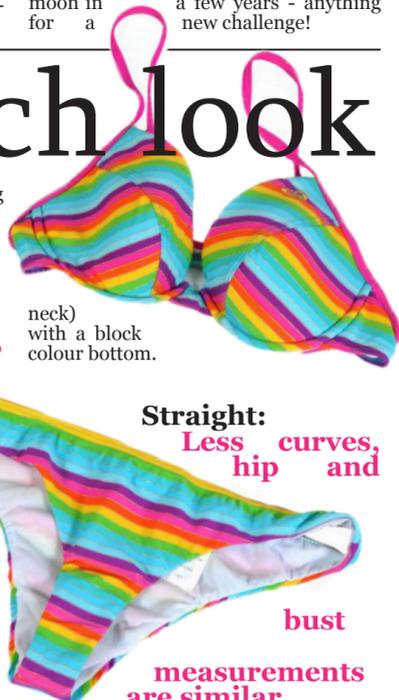
absolutely owned by your figure so bring it back. Find a beautiful bold halterneck with matching high-waisted briefs and freaking STRUT!

**Petite:**  
**Small all around, height, weight and small bust and hips**

You're better off with string bikinis so as to elongate your body. Try to avoid boy cut shorts and hipsters - anything that cuts your body off really. **TRENDING:** fringing. Wear a fringe top to exaggerate your chest and matching string bottoms to lengthen the rest of you out. I like the Amazonian style colours; bronze, desert golds, iridescent khakis.

**Athletic:**  
**Broader shoulders, narrowed hips and muscular legs.**

Your legs are a masterpiece; they deserve only the best of cuts, the Brazilian and the string-tie. I would avoid bandeau tops, but focus on softening your features, like padded cups and feminine prints. **TRENDING:** mix and match. There is a knack to it so go to: <http://abikiniaday.com/dos-and-donts-of-mix-and-match/> to find out exactly how to nail it. To follow trend, try matching an embellished top, (padded triangle, halter, or scoop



# How to increase your reading speed

Julia Molloy  
Comment Editor



Unless you have the relative luxury of a coursework-filled degree, the majority of us will be in the middle of exams right now. We're welcoming panic-filled, revision-cramming sessions and realising the volume of stuff that we have to read and somehow absorb in the space of a few weeks. Sounds impossible, right? But the key to achieving the mountain of work you need to do is to learn to read faster - an asset that will stick with you throughout your academic and professional careers.

**First things first when it comes to reading quicker: be selective about what you have to read.**

There's little point in borrowing doz-

ens of books on the subject you're studying in a vain effort to improve your knowledge. Do some research by asking your lecturers which texts they'd recommend, checking out synopses or chapter titles on Google Books, or even having a look at user reviews. Once you've narrowed down your reading list, your task will start to look a lot more manageable!

**The key to reading quickly is to avoid sounding out every word your eyes see - a method called subvocalisation that we learn as children.**

Mouthing every word may be great for proofreading your coursework, but it certainly bogs your reading down! Equally, make sure that you're targeting the right sections of your text. Introductions and conclusions to articles, chapters, or books are always the best place to start. Skim read them, get the general gist of what the text will contain, and focus your efforts on the key sections of that reading.

**Another tip that the speed reading experts out there recommend is using a pointer.**

Whether it's the tip of your finger or the chewed top of your pen, focus your eyes on the material using a pointer to avoid them wandering away. This will not only allow you to control your reading speed but also, if you move the pointer quicker than you can mouth the words, you'll help yourself to get rid of the subvocalisation habit. Once you break this, you'll nail reading quickly and increase your reading rate no end.

**Don't think though that reading faster means a decrease in the level of your comprehension.**

Reading more quickly is about being selective and that includes selecting where you need to go more slowly. Depending on the difficulty of your material, you may be able to whizz through a couple of journal articles but you might

find that a difficult textbook needs slower, more careful reading. Don't worry if this is the case - reading faster where you need to is what speed reading is all about.

**Lastly, though none of us probably wants to hear this, the best way to read quicker is to practise!**

Curious about my own reading rate - given that I'll probably read over a dozen dense novels during the summer holidays - I was more than surprised to learn that I average at about a measly 260 words per minute. With the aid of speed reading tips, though, an article like this one should be easily read in a minute. To find out your own reading rate and to measure your speed reading progress, time yourself and count how many lines you can read in a minute. Then count the number of words in the second line of the passage you've just read, then multiply the two numbers together. Speed reading has the potential to double your starting point, so why not give it a go, get some practice in, and ace your revision reading? Good luck!



Photo by Nomadic Lass

# Not your average student holiday: *Exploring rural France*

Jessica Kadel  
Features Editor



Opposing the typical student reputation of annually vacating to Malia, Kavos or Ibiza, I, being the most boring 20 year old to walk the earth, have come on a tranquil holiday to Mayrac. "Where?" I hear you ask, well to put it in Layman's terms it can only be described as the French version of the Cotswolds – a.k.a. the middle of nowhere. With an excessive amount of countryside views, it has rivers and greenery which stretch out endlessly and unquestionably depict postcard-esque rural France.

Mayrac is situated in the Lot which is labelled "France's best kept secret", and despite being the town to birth the ever-famous foie gras (goose fat), Mayrac is possibly the least renowned town in the entirety of France.

**However, this concealment is part of its' charm.**

Undisturbed by the predictable plethora of tourists and commercialism you'd find in most popular holiday locations, in Mayrac, you are instead surrounded by an abundance of goats, chickens and archetypal French men holding baguettes.

Here you can genuinely escape the commotion of University and wind down in a town which emits French heritage and culture.

Most of the local villages in the Lot are former medieval strongholds, with limestone buildings which exhibit characteristic French shutters on every window. There are countless cobbled streets with rustic French

Photo by Jess Kadel



shops full of trinkets and souvenirs, there are also weekly markets which sell local produce – wines, foie gras, soaps and cheeses. My holiday mainly consists of eating Brie, going on scenic walks and avoiding any locals due to my shoddy A-level French.

However there is a surprising amount to do for such a remote region. So far I have already conquered canoeing down the Dordogne river, during which I essentially just sat in the back of the canoe photographing the picturesque views while my mum paddled. We've also visited some castles, which seem to be infinite in rural France. We even attended a 1900s village, dedicated to simulating

every aspect from the 1900s, down to the buildings, machinery and costumes of every reluctant staff member. Finally, to my satisfaction, there are plenty of animal parks, including a reptile park, an eagle sanctuary and a monkey reserve which you circulate while feeding the monkeys popcorn – apparently monkeys love popcorn.

If by chance you're feeling energetic, in Mayrac there are many local cycle paths to explore, or forests to ramble in with the goat posse, the region is also ideal for paragliding. However, there is always the preferable option to just sit outside the quaint cafés, sunbathing and getting chubby from the variety of cheeses or drinking wine until you're confident enough to slur some French at anyone who passes by.

Although it doesn't sound like the most exciting venue for the student demographic, it's worthwhile to sometimes get away from all the hustle and bustle and have a peaceful holiday in the countryside.

**Besides, Mayrac evades dealing with week-long hangovers, regrettable tattoos and the risk of being on Sun, Sex and Suspicious Parents.**

# The most *annoying* library habits

Kelly Bradshaw

There's nothing I love more than a good rant, and in this case, I'm going to rant about something which I know most university students will relate to - annoying things people do in the library.

So to begin, let's rant about the most obvious annoying thing that people do in the library - talking in the silent zone. Why people do this I will never understand. In the discussion zone, it's created for students to talk, and even in the quiet zone, although it's still incredibly annoying, I can deal with the odd whisper, but in the silent zone... there's no justification for it, unless some people simply cannot understand signs. Why talk in a zone which is clearly reserved for students who have assignments or dissertations to do, or have a load of revision to do for exams? The same goes for giggling, which is just as annoying, if not more. Is university work really that amusing?

**People who carelessly pick up parts of your essay by mistake at the printer.** In the process, they end up creasing all of the sheets of paper

coming out of the printer, simply because they can't wait to attain their work. I completely understand that you want to get your uni work quickly, but there's really no need to grab a huge pile of everyone's work to dump it anywhere you please after you've found yours, or to crumple up paper coming out of the printer because you can't be bothered waiting any longer. Everyone else is in the same situation; please try to understand that the printer wasn't created only for your benefit.

**People who listen to their music loudly in the silent zone.** There's really no point in said person using their earphones because everyone can hear their music so clearly anyway. We can all hear every word of the songs from their Miley Cyrus album - how can they even concentrate on revision if they're listening to music that loudly? Turn it down.

**People who use the computers in the library just to check their Facebook.** Isn't that what your phone is for? There's nothing more annoying than being in desperate need of a computer and discovering a student anxiously checking their Facebook to see whether or not they've got any likes

yet on their recently uploaded profile photo. Checking notifications elsewhere would be much more beneficial to devoted students so that they can use the computers to actually do some work.

When you're in a rush, anxiously waiting to use the printer credit machine to print off an essay that's almost due, there's always that one student who puts about £10 worth of change into the

machines. Let's be fair, you're not going to print off 200 pages are you. Putting a couple of pounds in should be more than sufficient.

I could rant for ages about this but it's probably best to stop now before I get carried away. I will however leave you with this message: being quiet and respecting fellow students is a no-brainer.



Photo by David Bleasdale

# A guide to posing perfectly for photos

Hayley Schubert  
Deputy Lifestyle Editor

Photo by Lucy Lamb



Looking at my phone the morning after a 'few quiet drinks' last week left me asking, 'why do I suddenly think I have become Miley Cyrus?'. Minus the foam finger and the twerking, I seemed to be sticking my tongue out in ninety per cent of the photos. I had become a hybrid of frog and woman, my tongue poised and ready, as if I was waiting to catch some flies. However, as the days have gone by, I have noticed how the sticky out tongue face is actually immensely popular - apparently showing your tonsils is now the norm when someone points a camera in your direction. This has inspired me to devise a guide of all the things we are guilty of when expected to pose.

## The teapot pose.

I personally partake in this one to eradicate any sign of bingo wings; however other people may have different motives. Often useful if you find yourself on either the far left or far right of a group photo, the key is to stand up tall with one hand on your hip and the other hand dangling by your side. To create some symmetry you could put both hands on your hips, however this is less teapot pose and more 'I-look-like-an-angry-football-coach', but the choice is yours.

## The duck pout.

This can work well in conjunction with any of the poses in this guide (apart from the sticky out tongue pose, for obvious reasons). Again there is an ulterior move

here, the duck pout can help to accentuate cheek bones, but I think you could also use it to draw attention to a new lipstick or gloss you have purchased. I can only describe this pose as 'puckering up' - purse your lips together in what you consider to be a fairly attractive way and watch the Facebook likes role in.

## The peace sign.

Often a good pose if you are caught off guard and suddenly find a camera

lens pointed in your direction. An easy one to master, the peace sign involves making a 'V' shape with your index finger and middle finger, tucking the rest behind your thumb.

**Disclaimer:** I have many a time gone to do the peace sign pose and actually reversed it, causing me to swear at said photographer; be careful so as not to offend.



## The bending your knees pose.

Now I can understand this one if you are tall; bending your knees to balance out the height difference makes sense. Believe me, I know how it feels to look like the Big Friendly Giant when you friends' heads barely even touch your shoulder. However, people of all heights seem to be contributing to the popularity of this pose, suggesting that there is actually a connection between a camera lens and the Earth's gravitational pull.

## The 'I seem to look better if I pull a funny face' pose.

I rarely seem to be able to take a 'normal' photograph. Sometimes my friends get annoyed that I have ruined yet another, as I am either mid-laughter, looking in the wrong direction, or have gone for a pose that connotes I have an excellent sense of humour. Other times they rejoice in this excellent sense of humour, and it is these photographs that you will haunt each other with for the rest of your lives, laughing until your cheeks ache.



Photo by Lucy Lamb

# Lifestyle at Lancaster

Deputy Lifestyle Editor, Hayley Schubert, and Gabriella Papa hit Alexandra Square to discover more about student lifestyle at Lancaster.

## What is your worst regret since starting University?



**Emma:** Not being organised enough, I get too distracted by the other aspects of University life

**Callum:** Buying Greggs every day because it's like a black hole for my student loan!

**Kate:** Not making the most out of second year before being swamped with work!

**Rachel:** Not spending more time on my dissertation. I spent four days on it and still got a 2:1!

## Name three things currently in your food cupboard at University.

**Charlotte:** Beans, hummus and tuna.

**Chris:** Victoria sponge cake, custard and doughnuts.

**Sam:** Noodles, spaghetti hoops and Special K.



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## What is the best thing you have purchased since starting University?

**Antonio:** My Apple Mac because it is very useful for both studying and entertainment.

**Marta:** My books from Blackwell's for studying... I study Law.

**Figó:** Some really nice shorts from Sports Direct, because I like shorts, and I'm not even joking, they're so comfy!

**Victoire:** My iPad, because it is much easier than using a laptop when it comes to uni work.



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**Iyare:** To travel around Europe and Japan, oh and work. That's my plan for a while I guess

**Gary:** Sleep, work and play games!

**Lizzie:** Fringe festival - I'm actually auditioning right now! Then definitely some relaxing before second year.

**Sam:** I'll be studying astrophysics... basically what I do here.

## What are your plans for the summer?



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Photos by Mae Reddaway.

# Five places to satisfy your wanderlust

## Bryony Seager

Exam season is upon us and each day we're usually found holed up in either the Learning Zone or the Library. It's only natural that the mind drifts elsewhere and begins to contemplate the fast-approaching summer. Here are five ideas of places you could go either this summer, or if you're taking a gap year, before you start the next stage of your life.

### Scotland

Okay, it might sound like a boring option but Scotland has a lot to offer, particularly if you don't have a lot of money to spend. Of course there are the bigger cities of Glasgow and Edinburgh but there's also the absolutely stunning Scottish Highlands and Moray Firth Coast. There's a lot to see and do for the outdoorsy types, from hiking to scuba diving with the dolphins that frequent the Moray Firth coast. The country is diverse and beautiful, but you will probably need a car in order to see all the different areas because public transport can be infrequent.

### France

France could be the beginning of an epic European InterRailing trip, or you could do it as a standalone trip. I've been lucky enough to go to some fairly diverse areas of France such as La Rochelle, Normandy, Paris and Nice, but there is still so much to see and do. The French-Swiss border is supposed to be absolutely breath-taking and the south coast is not to be missed. You could go celebrity spotting in St Tropez, go to the summer soul and jazz festival in Nice, or go sailing in Marseille if you're feeling particularly adventurous. And just to top it all off, they have great food.

### Greek Islands

Most of us have seen Mamma Mia and at that moment, most of us vowed we were going to visit the gorgeous Greek Islands, with their azure seas and white beaches. I've always dreamed of island hopping by ferry, and staying in white-painted B&B's for a few days on different islands. I'm fairly sure people don't actually dance about on jetties before leaping fully clothed into the sea, but it does seem to have a fairly relaxed culture.

### Nepal

A few weeks ago I saw some pictures of Nepal and ever since then I've been obsessed. It looks jaw-droppingly stunning. Seven of the world's highest peaks are in Nepal, all of these reach over 20,000ft - whilst you might not actually climb them, just saying you've seen them and their enormity is a feat in itself. Nepal is also surprisingly cheap, if you live frugally it's been calculated that you can live for about £20 a day. It's a land of diverse culture and food; there are 35 ethnic groups that call Nepal home so there are lots of different foods and experiences to get involved with. It's probably wise to figure out Nepal's seasons first though, so you don't end up trying to hike in monsoon season!

### Wicked Camping in Australia

I was lucky enough to go to Australia in my gap year, and whilst travelling the country I kept seeing heavily gruffed Wicked Campervans. You get a large bed, ample storage, cooking equipment and an iPod dock - what more could you

want from a camper van? There are options to hire vans for up to five people, and when you've got your own wheels the country is pretty much your oyster. I would probably do the East coast if I were driving, heading to places such as Cairns, Airlie Beach (where you can do an amazing day trip around the Whitsunday islands on the Big Fury boat - basically a speed boat - first hand recommendation from me!), the Gold Coast, Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, The Great Ocean Road and Adelaide. There is so much to do in this amazing country - it is an experience you'll never ever forget!



Photo by Moyan Brenn

# Super-easy *summery* cocktails

## Amy Coote

Step away from the standard bottle of White Zinfandel and grab your best friends, your best glasses - the umbrellas are optional - and make a jug/bowl full of these yummy and easy cocktails to spice up your pre-drinking this summer. They are also perfect for BBQs, so you can be the hostess with the mostest whilst holding your own post-exams party! Even if you just want to have the girls round for drinks for your last exam blowout, these will definitely go down a treat. These recipes use your typical alcohol and ingredients but with an extra added twist. Most ingredients will give you a pitcher full.

### Cran Razzzy

#### Ingredients:

120 mls fresh or frozen raspberries for garnish  
480 mls cranberry-raspberry juice  
480 mls soda water  
30 mls lime juice, plus four wedges for garnish  
180 mls (3/4 cup) vodka

Directions  
If using fresh raspberries, freeze them in a single layer

for about one hour - or overnight - before proceeding with step two. Combine cranberry-raspberry juice, seltzer, lime juice, and vodka in a pitcher. Divide among four ice-filled glasses. Garnish with frozen raspberries and lime wedges.

### Watermelon Gin Fizz

#### Ingredients:

1200 mls diced watermelon, divided  
180 mls gin, divided  
118 mls lime juice, divided  
319 mls ginger ale, divided  
Lime wedges for garnish

Directions

Freeze one cup of watermelon for garnish. Puree the remaining four cups watermelon. Strain; divide the juice among four ice-filled glasses. Top each with 1 1/2 ounces gin, 2 tablespoons lime juice, and 1/3 cup ginger ale. Garnish with the frozen watermelon and lime wedges.

Nonalcoholic variation: Omit the gin.

### Monkey-lada

#### Ingredients:

Two very ripe bananas  
240 mls diced fresh pineapple, plus four wedges for garnish  
240

mls pineapple juice  
120 mls "lite" coconut milk  
720 mls ice cubes  
180 mls (3/4 cup) light rum

Directions  
Puree the bananas, diced pineapple, pineapple juice, coconut milk and ice in a blender. Stir in rum. Divide among four glasses. Garnish with pineapple wedges. If you don't want to buy coconut milk separately then pineapple and coconut juice is often found at your local supermarket, which is just as perfect. Then simply add a couple of spoons of ice cream to make your colada have that creamy effect.

### Peach Wine Cooler

Something different to try with a fruit not commonly associated with anything other than a posh 'Peach Bellini'...

#### Ingredients:

720 mls seltzer  
240 mls peach juice or nectar  
240 mls dry white wine  
30 mls honey  
Four slice(s) fresh peach

Directions  
Combine seltzer and peach juice (or nectar) in a pitcher. If desired, add wine and honey; stir until the honey is dissolved. Divide among four ice-filled glasses. Garnish with peach slices.



# scan recipes: Chocolate treats

## Skye King

This week the focus is on chocolate and I am sure those of you with a sweet tooth will adore these recipes. The recipes are a fresher alternative to store bought chocolate desserts, and are simple to make, so do give them a go. Share your creations with family and friends, too!

### Nama Chocolate

Nama means 'raw' or 'fresh' in Japanese. This is a very rich and moist chocolate dessert that literally melts in your mouth. If you've had French truffles before you might find them similar, as the main ingredients are practically the same. However, the Nama Chocolate comes in small squares unlike Truffles, which are ball-shaped.

(Makes around about 36 perfect squares + a few uneven ones)

#### Ingredients

400 grams good quality dark chocolate (70% cacao)  
200ml fresh cream (heavy whipping cream)  
Cocoa powder (to coat chocolate)

#### Method:

1. Chop the chocolate into smaller pieces using a knife so that they will melt evenly and fast.
2. Line a 20 x 20 cm baking dish with parchment paper - the size of the tray is important as the height of the chocolate is according to how much you pour. Add the fresh cream into a small saucepan and almost bring to the boil over a medium - when you see bubbles around the saucepan remove from the heat. Add the chocolate and stir till the chocolate and cream are combined completely. Pour your chocolate mixture into the prepared baking dish, smooth the surface of the mixture and refrigerate until firm, which will roughly be four to five hours (alternatively leave it overnight). Remove the chocolate from the baking dish and cut into cubes using a warm knife (you can warm a knife under hot water). Sprinkle cocoa powder over your chocolate cubes and serve chilled. Now enjoy handmade Nama Chocolate! It will last two to three days in your fridge, that is if you can resist eating them all by then.



### Chocolate Strawberries

The name of this treat is rather self-explanatory: fresh strawberries lavished in a decadently delicious white chocolate coating.

(Makes 10-12 Chocolate Strawberries)

#### Ingredients:

10-12 large strawberries  
One high quality white chocolate bar (around about 4 oz)

#### Method:

1. Line a sheet pan with parchment paper - so you can store in the fridge easily.
2. Wash the strawberries well, especially the leaf are and dry them completely, dabbing with paper towel.
3. Cut the chocolate into smaller pieces and put it in a microwave-safe glass bowl.
4. Microwave the bowl for 30 seconds first, making sure to adjust the power to 50% medium. If you don't know how to change the power then microwave in 15-second intervals.
5. After every microwave interval take out and stir with a spoon. Make sure to stir well because even though it 'looks' like the chocolate hasn't melted, when you stir it is soft.
6. As the chocolate softens, microwave in shorter intervals like five to eight seconds.
7. When the chocolate is almost completely melted you don't need to microwave anymore. Just stir vigorously so the remaining heat melts the chocolate.
8. After the chocolate has completely melted, hold the bowl in one hand and grab the stem of the strawberry gently with your other hand, dipping the strawberry in the chocolate mixture.
9. Hold the strawberry in the bowl for a few seconds to allow the excess to drip off.
10. Place on the parchment paper and keep in the fridge until ready to serve.

\*The strawberries should be eaten within 12-24 hours and must be refrigerated at all times, serve chilled.\*



*Bonus kitten, because exams are hard and we all deserve it.*

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## Comment

Comment Editors: Julia Molloy & Sam Smallridge ✉ scan.comment@lusu.co.uk

### What can we expect to see in the upcoming 2015 General Election?

Iain Beddow  
Sport Editor



With the European elections ending last week, attention will swiftly turn to next year's general election in May. Opinion polls show a minor Labour lead with the Tories in touching distance. Having said that, with Labour stagnating, Dave's "Big Society" never really making headway and Clegg's face now a symbol of hate for student voters, to predict who will be residing in Downing Street in 2015 proves an incredibly tricky task.

While opinion polls fluctuate between Labour and the Conservatives, no party is showing the majority lead needed to effectively form a strong government next year. Labour, the Conservatives and the Liberal Democrats are all troubled by their own problems. Ed Miliband's leadership seems to raise big concerns amongst the electorate; David Cameron's austerity measures have hit the poor hard; and Nick Clegg's false promises have damaged Liberal Democrat integrity substantially. Amongst all this, Nigel Farage has profited greatly, emerging as a strong protest vote against the mainstream party's failings – despite UKIP suffering their own internal problems too.

Ed Miliband's leadership has come under serious scrutiny and there remain other uncertainties when looking past his leadership credentials. While criticising Conservative policy is all well and good, having a significant plan with which to takeover is something which will prove much more important. Cameron, on the other hand, has firmly stated a "we are all in it together" line throughout his premiership. However, the coalition has seen the culmination of an ever-increasing gap between the rich



Photo by Jeff Overs

and poor which sees the wealthy get richer while the poor's cost of living increases. They, as well as the Lib Dems, are in for a drubbing at the European elections, with many anticipating a cabinet reshuffle as a consequence. Cameron has frequently felt criticism from his party's right-wing members as he sways to a more liberal outlook. This has resulted in many claiming he is out of touch with his own party which has created rebellion and defection from voters and some party members. Cameron and Osborne are both clinging on to the revival in the economy, which they hope will be booming by the time of the election.

The backlash for Nick Clegg and his party following the broken promises of 2010 are expected to hit the Lib Dems incredibly hard at the European and general elections. Despite this, with neither Miliband nor Cameron giving much confidence in forming a majority government,

the likelihood of an outright lead come next May seems far off. In order to form a strong enough government a coalition may again be called upon, which would potentially give Clegg a route out of a miserable four years as deputy prime minister. History suggests that forming a minority government would not help any party as James Callaghan and John Major know all too well. They held office for only a year after trying to manage a minority government – a minority government which could make a vote of no confidence and bat down projected policy and legislation, thus stemming the remit of the prospective government. When considering this it should come as a surprise if a party does indeed form a minority government, if no-one gains the elusive 326-seat majority.

While the political landscape could drastically change by the end of 2015, Cameron, Miliband

and Clegg all face the perils of losing an election which would put their heads on the line – making their futures just as uncertain as their parties. If the Scots vote for independence the plot could be further thickened, as Labour would lose 40 seats north of the border, and Cameron's head would be called for as he may earn the tag "the prime minister who lost Scotland." It is taken for granted that Scottish independence won't materialise, but should it do so, a huge spanner would be thrown into Westminster, as next year's general election would spiral into further uncertainty and turmoil.

As the race for the next general election intensifies, with no stand-out candidate emerging, there are many questions still left unanswered. The Conservatives must continue to hold Labour responsible for the 2008 crash and cite economic figures which shown Osborne's austerity measures have cut the deficit gradually. Labour must create

a manifesto which gives the electorate the feeling of the grass being greener on the other side, while Miliband attempts to restore confidence in his own leadership too.

**For Clegg, the prospect of being in power, even as a coalition, will seem far more attractive than being sat on the opposition in the House of Commons next May.**

All these different narratives will come to the fore in May 2015 presenting us with one of the most unpredictable general elections in a generation.



# Women should not be storming the gates of Parliament - they should already be open!

**Madie Howard**

Jenny Willott, Equalities Minister for the Liberal Democrats, has recently criticised the fact that none of the party's cabinet ministers are women, whilst also supposing that the insufficiently low number of women standing as Lib Dem MPs – only 12 percent – is due to the male-centric atmosphere of parliament. In particular, Prime Minister's Questions is notorious for the highly competitive and traditionally masculine ethos that she believes dissuades those socialised into a more compassionate behavioural model of femininity from articulating themselves freely.

Interestingly, her claims are reaffirmed by politicians from different parties, such as Lady Jenkins, who runs the Conservative Women2Win campaign. She sympathised, saying: "The constant criticism of women in politics is hard. You'd think why would I? I stood once and I hated it. I hated being spat at on the street because [of wearing] a rosette." Jenkins' comments represent an oppression of female agency that is commonplace for women generally and heightens the need to address female disenfranchisement

in the public sphere. If the focus on the mistreatment of women seems somehow threatening to male representation, remember that the reason for its prominence is due to a pre-existing gender imbalance that exclusively marginalises women. The plea for more women to occupy positions in parliament is a re-assessment of this inequality that aligns with the progression of society in disqualifying the many aspects of oppression.

This not to say that parliament has a "woman problem" – as journalistic jargon conventionally proposes – because the use of such discourse would purport the innocuous notion that it is unnatural for women to occupy positions of power. Of course, this is a reality we have been familiar with as a result of a wilfully misogynistic prejudice. Put simply, 51 percent of the world's population are women and therefore it is only logical that a similarly high percentage of parliamentary positions should be filled by self-defining female politicians. Some people may argue that the representation of self-defining women via policy is the most important aspect of political practice and this argument is valid, but consider the truthful notion that those who have intimate knowledge of a particular identity experience are the most equipped to handle policy pertaining to it. It is just as unfair to expect male politicians



Photo by Catherine Bebbington

to display expert handling of policies that predominantly affect women as it is to perpetuate the exclusion of women who correctly fear institutionalised misogyny would hamper a possible political career. It is important to note that persons of all genders should feel able to push a wide-range of policies, but there is currently a bias towards men that is an arguably ineffective organisation of political representation. Criticism of the competitive, quarrelsome debates in the House of Commons are widespread throughout society and the prevalence of hegemonic masculinity is the root

of the combativeness. It is therefore unappealing to women, who are already discriminated against due to the inherent misogyny of certain aspects of socialised masculinity.

In addition, action must be taken to solve the other factors discouraging women from filling parliamentary positions, such as the recently exposed "sexually inappropriate behaviour" from the former Chief Executive, Lord Rennard. Unfortunately this abuse of power is not specific to one party or even restricted to parliament, as proven by the recent exposure of the similar-

ly predatory behaviour of men holding senior positions within TV networks.

It is reasonable to say that female under-representation and – in some cases – exploitation is a result of the aforementioned masculine competitiveness that is now largely redundant as society begins to break away from "traditional gender roles". The rectification of oppression towards people on account of their gender must continue and actively welcoming women MPs into parliament is an important step towards achieving a fair and unified society.

# The human cost of a government striving to meet targets

**Jonathan Eldridge**

An initiative outlined by the employment minister, Esther McVey, aims to prevent those on benefits from turning down controversial zero-hours contracts without good reason. A government spokesperson said the new universal credit scheme will continue to support benefits claimants if they do not get the hours they need, automatically adjusting to "ensure they were financially supported." McVey argues that this change to the system means that "it's not longer zero, it's enabling hours."

Zero-hours contracts have been criticised for increasing job insecurity, and whilst encouraging people into work is generally seen as a cause for celebration, this announcement is bound to generate a degree of unease. The change could see those who refuse to adhere to this rule lose their social security for more than three months. This appears to sit dutifully alongside the

rest of the current government's attempts to motivate people with the threat of punitive measures. Moreover, whilst the acceptance of zero-hours contracts will do little to soften the burden of uncertainty brought about by being jobless, a spokesperson for the Department of Work and Pensions has also stated that workers "would be expected to...carry on looking for permanent full-time work in the meantime." This is, essentially, a tacit admission of the inadequacy of zero-hours contracts and of the fact that they are not a feasible option for sustainable employment.

Jobcentre "coaches" would be able to assess whether a role was suitable for a claimant; in this position they could exercise discretion in regards to specific cases. These appointed arbiters are a flaccid source of cheerfulness in an oth-

erwise ill-judged plan. The coalition's drive to reduce the cost to the taxpayer of funding the benefit system has often been seen as showing disregard



Photo courtesy of LSBF

for those who are claiming, and though this initiative is most certainly not as harmful as others implemented

previously, it does follow the same trajectory. The government will continue to whistle the same symphony about "incentivising" people back to work, but within this apparently harmonious song is an entirely different tune. The sole ambition is to bundle people into jobs, whilst simultaneously displaying an invidious ignorance about the conditions workers have to endure.

In attempting to alleviate "unemployment neurosis" (a phrase coined by the Austrian psychiatrist, Viktor E. Frankl), the coalition has shown a singular lack of care in dealing with a new kind of problem. In a society which lurches after targets, the individual citizen is quashed by the clamour to attain a certain percentage point. An article in The Independent revealed that the "number of people in work and claiming housing benefit has

rocketed by 59 percent since the coalition came to power and will cost taxpayers an extra £5 billion by next year's general election." Current political decisions are almost entirely determined by cost-effectiveness. Thus, even disregarding the plight of the claimant who accepts a zero-hours contract, this decision is a tepid and highly contentious way of ensuring economic buoyancy.

Will zero-hours contracts provide long-term employment prospects for workers? No. This decision only legitimates itself in the sense that it encourages people to become more "useful" – in so far as usefulness today is judged by someone being in or out of employment. Compounding this disputable advantage is the fact that the government is not dealing with the main social problem. The same Independent article states: "The number of housing benefit claimants in work rose from 650,561 in May 2010 to 1.03 million by the end of last year." The coalition should face up to the broader issue of financial insecurity, and start ensuring that those who have jobs are able to live with a greater level of fiscal independence.

# Addictive personalities - 'Brand' of the human race

**Julia Molloy**  
 Comment Editor



It's rare that Russell Brand isn't in the news. After appearing in an interview with Oprah Winfrey, Brand discussed his addictive personality – a personality that has led to obsessions with food and pornography as well as drug addiction – in order to fill some inner lack or to deal with other inner problems. Most of us are lucky enough not to suffer such harmful addictions as smoking cigarettes, taking drugs, or alcohol abuse, and so we may think ourselves exempt from the madness of Russell Brand's world. Yet Brand's candid interview has opened up a can of worms when it comes to our addictive personalities as a whole species. Though some may have more extreme versions of this personality than others, the

increasingly alarming state of things is that addiction in some way or another is becoming a part of our lives.

Every person has their own quirky obsession. Usually it has to be confessed in the form of a TV show, film series, or book series. I can safely say that my obsession with Doctor Who hasn't diminished in the slightest over the past few years despite it being a kids' TV programme, and I'm sure that hard-core Game of Thrones fans can recognise their own obsessions with that show. This is normally fine – it's a way of making ourselves happy and providing some form of escapism from the realities of revision, more revision, and occasionally the worry about money or getting a job.

But the main addiction that almost everyone has to some extent, whether we recognise it or not, is our relationship with technology. We're at the stage in our development as a human race where technology has advanced so much that now we're at a loss as to what to do without our mobile phones, without our laptops, or without our televisions. Our

phones in particular have become an extension of our physical selves: a device with which to connect to the rest of the world. Indeed, this only leads to more addiction. Our access to the internet means addiction to social media or the need to constantly like, share, update, tweet and retweet whatever is happening in our lives, or something that we have found amusing. Even the simple idea of having camera phones has meant that everything around us has become a potential focal point – taking snaps of restaurant food, beautiful scenes, cute animals, and even our own faces has become commonplace.

This, I'm sure, is nothing new to you.

**But have we really considered what effect such addictions are having on our experience of life?**

It's as if we see the world through technological goggles. Gone is the appreciation of a beautiful scene at the moment we see it; we have to filter it through our camera phones. Gone is the enjoyment of a concert; we have to film the whole thing and stick it on YouTube to show off how lucky we are to have "seen" a band perform live when in actual fact we've paid more attention to filming it than enjoying it in the moment. It's the mind-set that everyone should be interested in what we're doing that is destroying our experience of reality – and all because of our addictive personalities.

Russell Brand, as much as I dislike him, has reached the point where he can acknowledge his own addictions and the problems that are causing those addictions, and as such he can start to tackle those issues. The rest of us, however, are forgetting and repressing our own issues in a very British, stiff-upper-lip way. The most shy and introverted person can become the exact opposite using technology instead of accepting themselves for who they are or addressing their own

confidence issues. It's the same for all of us – our addictive personalities are leading to an external replacement of our inner happiness, leading to increases in mental health problems and, I would suggest, an overall decline in happiness.

**Next time you're in a beautiful spot, or you're using social media to get away from your own unhappiness, just pause and think: is your technological addiction really going to help?**

I'm not suggesting that technology is inherently bad; in fact, it can be very useful. But when it comes to our own happiness and wellbeing, our addictive personalities can do nothing but get in the way.

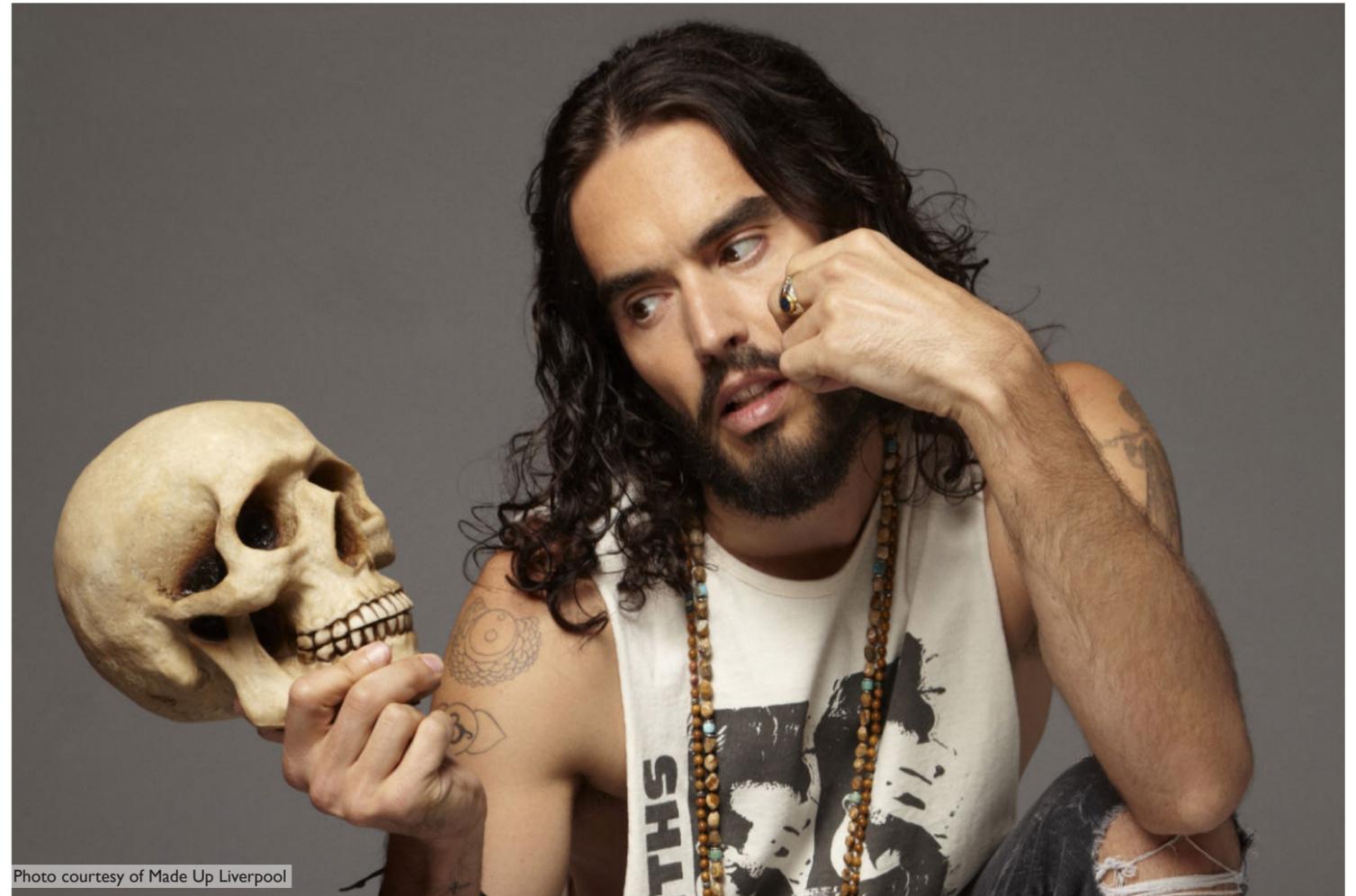


Photo courtesy of Made Up Liverpool

## There's no better time than now to be an activist

Sam Smallridge  
Comment Editor



Parliament at the moment appears uniquely poised. The government has, to put it bluntly, stopped legislating. The now mandated five-year term which the coalition has introduced has meant that this government has run out of ideas and will spend the next year essentially campaigning.

However, this year does not

have to become a "lost" year in regards to policy making. Select Committees, which have grown in prominence over the past few years, can exert their influence over the vacuous debates which will populate parliament. In what has been described as one of the most rebellious parliaments in recent memory, the much derided institution has appeared to have grown some teeth. Or rather, that as people in recent elections have voted for parties other than Labour or the Conservatives, government majorities have shrunk, making them increasingly susceptible to a small groups of resolute MPs. That prime ministers are now losing their main domination of the House of Commons is to

be celebrated, but it should only really be treated as such if the space for legislation is taken up by the right MPs.

If this happens, the coming year could well be the time for an individual MP to make a big difference. We have already seen the result of some particularly dogged MPs. Labour MP Stella Creasy has fought against loan sharks since entering parliament in 2010 and appeared to have won when George Osborne confirmed the government would cap charges on payday loans in November last year. Similarly, Conservative MP Andrew Bridgen, after putting much effort into the project, managed to gain enough support to decriminalise

TV licence non-payment in March this year. These are isolated examples of particularly dedicated MPs affecting legislation at a time when government, and the opposition, have their own agendas.

**Considering this vacuum for debate in parliament, there is much room for other MPs to have a similar effect.**

In the next year, for example, we will see politicians debating the merits (or negatives) of drug legalisation in Britain. This is a result of the change.org petition made by Russell Brand which garnered popular support online. It probably won't be passed, but the fact that the topic is even being debated by a chamber which can appear resistant to radical change is a sign of progress which should be commended. In a similar vein Zac Goldsmith, Conservative MP for Kingston, has appeared determined to push through the power of "recall" in the next year which, despite being in the coalition manifesto, has been dropped by the wayside. Recall would give the British public the power to trigger a by-election were an MP judged to have behaved wrongly by a certain number of the constituency.

We have seen "clicktivism" – people signing petitions and sharing posters online – derided

as a means of making change. However, the founder of change.org, Brie Rogers Lowry, came out fighting last week, highlighting the good that online campaigns have done such as getting a woman on bank notes, while mother Stacy Stafford was able to keep her severely disabled child in school despite the council cutting his funding. Such campaigns have even helped a grieving family make an insurer pay out a promised life insurance policy which was being withheld. These are good and moral examples of people power which only serve to show the profound differences people can make. Hopefully in the next year this can be reflected in parliament.

Of course, it could turn out to be that all of this could be wrong. The narrowness of the polls could mean that party whips are even stricter on their MPs for fear of causing any controversy on the eve of one of the closest elections in decades. Similarly, any MPs seeking to gain re-election may be cautious in the face of a radical policy such as Caroline Lucas's, knowing that it could lose a number of important votes at the general election. However, it's far better to try and see what happens. People often complain that MPs do not listen to "the people", whoever they are. It's a saying which is a gross distortion of the responsiveness of many politicians. This next year is probably one of the best opportunities for people to get their voices heard. And whether it actually happens or not, it's far better to try than wonder once this unique opportunity has passed.

Photo courtesy of CGP Grey



## One alumnus that should not have kept in touch

Daniel Snape  
Deputy Comment Editor

July had come around quickly and hundreds of nervous Lancaster students were lining up for graduation. Before them lurked one of the University's most honoured guests: a local MP whom they had asked once again to congratulate each of the students as they left clutching their qualifications. He didn't stand to shake anyone's hand. He couldn't – not for much longer than a quarter of an hour. Even during election campaigns, while most partisans fought door-to-door, he would have an armchair delivered to the pavement outside people's houses and wait comfortably for the electorate to come to him. This time, the man lounged on-stage in his own varnished throne, draped in ceremonial robes and tucked into several square metres of pin-striped suit.

He spoke to the tearful crowd

but said nothing particularly memorable. Despite his Parliamentary responsibilities, public speaking was never the MP's forte. Before one talk on Liberal ideology in the Faraday Lecture Theatre, he warned the audience that he had absolutely no idea how to speak to students, and regularly reminded people that his only alma mater was "the university of life." Rather, the man had always relied on his humour, his contacts, and his striking physical presence – traits he had abused several times over. Many of those students now regret having to shake that hand. The University had invited none other than Cyril Smith, the MP for Rochdale.

Once, everyone in Lancashire had something to say about Sir Cyril. He was positively venerated. Various representing Labour, the Liberals, and himself, Smith was re-elected five times in the same seat and his reputation continued to haunt Rochdale MPs long after his retirement and eventual death. Now, people are reluctant to mention his name, although a

few old fashioned locals maintain that he was a visionary and a gentleman. Two years ago, the Crown Prosecution Service found overwhelming evidence that Smith had abused young boys while working for the Council in the 50s and 60s. Although over a hundred complaints were made, he was never tried.

In 1969, Lancashire Constabulary began investigating Smith's behaviour around eight boys in Cambridge House, a Rochdale youth hostel where Smith was founding secretary. A police report was sent to the Director of Public Prosecutions but returned with no indication that further action was required. A second review was treated similarly, though Private Eye and one Rochdale newspaper released articles in 1979 containing detailed descriptions of Smith's abuse. He never replied to their request for an interview. Smith is thought to have done related crimes in Knowl View, a special school where up to a third of students were abused, and even in the Palace of Westminster

itself. Greater Manchester Police, facing a wave of litigation, have promised to investigate evidence that anyone alive today was compliant in the abuse.

**But Smith's role at Lancaster went beyond smiles and handshakes.**

Not only had management made him an honorary Doctor of Laws in 1993, but in 1978 they had chosen him to be Deputy Pro-Chancellor. As a leading member of the University, Smith made regular visits to the campus, most prominently to wander around blithely during several of Lancaster's very first Open Days. He held his Pro-Chancellorship for seven years, resigning on grounds that he had "not played a real part in the life of the

University." Figures in University House are quick to point out that his were largely ceremonial roles with no real bearing on the University's decisions, but it's not Smith's influence over education policy that concerns me. He had secured yet another position of authority that could easily have aided further abuse.

The case of Cyril Smith asks urgent questions of the University's policies and procedures, but we must not get caught up in a blame game. Granted, there were plenty of newspapers and constituents publicly condemning Smith, but this was an age when you couldn't simply find an MP's life history through a search engine and when the phrase "due diligence" was almost unheard of. Hindsight is a wonderful and sometimes frightening thing, and I have no doubt that management believed they were acting with Lancaster's best interests at heart when they brought Smith into the University community. It is vital that they now prove Lancaster won't make the same mistake again.

# HEAD TO HEAD: Are A-Levels dumbing down?

**YES: Julia Molloy**

The English language has changed massively over the last few decades. With the introduction and widespread popularity of social media sites such as Facebook and Twitter, English speakers are frequently exposed to shortened versions of language, varying dialects and accents, as well as receiving information in bite-sized, 140-character chunks. In order to represent such wide shifts in the English language, the exam board OCR has outlined its new content for English A-level, which includes the likes of an interview with Dizzee Rascal and a speech made by Russell Brand to the House of Commons on drug abuse. The suggestions have faced immediate backlash from the Department for Education, which has argued that the outline for the A-level will be rejected by the examination regulator Ofqual, and that students studying such content would not be able to get into the best universities.

Despite having studied English Language at A-level myself, which included studying social media messages, I think concern should be raised against the inclusion of this new content into the A-level syllabus. It's important first of all to specify that at A-level, there are three qualifications which all entail different demands from students. English Literature focuses purely on literature, from Shakespeare to the present day; English Language is much more concerned with the origins of English as well as using English on an everyday basis; and English Language and Literature examines the English language as used within literature. Clearly OCR's decision to include content such as tweets is highly suitable for the English Language qualification, but is it really sensible to have to study such content alongside the more traditional stuff in OCR's English Language and Literature course?

It may indeed be important to realise the implications of using English on an everyday basis, but OCR's efforts to produce a tantalising A-level course that is modern and up-to-date only suggests to people like me, who value English Literature, that studying the classic stuff – Shakespeare, Emily Dickinson, and Charles Dickens, amongst plenty of others – is meant to be dry and dull in comparison. OCR may hail its own course outline as the most varied English course there is, but the fact is that unless students have the background in Standard English, it is nigh on impossible to understand the full importance of more modern usages. Pedantic and prescriptive as it is, it isn't too outlandish to say that if students become more and more used to studying colloquial language, then the older stuff will fade into the background and we'll all be talking and writing in 140-character chunks.

The real problem that lies underneath all the uproar about the new English A-level, however, is whether A-levels really needed reforming in the first place. I do think that A-levels should be rigorous and this should include difficult content, particularly

for English. Next year I'm going to have the daunting task of studying a new Shakespeare play every week, whilst my second year involved reading some very difficult literary criticism. Even for those studying English Language or Linguistics at university, everyday language may be the focus for study but the textbooks alongside that and the thinking that goes behind the concepts learnt require a good level of understanding of the English language. It would be naive to think that Russell Brand, despite his outward show, does not use the linguistic techniques worthy of study, but equally if all of our efforts and enjoyment came from studying such content, the more difficult subjects would seem more unreachable than ever. To this end, it is hard to understand why Michael Gove and his



colleagues

feel the need for a complete overhaul of A-levels at all, or at least in English. My English A-levels were by far the most enjoyable and were demanding both in the context of modern, everyday usages of English and literature itself. Why do we need reform at all?

My worry is that OCR's unveiling of its new content, whilst not an immediate dumbing down, will lead to an ultimate decline in the number of people interested in studying older, canonized texts. For most, the prospect of studying something that is far easier to understand and relatable in terms of its modern qualities will soon overtake the dreaded study of Shakespeare, and then where will we be? We should remain sceptical about the new plans; Britain's education is struggling enough against its competitors without dumbing down studies of the language itself.

**NO: Erik Apter**

OCR's recent decision to feature texts including Russell Brand and Dizzee Rascal in an English Language and Literature A-level syllabus has been accused of continuing the trend towards "dumbing down" education. One source from with the Department of Education actually even accused OCR of "having a laugh" with regards to their new plans – ironically demonstrating the exact sort of colloquial phrase they are trying to eradicate from A-level syllabuses.

As a student currently enrolled on an English language course, it saddens me to see the out of touch, ill-informed and prescriptivist views on our language coming to the fore in the national press once again. Quite frankly, I have no idea where all of this

has stated that their course contains a selection of texts including classic works by the likes of Shakespeare and Charlotte Brontë, but of course this has been largely ignored by the education snobs who only pick up on the bits that they want to criticise.

Instead these people decide to focus on just one aspect of the multi-dimensional course, choosing to blindly rant at the fact Russell Brand will undoubtedly corrupt our youth into a nation of quick-witted cockney drug addicts. They fail to actually consider the nature of the A-level, since studying a wide array of texts is exactly what a good English Language and Literature course should do, encompassing a variety of ideas across two very different subjects.

Brand is a fascinating subject for any English language student as he combines a hugely extensive vocabulary with a cockney vernacular, making him the perfect alternative modern-day wordsmith to study, whether you like him or not. It is not simply a case of making the work for students more enjoyable or easier; it's about students understanding language in a modern context and analysing how the English language has changed with the introduction of technology.

Chris McGovern, a former head teacher and chairman of the campaign for "real" education, told the Telegraph: "I can assure you that when pupils in China, Singapore and other high-performing countries sit down to study English they won't be turning to Russell Brand, rappers and tweets. This is all about diluting and dumbing down."

McGovern also criticised modern education for being too "relevant" and "accessible", two words that I always considered to be a good thing but then again, I suppose I've never experienced "real" education before. Surely modern education should be relevant. In my A-Levels I was subjected to a selection of texts that helped me understand the development of English, consulting modern "rubbish" alongside older texts, some of which embraced concepts of racism and sexism. If only I had been around for the good old exam factory days of the past.

**Modern education should be adapting in the same way that English does, whether you like it or not.**

The internet and social media are a massive part of modern society and there are jobs to be had by learning about them, something which many fail to realise. Whether it's a sonnet, a rap, a novel or a tweet: all language is important and relevant to be studied.

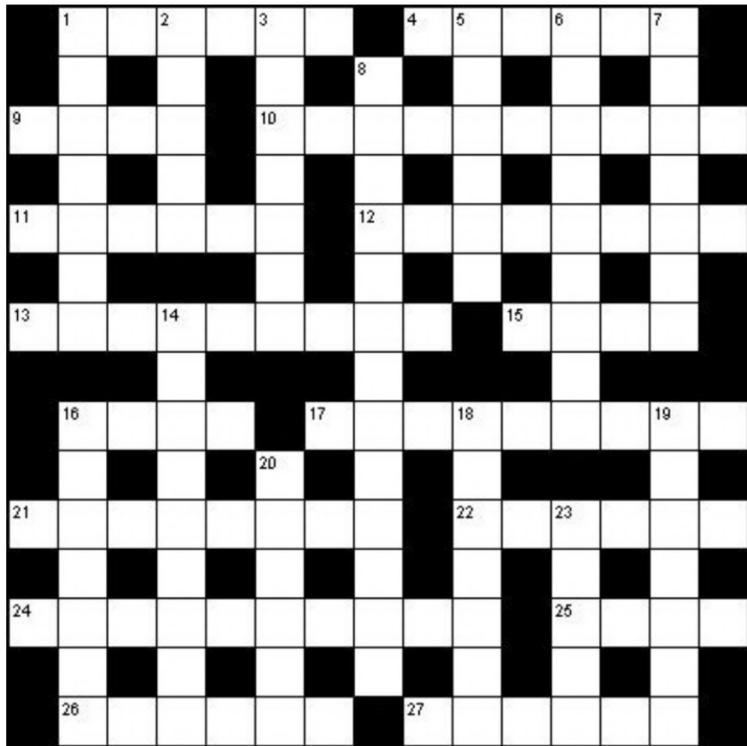
# Letters to the Editor & Puzzles

If you have any comments on our content or would like to write a letter to SCAN, please contact **Rachel May Quin** at the following address: ✉ [scan.editor@lusu.co.uk](mailto:scan.editor@lusu.co.uk)

Fancy yourself a master of puzzles? Don't forget to tweet us @SCANLU and let us know. If you have any suggestions for puzzles or ideas for crosswords, we'd love to hear more about it.



## Crossword



alberichcrosswords.com

### ACROSS

- 1 Martial art: kendo usually no good for unqualified beginners (4,2)
- 4 Like the whole point – take it for granted (6)
- 9 Ancient city held by party reject (4)
- 10 Annoy old Cleopatra's killer with English tariff (10)
- 11 Fired Steiger without purpose (6)
- 12 No Lancastrians kiss Tory bum (8)
- 13 Don't worry: Kelly keeps a higher breed than Bevan's Tory Party! (5,4)
- 15 First class of French assistant (4)
- 16 See 24
- 17 Holbein eats in for convenience (9)
- 21 Concern Home ruler during trial (8)
- 22 Open tin lid to get a penny for a pound (6)
- 24, 16 Dotty and her charades: such money doesn't grow on trees (4-6, 4)
- 25 Head off Vietnamese capital in return for Scottish island (4)
- 26 Standard article on Wisdom (6)
- 27 The legendary King Henry wants primitive art in the first place (6)

### DOWN

- 1 Opener's opening (7)
- 2 Wants pressmen on Tyneside (5)
- 3 Liberty cap off reformed revolutionary (7)
- 5 Smashing up public transport with traveller aboard (6)
- 6 Air in UK affected an inhabitant of Lviv, perhaps (9)
- 7 Allow in French championship (7)
- 8 Royal 15 from Wigan in t'daily press (4-2-7)
- 14 Cockney character: 'e 'as to look after 'er! (4,5)
- 16 Hold on: time to crack Abel's assassin (7)
- 18 Ablaze then frozen over? The result depends on it (7)
- 19 ...and he would get his pound of flesh from the Beast of Bolsover? (7)
- 20 Tebaldi out of turn: what a nerve! (6)
- 23 Sounds like no sound of a horse (5)

## Sudoku

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

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

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

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# Sport

Sport Editors: Erik Apter & Iain Beddow ✉ scan.sports@lusu.co.uk

## Give youth the chance to glisten in Brazil

Iain Beddow  
Sport Editor



Faced with the potentially problematic task of selecting England's World Cup squad, few could argue with Roy Hodgson's final 23-man selection. Only a couple of those selected, raised feint queries amongst those still faithful to England's most trusted servants and ageing ambassadors. The squad in truth picked itself, in the recent past England managers could stick with stalwarts who'd become a fixture in the England setup, but after an eventful Premier League season and rise of much of England's youth, Hodgson's hand was forced into picking a new generation of English footballing knights.

Strikingly with an average age of 26, England's current crop will be the second youngest squad to represent the Three Lions at a World Cup.

In contrast to Capello in South Africa, who took England's oldest squad in their World Cup history, England will take two teenagers to the tournament for only the third time, with the spritely Raheem Sterling and left-back stand in Luke Shaw both justifying their places after sublime seasons.

Joining the teenage talent; Ross Barkley, Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain, Danny Welbeck, Jack Wilshere, Jordan Henderson, Daniel Sturridge along with Manchester United defenders, Chris Smalling and Phil Jones, all form a core of England players under the age of 25. Significantly these ten players are not the inexperienced Theo Walcott's or Aaron Lennon's of World Cup's past, but have already established themselves as focal points in

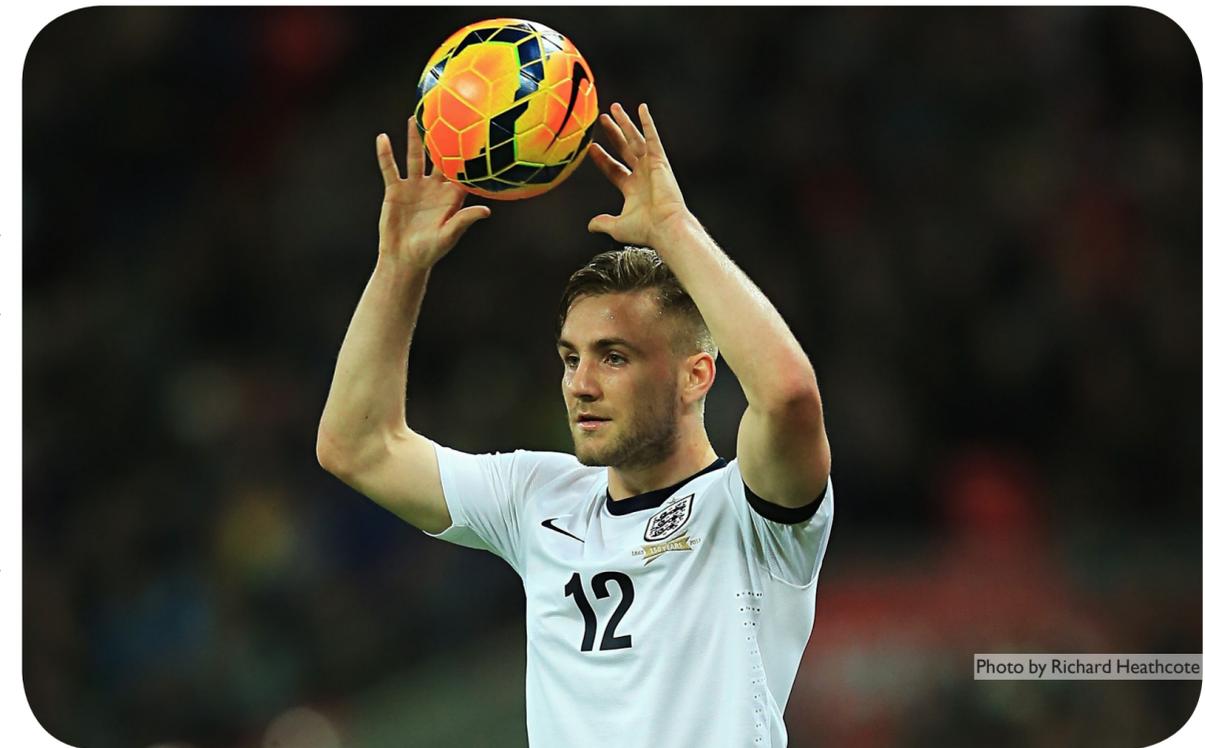


Photo by Richard Heathcote

their respective domestic teams. Hodgson's choices show selection by merit, offering a timely balance of both levelled experience and refreshing youth.

In a group which demands performance, there is no room for manoeuvre for Hodgson, who must get points off either Italy or Uruguay before facing Costa Rica, to secure progress into the second round. The three friendlies before then (Peru, Ecuador and Honduras) will allow the former West Bromwich Albion manager to firmly cement his eleven men who'll be tasked with the challenge of overcoming a very difficult group.

While selecting 23 was arguably not too troublesome, his starting eleven will determine England's progression through Brazil next month, particularly who is selected in midfield and as their attacking options. The issue Hodgson has is whether to give the young players, many with less than 10 caps, a baptism of fire in the sweltering heat of Manaus against Italy on June 14th. The defence is pretty much

set in stone with Hart, Johnson, Jagielka (if fit), Cahill and Baines occupying the first five players on the team sheet. Add to that, captain Steven Gerrard who shall take a variation of the 'libero' role acting as a deep shield to our vulnerable defence while also beginning attacks with his exquisite distribution.

Either side of Gerrard forming the heart of England's trusted 4-3-3 formation, I would deploy Barkley and either Henderson or Wilshere in this key area. Barkley's powerful charges forward, evoke a Gerrard of old and will free up huge space in the attacking third for the three above to exploit accordingly. Henderson would provide the defensive balance and gives England the proven partnership which catapulted Liverpool up the league this year. In Wilshere, England have a player yet to fulfil his potential, still at the age of 22, despite maligned injuries he offers the vision and terrier-like pressing which can turn defence into attack efficiently – perhaps offering a greater attacking threat

to Henderson.

Similar to the defence, the front three can pretty much, already be selected. Wayne Rooney and Daniel Sturridge both will be deserved starters, leaving one more position up for grabs to either Raheem Sterling or Danny Welbeck. The difficulty here, is where they will play, in particular the accommodation of Wayne Rooney. Sturridge was easily the stand-out English striker in the Premier League this year which in theory should push Rooney out wide enabling Sturridge to flourish in his favoured position. Wayne has occupied a wide position previously, most notably in the '08 Moscow Champions League Final, meaning if a job needs to be done Rooney can adapt. Although the problem here would be primarily Rooney's lack of pace, in a position where England will need it most at the World Cup to stretch the opposition.

Like Barkley in midfield, Sterling simply must start in the opposing wide position on the left of Sturridge. At 19 Sterling

would be a fresher at university right now (let that sink in) and he is without doubt one of the best young footballing talents in the world right now; possessing unadulterated speed and having an intelligent brain to match, Sterling holds a rare, deadly combination for someone of his age – one which few opponents can handle.

As we approach two weeks until the World Cup; anticipation, excitement and our hopes of an England success, gather momentum. Despite not many giving England a chance of making a breakthrough in Brazil, with an exciting, youthful team at his disposal it would be a crying shame if Roy didn't unleash the future of English football on teams less-fortunate in Brazil. Cast your mind back to France '98 and envisage 'that' burst of acceleration and goal from Michael Owen, aged 18; fearless, determined and effective – Roy must put similar faith in our talented youth like Huddle once did, in order to reap the rewards in Brazil.

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# THE SUGARHOUSE

# A mixed start to the season for Lancaster's male cricketers

Henry Saker-Clark  
Deputy Sport Editor

Lancaster University men's cricket firsts team are hoping to put the disappointment of a narrow Roses defeat behind them, as they head into the summer with hopes of league success. After two fixtures so far, both the first and second teams lie third out of the six teams in their respective divisions. It's a case of mixed results for both sides, having each lost one and one won in their opening matches, meaning there is still a lot to play for in the rest of the season.

Regardless of a disappointing defeat in their opening fixture of the year to Liverpool firsts, Lancaster firsts were quick to bounce back with a commanding victory which took opposition Manchester thirds to the foot of the table. Lancaster batted first, getting bowled out for a solid 179 runs before dismissing

their Mancunian opposition for just 106, to claim their opening victory of the season. Lancaster took the early advantage with the bat and put themselves in a commanding position through a 37 from Andrew Zimmer and an equally vital 34 from Dave Tubby. Star batsman Marley Ali was able to settle the nerves further, a comfortable 33 stretching the Lancaster total. Nevertheless, Manchester kept taking wickets and Lancaster were only able to reach 179 before being dismissed. The 179 total looked a difficult total for Manchester thirds to beat and so it proved. Some poor batting on Manchester's part gave away early wickets, whilst a fine bowling display, particularly from Ben Ingham, put Lancaster in the driver's seat. An impressive six wicket haul from Ingham stopped any Manchester hopes in their tracks, as they could only muster 106 all out.

Despite this impressive win for the firsts, it followed an initial setback of a poor defeat to Liverpool firsts the week previous. Tough Liverpool opposition

stopped Lancaster from ever gaining momentum, and despite skill with the ball, they were unable to capitalise when in to bat. Wickets were spread around, with Basim Basheer, Adam Senn, Ben Ingham and Andrew Zimmer all in on the act, bowling Liverpool out for a very reachable 131. However, exquisite bowling from Liverpool and some sub par batting from Lancaster ultimately led to a defeat. The collapse of the top order started an inevitable decline and defeat for a team that struggled to get enough runs, bowled out for only 97.

First team bowler Sam Dyson spoke to SCAN, highlighting that with only two matches down there is still a long way to go, and the team must concentrate on each match as it comes. "Well we still want to push for the league and so it's important we win the remaining games, with Manchester seconds and Man Met firsts in the next few weeks likely to be tough opposition."

Though there were some strong bowling displays, Dyson made it clear that he feels improvements

needed in the batting department. "Bowling and fielding wise we have been very good restricting teams to low scores and putting ourselves in a good position, but the batting is what has let us down the most so far, with no one having made a 50 or a decent score yet." The first team showed their shortfall with the bat at Roses as well, finishing an agonising three runs adrift of York's total.

**The second team however made up for the Roses disappointment with victory over York, but have had similarly mixed results so far this year.**

The latest fixture saw Lancaster seconds unable to surpass Chester firsts' 155-6 total, only being able to score 121 before being bowled

out. This result was a setback after an impressive opening fixture, demolishing Manchester's fourth team. Lancaster bowled them out for just 86 with Brindley and Baker each taking three wickets, as well as important quick wickets from Cooper and Guhatakurta. With the bat, Lancaster were equally impressive and able to easily surpass the Manchester total, making 90 for the loss of only two wickets.

Even with a mixed start to the season, Dyson hoped that the strength in depth of Lancaster's squad can bring them league success, despite the difficulties of exam period. "The squad we have is strong and we have the potential to put out two very good teams each Wednesday, which would leave good players out, however availability at this time of the year is a major issue, which means this isn't always possible." The first and second teams both sit third in their respective leagues, but will be hoping for victories against Manchester seconds and Cumbria firsts respectively in their upcoming fixtures.

Photo by Mae Reddaway



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photo by Marie-Sophie Klingenbrunner

**It's never too late to be a part of it..**

We're just starting the final term of the year, and there are still four issues of SCAN to go. Perhaps you've been reading us all year and you've thought about writing for us, or taking photos. You may not have found the time to sign up to SCAN, or maybe you're not sure where to get started.

Well, there's certainly never been a better time to be a part of it. With 50th Roses coming up, the biggest inter-iversity sports tournament in Europe, our brand spanking new newspaper, our sleek new website and our online-

exclusive section Spine, there's so much going on that you'd be a fool to miss out.

Have a flick through the paper, take the time to browse our website, and find your niche in SCAN.

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# French Open 2014 Preview

Casper Law

For those who don't know, Roland Garros (The French Open) will take place between 25th May and 6th June in Paris this year, and is the only grand slam that is held on clay courts. Over the years, the tournament has witnessed a lot of shocks and exciting moments for tennis fans all over the world. The 2014 tournament is lining up to be another fantastic spectacle, but who's in line to claim this year's prize?

Well, Rafael Nadal is undeniably the greatest clay player the world has ever seen and has won the French Open title eight times, a tournament record. He is also in very good form at the moment, after beating Andy Murray in the quarterfinals of the Rome Open. So can anyone stop him from winning his ninth trophy in Paris this year? It seems it's going to be very difficult to stop the Spaniard on clay.

Roger Federer, one of the all-

time greats, has always had somewhat of a struggle to show his class on clay over the years and he's only managed to win the French Open once in 2009. Even without his modest record on clay, he has clearly not been in top form during the last two years, recently suffering an early exit in the Rome Open.

Another major challenge for Nadal is Novak Djokovic, the current No.2 player in the world. Djokovic will be fired up for Roland Garros, as the French Open is the only grand slam missing from his cabinet. He is desperate to win the title, but can he do it? He has performed amazingly since climbing to the top of the world rankings in 2011 but like most, struggles to challenge Nadal on clay. His head to head record against Nadal on the surface is a rather disappointing 3-13.

Despite his dominance, there are other great players on the tour who can shock the world by beating Nadal in Paris. Andy Murray

is one of the potential candidates to produce a win, but he is clearly not a clay player and has not yet found top form after his injury. David Ferrer, the runner-up of last year's

favorite to lift the trophy in Paris, providing he steers clear from injury. As long as he stays fit, he the French Open should be his once again.

On the other hand, the women's game is a little more complicated.

The last six tournaments have been won by six different players. Last year's champion and the current No.1 player in the world Serena Williams, is the bookies favorite to regain her title again this year. Her services and power are clearly her strong points, at times bullying competitors over the years. Her victory over Sara Errani was very convincing, showing that age is still not a problem for her.

Li Na is one of the potential candidates to stop Serena Williams from lifting the trophy in June. The current world No.2 from China won her second grand slam title earlier this year in Australia, however she has

always struggled to maintain her form throughout her career. She has faced two early exits in the French Open since winning the tournament in 2011, and must build on her earlier success this year to stand a chance.

Maria Sharapova is definitely one to watch in the French Open, as she has competed in the last two finals at Paris, winning one of them. However, her performance has been affected by injuries and clearly, she is not in the form of her early twenties. Her experience however, may just be enough to bring her the title come June.

Similarly, Victoria Azarenka is another player who has been affected by injuries this season. She is not yet the same player as back in 2012 and has never made the women's single final at the French Open, which may bring some doubt.

Other experienced players including Ana Ivanovic and Jelena Jankovic might just sneak under the radar and do well, or the tournament may provide a perfect stage for young talents. The venue has witnessed young players including Steffi Graf and Michael Chang win their first grand slam title and rise onto stardom. This year's tournament may see the rise of a young talent who could rule the tennis world for years to come.



French open, is another potential dark horse. He has been performing well on clay, but has never defeated Nadal in a final on the surface. Undeniably, Nadal is the overwhelming

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# Why Greg Dyke's proposals for English youth need a serious re-think

Ollie Orton

When news broke back in early May regarding the FA Commission's radical new plan to restructure and realign the policy towards youth development in this country there was a great deal of intrigue. FA Chairman Greg Dyke, who headed up the review, presented four key areas of the English game that he and his team would focus their efforts on in the coming years, promising that the proposals were being suggested with the intention of "winning the 2022 World Cup in Qatar". However, in previous years, the FA has been notorious for what many see to be unnecessary changes to the English football pyramid - for example, the restructuring of the old Division 1 to the Championship is still seen by many, despite the extra revenue generated from a more advertisement friendly format, as having weakened the extremely recognisable lower-league system. When considering the wider ramifications of Dyke's newest proposals, it appears once again that, rather than strengthening the position of the English game, the FA will be undermining it.



Photo by Tom Shaw

crucial to bear in mind that this is the Championship - further down the league pyramid, the percentage of British and Irish players used registers at above 90 percent. To ban non-EU players, as Greg Dyke suggests, would create pointless red-tape and would bring no discernible benefit because, quite simply, they are seldom used in the lower leagues. It is even arguable whether banning them would create new spaces for English youth players at all - clubs would still be allowed to shop freely within the EU, meaning that the - extremely small - gaps created by the ban could easily be remedied by a purchase from Continental Europe. Put simply it is inefficient and demonstrably futile to attempt to create rules banning the purchase of non-EU players in the lower leagues.

One of the four key areas identified by the FA as needing a great deal of attention is the lack of regulation over the number of non-EU players in all leagues below the Premier League.

On that basic outline alone, this appears to be a strong proposal - reducing these players will surely create a greater number of playing spaces for English players. However, when you consider quite how many non-EU players actually play in below-Premier-ship leagues, it quickly becomes clear that this proposal is limited to almost being rendered pointless. Based on the most recent available data on player nationality, for the 2011-2012 season in the Championship, over 76 percent of the players used were from Britain or Ireland. The vast majority of the rest of the players were from the EU. It is also

thus a truly global league - people tune in to watch the best players in the world on the biggest stage. It therefore seems counter-productive to attempt to limit the number of non-EU players in the league to just two per each team's squad - it is inconceivable that a team such as Manchester City would have to choose between Sergio Aguero, Yaya Toure and Pablo Zabaleta - amongst others - for just two places in the squad. Whilst it is appreciated that this is a direct attempt to increase the number of English players given opportunities at top clubs, it would unquestionably weaken the League as both a brand and as the world's most recognised platform for the best talent in world football. The recent proposals to stage a number of Premier League games per season in places such as Japan and the Middle-East show that the Premier League is continuing to move away from being an English institution - if the Commission was to implement the quotas on non-EU players, the standard of players would decline and the strong brand it currently portrays would be vastly diluted.

On this matter, I do sympathise with the FA Commission - there is no easy fix because, as is so often the case in modern-day football, the issue is money. Clubs in the Premier League are pushed at a relentless pace towards success - as is demonstrated by the almost farcical nature that managers lose their jobs, clubs cannot

afford to wait for success. Rather than developing young English players, it is easier and more conducive for success to poach developed players from overseas. To this end, whilst improving world football and generating billions in advertising revenue, the Premier League has irrevocably weakened English football. The vast amounts of money on offer for winning means that it is not conducive to spend five years attempting to develop a home-grown player when A) he may not even become a good enough player and B) there are quality players on the market who can be bought immediately. Player development has, therefore, become obsolete in the Premier League - whilst owners and clubs have got richer, the English game as a whole has got poorer. Yet because of the strength of the brand and the money brought in, it is impossible to reverse this trend without experiencing a radical overhaul of the elite game in England, something the FA and Premier League will be loath to undertake.

If a ban on more than two non-EU players is refused, the FA still proposes to create a B-League artificial structure within the current football pyramid. The idea is simple - 10 Premier League B teams and 10 from the Conference would take part. Not only is this idea patronising to the extreme to the lower league clubs, it would do little to improve the quality of English players that could be developed.

Premier League teams under these proposals would be allowed to hoover up young players from the lower leagues before placing them in a league five tiers below the elite division. Not only would this mean that the quality of football would be extremely low and not conducive to technical development, it would also dissuade clubs from attempting to bring through their own talented players - why would they when, if they succeed, a larger club will poach their talent? It also makes a mockery of the status of the lower league clubs - clubs that have been followed passionately for in certain cases well over 100 years. By placing them in a league of reserves, it almost suggests that they are considered nothing more than a practice club for larger, more important teams. This is plainly wrong. Football fans around the world envy our lower league system, complete with its passion and strong fan support - introducing such artificial measures as a B-team would significantly weaken this.

Clearly, there is no easy answer to the problem of English youth development. At its current state, the Premier League is hindering the progress, but because of the amount of money involved, reform is unlikely. Where the Commission turns next is unpredictable - until a solution is found to successfully integrate English players into the Premier League without damaging its brand, an adequate one may never be established.

# Founders and Legends: YOUR COLLEGE NEEDS YOU!

Erik Apter  
Sport Editor



FOUNDERS 12TH - 15TH JUNE



Just as the pinnacle of the University's sporting season finishes and we wave goodbye to an exhilarating Roses contest, a new sporting rivalry is renewed as we brace for the return of college derbies. Regaining our Roses title during a 50th anniversary year is one thing, but for many sport hungry Lancaster students, it is victory a little closer to home that really tastes sweetest. Yes folks, Legends and Founders are almost upon us.

In the same vein as the hotly contested Patriots tournament between Cartmel and Furness last term, Legends and Founders aim to encompass all aspects of a college rivalry to produce a memorable and enjoyable tournament for all involved.

Founders is, as its name suggests, a clash of the two founding colleges of Lancaster University: Bowland and Lonsdale. Taking place in Week 8

of this term, the two colleges will slug it out in a series of events to win points for their colleges, much in the same way Roses is done. Everything from tug of war to handball is contested and both teams will be going all out to claim victory and bragging rights over their old rivals. Arguably the most heated of all the rivalries, Founders certainly has its fair share of historical moments, Lonsdale's victory in 2012 was particularly memorable following seven consecutive Bowland wins in the years before.

Legends is a similarly run tournament taking place in Week

9, but instead involves four colleges competing for the title. Fylde, County, Grizedale and Pendle may be the last quartet to compete in their yearly inter-college event, but that doesn't make it any less enjoyable for those involved. Legends also has the reputation for being perhaps a little less intense than Founders and Patriots, which is to be expected with four teams competing, but it certainly emphasises enjoyment for students following a stressful exam period.

All five colleges competing in these tournaments encourage

student participation, regardless of ability or competitiveness. The main aim of the friendly rivalry is to stir up college pride and engage students in some enjoyable competition alongside their friends, whilst the JCRs of each college work extremely hard in ensuring their event is as good as possible.

Sign-up sheets for events are up for all of the participating colleges and each welcomes participation from both new and experienced competitors. For students who think even friendly competition isn't their thing, the colleges encourage members

to simply come down and support those who are playing. The Fresher's week chants will undoubtedly re-surface once again and the fields will be a mish-mash of different colours, as college pride comes to the fore.

Whether you're belting out "the fields of County road" at Legends, or "lady in red" at Founders, college rivalries really are one of the best ways to celebrate finishing your exams and bring the college together before an end of year bash at your respective Extrav.

Think your college is the best? Go out there and prove it: YOUR COLLEGE NEEDS YOU!



# Sport

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## The many heroes of Roses 2014

**James Benson**

In the wake of Lancaster's superb Roses 2014 victory, a number of key moments stand out from across the bank holiday weekend. Surprise wins for Lancaster University Rugby Union Football Club's (LURUFC) second and third strings contributed invaluable points to the collective total. Furthermore, triumphs for the Men's Hockey Club (LUMHC) firsts and Women's Basketball Club (LUWBC) maintained each side's impressive BUCS form. Despite the collective team efforts being deserving of recognition though, the exertions of a range of individuals require a special mention.

Following his squad's comfortable 27-8 win, LURUFC seconds' Captain Wes Hallam pointed towards the performance of James Rowan as being crucial to the home team going ahead after a closely contested opening period.

The second year flanker secured a hat-trick of tries and from that point on Lancaster never looked like succumbing to their White Rose opponents. Whilst Rowan was getting his name on the score-sheet, fly-half Henri Bidaou's kicking kept the visitors penned back in their own half and Dom Horn "had a very strong game in the centre".

Although the York outfit grabbed a late consolation try, the team's captain remarked upon the performance positively and celebrated the fact it ended a 6-year winless run at Roses for our men's rugby seconds.

Looking ahead to next season, Hallam went on to say, "With a new coach in Fergus Owens, and a young team, I foresee great things for the future."

Lancaster seconds were not the first home side to taste victory on the day though and the club's third string recorded an even more

grabbed a brace of tries in what was his final game for the Cats, though after the game he looked to praise the side as a whole rather than to take personal plaudits.

"The thirds

all year to be fitter and better drilled than them. It showed on the pitch as we pulled ahead after 30 minutes to a thoroughly deserved 30 point winning margin" said a delighted Preston following the game.

Aside from the travails of the home rugby teams, LUMHC faced a crucial run of

Carr's side mounted a stirring comeback and were 4-2 ahead with 10 minutes to go before York drew themselves level. However, with moments on the clock, Lancaster were awarded a penalty flick which Captain's Player of the Year Steve McGrath converted with consummate ease.

After scoring what proved to be the winning goal, the Northern Irishman stated, "The main feeling was relief as I had missed one the day before in indoor. After that passed, I was just delighted as it could not have been a better way to end my LUMHC career!"

Heading in to the second day of play, with only 9.5 points required for Lancaster to secure the coveted Roses title, the race was on to be the team that brought the trophy home. Having won back to back league titles, it was fitting that LUWBC's 62-27 victory was the tipping point that meant the cup would return to the Red Rose county after 12 months in Yorkshire.

Integral to the win was the performance of Damla Tonuk who suggested that, "It was a tough game but we played well". Team coach Matt Covre was effusive in his praise of the home side and stated, "It's awesome to win Roses for Lancaster especially as they're the best team on campus, I'm really proud of them."

**With Lancaster going on to secure a further 20 points, Sunday wrapped up a great Roses weekend in which countless Lancaster stars shone.**



Photo by Lucy Lamb

emphatic 42-13 win over their perennial rivals in the early fixture. Picked out as the team's star performer, Jonathan Preston was "at the centre of many of Lancaster's best moments" according to Sport Editor Iain Beddow.

The Lancaster number 8

game is a demonstration of how far the club as a whole has come this season and hopefully it will only continue next season to a complete red wash. We planned

fixtures on the Saturday of Roses. After defeat for the seconds and thirds, the onus was on the men's firsts to replicate the form which saw them crowned Northern Division 2A champions in an impressive BUCS campaign.

Trailing 2-1 at half time, Adam

### In this issue:

Give youth the chance to glisten in Brazil; Mixed start to the season for Lancaster men's cricketers; Preview of French Open 2014 & much more.