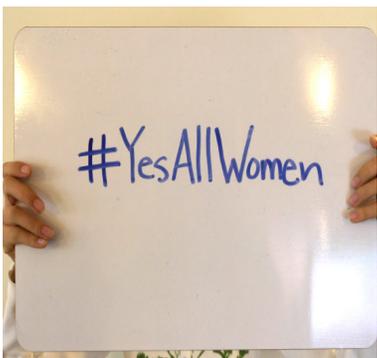




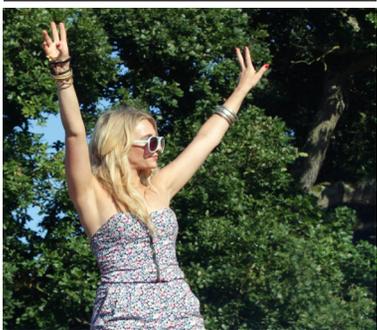
50TH ANNIVERSARY

Something 60s this way comes, get a sneak preview, p. 7



#YESALLWOMEN

Charlotte Coldwell talks about the latest social media storm, p. 28



FESTIVAL ATTIRE

Get the low-down on what you should accessorise with at this year's festivals, p. 39



ARE ANIMALS THE SOLUTION TO STRESS?

I'd say yes, but what do I know? I'm only writing the captions, p. 53

INTERVIEW WITH LUSU PRESIDENT JOEL PULLAN: P. 8 & 9

Lancaster University library's £15 million refurbishment gets underway



Image courtesy of Facilities

Nathalie Farrugia Deputy News Editor

In Week 6 of Summer term, Lancaster University Library began its 15 million pound refurbishment project. The project, which has been in the process of planning for 18 months, will introduce new infrastructure, facilities, IT, workspaces and bookshelves to the East Building. The West Building, which was refurbished

in 1997, will be upgraded to the same standard as the new East building. The award-winning architecture practice, Sheppard Robson, will be leading the design team and the project is expected to be completed by Lent Term 2015-2016.

An extensive amount of consultation took place to achieve the refurbishment plan. Throughout the design process of the project, architects met with a range of stakeholders and carried out focus groups with students, academic and Library staff, ISS staff and Facilities staff. There were also presentations from

Library staff at Union Council, departmental meetings, the Lancaster Students' Union AGM and Faculty forums. Comments related to the Library in both the Lancaster Student Experience Survey (LSES 2013) and National Student Survey (NSS 2013) have also helped in the design process. Assistant Librarian Lynne Pickles said she thought that the consultation "got a lot of consistent feedback" and highlighted students concerns about the library being too "dark and claustrophobic" and "not having enough power". She also emphasised the fact that

students wanted the library to be an environment for "serious academic study".

On their website dedicated to the refurbishment, the library have summarised the main feedback from the consultation. In terms of the building, the feedback indicated that "temperature regulation is poor, the toilets are a problem and there is not enough natural light and fresh air". The responses also showed that people wanted "to study in a comfortable environment with facilities close at hand, with...

Continued on page 11



scan Features

We've put together a comprehensive guide to this year's Extrav events!

Read more p. 28-29

scan Lifestyle

Ric Cowley talks about expectations vs. reality when it comes to uni relationships.

Read more on p. 42



EDITORIAL



Rachel May Quin
Editor

It is with a heavy heart and a pinch of self-indulgence that I write my final editorial of the 2013/2014 academic year, as quite frankly I'm stunned that over a year has passed since I was elected into this role. 13 issues, around 1,000 articles and plenty of InDesign practice later, here we are.

Congratulations to those of you who have completed exams and especially well done to fellow History students for sitting those nightmare three-hour special subject exams – exam season is a hard time for all.

It seems to be traditional for the SCAN Editor to get all

sentimental in their final editorial of the year, so here we go. This was the first trial run of an elected student editor taking the reins of every aspect of the paper and at times, it's been truly terrifying. Trying to fit meetings, copy reports and designing 64 pages around coursework and seminar reading was much, much harder than I optimistically thought – in fact, I don't think I actually started doing work for my degree until Week 8 of Michaelmas term. Whether or not this affects my final grade only time will tell, but the wealth of experience this job has given me is something I could talk about for hours.

As tempting as it is to sit here and take all the credit for what I believe has been a wonderful year for SCAN, it would not have been possible without the support of last year's Assistant Editor, Jack Smith, and this year's absolutely brilliant and beautiful VP Communications Rachel Harvey. In addition to this, my Assistant Editor Jess French stepped into the role effortlessly after the resignation of another, and has been consistently lovely, helpful and smiley – which helps – as well as becoming a very close friend. You've all been an absolute asset to me this year and I'm eternally grateful that I got involved with SCAN, otherwise we probably never would have met.

I'm also grateful to have been given this opportunity at all and to have chosen such a great bunch of people for my Editorial Team –

it's been a group effort to make SCAN the best it can possibly be, and the wealth of experience and fresh ideas that my team have offered is something they should be extremely proud of. All of their names and positions are listed to the left – a tremendous thank you to you all and to the deputy section editors, who I hope applied to continue working on SCAN next year.

Finally, I'd like to wish my successor Jack Perry, who will release his first issue in Freshers' Week 2014, all the luck in the world and I hope you have as much fun as I did. On a day-to-day basis, this job can be stressful and occasionally frustrating but I would not have changed anything this last year. After briefly meeting and knowing of Jack in his first year at Lancaster, due to his presence in Bailrigg FM and hearing stories of how wonderful and naturally at ease he was in the face of big events such as the Full Time Officer elections, I decided to approach Jack and persuade – and by persuade I mean mildly harass – him into applying for News Editor this year. I am certain he will take the role in his stride and excel. I was very lucky this year in that there were three brilliant candidates, and although we obviously could not elect them all, I'd like to wish Erik Apter and Julia Molloy the best of luck in whatever they chose to do this year.

Last of all, thank you to everybody who has read SCAN

this year and to all of the writers who joined us and supplied excellent content throughout the year. SCAN is nothing without you. Really, if none of you were interested I'd have been sitting twiddling my thumbs with no articles to lay-up. I hope the experience has been fulfilling and enjoyable for you all, last year I used to get overly excited about picking up the issue to see my name in print.

I'm giving the cute animal of the week thing a miss this time, as you'll find that there are just lots of bonus cute animals this issue. I suggest if you want to continue getting your daily dose of cute, look me up on Twitter @RachelMayQuin.

Though this is the final 'proper' edition, I'm very excited for our special 50 year anniversary edition of SCAN, celebrating the University's birthday. We've got interviews with the incoming and (fingers crossed) outgoing Chancellor, we had a chat with a Game of Thrones actor, Fashion have produced a beautiful photoshoot and there's lots of other fantastic content celebrating all things Lancaster. It will be available around campus on Monday, Week 10, as well as during various opening and community days throughout the summer. It's been a real pleasure planning and working on the 50th, so make sure to pick it up.

Goodbye, good luck, and thank you again for the best year of my life so far.

IN THIS SCAN

News

Final decision on #iwantLUSUto as strategic plan goes to vote	3
Students elect Green Party candidate to represent on City Council	4
Lancaster regains top 10 position & Careers mentoring	5
DSA cuts & Graduation Ball sets the bar high	6
SCAN Interviews: Joel Pullan	8 & 9
Lancaster MP, new laboratories & success of Green Impact	10
Front page story continued	11
Bowland Tower to be demolished & She Should Run	12
VP voices concern & Careers Service launch new initiatives	13
The SCAN archives	16

Carolynne

Carolynne & Photo of the Week	18
Definitely Maybe: 20 years on & Culture News	19
Review: Fargo & Review: Coldplay – 'Ghost Stories'	20
Artist Profiles: Chris Tooley & Holly Robinson	22 & 23
Review: X-Men – Days of Future Past	24
'What is Left?' – Exhibition Review & You need to know...	25
Artist Profiles: Lucy Smalley & Eleanor Lang	26 & 27
#YesAllWomen & How to: Keep in touch after graduation	28
Planning the best year of your life	29
2014 College End of Year Extravaganzas	30 & 31
Top three reasons to skip getting fit	32
SQUIRRELL!	33
Carolynne Photo of the Year: Sammie Caine	34 & 35
SCAN Mogshot	36
What's your workplace style? & SCAN Fashion-0-Meter	37
Summer styling & Instagram: Who should you be following?	38

Festival Attire Guidebook	39
"I would up like dis" & Fashion X Sport: Fred Perry	40
Pinterest: Who should you be following?	41
10 things I wish I'd know & How to banish prickly heat	43
Relationships at university: Expectations vs. Reality	44
A guide to southern France & SCAN Recipes: Summer Delights	45

Comment

NUS should practice what it preaches on fascism	47
Should we boycott Amazon?	48
From Burberry boy to barista & The Immigration Bill	49
The NSA files: One year later	50
Is Ed Miliband a credible leader? & Give MPs a break	52
Charles' comments & Are cute animals the stress solution?	53
Ronnie Rowlands Postscript	54
Letters to the Editor & Puzzles	55

Sport

US Open Preview	57
Belgium, France and Chile: Underestimate them at your peril	58
World Cup wonderkids aim to captivate	59
The Premier League's 'Most Improved Player'	60
World Cup 2014: Group previews	62 & 63
Froch cements place with boxing greats	64

**50TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION...
COMING IN WEEK 10.**

News

News Editors: Jack Perry & Steve Start ✉ scan.news@lusu.co.uk

Final decision on #iwantLUSUto as strategic direction goes to a vote



Jack Perry
News Editor

LUSU have announced that a referendum will be held to allow students to vote on the Union's strategic direction for 2014 onwards. Voting opens on Tuesday, Week 8, and closes on Friday, Week 8.

The strategic direction lays out LUSU's aims, objectives and values. The last strategic direction expires in 2014, providing the necessity and opportunity to re-evaluate LUSU's vision for the future. A summary of the strategic direction can be found at the LUSU website.

One area the strategic direction focuses on is opportunities.

The strategic direction pledges to "Provid[e] you with opportunities to globalize your Lancaster experience by connecting with our many communities on campus and overseas," as well as help students with employment opportunities.

Elsewhere, the direction aims to provide relevant and high quality services for members of LUSU, while also researching and locating new means to generate funds for the Union to make it sustainable.

Perhaps most prominently, the direction pledges that LUSU will continue its aims of getting the best education and support for its members. The direction pledges to "Actively seek to understand, represent and campaign for your aspirations and concerns, and those of future students." This, the plan elaborates, would take place not only at university level,



Photo by LUSU

but at local and national level as well.

The online referendum on the strategic direction, which is open between Tuesday Week 8 and Friday Week 8, coincides with elections for Cross-Campus Officers, Student Trustees and several JCR by-elections. There will be a short presentation and question-and-answer session on the strategic direction on Monday, Week 8, in George Fox Lecture Theatre 1 as part of the hustings for the Cross Campus Officer and Student Trustee elections.

LUSU has been actively promoting the strategic direction and have gone to great lengths to consult students. The sustained campaign to promote LUSU's plan since the beginning of Lent term – which is perhaps

best remembered for the large blackboard at Alexandra Square – culminated on Thursday, Week 5, with the Union's "Pop-up café," which aimed to inform students about the strategic direction while providing various forms of entertainment.

SCAN spoke to VP (Union Development) Laurence Pullan at the 'Pop-up café', which was held in a marquee in Alexandra Square. "This is the last chance students have to input into our strategic direction before the question is put to be voted on," Pullan said. "We've spent the year with our pop-up cafes, our blackboard, our hashtag, our website, trying to collate as much information as possible, and this is our last big push to let students know what's going on, why it's

important and why they should vote.

"We're just here to make sure they know that a referendum is happening."

Pullan highlighted the importance of making sure students know the details of the strategic direction and what it aims to do. "When it comes down to the nuts and bolts of voting, we need to make it very clear what students are voting for,"

Pullan told SCAN. "We've come under a little bit of criticism – especially last year, with the Full-Time Officer restructure, when not many people knew what they were voting for on the ballot – so we've tried to make people aware of what the referendum's about."

In addition to the promotion leading up to the referendum, students are able to find out more information about the strategic direction at the direct point of voting. "When people come to vote we are going to be providing links to our website – #iwantlusu" Pullan said. "[The website] has been continually updated: whereas it used to say 'this is what we are going to do' now it will say 'this is what we've managed to collate from your feedback.'"

Students elect Green Party candidate to represent them on City Council



Jack Perry
News Editor

Green Party candidate Jack Filmore said that he was “elated” after being elected to represent the University Ward on Lancaster City Council, following a by-election – held concurrently with the elections to the European Parliament – on Thursday Week 5. Filmore narrowly beat Labour candidate James Leyshon to become the University Ward’s representative on the City Council.

Results of the election state that Filmore gained 273 votes, only 36 ahead of Leyshon, who received 237. Conservative Party candidate Daniel Aldred received 128 votes, followed

by Liberal Democrat candidate Oliver Mountjoy on 33 votes and Independent candidate Stuart Langhorn on 24 votes. Filmore will occupy the University Ward’s seat on the Council – left vacant following the resignation of Paul Aitchison – until it goes up for re-election next year, likely to be at the same time as the 2015 General Election.

After his election, Filmore told SCAN that he was “elated.” “I knew it was going to be close, I knew that there was a good chance of winning, but I think it was the kind of election where it was difficult to know what to expect,” Filmore said.

When asked why he believed he had the edge over the other candidates, Filmore cited both short-term and national factors. “I’d like to think the victory was due to all the work we put in campaigning, but it’s also no doubt due to national issues as well,” Filmore said. “I think voters on campus are much more likely to vote on national issues.

“The Greens have become quite popular – particularly among students – recently due to the collapse in the LibDem support. I think that the popularity of the Green Party among students is what gave us such a good chance in these elections.

“But at the end of the day we won by 36 votes, so I like to think that giving out all of those leaflets and going around talking to people made that difference.”

Filmore told SCAN that his decision to run was a rather sudden one. “I’ve been a supporter

of the Green Party for a very long time; I joined when I was 16. So it’s always been something I would like to do: get elected and work for the Green Party,” Filmore said. “But the decision to stand was fairly short-term. The local party asked me if I was interested – I’d stood before in non-target seats, where there was no chance of getting elected – and I thought about it and came to the conclusion that I would quite like to do that.”

Filmore said that his focus over the next year would be on buses, cycle routes and rent accommodation, though his immediate concern was consulting with students. “In the coming weeks and months I want to be listening to students, finding out what the issues are that students care about,” Filmore said. “The City Council can’t do that much, particularly on campus, but there are areas that we can focus on.

“Buses between campus and the city are going to be a big priority

for me; I know many students aren’t happy with the bus service currently. Provision of cycle routes and cycling in the city is something else I want to look at. Also, rented accommodation in the city is something that the Council has quite a large say in, so I think improving the quality of accommodation in town is something we can make progress on.”

In response to the election outcome, Andrew Grieke, the Chair of the Lancaster University Labour Club, said: “Firstly, we’d like to congratulate Jack Filmore on becoming councillor. He ran a strong campaign and clearly put a lot of work into it.

“We’ll be back to fight the council elections next year, and in the meantime our Labour Councillor, Jonathon Dixon, will be working hard for students across Lancaster by cracking down on rogue landlords and encouraging the development of a science park to provide jobs for when we graduate.”



Photo courtesy of Twitter

Lancaster regains its top 10 position on the Guardian university league tables



Rachel May Quin
Editor

It was revealed last week that Lancaster has successfully regained its top ten position on the Guardian’s 2015 university league table, outshining Russell Group peers by sliding into 10th place and according to the University “confirming its place among the world’s elite institutions.”

Lancaster in previous tables has always remained high, but briefly fell from grace in the last couple of years to number 11. Now sitting comfortably in the top ten, Lancaster rubs shoulders with the likes of Oxford, Cambridge, Durham and Warwick. Comparatively, York

ranked at 16 – undermining the popular Roses jibe that Lancaster students are York rejects.

Out of a total 100 points, Lancaster scored 80.5. Universities are scored on several factors: course and teaching satisfaction; feedback of final year students, taken from the National Student Survey; the ratio of staff to students; the amount spent on students; the average entry tariff, in terms of the typical UCAS score gained by students in their chosen department upon acceptance; the percent of graduates who go on to graduate-level jobs or further study within six months; and a value-added score, which compares students’ individual degree results with their entry qualifications in order to show how effective teaching is.

Lancaster was also recently honoured in another survey after being named number one in the north-west for graduate employment, with an astounding 77 percent on students going into graduate jobs or postgraduate



Photo by Mae Reddaway

study within the first six months of leaving. A position in the top ten, out of 116 ranked universities, is bound to appeal to prospective students; despite the decision to increase course fees to £9,000.

Careers encourage first years to apply for mentoring programme

Henry Saker-Clark
Deputy Sport Editor

The University has opened up its career mentoring programme for the coming year, inviting students – predominantly first years – to listen and learn from experienced professionals. The scheme offers an opportunity for students to co-operate with a mentor in their industry of interest to gain an important insight into their chosen career.

The application process, which ends on Wednesday Week 10, gives students the opportunity to register their interest to be mentored by an industry professional. Mentors give students an insight into their profession and offer careers advice to achieve success in the specified field. The programme intends for students to network and improve their employability using the professional experience of their mentors.

The mentoring partnership is spread across the next year, from

November to May, allowing for numerous meetings throughout the period. The organiser of the programme, Claire Lawrenson, spoke to SCAN about the opportunities for students available through the mentoring scheme. “The programme aims to match industry professionals with students. It is mostly aimed at first year students – about to enter their second year – but I do not exclude finalists if they choose to apply for the programme.”

Lawrenson told SCAN about the purpose of the programme, stating that, “we’re aiming to give mentees the chance to enhance their skills on the programme, to find out more about their chosen career path – or one that they’d like to explore further – to build their networks, discover what is within them and how they can use that to their best advantage.”

The mentors, Lawrenson stated, pass on their invaluable pro-

fessional knowledge and often have a strong connection with the University and its students. “About 75 percent of the mentors are alumni and they have been eager to give back to the University. This was some-



thing that they’d have liked to have when they were a student. The mentors don’t get paid for taking part on the programme – all of their efforts are down to goodwill and

kindness. The mentees are usually astounded by how ‘normal’ and ‘friendly’ the mentors are, despite being big names in the business world.”

Those who have previously been involved in the programme have been keen to stress their good experiences. Cynthia Lee, who was a mentee in 2012–2013, said that “I know at university that you are spoilt for choice when choosing what to commit yourself to and you have to wonder how relevant and beneficial a programme such as the mentoring programme would be. Having gone through the programme, I can honestly say it was one of the best things I’d participated in.

“What makes the mentoring programme really unique is that it is all tailored around you. The mentor is an alumni of Lancaster University so they know exactly how it feels to not know what you’re doing, or if you do they can advise you on how to

get there.” Lee told SCAN about the personal benefits she experienced from the programme when considering her future career. “Looking for graduate jobs is a scary thing and it was a huge relief to talk it through with my mentor and feel like somebody had my back.

“[My] mentor was able to set up phone discussions with people in his network so I could truly understand what the differences are between brand management or market research. I was able to participate in some invaluable work experience which ignited some real interest and opened my eyes to marketing in the pharma/healthcare industry.”

The programme opened for applications on Thursday, Week 7, and will close on Tuesday, Week 10. The matching process will take place over the summer months and students are informed if they have been successful in acquiring a place during Michaelmas Term 2014–2015.

Students can apply by visiting the mentoring webpage which has the link to the application form.

LUSU supports NUS' challenge to Disabled Students' Allowance cuts



Jack Perry
News Editor

NUS coordinated a national constituency-based lobby of MPs, in order to say "no to cuts to the DSA." Cuts to the DSA will include the restriction of those eligible to receive laptops and computers, with all non-medical support like note-taking no longer covered under the DSA. The cuts at the national level will put the onus to provide such help onto individual institutions and universities.

While LUSU are pessimistic about the prospects of persuading Lancaster and Fleetwood MP Eric Ollerenshaw to challenge the cuts, it is a campaign which they are in support of. VP (Welfare and Community) Tom Fox told SCAN: "One of the proposed outcomes is a large amount of the funding for equipment that students with dyspraxia, dyslexia, use would be lost. If you don't need a computer, for example, but a computer really aids you, you will have to fund that yourself."

LUSU has declared its support for the NUS' campaign to prevent the government cuts to the Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA). Changes to the DSA in England were announced by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills on April 7th, with the projected cuts having the potential to take away many of the facilities disabled students are currently entitled to. The changes could affect around 450 students at Lancaster University.

On Friday Week 7 the

"In Lancaster around 450 students would lose that funding. I know students who can't afford a laptop – they rely on that."

Fox also pointed to accommodation costs for disabled students. "We're quite good here [in Lancaster] in that we have quite a lot of disabled accommodation and we've been given money to get more," Fox told SCAN. "However, cuts to the Disabled Students' Allowance would mean students would have to pay more for that, whereas at the moment there are grants which would even that out."

"We already see that disabled students do spend more at university anyway; they are some of the least satisfied people at university. If we keep cutting the grants that make them stay here, it's going to be more and more unlikely that they are going to want to come to university, and would prevent disabled students from accessing higher education."

Fox said that he believes this is one of the governments' cuts which all students should be challenging. "It would be really disappointing if this goes through and we should speak out about it. Everyone will know someone who has got a disability, and they will be affected by that," he said.

The DSA is considered a vital support for many disabled students, with research suggesting that students receiving the DSA are more likely to reach a first or upper class second honours degree than disabled students who do not receive an allowance.

The NUS described the government's cut to the DSA as "gutting a support allowance vital to many students."

"While well-resourced institutions with fewer disabled students may be able to provide additional support, less well-resourced universities and colleges with higher numbers of disabled students will struggle to provide the necessary support," the NUS said. "It is incredibly important that we outline how dangerous and damaging these cuts can be. At a time when the government has already made savage cuts to disabled people's benefits and cuts to local government funding, we cannot let this continue."

"With research showing 59 per cent of disabled respondents worried about not having enough money to meet basic living expenses, we need to stand up and say no to any further swinging cuts."

Graduation Ball sets the bar high



Steve Start
News Editor

Whilst many students will arrange their own transport to the event, the University are arranging return coach travel for £9.95 a person. The last coach will arrive at the Tower at 9pm and all coaches will leave at 12.30am. For those who have organized their own transport or accommodation in the local area at their own expense the Ball will run until 3am.

Speaking to SCAN about the ticket prices, VP (Activities) Emily Pollitt said: "The money we make from tickets is simply to cover the costs we have to put the event on from things like security, venue hire, the acts and their technical requirements as well as many other costs we face and we do try and keep ticket prices as low as possible."

Whilst the acts this year are markedly better than last year, there has still been mild controversy about their marketing. Publicised on the website as attending the event are "the incomparable Ms Dynamite" as well as "the hottest new act in the country right now, Neon Jungle." Blackpool Town Circus will also be making an appearance with some aerial acrobatics to bring a gymnastic twist to the event.

Whilst many are happy with the acts, there have been complaints from students who feel misled by the claims on the LUSU website that Chase & Status would be performing at the venue when in fact they will only be broadcasting a DJ set.

Responding to these claims of misrepresentation, Pollitt told

This year's Graduation Ball will be taking place in Blackpool Tower on Sunday of Week 9 after the success of the event in the Tower last year. Blackpool Tower is a grade one listed building that opened in 1894 and is famous for its iconic status and reputation for hosting widely publicised events such as BBC's Strictly Come Dancing.

This year's event has almost sold out, however whilst LUSU have published quotes from last year attendees touting how the event was "Great value for money" and "the venue many it feel really special", there has been criticism from students regarding the cost of the event. Tickets have been sold for £54.50 with a nine pound discount for Purple Card holders.

The event does not include food or drink and transport is available at an additional charge.



Photo by Jordan Hatch

SCAN: "We did make sure that it was advertised on all the posters and on the Facebook group so people were aware of it being a DJ set and I apologise if anyone felt like they weren't properly informed – that was never our intention."

SCAN spoke to third year student, Arthur Haynes, about the

pricing of the event, who said: "I'm glad there's no meal – Talking as someone who experienced it last year as a date, I think the format is great. Drinks, circus – which is actually incredible – then an extended gig in a prestigious ballroom will be a great setting and event to mark our graduation. At the end of the

day it's supposed to be a celebration, which I guarantee it will be – dinner or not – and a good way to see off University...granted the price is quite high but it's our Graduation Ball. Much rather pay the extra than have it in the Great Hall like a couple years ago! Acts are far better this year as well in my opinion."

50TH ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL ISSUE



1964 – 2014.

SCAN TAKES YOU THROUGH 50 YEARS OF

HISTORY AT LANCASTER UNIVERSITY.

TAKE A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE: WEEK 10

SCAN Interviews: Joel Pullan

As the academic year draws to a close, outgoing SCAN Editor **Rachel May Quin** sat down with outgoing LUSU President **Joel Pullan** to chat about the year, his successes and failures, and life after Lancaster University Students' Union.



Rachel May Quin
Editor

misogyny... and you wake up to the fact that there are incredibly sensitive issues going on around campus that you might have either ignored or inadvertently been a part of."

Apologetically, Pullan said "it's kind of a wishy washy answer, but I guess... I'm indirectly answering your question but if I was going to run again I would have completely different reasons to the ones I chose a year ago, [as] being in the job really opens your eyes to what the real student issues are." It's rare that a Full Time Officer team make real progress in their year in office, but Pullan and his team have seen a breakthrough in their relationship with the University and in tackling problems such as the counselling service and mental health awareness at Lancaster. With that in mind, I asked if Pullan felt this year had been about tackling the real issues; rather than spending time in Union Council debating college byelaws. "Yeah, I think one of the real issues is that there was a feeling of resentment towards the Students' Union," Pullan enthused. "[There was] a real feeling of, 'I don't want to engage because those people [LUSU] don't listen to me and they don't really care about the real student issues.'"

Actually, the things we've done this year have been a lot more pro-active than what I saw as a student, we've gone out and actively tried to speak to the student body. We've had a fantastic opportunity with the new strategic plan to go out and try some new methods of engagement... whether it's the #iwantLUSUto campaign or the whiteboard in the Square - simple things like that have gotten so much raw feedback and it's been brilliant."

Pausing for a moment, evidently to reflect on his year in office, Pullan said "the most satisfying things that I have done [were] the things I didn't expect I would be doing. You have these ideas about what you think [is] important and what should be done - 'be more transparent' and all those kinds of buzzwords, but actually when you get in and in the first week, there's been a horrendous incident", at this point he stopped for a moment before continuing. "... In the Sugarhouse and you realise, shit, there's just such a horrible lad culture around, and a rape culture, and

He also mentioned the progress made towards making LUSU officers feel "empowered".



"We've done our absolute best... to do the things they want to do, they're not our puppets. They've come to use with ideas and we've helped to facilitate that." As an example, he spoke of the Big Night Out held this year and claimed that it was one of the biggest selling BNO events they've seen. "It's really just making things possible for those who, y'know, we wouldn't be a Students' Union without."

In an echo of last year's interview with Ste Smith, who had been a friend of Pullan's and worked with current VP (Campaigns & Communications) Rachel Harvey, I asked Pullan what he thought his year would be best remembered for. Diplomatically he responded "I don't want to leave anything behind... but actually I do believe that we've become a far more accessible Students' Union, [we've been] far more progressive in the stances that we've taken and I'd like to see that carry on." He also spoke of the long-term changes he felt have been achieved, such as with the counselling service, but said "I don't care if the students know if it was us [that did it]... Whether you call it a legacy or not, we've

made positive changes." To this I suggested that the success this year had been more of a personal satisfaction for the team as opposed to celebrating victories publicly and Pullan agreed, stating "we don't really want recognition as long as we know there is something there that's been improved, and I think that's very much the mentality we've all shared."

Following on from this, I asked what Pullan felt had been his biggest achievement this academic year, and whilst he acknowledged that the strategic plan is important and a lot of work has been done on that, counselling was where he felt the team had truly shone. He claimed that the lack of funding and staff in the counselling service had been "an ongoing issue that seems to have been ignored by the University for the past few years", and said that the changes LUSU had made alongside the University showed big progress. Alongside multiple new counsellors and trainee counsellors, there has been a review of the service, "hundreds of thousands of pounds" in investment and the eight week waiting list had been rapidly

reduced with "more appointment slots available during the week." Proudly, Pullan said that mental health services was something he had been passionate about and campaigned for as a student; he was thrilled to see that pressure from the students had led to pressure above - with University governors acknowledging the issue too - which had led to a great concern and desire for change.

In terms of failures, Pullan initially couldn't think of many and said that perhaps his failure to follow his manifesto was his only issue. "I wanted to do a constitutional review, I got a few months into this job and I was like 'I'm not doing that.'" He admitted that there were some issues with LUSU's governance, "but actually there's so much going on that if your number one problem is governance then you need to take a step back and see the bigger picture."

Unwilling to accept that it had been a perfect year - because, well, I'm a cynic - I broadened the scope of the question, asking Pullan what he felt was the team's biggest failure. After taking a moment to mull it

over, he revealed that a problem he felt really stuck out, due to it receiving the most negative feedback from students, was the change in the Sugarhouse - LUSU's nightclub - pricing at the beginning of the year. "We got so much negative feedback for increasing the ticket prices by a quid if people were a bit later and didn't book online", said Pullan, with a flash of irritation. "It's incredibly frustrating that that's [one of] the only times I've seen a passionate student body, and I'm a little bit disappointed."

"Rather than [getting passionate about] getting fleeced with accommodation and... hidden course costs that you're expected to stump up for... a quid on a night out extra and they're up in arms."

Maybe it's a chance for next year's FTO [team] to really focus students' passion collectively on something they can make a big difference on."

In terms of a vision for LUSU under his leadership and the changes he had made, Pullan agreed that this year had been about enhancing what was already offered by LUSU and fine-tuning aims in order to ensure consistency for students. He summarised what had been done as "underpinning activities that needed changing, not the overall grand scheme of things... I wouldn't necessarily say I've changed anything, probably just the fact that I'm a different kind of officer to [previous] ones. Every year you get natural change with a new team [and] I haven't purposefully set out to make change, things have just been tweaked here and there."

He also proudly spoke of the Union's improved relationship with the University, claiming there tends to be a myth amongst students "that the University is the enemy" and emphasised that there were definitely issues that he didn't agree with them on. But Pullan felt that "there are times when working with the University gets the best results, I guess my advice for next year's team would be to never compromise on your independent voice and on being the voice of the student body, but it's also not a bad thing to want to work with the University if you feel it's going to get a result, because it's worked this year and no students can dispute that. I think the team next year may be a bit more sceptical about the University."

With regards to the strategic plan, which LUSU have been

greatly emphasising since the end of Lent term, Pullan said that he felt the team had done really well, and decided that his biggest failure of the year was failing to celebrate success, as he felt it was a "bit egotistical" to do so; but stressed that they had done "really well" with engaging students. "We've tried so many new things and it has paid... the open forums, the strategic kind of carousel where we pick a stratified sample of students to get the best spread and stick them in a room to discuss different things... the Twitter campaign, the blackboard, the pop-up cafés... We've definitely seen a lot of different students come and engage with us rather than just your standard student officers."

I don't think we can say that we haven't tried hard enough to engage... I think our strategic plan does reflect the thoughts, the feelings, the wants and the needs of the majority of the student body - if not all of the students collectively."

Two of the most divisive policies this year have been the Union's decision to reinstate Liberation Cross Campus Officers and the Union's support of the industrial action, particularly after UCU threatened a marking boycott. I asked for Pullan's honest opinion on the Liberation positions, after he was forced to defend himself against a flood of negative Facebook comments in Lent term from alleged 'disadvantaged minorities' who were angry at positions they deemed to be patronising. Pullan admitted that originally, prior to beginning his term as President, he felt that the positions were previously abolished because "obviously [they didn't work]" and that he didn't particularly understand or care about their purpose. "This year, it was down to Tom and Laurence going to a Liberation Activism conference and coming back with a completely different perspective. The realisation that these people, these liberation groups, whether they believe it themselves or not are disadvantaged by society."

You read the statistics, if you're disabled you come out of university around 20 percent less satisfied, [for] women there's a glass ceiling, so when they get a graduate job they'll be making less money statistically than men just because of their gender."

Pullan said that now, he felt Liberation officers were a great thing as a means of recognising disadvantaged groups and whilst the roles were yet to be formalised, they will be a tool which ensures that these groups have a voice on LUSU Council; where previously they may not have been represented. "WE are the Students' Union", said Pullan passionately, in reference to the Liberation officers and to the Union's continued support of the industrial action on behalf of postgraduates who were also affected. "They are our students and if we don't stand up for them, nobody will."

The industrial action and

the Union's support recently became a sore point, when it was announced that a marking boycott would potentially take place. This was prevented when UCU accepted a two percent pay rise, and Pullan said that he felt they would always accept this, though he believed they had been "short-changed".

Though a chivalrous endeavour on the part of the Union to support the lecturers and other staff, I raised the point made by many undergraduates, that supporting the boycott may have been supporting postgraduates, but it would also have had a negative impact on the vast majority of LUSU's undergraduate population. Pullan countered by stating that he felt "once you get the message across that it isn't a 'them and us' situation, it's about the erosion of higher education, staff not being paid fairly, student fees going up and University [upper management] getting massive bonuses... once they wake up to that realisation I think they'd be a lot more supportive of our stance." He admitted that once a marking boycott is announced, the unions risk losing support from a lot of people, but said that if there was future industrial action it would be good for the Students' Union to show their support again. Pullan also agreed that he had "politically dodged a bullet" when the pay rise was accepted as if the boycott had gone ahead, "I would have stood by the unions personally... and I would have expected quite a lot of criticism from the student body... I would have taken a bullet."

With regards to the Union's own use of zero-hour contracts - after the assertive stance LUSU have taken in supporting the industrial action's demand for fair pay - Pullan acknowledged that whilst it was something being discussed, the Union was being hypocritical to an extent by using such controversial contracts on their own staff, but claimed that there was "a complete difference in the kind of jobs" within LUSU and the way in which the Union employs student staff; which means that occasionally, zero-hour contracts were the best solution for ensuring flexibility.

LUSU were also criticised this year when the Annual General Meeting failed to reach quorum. I asked Pullan why he felt this had happened.

turned up. Maybe we do need to take a step back and look at ways we can do things differently... but I'm not willing to say that the fault was entirely ours."

On a more light-hearted note, Pullan said that he felt student participation this year on the whole had been really good, though more work could be done. He claimed that more needed to be done to harness students who are already engaged but "might just not think of it in that way" and reaching out to those who weren't in order to figure out why. "I can't really use postgrads as an example, because we've made really good progress in that we've got a full PG board, but traditionally postgrads have been incredibly difficult to engage with. I think we're now getting to grips with a lot of the issues [they] face and realising that they've very [different] to undergraduates."

Looking inwards at Pullan and his team, he described himself as a "consensus builder", revealing with a laugh "it's never been, 'I'm the boss, you are going to do this.'" He spoke fondly of the dynamics of the team - working alongside his twin brother Laurence, the couple Tom and Emily who have been dating since before their election in March 2013, Rachel Harvey who is serving her second elected term under a slightly different title and Joe O'Neill, a wise old crone of the University - and confided: "Sometimes [it's been] the most frustrating dynamic ever and sometimes it has just clicked and it's been the best... It's worked really well and just being good friends with everyone has helped, because we're able to challenge each other and yet at five o'clock say 'right, let's go to a bar and forget about work'. I think that's important in a team, to have that element."

Chuckling to himself, Pullan went on to say "[Joe] is a pain in the backside and you can write that down... but when he applied himself he's the best officer you could ask for, he's absolutely fantastic. We've disagreed on so much but actually, I've learnt an incredible amount from him and I hope that he's learnt from me as well."

Pullan also revealed that he would have "loved to" run for a second year as President and put a lot of thought into nominating himself. He revealed that most of his motivation came from what he described as "the most brilliant Winter Officer training" he had attended in the last few years. He enthused about the motivation and passion of the new officers and admitted "I've never seen motivation like it", which had prompted

Looking somewhat defeated, Pullan paused before saying "Honest answer? Students don't care enough to participate."

We did our best to publicise it... if students really cared about industrial action they should have

his desire to run again in order to work with these officers. "Then I had a chat with Laura... I guess I just thought you know what, she's completely different and actually maybe it is time I did my term and stopped when I was on a high rather than do two years [and regret it]." He also said that he wouldn't like to feel as though he had stood in the way of other candidates, nor did he want to run the risk of ruining his memories of presidency if he felt the dynamics of a new team weren't as good as they were previously, but overall: "it was a difficult decision not to put my name down."

The future is looking bright for Pullan after LUSU, as he has secured a job with the Civil Service in London and is looking forward to it.

He was keen to stress that he won't forget where he started though - particularly after spending the last 22 years of his life living and studying in Lancaster - and that during his time as President, "I have learnt so much about myself, it has probably been the hardest year of my life but it's been so rewarding." The position has not been without its dark moments though, as Pullan confided "mid-Michaelmas term I was so close to resigning, I just wanted to get out of here. I did speak to Laurence and say I want to leave, this is not fun, I'm not in a good place - but when you get through that and you start really working on things and making a difference, you suddenly realise 'wow, we are doing things.'"

Looking ahead to next year's team, which will be guided by Laura Clayson, Pullan felt the best advice he could give was to consult the staff in LUSU as "they're the real people that run the Students' Union". There's like the six of our faces all over the place our there saying 'WE'RE THE STUDENTS' UNION', but really, talk to the staff, ask for their help and expertise because they're brilliant and you need them to be successful."



Lancaster MP's constituency paid through secret dining club



Jack Perry
News Editor

SCAN has learnt that a donation was made to Lancaster and Fleetwood MP Eric Ollerenshaw's constituency party or association through the United and Cecil Club. According to The Independent, the Conservative party have funnelled donations totalling hundreds of thousands of pounds through the secret dining club to allow donors to keep their identity hidden.

The Independent reported that between February and May alone the Conservatives have been given £140,000 by the United and Cecil Club to fund election campaigns in their most marginal seats. The constituency party of Ollerenshaw, himself an MP in a marginal Conservative seat, is believed to have been paid £2,500 through the United and Cecil Club. The payment was registered on January 22nd.

The money is believed to have been given by donors at lunches

and dinners attended by senior Conservative figures, including at least five cabinet ministers. The Independent alleges the findings threaten to embroil the party in an embarrassing new row

members' club are not identified on the register.

show that over the last year nearly £300,000 have been funnelled to Conservative marginal seats from the United and Cecil Club, and as much as £800,000 over the last decade. The club, which is

Eric Ollerenshaw is MP for Lancaster and Fleetwood, the first since boundary changes were made.

In 2010 he narrowly beat Labour candidate Clive Grunshaw by 15,404 votes to 15,071 votes – a less than one percent difference in vote share and a –4.8 swing from Labour to the Conservatives.

Nationally, the secret donations made through the Club make the United and Cecil Club the Tories' seventh-largest donor, with their biggest financial support coming from the billionaire hedge fund manager Sir Michael Hintze. The figures from the Electoral Commission show he gave the Conservatives their single-biggest donation for six years with a £1.5 million gift, helping them to lead the funding arms race in the run-up to the next election – bringing in £6.6 million in first quarter of this year.

Transparency campaigners voiced particular concern about the way in which the Conservatives were using members' associations to mask the identity of some of their donors.



Photo courtesy of Telegraph

over cash for access.

Under Electoral Commission rules, individuals and organisations donating more than £1,500 a year should be named but those giving through a private

Figures from the Electoral Commission

based out of a suburban house in Buckinghamshire, appears to have no website, no contact details and no publicly available membership list.

University announces new BLS and LEC laboratories

Jack Perry
News Editor

The University has announced it is investing in new teaching laboratories for Biomedical and Life Sciences (BLS) and the Lancaster Environment Centre (LEC). The two so-called "super labs" will house a maximum capacity of 216 students across two floors.

that the construction of the new laboratories is aiming to achieve the BREEAM Excellence rating. BREEAM is the world's foremost environmental assessment method and rating system for buildings.

The construction of the laboratories additionally follows a low energy strategy which uses renewable energy as the last part of an approach to energy efficiency, rather than off-setting an inefficient design. The University said that the building will provide access for all throughout and every effort has been made to provide level access at Ground and First Floor. "The way finding is set to be clear and intuitive; the new building will link into the principle horizontal and vertical circulation routes of the LEC building," the University said.

As a result of the construction, car parking in Library Avenue closed on Monday Week 8 and will be unavailable until Lent term 2015, with many of the designated parking spaces for disabled staff members and other reserved spaces relocated to Farrer Avenue, on the other side of the LEC.

The building incorporates preparatory rooms and general stores.

Both labs have been designed to be easily subdivided, allowing multiple disciplines to use the laboratories simultaneously. Construction on the laboratories will be completed in Lent term 2015.

In an internal communication seen by SCAN, the University said

Success of Green Impact causes NUS to set sights on responsible drinking

Jack Perry
News Editor

The NUS has launched a new initiative to promote a responsible drinking culture among students on campuses. The scheme, named "Alcohol Impact" is a new accreditation initiative which works with students' unions to promote a responsible drinking culture on campuses across the UK, and is funded by the Home Office.

The NUS is currently working with seven higher education institutions currently, with the hope to expand it in the future. At the time of writing it was unclear whether LUSU – which already has its own responsible drinking initiative, "Easy Tiger" – will be subscribing to the initiative. "Alcohol Impact" sees institutions work through a series of criteria to help create a culture of responsible drinking among students on campuses. If successful, they'll receive an accreditation mark to signal



Photo courtesy of Easy Tiger

their commitment to responsible drinking.

The "Alcohol Impact" campaign is based on the continued success of the NUS' Green Impact initiative in bringing about behavioural change, including at Lancaster University, where LUSU's Green Lancaster Eco-Hub benefited enormously from Green Impact.

NUS Vice President for

Welfare and Student Rights Colum McGuire said he was excited to launch the project. McGuire said the campaign was "an extremely positive one that has the welfare of students at its core, with a range of benefits from reducing crime and disorder, to improving student health and academic outcomes, and enhancing partnerships within local communities."

Massive investment into the library in order to create "an outstanding research and learning space."

Continued from front page

...space to relax in between study sessions."

With regards to the location and layout of the library, feedback suggested people "want a place where physical resources are easy to locate". Specifically, postgraduates emphasised that they wanted "a dedicated postgraduate workspace" and responses about the library's technology confirmed that students "expect the Library to provide PCs, printers and scanners" and that they "expect to be able to use and charge" their own laptops and mobile devices whilst at the library.

The main aim of the project is "to provide an outstanding research and learning space" and the Library refurbishment is the first refurbishment project on campus to target a BREEAM 'Excellent' standard.

BREEAM is a measure of the building's environmental performance and the effect it will have on the wider environment.

Mark Swindlehurst, Director of Facilities said: "In 2005 the University set out a strategy which had strict criteria to ensure that any new buildings on campus met the BREEAM Excellent standard and that any major refurbishments met BREEAM criteria of Very Good. This time we are aiming to raise the bar with an 'Excellent' standard for a refurbishment project."

Alex Solk, Partner from Sheppard Robson said: "Collaborating with researchers, students, academics and library staff has enabled us to develop a design that will create a step change in the learning offer provided by the Library." He also said that "Drawing on the latest research in design for higher education, the new library will respond to the needs of all students and staff both using the resources available today and future-proofed to accommodate future learning styles."

The new library interior will utilise natural light and ventilation to tackle the problems raised in the feedback.

A new glass roof will bring the external courtyard and a tree will be planted in the middle of the courtyard, which the website says will create a "calm and contemplative environment".

The balconies will also be opened up to ventilate the centre of the building.

The facilities will be upgraded with new heating, lighting, toilets and ventilation, as well as water fountains and vending machines. On the ground floor, there will also be an interactive help kiosk and a directory and information boards will be available on each floor.

In the East Building, there will be wider aisles and new lower book shelves to help improve the access to resources.

Highly visible, open-plan zoning will clearly define the spaces within the Library and the design will be repeated on every floor for easy navigation.

In terms of workspaces, there will be an increase in quiet individual study spaces in a variety of formal and informal settings, while group study will be made easier through bookable enclosed and semi enclosed spaces. Almost all of the study spaces will be equipped with power sources, data and some furniture will be fitted with USB ports. The Wi-Fi of the building will also be upgraded. There will also be bigger rooms for flexible teaching space and a dedicated area for postgraduate study.

Pickles said "I'm just looking forward to it being finished because I think it's going to be stunning". She also emphasised that "It's going to be a really high quality finish with new furniture and new facilities. I think it will be so much better for everybody because of the additional workspace and the power."



Images courtesy of Facilities

Bowland Tower to be demolished

Maisy McCubbin

SCAN can exclusively reveal that the University has decided to demolish Bowland Tower, after a lengthy discussion as to whether the Tower is structurally safe for students to reside in.

After the grand unveiling of the new Bowland accommodation in January, there have been various secret discussions as to whether the Tower is structurally sound, as there was not enough time to check the foundations if the University hoped to meet the renovation deadline. As a result, students have been living in a block which is at risk of collapse.

The final decision to demolish the Tower was made in a private University Senate, where one concerned member of upper management revealed that if the Tower were left standing, it would begin to tilt to the left, similarly to the Leaning Tower of Pisa in Italy. This is due to an ancient burial ground that was discovered on the Bailrigg site back in the 1960s when the University purchased the land to begin constructing the modern day campus.

Bowland Tower has been the centre of controversy since its

construction, during the course of its life it has been linked to suicides, hauntings and mysterious cat sightings. It has been suggested the burial ground upon which the Tower is situated contains the remains of the infamous Pendle Witches – the members of Time Team have been invited to excavate the site after the demolition is complete.

SCAN spoke to a member of Facilities, who wished to remain anonymous, about the planned demolition, and it was said: “Whilst it is sad to see the end of Bowland Tower, we are looking forward to seeing the controlled explosion take place over the summer, it was originally planned to take place alongside the other construction work during Quiet Period, but we thought blowing up an 11 storey building might annoy those nearby.

Although it’s a shame that we wasted so much money renovating the Tower, we plan to claim the destroyed building on our insurance. We have offered compensation packages and first class degrees to a small group of science students if they admit to accidentally destroying the building whilst assisting in recreating Godzilla for a film project.”

Though still in the formative stages, the secret Senate also

Photo by Andrew Wong



discussed possible reuses of the land once the Tower is gone and the burial ground has been excavated. Our anonymous source revealed: “We’d like to make it a retail space to go alongside the other stores in Alexandra Square, we’re in discussions with a popular clothing retailer, who are rumoured to be opening a store in Lancaster city centre, about

opening a two storey building on campus. After the Tower is gone, we plan to fix the foundation problem by filling the excavated site with concrete.”

The University are yet to announce details of the demolition to students, and it is unsure where those who have accommodation in the Tower will be moved to, after Ash House

was closed for renovation. As part of the demolition ceremony, spectators will be invited to take ‘selfies’ with Bowland Tower and hashtag them #ByeByeBowland to be in with a chance of winning a commemorative miniature Bowland Tower.

More information and tickets for the controlled explosion will be released in the coming weeks.

‘She Should Run’ campaign aims to tackle under-representation of women

Josh Walker

LUSU is running a campaign to enable more women to run for positions in the upcoming LUSU elections. The ‘She Should Run’ campaign aims to encourage and support any self-defining woman to run for office, aiming to address the issue of under-representation of women in LUSU.

A Facebook campaign is underway, with a cover photo being circulated in which students are encouraged to tag women they think should run for office. Lanes Women Lead, who are running the campaign, are also planning on producing cards that students can hand to women whom they feel should run.

On Monday, Week 7, a workshop was held which provided information about the upcoming election and gave interested women the chance to speak to previous women candidates, in order to support and encourage those considering standing.

The under-representation of women in LUSU is a growing

concern. Caroline Arnold, the member of Lanes Women Lead who suggested the campaign, spoke to SCAN and said that “Women are the largest underrepresented group in LUSU,” despite the fact 52 percent of Lancaster University’s student population are women.

“There may be something putting off women from running,” stated Arnold, “we have so many fantastic women members of LUSU doing fantastic things but they aren’t running for office. We are lacking women candidates, and more women candidates leads to more women officers.” Whilst Arnold believes a woman candidate is as likely to be elected as a man, the main issue is recruiting women candidates in the first place, and this is what the She Should Run campaign targets.

“It’s not just a matter of numbers though, women bring a different approach and raise different issues – their contribution is invaluable,” adds Arnold. A similar campaign was ran in US elections and Arnold argues that by simply asking and supporting women to stand for office it was successful in boosting the representation of

women.

SCAN also spoke with Rachel Harvey, VP (Campaigns and Communications), who believed the Facebook campaign has already been a success. “I’ve been quite surprised by how many people – just by being tagged in the cover photo – have thought ‘I’ve never even thought of that before’. So that in itself is making people think ‘yeah, I could do this. I’ve never considered myself for that role before’.”

“We’ve developed quite a large network now of women that want to help other women run, and men that want to help women run as well,” said Harvey. “Campaigning can be pretty brutal and stressful; it can be pretty ‘male dominated’ at times and that can be quite intimidating. So it’s about having that really strong network and saying to people ‘hey you can do this’.”

There is optimism regarding the outcomes of the She Should Run campaign.

Harvey believed that eventually “[the number of

positions] should be proportionate to the number of women we have on campus”.

against men, Arnold argued that “when it comes to the idea of discrimination, there is nothing stopping a man setting up a campaign to encourage men to run for office, but it wouldn’t have the same purpose, because there isn’t an issue with the number of men running for office.

“It is important that women engage with the campaign and ask other women to run for office. This can have a powerful effect but I would encourage men to do the same and engage with the issue and be part of the solution.”

Lanes Women Lead, who are running the campaign, are an autonomous group of women in leadership positions across Lancaster University, comprising of lecturers, students and LUSU officers. Their overall aim is to increase the number of women in leadership positions and education and engage people on the obstacles facing women entering leadership positions.

Hustings for the CCO and Student Trustee elections, as well as for a number of JCR by-elections, is taking place on Monday Week 8, with voting taking place between Tuesday and Friday Week 8.

VP (Welfare and Community) voices concerns over fitness to study policy



Photo by Mae Reddaway



Jack Perry
News Editor

VP (Welfare and Community) Tom Fox has said that there were “concerns” about the University’s proposals for a fitness to study policy. The policy aims to propose a set of actions for members of staff to deal with students who – often for mental health reasons – represent a potential harm to themselves or others. The fitness to study policy is considered a necessary document for all those concerned. However, the first draft of the policy – seen by SCAN – has come under criticism for being too disciplinary in tone and not taking enough account of the student’s wellbeing. Other concerns were raised about the training of many of the academic and college advisors involved in the policy.

SCAN has been told the programme reads like a disciplinary procedure, with the student having to attend a series of meetings not unlike those found in the deanery system. Particularly

glaring aspects of the document include Article 6.5, which states that: “There may be occasions where it is not possible or not appropriate for the student to attend the meeting themselves (e.g. if they are currently in hospital). In this case the student should be given the opportunity to send a representative in their place.” This goes against the European Convention on Human Rights, which states that everyone has the right to be present at a hearing. Elsewhere, the draft states that students would be refused an appeal if a medical professional said they were unfit to continue their studies.

“I think from the meeting that we had there were concerns: the biggest concern was that the way it was worded was very disciplinary,” Fox said. “[The University] need to make sure they have that duty of care. If you need to change the way a policy reads, you really need to go back and make a lot of work on it. I would hope – as it is being written by Student Based Services – they would include the required support for students in the final draft of the document.”

Fox also said that he had concerns about other aspects of the document. “My biggest worry is that in the early stages of the policy the students get sent to

an academic advisor or a college advisor, and that advisor isn’t trained and therefore doesn’t know what the best solution is.

“I was hoping this policy would go a bit further to compensate for that and to train those advisors. It hasn’t done so as much as I’d like it to; I hope when they rewrite the policy that is something which is better addressed.”

After criticism was levied at the current proposals, the University said it would rewrite the policy and send it to members of the Colleges and Student Experience Committee for appraisal. However there is unease among observers that the revised document will still be disciplinary in nature.

Fox did, however, express his satisfaction that a fitness to study policy was being put in place. “It is always good to have [such measures] in writing, for the plain fact that members of staff can be accountable, and if they do something differently then we have a basis to ask why.” Commentators also expressed the hard work Student Based Services put in, telling SCAN that the department deals with a lot of serious cases while only having limited resources. In Lent term, Fox and President Joel Pullan secured two extra counsellors from the University, which was considered a triumph for the Union.

Careers Service launches new initiatives



Steve Start
News Editor

As well as graduate internships the University offers a wide range of opportunities to work part-time for the University and shells out a massive £1.9 million on casual labour per year. Two thirds of this is spent on employing students to be tour guides, work in Hospitality or on help desks, and in admin support.

To increase accessibility to this kind of work for students, the University is introducing an Employment & Recruitment Service for the new academic year. This new service will work with internal and external managers to promote the student and graduate talent that Lancaster offers.

As well as opening up opportunities on-campus, the Careers Service aims to develop its focus on job brokering – this process involves helping recently graduated students with job applications and preparation. The Careers Service intends to create stronger links with SMEs (Small to Medium Sized Enterprises) as many of the jobs never get advertised, instead recruitment takes place through networks and trusted contacts.

The forming of reliable and trusted networks in larger corporate companies is also an aim for the Careers Service. This year

they have launched “The London Connection” to try and work more closely with alumni and the Work Foundation to give current Lancaster students a great start in the graduate market. Mark Diggle, Head of the Careers Service told SCAN that this was a particularly important part of their new schemes because “understanding [top graduate employers] needs, how and when they recruit, what they look for in their graduate hires – this helps us and helps you as we share this knowledge and promote the University and graduates. Lancaster’s alumni offer us the chance to open some doors and build the relationship.”

As well as providing for the students on and off campus through these initiatives, the Careers Service has pledged to make more of an offline presence in faculty departments and has launched their revamped website which gives students greater support online. The new website offers video resources, knowledge and skill banks as well as employer information, CV writing guides and psychometric tests. Diggle told SCAN that the Digital Services “is a growing resource and we would welcome any contributions based on your own experiences applying for jobs.”



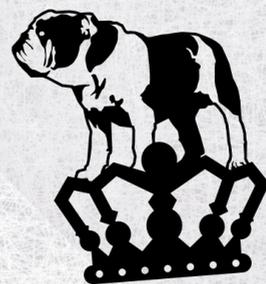
Photo by Mae Reddaway

GRADUATION BALL

BLACKPOOL TOWER - 22.6.14

Main Entertainment

#LUSUGradBall



DYNAMITE

NEON JUNGLE

BLACKPOOL TOWER CIRCUS

JAY MATTHEWS

SIMBA

CHASE

AND

STATUS

**DJ SET
+ RAGE**

Tickets on Sale now!

from LUSU Welcome Desk

The **scan** archives

Taking a look back into Lancaster's history

Read more online at
scan.lusu.co.uk/news

Friday 23rd June 2000 (Summer term)
 No. 1 this week: **Kylie Minogue - Spinning Around**

Final year student killed on campus

Campus was in shock last Sunday morning after the news that a third year mature student had been killed in Furness College.

The body of Lorraine Price, a Women's Studies student, was found by security staff with stab wounds to the chest and neck, early on Sunday morning. Ms Price, who was originally from Mid Glamorgan, was a Cartmel student who had been living in Galgate with her teenage daughter. She had recently finished studying for her degree.

A fellow student, Ratleb Raslan, from Syria, who was studying for an MA in

Contemporary Literary Studies, was arrested shortly afterwards and questioned by police over the incident.

He was charged with murder on Monday and appeared in court on Tuesday where he was remanded in custody until June 27th.

The majority of students were first made aware of the tragedy by an email that was sent by the university press office to all students and staff on Monday morning. Lectures and seminars in the women's studies department were cancelled on Monday as a mark of respect.

In a statement issued by the university on Monday any students who felt affected by the incident were advised to contact staff in their college, the Counselling service (ext. 92690) or Student Support. Students can also call into the Advice Centre in the Students' Union or contact the centre on ext. (5) 93769.



Forced in!

After heated debate, Union Council had resigned itself to allowing the Armed Forces in to Freshers' Fair next academic year. Last year, student members of the Armed Forces turned up to Freshers' Fair and were forced to decamp outside – where they directed students to the Conference Centre hoping to recruit them into the Armed Forces.

They have been barred from having a stall at the Freshers' Fair until now by the Students' Union on the grounds that the Army contravenes LUSU policy on discrimination within students.

Since the Armed Forces would not accept homosexuals into their ranks, they were deemed by SU ranks to be perpetuating prejudice.

However, in September of last year, following a ruling of unfair dismissal by The European Court of Human Rights, a change in

government policy required the Armed Forces to change their policy regarding gays. As a consequence of their change of policy, it became possible to allow the Armed Forces back in to Freshers' Fair.

As a result, throughout this term Union Council has been discussing the issue – an issue which has become about much more than the Army, raising questions about the democratic credibility of Union Council itself. Whilst supporters of the Armed Forces pointed out that the training corps provided students with an opportunity to get involved in various activities, their opponents argued that Freshers' Fair shouldn't be turned into a recruitment drive for the establishment. The Army, they insisted, did not fit in with the spirit of the Fair, and tapes demonstrating military capability – shown last year – could prove distressing, particularly for international students from backgrounds of national conflict.

Peter Graham argued in favour of the Army's return, stressing the opportunities offered: "You can get your pilot's licence with them, you can go on various haunts and expeditions into the countryside". In contrast, Mature Students' Officer Martin Pedersen argued: "War is reality, if we don't have an army, we will be

invaded. That's of course true, But the Students' Union should try to say that maybe the army should not be in Freshers; Fair. The biggest single customer in British advertising is the army. It's not as if it is suffering from lack of exposure".

Rob Massy, LUSU President, commented: "There were questions in the past about their discrimination about sexuality and about gender. People still have quite strong objections about the nature of their work... but in the end the majority of people said 'We'll let them in'."

The LGBT representative James Powell did not object to allowing the Armed Forces to take part in the event.

Mark Barber of Liverpool University Royal Naval Unit welcomes the decision. He believes that it is better to have the stall inside the Great Hall, as the Armed Forces would be where people can easily find them if they are interested.

Growing greener

Although some may dismiss them as 'tree-hugging hippies', the environmentalists on campus have made considerable advances during the last academic year – progress summarised in their Annual Report for 1999–2000. With the establishment and productivity of the Organic Garden at the southern end of campus and the placement of aluminium collecting bins around Alexandra Square being the most visible achievements, the LUSU Environmental Committee have much to be proud of.

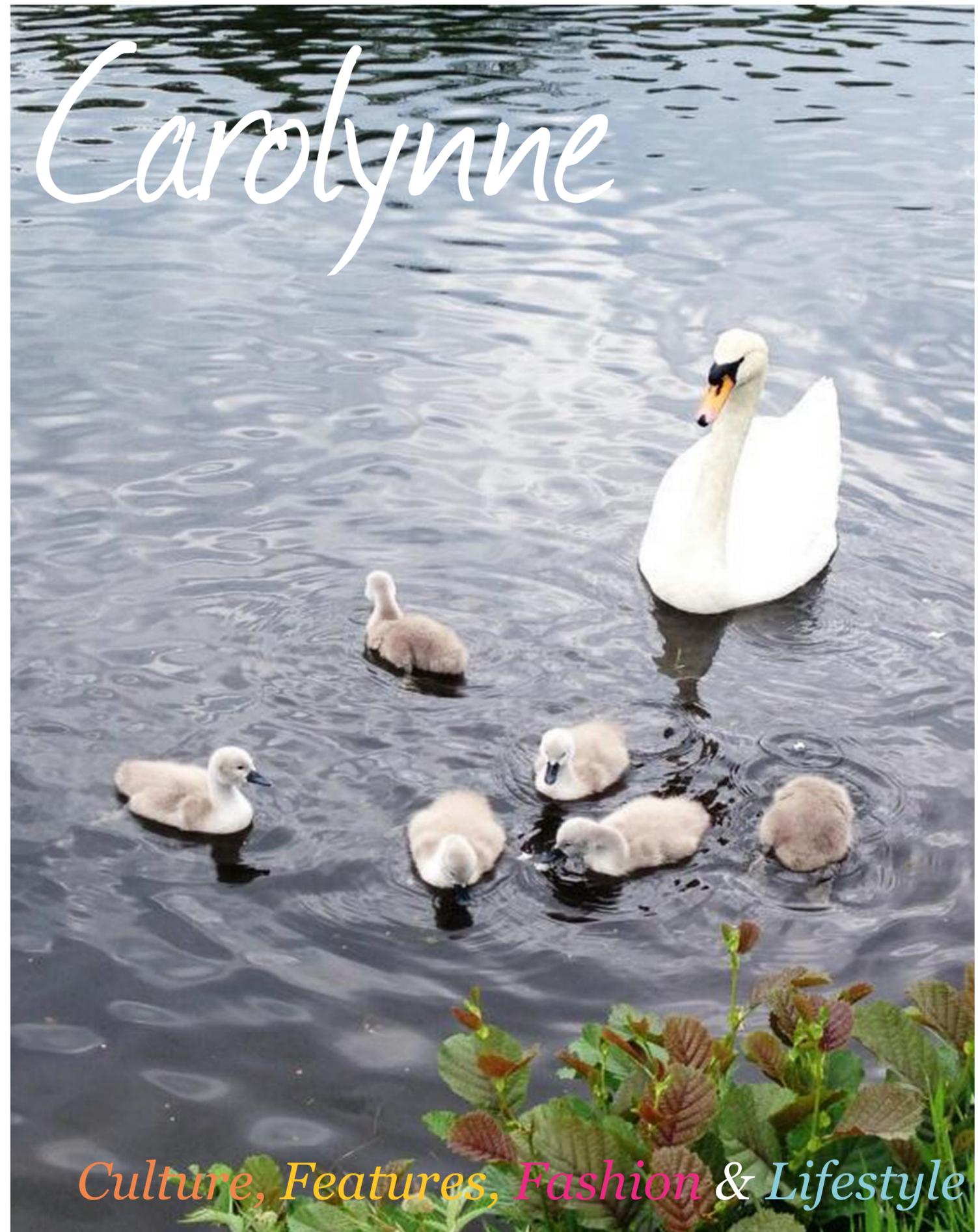
The 'ONE World Week' event (raising over £800 for charity), and the presence of the fair-trade products in retail establishments, are also major victories for the Committee this year. However, Jamie Agombar, the LUSU Environment Officer, thinks that the biggest stride forward has been the working relationship that the Environmental Committee (which links up all the green groups on campus) has had with the University authorities. He said the Committee was now "working with the University... to improve

the environment on campus" rather than merely acting as a lobbying group.

His remarks were not without veracity – as witnessed by the Committee's co-operation with the Estates Department to increase the amount of campus meadowland in the next academic year and the extension of recycling facilities in the near future.

Perhaps the proposed plan that will generate most interest is the ponderously-named 'energy-saving incentivisation scheme'.

In practice, it will mean that JCRs will be able to get back a proportion of energy savings made within that college in hard cash. Additionally, there would be cash prizes and a trophy on offer to the most energy-conserving college in addition to the money they would already be getting back.



Carolynne

Culture, Features, Fashion & Lifestyle

Photo of the Week

This week: Anna Meng

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, 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:

- *Review: Coldplay - 'Ghost Stories'*
- *'What is Left?' - Exhibition Review*
- *The #YesAllWomen Campaign*
- *2014 College End of Year Extravanzas*
- *Carolynne Photo of the Year: Sammie Caine*
- *Instagram: Who should you be following?*
- *"I woke up like dis" (No, seriously).*
- *Relationships at university: Expectations vs. Reality*
- *SCAN Recipes: Summer Delights*

Definitely Maybe: 20 years on

Simon James
Deputy Culture Editor

But what about the lyrics themselves?

Let's look at 'Supersonic', the first Oasis single, which Noel wrote in half an hour. The band were trying to record 'Bring It On Down' but couldn't get it right, and needed to come out of the recording with something, so Noel wrote these lyrics which they only ever recorded that night: 'I know a girl called

clear attack on the establishment, while 'Married with Children' scathingly assesses the banality of marriage. 'Cigarettes and Alcohol' spoke to the disenchanted working classes with lines such as 'Is it worth the aggravation to find yourself a job when there's nothing worth working for?', suggesting the best solution to futility could be found in the song's title. But the clear theme that Oasis celebrate throughout the whole

that getting up in the morning was the greatest thing ever, because you didn't know where you'd end up that night.' 'Live Forever' perfectly encapsulates the brothers' pure and shameless optimism, and for that reason alone is probably the greatest song they ever recorded.

I listen to Oasis a lot, and even I can hardly tell that the remastered version has changed – as Liam suggested, it didn't need any work.

The real reason the rerelease is worth the 13 quid price tag is that there are 33 extra tracks on it – demos, live recordings, and of course, B-Sides. Noel claims to have been writing about four songs a week at the time, meaning some real gems never made it onto an album. Definitely Maybe is the only record to be sung entirely by Liam, but Noel performed several acoustic numbers for the B-Sides which all seem to paint the wistful image of him looking out of the window at the horizon – these include the beautiful 'Sad Song', the Royle Family theme tune 'Half the World Away' and an homage to the Beatles' 'Octopus' Garden' in 'Take Me Away'. Another notable bonus track is 'Whatever', which bridged the gap between Oasis's first and second albums by being their first of many to include a prominent string section.

Although it's arguable that their follow-up album topped it, Oasis never recreated the authenticity of Definitely Maybe before their split in 2009. Grunge, Madchester, being on the dole... the conditions were perfect, and the album's context shows in each track. It celebrates youth, but makes me wish I was 15 years older – if I was, I would have been a teenager in the middle of Britpop and experienced for myself what seems like an incredibly exciting time when compared to the music of today. I missed out, just as Oasis themselves missed the Beatles, who they regularly named as their biggest influence. But the Gallaghers always had Sgt. Pepper to listen to, and the same can be said now for Definitely Maybe – it isn't going anywhere, and in a way that's enough. The character of the time I missed can easily be found and explored in the 11 - or should I now say 44? - tracks, which in my eyes, definitely makes it one of the best records that has or ever will be made. No maybe.

It's the 20th anniversary of Definitely Maybe, the first album by Manchester rock band Oasis, and the springboard which saw them jump into the middle of the Britpop invasion and claim the title of biggest band in the country. The anniversary has seen the album remastered and rereleased, much to frontman Liam Gallagher's disapproval. His shouty tweet:

'HOW CAN YOU REMASTER SOMETHING THAT'S ALREADY BEING MASTERED. DON'T BUY INTO IT. LET IT BE' implies that it was perfect already- and he's absolutely right.

'Rock 'n' Roll Star' is the greatest opening track there has ever been. Noel Gallagher wrote the whole album before the band were signed, and apparently they once performed this song to two people at the Boardwalk. Probably an exaggeration, but the point remains – they could have had no idea that the dream the song describes was just around the corner.

If 'Rock 'n' Roll Star' was their mission statement, the rest of the album is explanation in itself of how the dream became a reality. The thick guitar chords that bellow from each track are denser than anything we would find in contemporary rock recordings, but here they are a perfect, confrontational expression of the 1990s which could almost fit the punk rock genre. Liam Gallagher is perhaps the only possible vocalist who could have matched the power of Oasis's instrumentals, and his performance on Definitely Maybe was the best he would ever record. The emotional intensity he brings to every track on the album was crucial to its success. His personal triumph is 'Slide Away', where he captures the youthful naivety of his brother's lyrics so well that it's impossible to imagine anyone else singing them.

Elsa, she's into Alka-Seltzer, she sniffs it through a cane on a supersonic train'. Incredibly memorable rhymes which could be described as nonsensical. While it's true there are no concrete narratives or hidden meanings behind most of the songs on the album, it instead leaves a distinct impression of a working class (or 'underclass' as described in 'Bring It on Down'), drugged-up Northern Britain, and the lyrics are so specific they encourage us to attach our own meaning to them.

That's not to say that the album is without substance. 'Up In the Sky' might not be overtly Pink Floyd-ian, but is a

of Definitely Maybe is one of aspiring to better things, whilst always maintaining an affection for the world which spawned them.

In this sense, the album is defined by the track which set off the chain reaction for their success: 'Live Forever'. Britpop is said to have been Britain's reaction to American grunge music, and Noel has explained how within this, 'Live Forever' can be seen as a response to Nirvana's 'I Hate Myself and Want to Die': "Kids don't need to hear that nonsense," he said. "He seemed like a guy that had everything and was miserable about it. We had fuck all and I still thought



Culture Update: What's been going on?

- British actor Timothy Spall won the Best Actor award at the Cannes Film Festival for his role as JMW Turner in the film directed by Mike Leigh. The bookie's favourite 'Winter Sleep' won the prestigious Palm d'Or award - a Turkish film directed by Nuri Bilge Ceylan.

- Coldplay's new album Ghost Stories has become 2014's fastest selling album so far. This is Coldplay's sixth consecutive UK number 1 album, and their newest has been dubbed "the most dour, muted music of the band's career" by the Independent. Read our exclusive review of the album in this week's issue.

-Poet, author and activist Maya Angelou has died at the age of 86. Described by Barack Obama as "one of the brightest lights of our time", Angelou made her name with the memoir I Know Why Caged Birds Sing, a story of personal childhood oppression in the Deep South in the 1930s. The book spent two years at the top of the US bestsellers chart after publication in 1970, and was the first of seven memoirs.

- For those of you sticking around in Lancaster over the summer, the Dukes are putting on an outdoor performance of Hansel and Gretel in Williamson Park from July 4th - August 16th. The show promises "a deliciously dark journey full of hunters, forest creatures, edible houses and outwitted witches. Follow the breadcrumbs and witness this legend of the forest brought to life like never before." For more information and tickets visit <http://www.dukes-lancaster.org/parkshow>.

Review: Fargo

Iain Beddow
Sport Editor



vide salient nods to the Academy Award winning 1996 film. Created and written by Noah Hawley the TV adaptation, set 19 years after the film, draws inspiration rather than being entirely based on the Coen Brother classic. Hawley holds subtle comedy in tandem with dark violence, cleverly threading multiple plot lines within to assemble a gripping story.

Located in the same Minnesota/South Dakota sub-zero snow-scape, the plot centres around individuals of polar opposites who meet through a chance encounter at a hospital. Martin Freeman portrays Lester Nygaard, the bumbling local who's frightened of his own shadow, while Billy Bob Thornton plays Lorne Malvo, the manipulative, mysterious nomad with a penchant for terror, who turns the former's life upside down following an unexpected proposal. Two days and three murders later,

While Game of Thrones has annexed our television screens, and series like Breaking Bad and True Detective remain fresh in our memories, the revival of the long-narrative television drama appears to be gaining continued momentum with Channel 4's recent acquisition of the TV adaptation 'Fargo' - another drama worthy of acclaim.

The ten episode series serves as a continuation from the original film of the same name, which also began with the four sentences which mark the start of each of the new episodes: "THIS IS A TRUE STORY. The events depicted took place in Minnesota in 2006. At the request of the survivors the names have been changed. Out of respect for the dead, the rest has been told exactly as it occurred." Intriguing, no?

The similarities don't end there either; the quirky accents - "aw jeez", hired hit men, incompetent police, chilling violence, ransom money and more all pro-

there begins a shift in the narrative of a 'small, quiet, town' on the border of Minnesota, as the area's police force chase their tails trying to work out what happened. Only the inquisitive, but often overlooked officer Molly Solversen, played exceptionally by Allison Tolman, begins to link the dots together before the events snowball into further chaos.

Without giving too much away, Lester's personality gradually breaks away from

the change in Lester, as slowly his inner evil starts to bubble to the surface...

With storyline and plot devices thrown at us left, right and centre, at times it can be difficult to keep up with. But Thornton's character alone is a joy to behold; shades of Javier Bardem's psychotic character in 'No Country for Old Men' adjoined with expertly delivered comedic one-liners, make Malvo an alluring character. Both leads signal the rise of TV as strong competition to Hollywood. The experienced Thornton makes his television debut while Freeman turns back to the format which saw his rise to fame (The Office) significantly delving back into a genre often abandoned by those who find comfort in feature films.

Fargo in itself is an obscure entity. A blend of both innocence and evil, the programme takes a few episodes to really get to grips with. The adaptation does remarkably well to garner the right distance from its successful film counterpart with new characters and an alternative storyline. Crucially however, Hawley abides by the Coens' blueprint of darkness and unpredictability which provides a brilliantly written, well-cast piece of television which is undoubtedly one of, if not the best programme currently on the box.



the bland, overly-nervous insurance salesman who had become engulfed by his monotonous life. "All things truly wicked start from innocence" - Ernest Hemingway provides the quote which perfectly depicts

Review: Coldplay - 'Ghost Stories'

Anna Meng

Coldplay were at risk of heading straight down the road towards banal, upbeat pop with Mylo Xyloto so thank goodness for Ghost Stories. There's nothing like heartbreak to really fuel creativity, and whilst divorce - or in this case, 'conscious uncoupling' is not something I'd wish on anybody - I can't help but find some rather callous joy in the fact that Chris Martin's pain has been channelled into the new music I've been waiting for since the glow of Mylo Xyloto wore off. In Martin's own words, Ghost Stories is "the journey from looking at everything you're going through in your life, be it good or bad, and thinking: am I going to run away from it? Am I going to blame for it? Or is there a way that by really opening yourself right up to it that you might actually get to a more joyful place?" It's a return to Coldplay's artistic roots whilst at the same time reflecting Martin's newfound zen-like attitude not just through lyrics but also the more ambient electronic sound that's notably started to creep into Coldplay's music.

Let's start with the worst: A Sky Full of Stars and True Love. In case you were wondering why True Love sounded distantly familiar in a rather unpleasant way- it's produced by Timbaland. Who clearly felt the need, in light of his recent obscurity, to put his irritating early 2000 drum and bass sounds all over the back-

ground of what would otherwise have been a decent song with a refreshing melody. In what seems to be an unnecessary move made mostly for marketing purposes, Coldplay also commissioned the "talents" of Swedish DJ Avicii for A Sky Full of Stars. The result is an appallingly generic song that sounds like everything Avicii has ever done and represents everything I hope Coldplay never do again.

Now that that's out of the way- let's move on to the good. There really is a lot of it on this album. Love, heartbreak and pain are all there but at the same time, there's a sort of melancholy beauty in the peaceful acceptance of it all that really shines through. Always In My Head starts with soft, haunting choral music that leads into superb, mellow vocals. It's the perfect introduction to the next song: Magic. Although it's supposed to get more optimistic as the album progresses, I'd say Magic has a far more positive message than O, the last song on the album- and it's one of my personal favourites because of it. Both Ink and True Love are unremarkable, but Midnight is a different story entirely. Dark, synthy goodness that's quite unlike anything Coldplay have ever done- if this is the direction they choose to go in after this album, I'm all for it. Oceans is the one track on the album that is most reminiscent of early Coldplay. O, the last song on the album, is peaceful. According to Chris Martin: "although it starts off as a heartbreak record, it's not. It's a joyful realisation."



Lancaster Fine Art Degree Show

Tuesday 17th June
Opening Night 6-8:30pm
Wednesday 18-25th June
11am-5pm
Closed Sunday
Sat 21st 11-4pm

Peter Scott Gallery





eclectic

 Eclectic Degree Show 2014

STI's are given free, but so are we. Make the sensible choice.



Free Condoms

Available from the Students' Union Front Desk and every College JCR



Lancaster Fine Art Degree Show

Chris Tooley



His own personal journey as an artist during the preparations for the degree show has been interesting to say the least. In the first term of this year he attempted to branch out and use something new in the form of glass, but he admits that he found this a struggle; "For me personally, the work I did in first term I didn't enjoy, as I was branching out with something new... I went back to something I was confident and comfortable with, which is painting". Chris says that his recent paintings are the best he's felt about his work since he's been making art, and he looks forward to seeing the fruits of everyone's labour in the show.

Matt Lines

Chris' work depicts the Industrial Revolution, or more precisely child labour from this time in history. During a visit to Derby Museum he was inspired to use the theme in his work by the photos he saw there. He empathised with the children having seen the desperate nature of the child workers and the horrendous conditions in which they worked. Following his visit he proceeded to research the period further and to discover images that would in turn inform his work. This dark and sombre subject matter coupled perfectly with the styles of artwork and artists that influence him - which having lived with him for three years of university I can tell you are bleak. A prime example of this would be the artist Chet Zar, famous for working on films such as *Hellboy*, and therefore naturally the ideas of *Del Toro* as well. He states further influences including *Salvador Dali* and the Surrealist/Dada era, and the German collage artist *Hannah Höch*.

In his most recent work we see bold striking colours and shapes, clearly reflective of these graphic artists he holds as influences. In one recent painting Chris has included a seemingly unending line of children, presented to the viewer to emphasise the horror of the period; in particular the incomprehensible number of children who were exploited during the Industrial Revolution. The influence of *Höch* is of course visible here, with the collage effect used to depict the children. Chris says that his space in the show is designed to act as a subtle memorial for the children that died throughout the Industrial Revolution, with each painting having a different narrative to its components and reflecting various aspects of the daily life of the child workers.



Artist Profiles

Holly Robinson



Jessica Kadel

The continuous friction between rural and urban environments is the stimulation for Holly Robinson's work. She explores the presence of rural elements in urban settings and vice versa, to demonstrate how neither environment can exist in complete solitude. Her work also examines how mankind has manipulated the natural world through the development of industrialisation. However, her pieces act somewhat as a satirical contradiction of this notion, as Holly opts to present nature as the prevalent surrounding - representing how the unkempt characteristics of nature have the possibility to surmount and overshadow such urban environments.

Holly therefore integrates both conflicting settings into one harmonising art piece. She works primarily with scrolls which exhibit drawings of four different environments combined into one extensive panoramic depiction. The process of creating her scrolls involves visiting the several different environments to draw what she refers to as her "blueprints". This primary observation of the landscapes is a fundamental aspect of her work as she wants the drawings to be affected by her personal interpretation and less "factual" than the photograph-

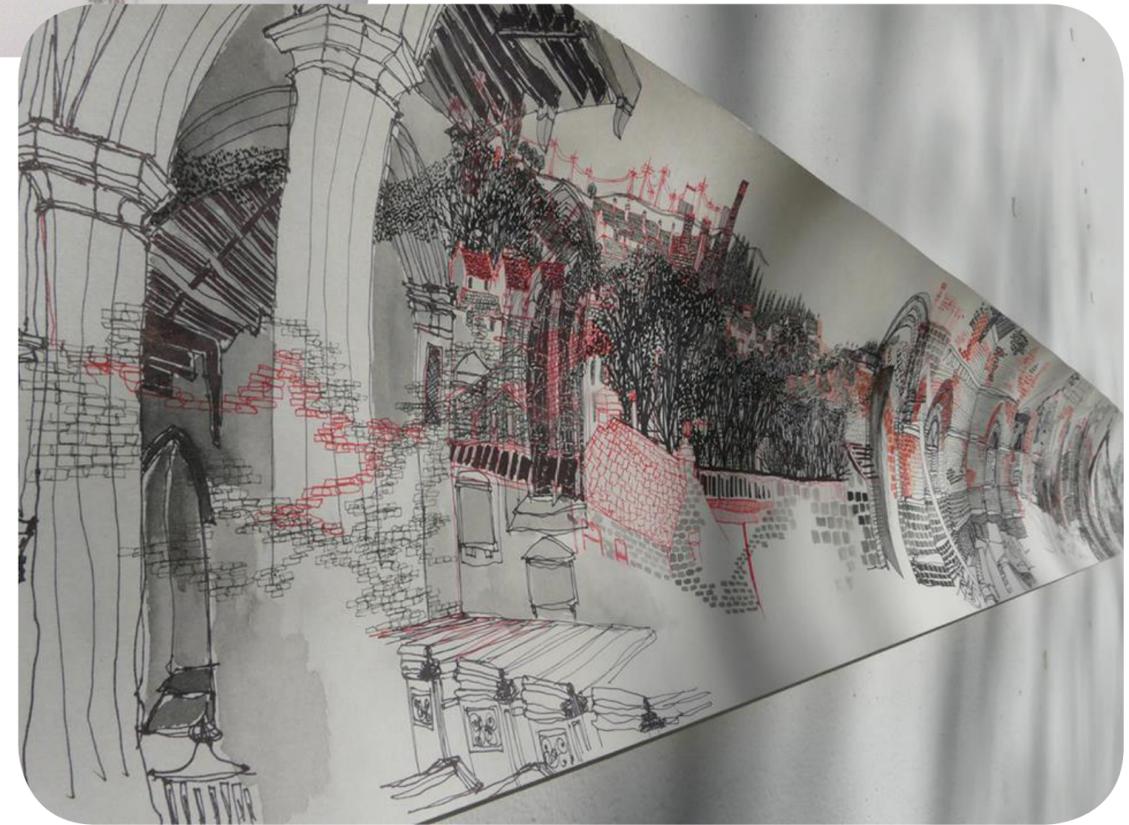
ic image. For this reason, Holly never draws from photographs and quotes *David Hockney* by stating "The camera sees everything at once, we don't". This dedicated method reflects Holly's appreciation of her natural surroundings and the value within nature, which is often disregarded.

Holly then returns to her studio to add extra details from imagination and memory. She layers marks and patterns which depict nature over the urban drawings. This layering, which builds an essence of the environments, also connotes the significance of nature despite its ongoing diminishment. To create her marks, Holly uses fine liner pens, watercolours and Indian inks to fully capture the atmospheric details of the settings. The selected environments she fuses contrast significantly. To suggest rurality; Holly chooses quiet or "slow" towns, such as *Arnside*, she juxtaposes this sense of speed with fast-paced urban cities such as *Manchester* and *Liverpool*.

Holly states she has always classified herself as a drawer; however her technique has certainly developed over time. Instead of striving for perfectly accurate depictions, Holly's work now tries to convey information and fulfil a greater purpose than to merely be visually pleas-



ing. For the degree show, Holly plans to present two ten metre scrolls of environmental drawings, she also hopes to include a short film which displays every fraction of the scrolls, to allow the spectators to fully appreciate every unseen element of her work.



Review: X-Men - Days of Future Past

James Hyde

After the debacle of X-Men: The Last Stand and the horror show that was X-Men Origins: Wolverine, 2011's X-Men: First Class was a welcome fresh start for the franchise - remembering, as the other two did not, that a sense of plot and purpose can do a lot more for a film than incessant fight scenes. But despite First Class's success, the overriding feeling prior to the release of Days of Future Past was that it had bitten off more than it could feasibly chew. First Class director Matthew Vaughn left the project in production, and was replaced by original X-Men director Bryan Singer (11 years since he last directed an X-Men movie). Furthermore, the announcement of the plot left many with rather serious questions. Duel time frame? Two casts? What about the fact (spoiler alert) that Professor X died in The Last Stand and Magneto lost his powers? How will they explain that?!

Well, the latter query isn't answered here whatsoever (although there was a post-credits sequence at the end of The Last Stand which does address it somewhat) but the first two problems are answered definitively.

The plot is necessarily convoluted but does make sense, whilst the cast is thinly-spread but effective.

Sure, some characters are underused (Halle Berry's Storm in particular is given almost nothing to do), but those who feature prominently are once again superb. The dichotomy of morality between James Mcavoy's pacifist Charles Xavier and Michael Fassbender's Machiavellian Magneto is what really drives the plot, and whilst Magneto isn't really the true villain here (at least from a motivation viewpoint) he certainly does provide much of the antagonism in his quest for superiority. Elsewhere, Jennifer Lawrence's vengeful Mystique has gone from a supporting character to one of the main stars - her emotional quandary really gives the film its heart, whilst also driving yet another wedge between her fellow mutants. As with First Class, the performances are just that, and wring out every possible drop of emotion.

There are fun moments too, of course - this isn't DC, after all. The opening scene, mutants vs. Sentinels, is every bit as breathless and exhilarating as Nightcrawler's assault on the White House in X2, whilst Mystique's early infiltration of a military facility is brilliant. Oh, and Evan Peters' speedy turn as Quicksilver may just be the best X-Men scene ever. Regardless of everything else, these kind of comic-book adaptations live or die by their set-pieces, and Days of Future Past doesn't disappoint on that score.

Of course, it isn't



perfect.

There are too many unexplained contrivances that are integral to the plot, and Magneto's listing of all the mutants that have died seems shoehorned in to explain where several of First Class's cast have disappeared to. Peter Dinklage's chief antagonist Bolivar Trask is not

an evocative enough villain, lacking the necessarily repulsiveness or moral bankruptcy to make him effective - a huge step down from Kevin Bacon's hideous Sebastian Shaw last time round. It's also fairly predictable and formulaic, but that's probably to be expected. But overall, it's probably just about a better film than First Class, thanks to more

creative set pieces and the fact they don't have to waste any time introducing the characters. X-Men: Apocalypse comes out in 2016, and the intriguing post-credits teaser suggests it'll be a lot different to anything we've seen before. As for this? It's the best X-Men since X2, and the best Marvel film since The Avengers.

'What is Left?' - Exhibition Review

Tom Fitzgerald

At its simplest, 'What is Left?' is an exhibition which explores mortality and memory through sentimental objects bequeathed to loved ones. Yet at its most complex, its interpretation and appreciation is rooted within the mind of the viewer, for though it is a work that is outwardly about other people, its power lies in how you respond to it.

The work is installed in an empty house near the infirmary, which anyone would easily walk by were it not for a temporary sign outside.

It invites you into a narrow courtyard through an otherwise impassable gate and directs you to the right: to house number 1. To describe the exhibition as a photographic one would be too simple, yet photographs are its focal point. Around the walls are large printed images, nicely framed, each one depicting a person holding an object which was left to them by a loved one. Some of the objects are held stoically and some with joy - some with dry eyes and some less dry,

but all equally expressive. It is this variety of attitudes toward the objects that make the work so compelling, illustrating the great multitude of perspectives on mortality and memory that permeate us humans. Though we are all alike in some ways, we are so different in others that it would be uncanny if it weren't so delicate and fragile.

In front of each photograph is a chair, put there just for you, to sit in as you look - and not just look, but listen too. Each image is accompanied by a monologue delivered by the photographed individual, explaining the object and its significance to them. The sound is provided through an MP3 player which the show's attendants give to you on the way in, providing each image with a deeply personal and often profound context. In some ways it feels voyeuristic to listen to such heartfelt monologues while focusing on a photograph of the speaker who isn't there with you, but upon getting past this initial surreal discomfort, one realises that the work isn't about merely staring into someone else's life, but allowing their experiences to communicate with your own. It's about connection, not observation.

As such, the work gives as much (if not more than) it takes, for one can't help but reflect on something so personal when externalised out of boldness or for closure, or for one of any other myriad reasons which could be whole monologues in themselves. Accompanying the audio, paper booklets containing transcriptions are also available if the viewer wishes

to read rather than listen, granting the choice between experiencing the words internally or externally. This in itself is interesting as it supposes that the value of the monologue via its mode of delivery might vary from person to person.

While the house itself is quite small and sparsely furnished, the physical emptiness allows for greater subjective fullness by providing a vacuum for experience and reflection. Upon initially hearing the building described as abandoned I expected a completely different

aesthetic context than what is present. It is clean and well-kept, with none of the decay that I had expected to really inform the theme of mortality. However, upon engaging with the show it became apparent that as much as it is rooted in death it is more poignantly a celebration of life, and as the title implies, of what is left behind rather than what is gone.

The show can be found at 1 Thurnham Mews until the June 16th, before it takes off and continues its tour around other empty houses throughout the country.

You need to know... Folly and the Hunter

Andrew Sharp

Three years ago I came across the independently released debut album from Montreal-based indie-folk trio Folly and the Hunter who had around 600 fans on Facebook at the time. Residents became one of my favourite albums to chill out to for a few months, hitting the right note for the full 45 minutes with its delightfully unassuming and simplistic style, upbeat yet slow melodies and whispered vocals. I gradually played the record less as is normal when you find new releases to become obsessed with and eventually it didn't get played at all. Then in early 2013 the band announced the release of a second album and I was suddenly reminded of how good their debut was. It seems harsh to think about it but as hard as they had worked, Residents had hardly been noticed and was grossly under-appreciated.

I couldn't wait for the new record especially after they posted teaser track online, and I was taken aback by the sound they had been working on. The track had kept the simplicity they had so wonderfully showcased on their first record but also built to quite a full sound by the end, helped somewhat by the outstanding percussion on the track. I realistically knew that I was in the vast

minority when looking forward to the album as the small Canadian band was just that - small. Although their native North America had warmed to them, I seemed quite isolated as no European media outlet, be it radio, newspapers or even the internet-savvy bloggers who are usually good at picking up emerging artists, seemed to notice the trio. Album number two, Tragic Care, dropped in April and, as expected, continued with their beautiful low-fi contemporary folk style. Dreamy strings, a rich piano melody and the trademark effortless vocals. As promised, the song writing did indeed seem a little more grown up and sophisticated with a more exciting and warmer feel to the songs as the three friends seemed to fit perfectly together. Perhaps it was a virtue of already being familiar with the band's work but their second offering just seemed like I already knew it.

The good news is that come 2014, Folly and the Hunter have finally find some momentum. Having already succeeded in America with a stunning performance at legendary festival SXSW, the band have started to stretch their legs and find a fanbase abroad. Last month saw them travel to Europe having been booked for Liverpool's one day festival Sound City as well as headline dates in Denmark, Holland, Germany and Belgium. Here's hoping there will be more UK gigs to come as Folly and the Hunter are a band you really need to know.



Photo courtesy of LICA





Lancaster Fine Art Degree Show

Lucy Smalley



Simon James

Lucy's practice explores the tension between natural human memory and the memories that lie within photographs.

Originally dismissive of photography as a form of memory preservation, she took to recreating her own memories through printmaking. However, as time progressed, Lucy has come to accept that photographs do play an important role in shaping what we remember, leading her to choose photographic paper as the primary material for her work.

Using similar processes to photography, Lucy replaces the logical camera with herself, painting memory images from different periods throughout her life. She does not search for a certain memory to focus on for fear of it being too forced and unnatural, and instead paints whatever memory is at the forefront of her brain when it's time to work on the next piece. This makes for an eclectic selection of visual flashbacks, running from happy childhood memories in Epping Forest to the tragedy of losing her pencil case at Lancaster Castle; a traumatic occasion for any art student.

Two versions of each memory are painted onto transparencies – one with rigid physical details, as would be found on a photograph, and a more gestural piece which captures the overall impression of a memory, more in line with the human brain. The two are layered on top of each other and placed over a sheet of light-sensitive photographic paper, so that they are simultaneously printed into each



other. Placing the two perspectives in tandem together highlights the strained collaboration between photographic and cognitive memory.

If you've seen any of Lucy's prints stuck to the windows of the art studios in recent weeks, you'd know that she is using natural light to make her prints rather than a dark room. As well as corroborating her emphasis on the futility of technology, this means that the prints begin to fade almost instantly. As sad as this is, it seems appropriate that a project concerned with the preservation of memory fades away just as real memories do. It also acts as a reminder of the role of the camera – as soon as each of the prints is completed, Lucy takes a photograph to preserve the memory of her memories. These photographs will be displayed at the art show along with the original prints, emphasising the uncomfortable tension between the natural fading memory and the fixed digital equivalent.

Artist Profiles



Anna Meng

Orrico and William Kentridge as inspirations.

Eleanor Lang's work seeks to apply the principles of dance and movement to drawing. From dancers and choreographers to artists, she cites the work of Isadora Duncan, Rudolf von Laban, Trisha Brown, Tony

Laban Movement Analysis, a way of visualising and notating different types of movement, heavily influences Eleanor's work. Her process started with birds, which she found herself drawing over and over again, trying to get an image that "showed not just a single part of time but the bird over time." Eventually she realised she could notate these move-

Eleanor Lang

ments as she would a dance. Through experimentation, she found that using her shoulder and charcoal expressed these movements best. After that, it was simply a matter of finding ways to "choreograph drawings in interesting ways." The concepts and processes are, in her own words, "quite comic."

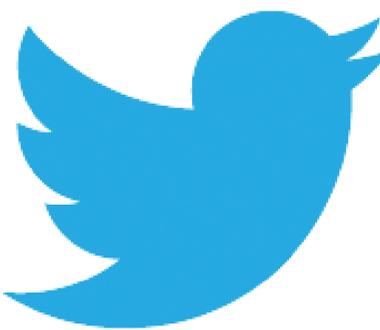
Movement has different qualities, Eleanor explains: "heavy, sustained, sudden, free or bound." When putting these ideas on to paper for her project, they came out as "all these different marks" that began to take on almost bird-like shapes. For her degree show, expect what will probably be a "really, really large drawing across a wall." Eleanor is currently in the process of refining the score so that "instead of just having notations of the movement, also just adding time so it's more like a music score or a dance score."

The degree show itself is "an interesting transition into the real world" that marks the end of several years of hard work. It's a process that hasn't been without challenges – for Eleanor, the hardest thing was figuring out what she was going to do. "You have all these crazy ideas" she says, "but you've got to choose one that's actually going to work." The highlight has, without a doubt, been the



people. Sharing a studio with 30 others lets you get to know them in a unique way that you don't get in other subjects. "People make fools of themselves in art" Eleanor says with a laugh, "and that's really personal."





Charlotte Marie Coldwell

It's become a common occurrence to be browsing the internet and come across something regarding feminism. There's 'Everyday Sexism' which has gained a huge following on Twitter, blogs on Tumblr dedicated to feminist issues, and also various campaigns about why we still need feminism today. I've had people tell me in the past that feminism isn't something which is relevant nowadays and that it isn't necessary. I argued against them then and will continue to do so.

On May 23rd, Elliot Rodger took to the streets of Santa Barbara, California, killing six people and injuring a further 13. Before doing so, he uploaded a video to YouTube explaining why he felt that his actions were warranted. The reason behind it was that he felt he didn't receive enough attention from women, as he had never been kissed and was still a virgin. He claimed not to understand why women were never attracted to him and always seemed to go for the same type of man, as he believed himself to be superior. This spurred the attack and, after stabbing his three roommates, he

The #YesAllWomen Campaign

began shooting outside a sorority house where he had plotted to seek revenge against girls who had never shown an interest in him.

There is obviously more to the attack than Rodger's hatred of women, as it is believed that he also possibly suffered from mental illness which is a serious subject and can't be dismissed. However, his views of women represent very real issues. It's been revealed that he participated in forums where men complain about their lack of success with women and spread misogynistic hate. There, he spoke of a world where he could be the only male with access to all women, as though they should be objects with which he could do as he pleased. The terrifying thing is that, rather than being shunned for this fantasy, he was applauded, and the thought that there are people who think in the same way as this murderer is truly distressing.

There have also been some horrific responses to the attack. In some cases, people have actually been siding with Rodger's actions, believing him to have been wronged by the women he attacked. It's also been said that if only women had

dated him then no one would have died, as if it were their fault. I thought that we were getting past the time where women would

lieve women should be expected to sleep with a man if they want ensure their own safety.

In light of the attack, the hashtag #YesAllWomen was started which focused on the reality of violence against women and the inequality which still exists today. This is a fantastic way of raising the profile of feminist issues, not just in severe cases such as this, but in terms of the sexism women face in everyday life. In a time where women have the vote and often experience equal opportunities to men, it can be easy for people to gloss over the importance of feminism. However, until women are no longer treated as objects, we still need feminism. Until women are no longer blamed for others' violence towards them, we still need feminism. And until there are no more attacks against women based on their right to say no, feminism will continue to be more important than ever.

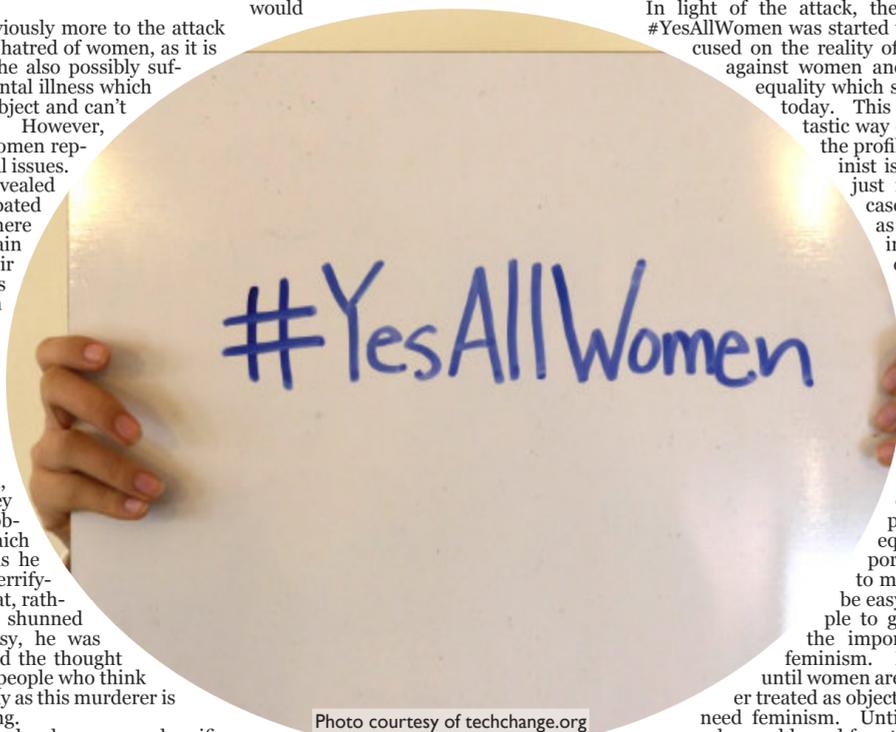


Photo courtesy of techchange.org

be blamed for their own attack, but apparently society hasn't managed to come that far. It seems sickening that we live in a world where some people be-

How to: Keep in touch after graduation

Anna Meng

Before moving to the UK, I spent my life at international schools across the world. The thing about international schools is: if it isn't you, it's your friends that are moving away every two to three years. So keeping in touch despite lengthy distances is something you have no choice but to get really, really good at. Although the prospect of graduation and moving away from your friends may seem daunting right now - the one thing I've learnt is that the better you get at communication, the smaller the world becomes. Here are some tips I've acquired over the years:

1. Social Media

Use it and love it. Facebook, Twitter and Instagram are all great ways to keep loose tabs on friends that are both close and distant. It's interesting to see what they're up to or where they are in life and it's a good way for you to let them

know what you've been doing. Stay connected by liking, sharing and remembering birthdays. Comments are no substitutes for conversations though, and good conversations are what relationships are about. Something that is a little closer and that I personally have found invaluable, is WhatsApp. Not social media per se, but it's great for communicating with friends overseas that don't have iPhones.

2. Mail

My friends and I have this system where whenever one of us is having a hard time - heartbreak, exam stress, you name it - the other will mail them some chocolate. Nothing fancy, just a regular bar with a small note attached. It's a simple, easy way to let the other person know you're thinking about them. It doesn't even have to be chocolate - make it a photo, a ticket stub or even just a card. At this point getting anything through the actual mail seems a little bit like Christmas and makes the other person feel like you really care.

3. Five minute phone

calls

Whilst lengthy catch-up sessions via Skype are a great way to stay connected - I think my record is something like eight hours - over time, it's scarily easy to lose touch. Even though we'd like to, we often find that we just don't have an hour or more to spare for an in-depth discussion about everything going on in our lives. The solution? Five-minute phone calls. More frequent but shorter conversations. Did something embarrassing happen on the way to work? Can't decide what to buy and need advice? Just call and chat. If the conversations take a little longer, that's absolutely fine. But it's equally okay to cut them short and go do something else. This way, you'll be in touch more often and therefore stay closer.

4. Travelling

This is hands down the best way to keep in touch with friends after graduation. It's one thing to be good at phone calls and Facebook and quite another to see someone in person. For you, visit-

ing a friend in their new area is a unique opportunity to see a new place through someone else's eyes; your friend can give you a tour of all their favourite spots. It's also a chance to meet their new friends, which might be awkward at first, but worth it in the end. If you're worried about costs, book well in advance and get a budget flight or train ticket. Travelling together is another great way to stay connected. Why not make plans to go inter-railing across Europe this summer? Or maybe get together with a group of friends and rent a house somewhere sunny.

To sum up, graduation may seem like the scariest thing we will have to endure, but it does not have to be as final as everyone thinks.

With today's technology there are so many easy ways to keep in touch. Instead of seeing graduation as a daunting end, see it as embarking on new exciting chapter where your friends are only a phone call away!

Planning the best year of your life

Bryony Seager

So you're thinking about taking a gap year?

Your studies are over, the stress of exams is behind you and you're free, so why not? Perhaps you always wanted to take one, but to avoid those fee rises you went to university straight out of school. I however, was the other way around; I had an awesome plan in mind, so threw caution to the wind and those damn fee hikes. Now, to the more financially sensible of you out there, the time is ripe to do a spot of travelling.

First off, a gap year is awesome. Don't let anyone tell you that you'll end up part of the "gap-yah" parade, constantly bragging about what happened with nobody really listening. Perhaps you will, but hey, you went halfway around the world on your own whilst they sat in nowhereville wondering what to do next. There are several ways to approach

taking a gap year; you could just decide you want to travel, dot across a particular continent - or even the world - taking in the places you swore you'd see. You can also look into organised opportunities such as teaching abroad (teaching English as a foreign language is a very popular option and is supported by lots of companies), or you might want to volunteer for a charity, or perhaps go somewhere to learn the language because it will be useful to you in a future career. In each case you have to decide what's best for you, not only what would be most pleasing to you, but also what would show potential employers that it was worthwhile. On that note you have to get a little creative. Even if you don't go and teach and/or volunteer, simply travelling to different places shows a willingness to be independent, organised and self-motivated... it's all in the way you frame it!

There are a multitude of other things to consider when planning a gap year. A big issue is often finance; a gap year is not cheap, mine probably cost in the region of £6,000-7,000 - if you don't count minor purchases. This included my around-the-world-flight, which is

an excellent thing to look into if you're planning to go to lots of places: you have to travel in the same direction at all times and you must be in certain places at certain times, although you decide when. The figure above might seem rather high but I did go to places such as Australia, and California which are notoriously expensive. Other places, such as certain parts of Asia, will undoubtedly bring costs down, although having said that a gap year can be as expensive or as cheap as you make it. One way to offset this cost is to work as you go. When I was in Aerie Beach, Queensland, there were lots of post-university students around and upon chatting to them they told us that they had worked ad-hoc jobs in bars and the suchlike in order to fund parts of their travels. This is a great idea, and if it works then that's fantastic, but don't plan for your money to come from a job, always have a back-up plan just in case you can't secure anything.

The next issue to think about is what exactly you're going to be doing; if you're going to settle in a place for a while - say six weeks - then this will lead to a different preparation than if you're going to be constantly backpacking. One thing

to keep in mind, however, is that no matter what you're doing - pack light! The memory of a friend and I jogging through Sydney in the pouring rain whilst trying to haul about 25 kilograms of luggage each behind us will stay with me forever. We arrived in Melbourne and all of our clothes were wet-lovely. In the end it didn't matter because Melbourne was to be our base for the next three-and-a-half months, but a little forethought about how we were going to get from hostel to airport in adverse weather conditions probably wouldn't have gone amiss.

Taking a gap year was one of the best experiences of my life, I got to see things I never thought I would see at the age of 18 and I would do it all over again in a heartbeat. Of course, there are times when it can get scary - when you can't find your transfer in Hong Kong airport - or exhausting - the 15 hour flight from Sydney to LA still gives me nightmares - but the little moments of worry or tiredness were offset by some of the best memories I have. I urge you, if you're even dreaming in the direction of a gap year, to grab it with both hands and wander.



Photo courtesy of Project Trust

2014 College End of Year Extravaganzas

BOWLAND



Photo by Natasha Masharova

Joanna Gresty

Bowland's reputation for coming up with an awesomely unique extrav theme has been put to the test once again – and they certainly haven't disappointed. "As with every extrav committee, there were a lot of ideas thrown around, but it soon became apparent that circus was the favourite of many of the committee members. I for one am very excited, some of the ideas we've come up with are great and if we put our plans in action everyone should be set for a great night!" – Lee Dudding, Bowland President. Big names are lined up to keep the party going strong 'til the early hours including the Sugarhouse's very own Michael Sutton – a favourite of many avid clubbing fans.

Tickets will be on sale June 7th at 11am for college members only and 2pm for general release. Bowland are proud to be known as consistently having the best extrav of the year with last year's Full Moon Party being confidently called "one of the most ambitiously designed extrav events ever". So roll up and come on down to the Big Top on June 25th at 8pm ticket in hand, for what's sure to be one of the most entertaining extrav's of the year.

FURNESS



Photo by Stefan

Rachel May Quin

Furness College are out to please this year with their multiple choice extrav 'When Worlds Collide' – encompassing four different yet complementary themes: games, sci fi, fantasy and superheroes. Ryan Jardine, VP Social & Events, revealed that the broad theme will make use of each space in the college buildings, "[the] bar, foyer, TV room [and] JCR room" to ensure that whilst the worlds are colliding, you'll be able stick with your comfort zone. In choosing the theme, Jardine said that "it kind of evolved into getting rid of the heroes and villains tag and simply focusing on the four worlds we had selected... thus, 'When Worlds Collide' was born!"

When asked about any surprises Furness had planned for what is bound to be a popular event, Jardine coyly replied "we certainly do... but if I told you they wouldn't be a surprise would they?" With regards to his own costume choice, Jardine admitted that he hadn't thought about it too much yet as he's been busy "buying decorations and DJs" – I wonder where the nearest DJ store is in Lancaster? – instead.

See you there, I'll be the robot Koopa Troopa in Dothraki attire.

COUNTY



Photo by Paraplue

Rachel May Quin

It's that time of year again, where we're all finishing our exams and looking forward to an exotic holiday abroad. Until then, County has your back with a Spring Break themed extrav which will hopefully bring a little sunshine to drizzly Lancaster. Whilst 'Spring Break' might only bring to mind lots of drunk people in swimsuits – probably not a smart choice in this climate – Communications Officer Rachel Taylor revealed that County have set up a Pinterest board for people to find outfit inspiration.

"We decided our theme based on what we thought would be most fun, and we wanted that big party. We thought Spring Break Cancun [will] create a great atmosphere and that's what we are looking for" revealed Taylor. "We definitely have a lot of surprises in store... [and though] we don't want to give too much away... there will be freebies galore!" In addition to this, Taylor added that the Spring Break theme promotes "general festival wear", so feel free to accessorise with lots of floppy sunhats and glowstick wristbands – wellies are optional depending on what the sky looks like that day.

GRIZEDALE

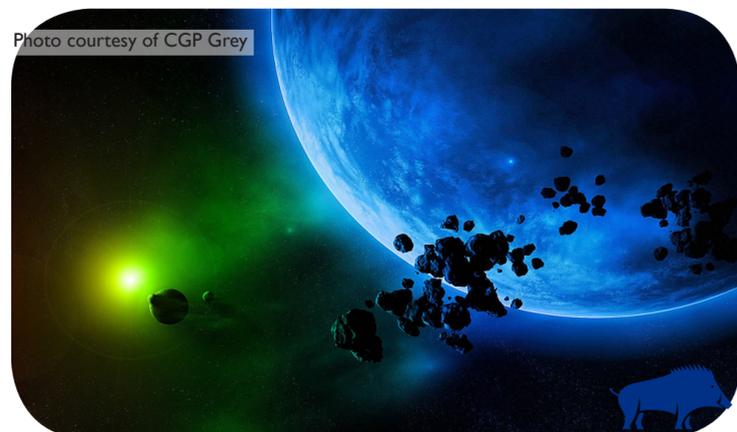


Photo courtesy of CGP Grey

Danny Gallagher

'Space Rave' follows on from 2013's 'Zoo project' theme as June 25th of extrav week sets the stage for Grizedale college to showcase their finest partying antics. James Harrison, VP social activities and events for Grizedale told SCAN: 'space rave was a bit of a no-brainer, having such a modern looking bar was just one aspect. Many themes are recycled over the years but 'space' hasn't come up in a while - never in the manner with which we hope to present it!

With indications that this year's mouth-watering Grizedale extrav could top anything of which has gone before, Harrison gave teasing hints of some possible treats in store for the main event, adding: 'this year we'll be having an oxygen bar free to all, along with a fantastic gourmet burger bar and a few other unique surprises'.

Ministry of sound resident DJ will be orchestrating the 'space rave' with his slot as headline act of the evening, whilst other acts include Jay and Cawky, The Marties, BC555 with Dave Miller, Select, Matt Hall, Rob Brooks and Mat Baker. An event surely not to be missed, let's hope Grizedale 'Space rave' can live up to its hype and truly be astronomical.

2014 College End of Year Extravaganzas

CARTMEL



Photo by Nikos Koutoulas

Emily-Jayne Nicholls

On June 24th, Barker House will see worlds collide as Extrav 2014 sees Cartmel College transform into Mount Olympus. As one of the largest venues, Cartmel Extrav has been one of the most popular over recent years with tickets selling out fast. Cartmel President, Tom Stapleton, explains the theme and ensures us that this event is not to be missed. "We went for the theme of Mount Olympus because we wanted to follow on from the excitement of last year's theme (a Rio Carnival) by being adventurous and exotic, yet familiar.

The theme allows us to really showcase what separates us from the rest of the colleges; which is the limitless creative potential, and the practicalities, which exist within the space of Barker House Farm." Although Barker House Farm is indeed a huge venue, we are assured that every inch will be decorated in Godly splendour. "Guests can expect big decorations, bigger flames, huge acts, and a few surprises on the night that we're keeping under wraps," Stapleton notes. "This will be no mere toga party, everybody will definitely be shocked by some of the huge things we have in store. Everyone here is giving it 100 percent, and it definitely shows." The Heavens have opened - Lancaster University, see you there!

LONSDALE



Photo courtesy of CGP Grey

Jessica Wallace

Land ahoy! The Lost Island of Lonsdale is the only destination you need to visit for this year's Extrav: for one night only, on June 26th, Lonsdale Bar will be transformed to host a 'jungle rave' complete with DJ's, and a relaxing sandy beach with live music from bands.

While more specific clues about what we should expect hidden away on the Lost Island are being kept tightly under wraps for now, one thing can be certain: anything and everything can be expected from this weird and wonderful theme. Who knows what could be washed up on the sandy shores, so grab any fancy dress costume from 'Cap'n Pugwash to King Kong' and head down to the bar.

Keep your eyes peeled for the clues yet to be revealed: to keep up-to-date, make sure to follow the 'Lost Island of Lonsdale' event page on Facebook.

FYLDE



Photo by Mary Harrsch

Jessica Kadel

Attempting to follow last year's Toy Story theme, Fylde have somehow managed to raise the extrav bar once more. This year they are quite literally pushing the boat out with what is being referred to as "Noah's Arkstrav". Yes, Fylde bar will be transformed into an ark inside and out, accompanied with its very own drawbridge for us to climb aboard when the floodgates of the heavens open on the 24th June.

Arkstrav boasts not only unique décor (which includes inflatable jousting), but also the best acts on campus; Fylde has managed to score 'Fleur' after just finishing her tour with DJ Fresh. Accompanying Fleur will be; battle of the band winners BC555, The Marties, Simba, Cawky and Jay Mathews, and the up and coming DJ Jasto. Remember that the animals went in two by two, so grab a friend and dress up in pairs. Whip out the lion's manes, the elephant ears, or any kind of Noah resembling beard – get creative, the costume options are endless.

For more information or prizes to be won, keep an eye out for their official Snapchat 'ARKSTRAV14'. All aboard?

PENDLE

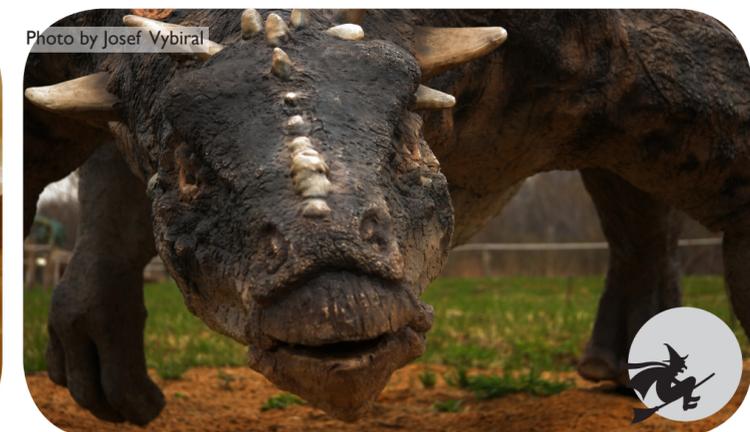


Photo by Josef Vybiral

Henry Saker-Clark

Pendle college have announced that their extrav will go back in time to the prehistoric era with T-Rextrav. Pendle Media and Communications officer Dale Cooper spoke to SCAN about the college's excitement for the theme. "The idea of T-Rextrav is something that has been flirted with for years. I guess this year we figured 'hey, why not do it?'. The use of a decoy with the wrecking-ball was something we managed to play on and it seemed to have people fooled." Cooper said he had seen a good response to the theme and was excited by the prospect of a prehistoric party hitting Pendle quad. "In terms of feedback, it seems the theme has gone down pretty well in Pendle, with only a few negative comments coming from other colleges but that's to be expected. All in all it should be a great night of music and a great way to kick off extrav week. We're all pretty excited!"

Top three reasons to *skip* getting fit

Philippa Hawley

It's that time of year again. Summer is just around the corner and we're constantly being bombarded with talk of sun, shorts and tans; all of which are sculpted around the ultimate 'bikini body'. We're all for getting fit and looking our best in the sunny few months - more like days - of the year, but there are so many enjoyable things in summer that you just can't do if you're obsessed with keeping fit. Although you'll look fabulous in the sun showing off your gorgeous figure, you'll miss out on some of the fun that the sunshine brings. So here are your excuses to avoid gyms and fat free foods:

Ice cream

Picture this: the sun is splitting the trees, for once it's warm enough to go out in a dress minus tights and the ice cream van's jingle is blaring out. This classic sound rings aloud all year - even in the winter in the pouring rain, which makes no sense - and the summer months are the first time we can actually jump at the sound and enjoy a good ol' 99 in the warmth. If you're too concerned with keeping fit you miss out on this isolated

event, and after summer has gone and people care less about keeping slim, you'll regret letting the ice cream treats pass by and the jolly music will haunt you well into the winter months.

Lazing about

For the last few months, which seemed like forever for most of us, we have been slogging our guts out revising and working constantly. The last thing that you want to do now is start worrying about getting fit for summer. You've been working really hard so give yourself a break! Put your feet up, abuse your Sky+ box and embrace the laziness - it has never been more deserved. You missed all your favourite programs while you were living in the library, therefore seemingly endless time off in summer is the perfect opportunity to mould yourself into the sofa. If you put it that way, no one will really see you that much, and if you're not bothered with how fit you look while watching Games of Thrones, then there's no one else around who will bother that much either.

Beer gardens

Sunshine and no exams basically equates to days with friends in beer gardens. If you're always worrying about

how everything you drink gives you a beer belly, kiss good-bye to those days with friends. No one wants someone sitting on the end of the table not joining in because it ruins their fitness regime, and if you're going to bring the mood down then what's the point in going?! The days from summer you'll remember are those spent laughing in beer gardens and in the park with friends, no one will look back and say "remember how fit I looked while everyone ate and drank loads?"

Now, I'm not saying everyone sack off being healthy and keeping fit, of course summer is about looking and feeling good too, but don't prioritize this too much. You'll be very much in shape and look b-e-a-utiful in your bikini, but enjoy yourself too! Just remember that there's a lot involved in summer time that centres on the exact opposite of keeping fit. What's the point of being fit if you can't enjoy a BBQ here and there? Your plate



Photo by Anna Lee

of salad will look quite pitiful next to the monstrous pile of burgers, and we all know which one everyone would rather have. Get fit when you feel like it, but don't waste your summer doing it. The main reason why people do it is to look and feel good during summer, which is perfectly reasonable as long as summer treats don't pass you by altogether. Besides, a Magnum now and again never hurt anyone...



Photo courtesy of Hotel de la Paix Geneve



Move along,
nothing to see here.

Carolynne
Photo of the year





Because cats are for life, not just for Instagram.

What's your workplace style?

Rhea Cairns
Deputy Fashion Editor

Whether it's a summer internship, placement year or a real-life graduate job, going into the world of work can be extremely daunting. But, more pressingly, what should you wear?! Going from an environment where it's more or less acceptable to turn up to a lecture in pyjamas to employment, where a smart and professional image is key is a big transition. Follow these simple tips to make sure that you make the best impression on your first day.

Firstly, add a bit of colour!

Unless it explicitly states in your contract that your working wardrobe should only consist of white, black and shades of grey, then adding a bit of colour to your outfit each day is a great way of getting across your fun - yet obviously hardworking - personality. For creative industries such as advertising, they want to see your personality shine through; showing this through your wardrobe is a great start. Now, don't go crazy and throw in fifty shades of neon - just a single colour such as red or blue will suffice.

Secondly, ladies: don't go too short!

Yes, going out in a short skirt to Sugar on a Friday night is deemed the norm, but in the working world lengths should

be kept hovering around your knees. Just think: if you're constantly worried about having to pull it down, then yes it's too short.

Another tip: invest in the staples.

This goes for both guys and girls, and although your end of term student budgets might cry at first, it'll benefit you in the long run. Guys, if a suit is required then make sure you get properly fitted and invest - something too big or too small will just make you look scruffy. Ladies, wardrobe staples like pencil skirts and tapered trousers will take you a long way.

Last, but definitely not least, have a look in your wardrobe!

You'd be surprised with what you can do with the gems already hiding in there. Boyfriend blazers that you usually pair with jeans? Perfect! Just change the jeans to trousers and you're half way there. What about that cream blouse that you usually reserve for presentations only? Tuck it into the pencil skirt you just invested in, team it with a blazer and a chunky necklace and you're good to go.

It's important to remember that how you present yourself in your working life is crucial; don't make a bad impression on your first day by turning up in a scruffy outfit that you threw together that morning. Even more importantly, have fun with it! As long as you look smart and professional then the rest is simple.



Photo courtesy of aliexpress.com

scan Fashion-O-Meter

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

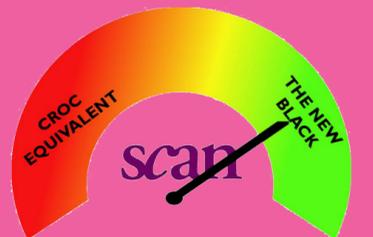
Damian Gray

The New Black

- **Celebrity Stoners:** From Miley to iD, that sweet Mary J is become the must have accessory for the biggest pop stars in the world right now. Pass us the (James) Blunt.
- **Ireland:** Apparently it's an alright place for a honeymoon. If you're a million billionaire. #kanyeandkim Or like Guinness. #stereotype
- **Gogglebox:** The series has finished and we are seriously missing Leon and June, Sandy and Sandra, and (most of all as they are our spirit animal) the pissed posh couple. Come back! Not you Silent Jay...
- **Two Piece Outfits:** In 2013 we'd have shot Joey Essex down for matching his top with his shorts. This year we are all over it. Hurray fashion faux pas.

Croc Equivalent

- **Anyone one who already has their Grad Ball outfit:** We hate you. We will be serving you fashionably late realness.
- **Britain's Lack of Talent:** No amount of camp from Walliams or Mr Nasty from Simon was gonna save this years severe talent drought. Bye Alesha!
- **Rita Ora:** We're not a fan. Sorry to let you down.
- **Our Last SCAN Article:** We're moving on and the Fashion-O-Meter is no more. Unless they get a younger model to replace me, like Rachel Riley did to Vorderman. Either way, our time is up!



Summer styling

Photo by Rachel Kramer



Georgia Shephard

Lancaster might not be renowned for its scorching temperatures but we've had our fair share of sun this past month, enough to burn a few shoulders I'm sure. But after exams, when you're lounging by your college bar, drinking cider and soaking up the rays, keep these tips in mind for a burn free break.

First and foremost, always protect your skin.

Hopefully we've all reached an age where we understand the importance of sun cream, but it's useful to know that some parts of our body need more than others. For example, the apples of your cheeks are particularly sensitive because of the sun's reflection from sunglasses lenses. As the highest points of our face, our cheekbones and nose are also susceptible to sunburn, but it's easy to avoid, simply use SPF 30 and reapply frequently throughout the day to these specific spots to avoid that scarlet glow.

Despite this though, each year we all suffer from sunburn, because let's be honest, we all get a little cocky when the sun comes out and I dash to the garden, eagerly soaking up the rays, certain an hour outside won't harm me. Until later, when my skin begins to prickle and I realise I couldn't have been more wrong. If that sounds familiar, let me introduce you to Aloe Vera gel, your new best friend. Ditch the moisturiser and opt for this

cooling gel which lowers your skin temperature in seconds allowing you to feel almost human again. I can honestly say it has been a lifesaver in the past.

Regardless of what you choose to soothe your skin throughout summer, keep it chilled in the fridge!

A cool moisturiser feels incredible and helps reduce redness instantly. After sun lotions are also a quick relief so keep these in the fridge too for a treat after a day on the beach. Not only do skin products benefit from the cooling effects of the fridge but nail varnish too, as the cold temperatures makes the paint thinner, so that they're easier to paint evenly and dry much faster.

Summer also plays havoc with hair though, as the heat and humidity cause both frizz and greasy roots. My advice, invest in both a decent dry shampoo and a headscarf for when products just don't cut it!

As an avid lover of the colour black it pains me to say this, but stay clear of dark clothing in the heat too.

Not only is black a wintry colour, but it absorbs more heat than light colours making you hot and sweaty. To avoid this choose loose, floaty shapes made with natural, breathable fabrics such as maxi skirts and dresses that increase air circulation. Whatever you do this summer though, keep smart and keep cool.

Instagram: Who should you be following?



Heidi Nagaitis
Fashion Editor

When the 90s gave way to the noughties, change was expected overnight. It was predicted that the new Millennium would see innovations left, right and centre (or at least some rocket pack ala Robbie) Although change hasn't been that extreme over the last 14 years we have seen some shocking innovations in the world of fashion. From Lady Gaga's Meat Dress to the bloggers' favourite, the ever-peculiar skort, fashion has definitely evolved, harnessing every outlet to showcase designers, collections and fabulous shoes to the big wide world.

Social media, the latest BFF of the fashionable and beautiful everywhere, has become the perfect avenue for fashionistas to share new buys, new styles and lust after haute couture. If you've never stumbled across #bloggers on Twitter don't go searching, you'll save yourself a lot of pain. Don't get me wrong, I love to mooch at every 'it' girl's wardrobe, but being bombarded with blogger after blogger can be a little overwhelming.

My tool of choice is Instagram, an app designed for users to share and edit their own photos with each other. This place is like the hall of fame for bloggers and clothing companies, who can showcase their outfits, style diaries and goods for free to an appreciative audience. As appealing as this sounds, excessive use of Instagram can lead one to be constantly glued to their phone or to photograph every meal they ever cook (yep, that's me), the result being a lack of social contact or friends in general.

To save you from becoming a social recluse, I've compiled a list of my top five fashion Instagram accounts, which focus on a variety of styles and trends to keep you entertained no matter what the content.

WEWOREWHAT

Danielle Bernstein, creator of www.weworewhat.com is blogging royalty, with an overflowing wardrobe and impeccable style documented on her Instagram account. From Coachella staples to everyday chic, Bernstein is the New York girl to envy. With an ever-evolving style, this blogger's Instagram is great to fol-

low for up-to-date fashion ideas and essentials, after all she was rocking a pair of nineties style mules long before they hit the high street. If you're looking for a wearable style to covet, look no further than Danielle for inspiration.

THEEVERYSIMONG

I do love a good male fashion blogger. Sometimes the gals take it all too seriously, so what's better than a well-dressed bloke, posing for silly style pics? Simon's Instagram is a mix of his personal daily life and blog posts, including the very stylish daschund Dhilly who models some of the goodies sent to Simon. My favourite posts are those with Simon's face superimposed onto catwalk models wearing the latest fashions. This account proves that fashion doesn't need a serious face. Simon and his eccentric style really do brighten up the rainiest of Lancaster days.

DEPOPMARKET

The newest, hippest app of 2014 (sigh, it's been around since 2011) has an Instagram account. Depop you ask? It's a fashionista's Ebay, without the selling fees or the timed listings, allowing you to promote your goods with just a photo. All the big bloggers are on there, so pick up a bargain while you still can! The Instagram account is perfectly personal, highlighting the newest and most stylish faces on Depop, so keep your eyes open for some real deals!

HELIBELLS

In need of some rainbow brights? With pompoms? No, me either. However, Helibells seems to pull off the psychedelic on both her blog and Instagram and honestly, her photos are the best way to lift any mood.

Individual style mixed with my little pony colours can only mean Instagram excellence, so if you're bored, check out her weird and wonderful wardrobe.

NYLON-MAG

The Instagram account of the hugely popular Nylon mag is filled with gig pictures, general banter and some amazing outfits. Fans of dry humour, the NYLON team only source clothes which make reference/

take the mick of cultural icons and current events. I definitely had a soft spot for their Mr T clutch bag. The site always offers discounts and it's easy to stumble across their best buys through their Instagram account. What are you waiting for?!



Festival Attire Guidebook

Hannah Hobson

The festival ticket has been purchased and you are ready to escape the 9-5 library routine for some much deserved freedom. Whilst we've already swooned over the outfits that were paraded around Coachella, it is now finally time to start planning and purchasing our own festival attire, ready for the season ahead. Inspired by the festival go-ers at Coachella, here are three simple items that can help you to be well prepared for a day, weekend or week of letting your hair down whilst appreciating some of your favourite artists.

The kimono

If there is anything that is a must have for the festival scene, it is the kimono. This dark horse has slowly been creeping into the circuit, with its lightweight material, allowing you to say goodbye to those waterproof ponchos - finally! It allows you to experiment with that hippy vibe, Vanessa Hudgens made heads turn at Coachella in hers. The kimono comes in a variety of prints, from bohemian folk to floral, in a longline style or in a shorter cut coupled with a mass of tassels. It doesn't matter what your style is, whether you opt for the denim shorts and band tee ensemble or if you are a swing dress sort of girl, just throw the kimono over the top and you are good to go - just don't forget your ticket!

The summer steal

The playsuit has taken a backseat whilst the co-ord has been stealing its thunder, making it a summer essential. Whilst some may save the co-ord only for a summer holiday, others find it a great option to wear whilst dancing to the beat of their favourite musician. Taking inspiration from Queen Bey, choose a tropical print to keep this piece up to date and couple it with your trusty festival accessory, the fedora, to instantly inject boho chic.

The ultimate uniform

So, you are coming to your last day of the weekend or week and your dry shampoo is starting to run out and everyone is feeling a little bit worse for wear, so all you want to do is get into something comfortable. This is where the denim shorts with our favourite logo or band tee come forward. This is the uniform that we have seen for decades now, the ultimate cool and effortless look that anyone can achieve for this scene. Easy to put on, easy on our bank balance and it makes the last day easy to enjoy. Simple.

Word to the wise, a festival is somewhere that you want to feel comfortable, where you want outfits that allow you to move in, not restrict you, so try steer clear of anything and everything bodycon. Lastly, tie everything together with accessories galore and if Vanessa Hudgens' style is still in the forefront of your mind, why not add some body jewels in the form of a bindi?

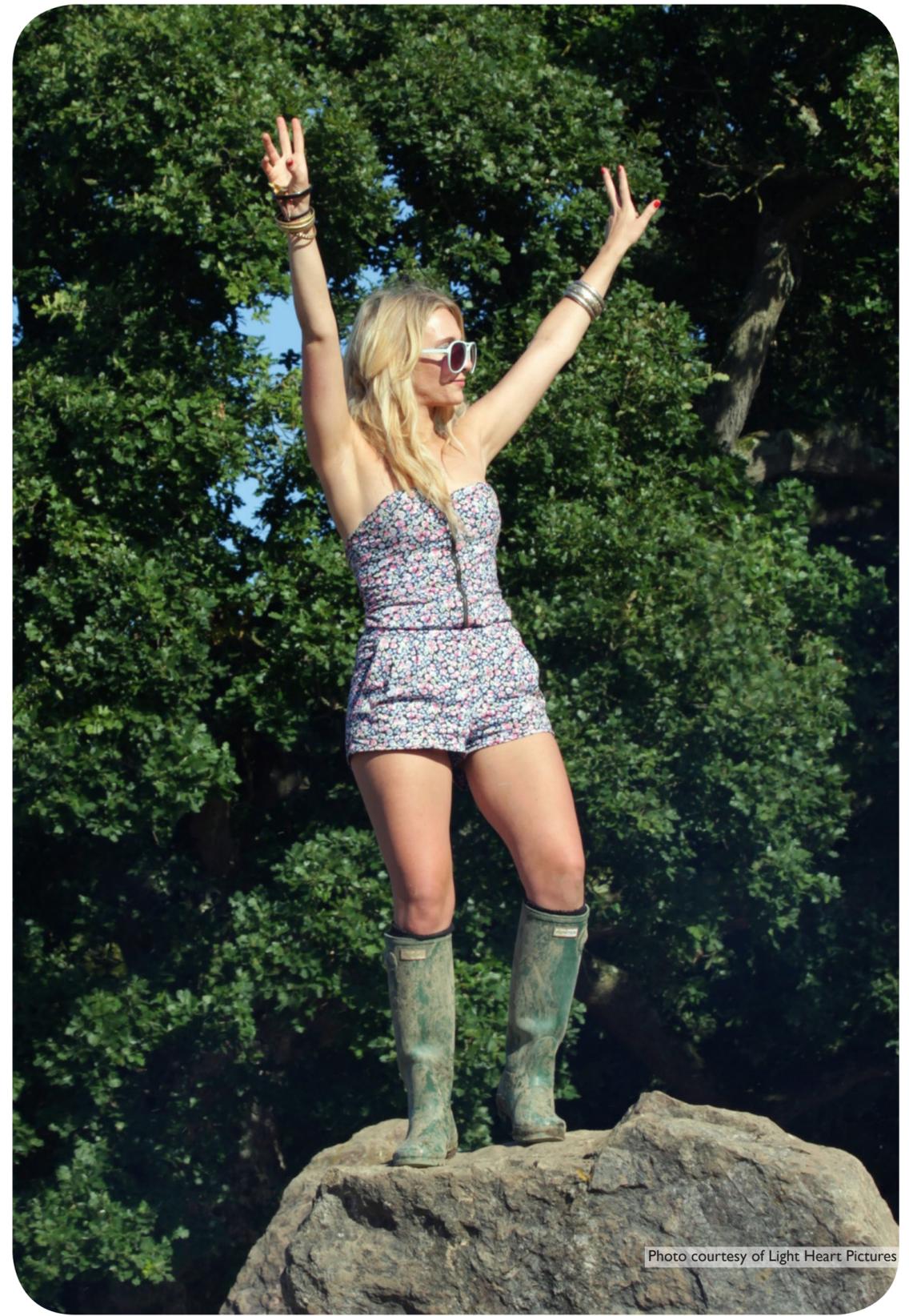


Photo courtesy of Light Heart Pictures

“I woke up like dis” (No, seriously).

Photo courtesy of makeup.com



Chelsea Eddy

I'd love to wake up like Beyoncé, but I've accepted the fact that firstly, I will never

wake up next to Jay-Z and nor will I ever be able to sing in tune; no matter how much of a survivor I think I am. Although there are certain things to assist you in waking up looking flawless. I'll break it down for you:

Hair

Before I go to bed I gather my hair and twist it round into a bun. Secure with a bobble and sleep on it. The longer the hair the better for this one. If you have layers or shorter hair, try doing two Mi-

ley Cyrus style buns on either side of your head. When you wake up you should have a romantic style wave to your hair.

You can also leave your hair in a head towel overnight when it's only slightly damp, this should give your hair lots more volume in the roots.

Hot oil treatments are great, especially the longer you leave them. Wash your hair on a night, condition your hair as normal, then put the oil on mid-lengths to ends and leave to dry off a bit. When your hair is still damp, wrap a towel round, give a blast over with your hair dryer to open the cuticles and rinse off in the morning. Sometimes requires two rinses with shampoo to take the residue off. If your hair still feels heavy after washing, give it another rinse.

Skin

This means night cream, if you haven't already got one, get one! Night creams are specifically designed for overnight repair and care. Their requirements are different to day creams in that they aim to soothe the daily stresses which include pollution, cell damage and exposure to artificial heating/cooling systems.

Dry feet and hands?

Rub a few layers of cream into your hands and feet and put socks on them. This works as a one-time rule, but I wouldn't do it all the time as your skin does need to breathe.

Avocado is really nourishing; you can make a multi-purpose mask with just the fruit. Just mush it up and apply to your face and hair. It's great for the under-eye area which suffers the most, as the skin is so thin. If you don't fancy sleeping in this one, try and leave it for at least 30 minutes before washing off.

With the fleeting sunshine, it's important to be prepared when it does show. If you're like me and you go a bit alabaster/jaundiced in the winter, then you will need to tan. I have found a new favourite tanner and I am not one to tan too often, as it usually ends in disastrous results. I got some Fake Bake from TK Maxx and it is SO good. It doesn't smell like biscuits or curry. Exfoliate beforehand, moisturise elbows and knees and you're good to go!

Nails

It may be scientific fact, but who knows: waking up with polished and preened nails is guaranteed flawless-ness. For an extra pamper and procrastination/revision break follow this guide. Soak your hands first and then exfoliate them either with body exfoliator, or you can just mix sugar into your soapy water. Dry your hands and get a cuticle stick - or similar - and push back your cuticle. Your cuticle is the fleshy white thing that grows onto the top of your nail. You might need to clip back the stray bits; that sounds brutal but it honestly doesn't hurt. When painting nails make sure you take the varnish right to the end and underneath. This means that your varnish won't chip so readily. TIP: Always apply an undercoat to protect the nail and a topcoat to guarantee its longevity for all your effort.

Pinterest: Who should you be following?

Anna Meng

Pinterest is not just a place for mums to collect recipes or fitness enthusiasts to share weight-loss inspiration- it's a great tool to stay up to date with the latest fashion and beauty trends. Since its launch in 2010, Pinterest has become home to fashion brands, lifestyle magazines and fashion bloggers. It's the perfect place for you to curate boards with things that inspire you or that you'd like to have. Using the site you search images through Pinterest, or on the internet, then 'pin' them to one of your boards to create a collage of online images, like a virtual pinboard. If you've never used Pinterest before, here are some of the top brands, fashion magazines and bloggers you should be keeping an eye on:

Fashion Brands

Jimmy Choo is the place for shoes,

shoes and more shoes. Go through Anthropologie's pins if you're looking for something a little more lifestyle oriented. High street labels like Zara and Mango have their seasonal lookbooks for you to follow and re-pin from. If your favourite brands don't have official Pinterest accounts (though most of them will) just type their name into the search box and you're guaranteed to find thousands of pins from their latest collections.

Fashion magazines

Vogue Magazine's Pinterest page contains boards like 'Anna Wintour's Favourite Images', 'Five Days, Five Looks, One Girl' and 'Designers' which features people from Yves Saint Laurent to Riccardo Tisci of Givenchy. My personal favourites are 'The Editor's Eye' and 'Beauty' which feature inspiring editorial images and the latest beauty trends from the runways.

Harper's Bazaar takes a slightly different approach. Alongside the standard boards with shoes, bags and so

on, there are 'Fall/Winter' trend boards for designers like Carolina Herrera and boards called 'Iconic Fashion Moments' which feature magazine covers with a young Naomi Campbell and photographs of Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall.

Other magazines with Pinterest boards worth noting are Elle, Nylon and Company.

Fashion bloggers

Contributing editor of Vogue and founder of website ModaOperandi, Lauren Santo Domingo has killer taste when it comes to things like swimwear and vintage fashion. Her 'Hollywood' and 'Portraiture' boards a worth a look too.

Parisian fashion blogger Garance Doré, longtime trendsetter and recent founder of her own stationary line has boards that ooze elegance and sophistication. 'Mes Classiques' and 'La Parisienne' are definite favourites.

Kate Arends of lifestyle blog Wit + Delight's 'Currently Coveted' and 'Seen

At Fashion Week' boards are must-follows. Browse them for minimalist, often pastel inspiration. If body art is more your thing, her 'Tattoo & Ink' board is definitely worth a look.

Beauty blog Into The Gloss is great for those with voyeuristic tendencies when it comes to celebrities' beauty cabinets. On Pinterest, follow along for everything from 'Backstage Beauty' to 'The Products.' If you're feeling nostalgic and want a bit of pre-midlife crisis Johnny Depp, there's even a board for you.

Wendy's Lookbook - the Pinterest account shares a name with the blog - is fantastic for head to toes outfit co-ordinations. A Los Angeles native, outfits on her 'Fashion & Style Diary' board range from casual jeans and t-shirts to full length evening gowns with accessories.

If you're looking for even more pinners to follow, a great feature Pinterest introduced recently is the 'pins from' feature where you can click through to all the other accounts your favourite pinners have been compiling their boards from. Good luck and happy pinning!

Fashion X Sport: Fred Perry

Erik Apter Sport Editor



bet for those looking for a stylish, yet football themed shirt and thankfully, Fred Perry have come to the rescue once again. The success of their 2010 World Cup style polos has seen the range return for this summer's upcoming tournament, providing football fans with a chance to display their countries colours in a much more refined way.

Fred Perry have re-leased 10 of these themed shirts, featuring



England, Brazil, France, Germany, Italy, Portugal, Holland, Spain, Japan, and the USA. Each shirt is stylishly emblazoned with the team's colours and features the name of the country stitched below the Laurel Wreath for extra clarification.

England's shirt is the standard white, but with a subtle red trimming and will blend in brilliantly with the sea of

red and white you will likely encounter whilst watching Three Lions games. However, unlike many of the other England shirts available, this one can still be worn confidently on a night out after the inevitable failure of the team in Brazil.

The shirts are perfect not only for those feeling patriotic, but also for people wanting a World Cup memento that won't simply be stored away forever once the tournament is over.

The downside to the collection is perhaps the limited selection of countries available, as 10 represents under a third of the teams actually competing in the finals, meaning the eventual winner where.

The polos retail at £60, which when you factor a £30 difference from the new England shirt, actually becomes quite reasonable. So for anybody looking to enjoy the World Cup in style, look no further than the new Fred Perry range.

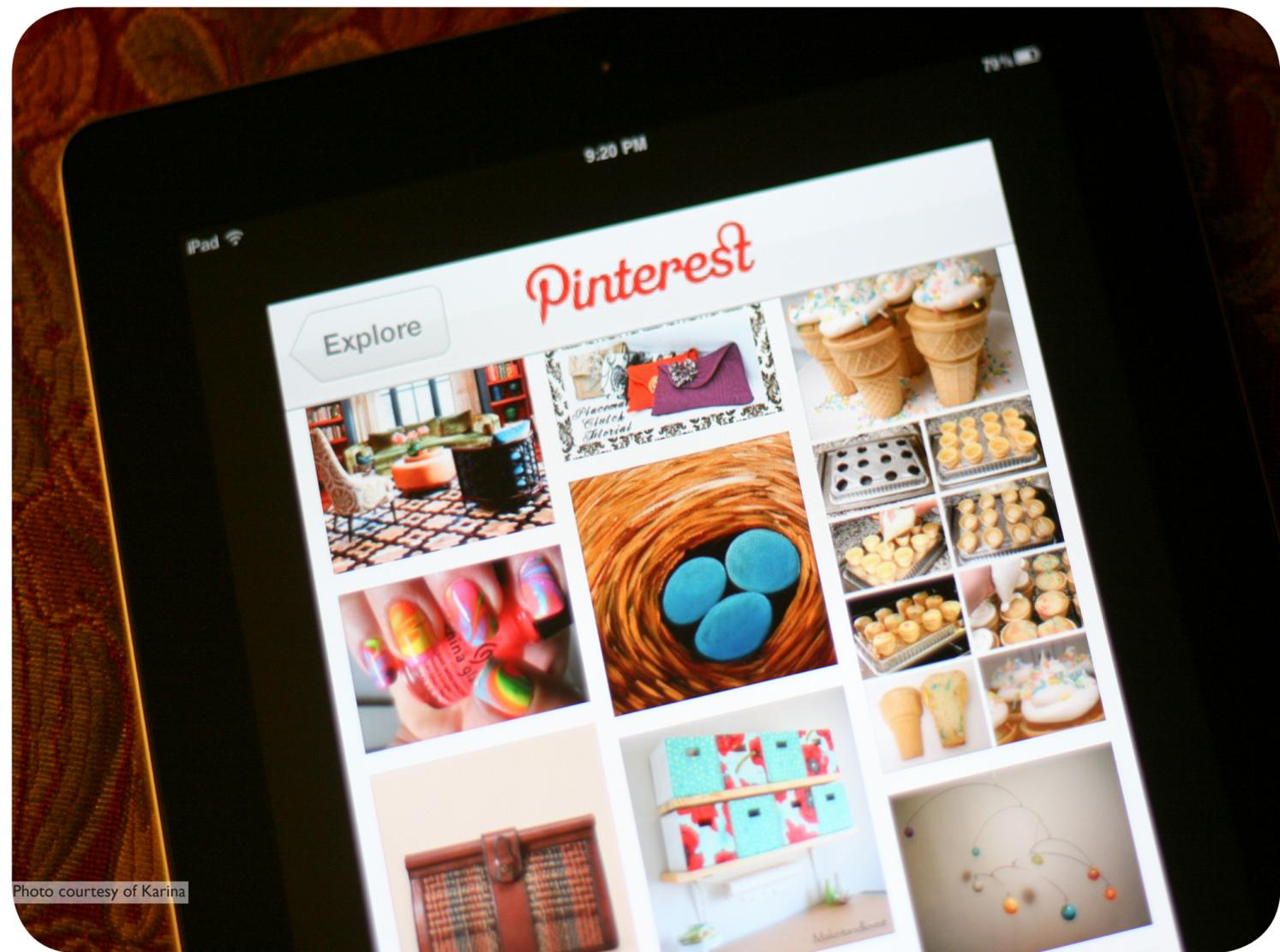


Photo courtesy of Karina

DON'T DITCH IT DONATE

If you have unwanted items that you do not or can not take home for summer, rather than ditch it, let us take it off your hands and give it to someone who really needs it.

**HELP US,
TO HELP YOU,
TO HELP THEM!**

WE CAN ACCEPT:

- Books, CDs/DVDs & Stationery
- Bedding, Clothing, Shoes & Coat Hangers
- Electrical Items
- Kitchenware
- Non-perishable items

green
LANCASTER

Exodus
CHARITY RE-USE PROJECT

lusu.co.uk

LUSU

Julia Molloy
Comment Editor



10 things I wish I had known prior to starting university

Hindsight is a wonderful thing, but unfortunately we don't always have as much of it as we'd like. Certainly there are plenty of things I wish I'd known before starting university.

First off: do not buy plain white crockery under any circumstances. Everyone has white plates. And everyone has an aversion to drying up. Your crockery will eventually get muddled up in the drying rack and will end up in someone else's cupboard which is also full of mouldy potatoes.

When it comes to important things, cheap isn't always cheerful. If I'd known that after two or three uses my wok was going to make everything taste of burnt onions, I'd have stuck to Tefal pans. The same goes for accommodation: what my basic en-suite room had in cost-effectiveness was immediately lost by the state of the kitchen. I don't think the oven had ever seen any Mr Muscle. The ants, silverfish, and spiders weren't too pleasant either.

Don't buy fitted bedding. Apparently Chancellor's Wharf was under the im-

pression that it would be accommodating insanely tall students. Gone are the fitted sheets (now full of holes after trying to stretch them over the longer bed) and out goes the cash for flat sheets.

Have

mountains of clothes. Did anyone else notice the sneaky 30p increase at the laundrettes this year? When coming to university I seriously underestimated how many clothes I'd need to avoid doing washing more than once a week. My wardrobe has virtually doubled in size to avoid doing endless loads of washing at £2 a go. Lazy, I know.

You don't have to buy specific editions of texts. As a fresher I ended up buying an expensive version of Hamlet just to get the "right" edition, but unless you're buying a poetry anthology, go for the cheapest edition available and save yourself some cash.

Make sure your laptop is truly portable. Unless you've migrated to the iPad/tablet era, you'll still have to carry around your laptop, particularly if you live off campus. My laptop, despite being "portable" by definition, is an absolute nightmare to lug around. Not only is it unusually heavy, but the battery lasts a mere 20 minutes. With hindsight I would definitely have bought a smaller laptop with a better battery.

Degree choices actually matter. One thing I wish I'd been aware of before starting university is which degree would have been the best for my chosen

career path. I'm one of the lucky/annoying ones in that I've always known what kind of area I wanted to go into - namely journalism or publishing - but part of me wishes I'd chosen to do a specialised discipline rather than English Literature. I don't regret doing English, but I think it would have been easier to get a job had I chosen to continue with Chemistry at university. Publishing companies in particular are keen to hire scientists and often discount English graduates.

Coursework is more stressful than doing exams. I might be in the minority, but I've come to realise that coursework is far more stressful and time-consuming. Given that my degree is at least 50% coursework because of Creative Writing, I certainly haven't been wise enough to decrease my stress levels at university.

Being sociable doesn't mean going clubbing. Having never set foot in a club in my life, I thought that on coming to university, everyone would see me as unsociable. I wish I'd known that there are so many different ways of meeting new people and making lifelong friends before starting university. It certainly would have saved me a lot of misery during Freshers' Week.

Take every opportunity. As I'm coming up to my final year, it's beginning to dawn on me that despite all the wonderful experiences I've had so far, there are always more opportunities to take advantage of. I wish I'd made more of my time here, because the end of my education will come quicker than I think.



Photo by Sean Freese

How to banish prickly heat this summer

Amy Coote

While everyone else is getting super excited about the warm weather and jetting off to new and exotic - or not so exotic - holidays this summer, if you suffer from prickly heat, all you can think is 'AARRGGHHHHH, I'll have to just sit in the shade so I don't get blotchy red itchy marks'. Well, don't fear as I have some remedies which could hopefully turn your summer nightmare into a distant memory!

Cool sprays: these cool sprays will lower your skin temperature when in hot weather, reducing the amount you sweat and therefore reducing the amount of blocked sweat glands, which are a major cause of prickly heat.

If the sprays are too pricey for your budget, just fill a small, empty spray bottle with cool water and spray happy!

This may not be suitable for everyone, but a particular favourite of my prickly heat-suffering family is Piz Buin sun cream - the best to combat the itchy red

rash. While we should all be wearing sun cream, why not use one which can help prevent prickly heat? Piz Buin can be expensive but for you savvy shoppers out there then head to B&M, Home Bargains or Bodycare as these shops usually have it for half the price. Be sure to look out for a high factor 'allergy' bottle - this is the best.

If you have tried everything under the sun - bad pun intended - and you still come out in a rash then use calamine lotion on the sore areas; it's both cooling and soothing. Again, working in the same way as the cool spray to lower the temperature and hopefully stop the itching and swelling. Calamine lotion can be picked up in most stores at a very reasonable price.

Loose light weight clothing - this may seem obvious, but step away from the bodycon and bandeaus, and grab that loose cotton kaftan or baggy t-shirt. The loose clothing again prevents high body temperature and sweating, and so reducing the chance of a breakout. Baggy is also great for when you have eaten one too many ice creams in the sun - perfect!

After following these very simple tips I hope your summer can be a blotch-free zone!

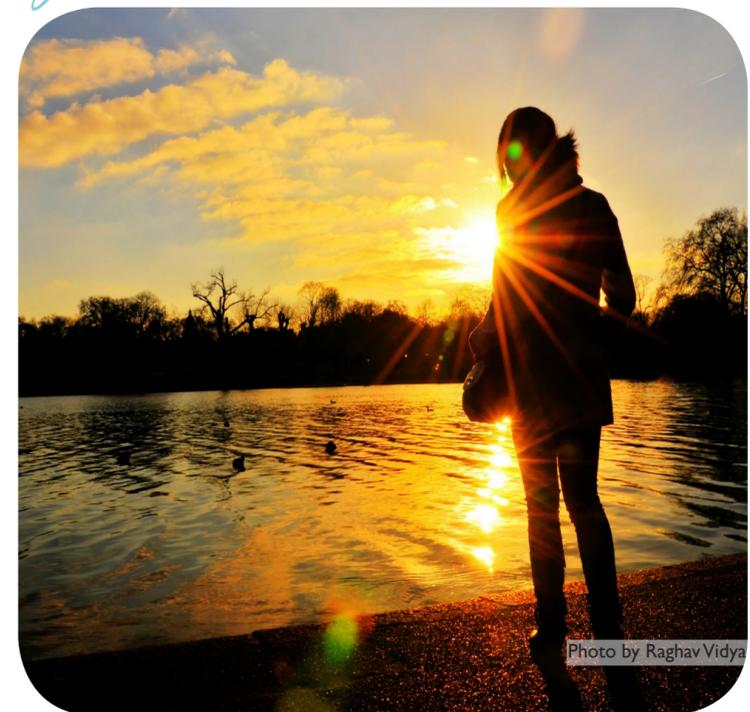


Photo by Raghav Vidya

Relationships at university:

Expectations vs. Reality

Ric Cowley

I always pictured myself moving into my room on the first day of uni and casually bumping into the love of my life. Our eyes would meet along the corridor, I'd glance away rapidly, she'd laugh nervously. We'd hang out in the kitchen, talking about our hopes and fears, making jokes at each other's expense. We'd have an impromptu movie night, watch a dumb comedy together, accidentally touch hands or something cheesy like that. I'd awkwardly ask her out, she'd laugh and say yes. We'd get a drink in a bar. Kiss in the rain. Raise three children in a rural village in the Midlands. All the usual stuff.

My girlfriend at the time wasn't exactly pleased with this rom-com dream I'd constructed for myself, but then she was always more pragmatic than me.

We broke up. It seemed like the best thing to do.

As it happens, the closest I got to falling

in love was giving a girl a small can of Pepsi Max and chatting about Resident Evil 4 for a good half hour. Which was nice, sure, but it wasn't exactly a lightning bolt striking my heart. Had Fresh Meat lied to me? Was I doomed to do it the hard way, and actually meet and talk to someone and get to know them before anything approaching feelings surfaced? No, I refused to accept it. Love at first sight was going to happen, it was just going to need some manufacturing.

My parents met at a Rocky Horror Picture Show themed party, and still tell me this story 25 years of marriage later. So I had hoped that by dressing myself in a variety of stupid outfits, I would eventually meet The One. Pirates. Surfers. I think one time I dressed up as "England", whatever that means. Drinks flowed, smiles were exchanged, but my heart continued to tick along at its usual pace and rhythm. I panicked. This wasn't going to plan at all. I got super drunk and told a girl I loved her. It wasn't true. It was all a bit weird, truth be told.

Why did my movie style love never happen?

Probably because the reality is that people don't seem to be looking for love when there are stacks of coursework to get through. My single friends maintained they had no time for relationships. My loved-up friends had mostly met their partners before university. I was flailing around seeking a Hollywood style of romance amidst a sea of Northern England disillusionment. Maybe it's the rain. Who knows.

But then I looked back, and realised that while I had never found The One, I'd had a truly remarkable time. I'd met so many new people, made a bunch of friends, and had some wonderful relationships with people that remain important in my life. I might not have been about to grow old with these people, but we had danced and laughed and felt joy together. I hadn't achieved my ridiculous dream, but the reality had been incredibly enjoyable.

There's probably other people out there who dream of meeting the

love of their life over a box marked "Books + Other Random Stuff", and maybe there's even people who did. But if you don't, just remember; you might not meet The One, but everyone else is pretty awesome as well.

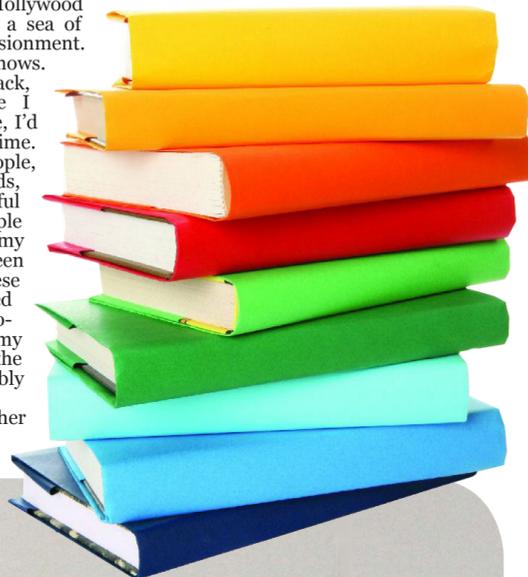


Photo by Lauren Hollowday

A guide to southern France

Vojtech Cemus

fjords) nearby.

It's time to move to another beautiful town that you can't miss - Aix-en-Provence.

Whether looking for a cycling adventure, cellars filled with great wine, spectacular cuisine, romantic cities or famous beach spots - southern France is a place that offers most of the perks of visiting this country. Let me take you through one of the routes of Southern discovery.

Let's start in Marseille.

This famous city is easily accessible from England by low-cost flights. Marseille is a bustling city where you can enjoy French culture and sightseeing. The highlights include The Old Port, Notre-Dame de la Garde or Cours Julien - the art quarter of the city including various museums. Beaches in Marseille are, in general, not of the best quality - it's better to find other places to swim. However, if you like slightly adventurous swimming, visit the nice small rocky beaches of Calanques (local miniature

This typically Provençal town shows examples of the architecture predominantly found in Southern France. Here, you can stroll along Course Mirabeau - an avenue going through the center where you can shop and enjoy a short rest by various fountains. For those interested in art, other sights to visit include the atelier of the famous French painter Cezanne or museum Granet showing works of other famous artists.

Now we are heading to Avignon, but before that, we shouldn't miss Les Baux-de-Provence. This small, beautiful village is situated on the top of rocky Alpilles Mountains and has a population of twenty-two people. Beneath it lies the Carrières de Lumières a complex of caves, where you can enjoy a unique atmosphere created by art projections

all around you. On your way from this special gallery, try to also visit Saint-Remy-de-Provence, a nice stop for those who enjoy exploring ancient Roman ruins. Our Provençal journey would not be complete without seeing a beautiful framework created by Lavender fields that remain a symbol of various paintings. They are worth visiting during June-August time, when the lavenders blossom.

Moving on to Avignon, this city offers other great sights hidden behind the original walls, which surround almost the whole city centre. Here, definitely focus on the famous Papal palace or the Avignon bridge ending in the middle of the river Rhone. The next stop would be two similarly beautiful cities, therefore I recommend visiting only one of them, especially if you are short of time. It's Orange in the north of Avignon and Nîmes in the South. Both offer, apart from others, ancient Roman Amphitheaters and nice historic centres with typical Southern layout.

Let's move back to the South and back

to the coasts of the Mediterranean Sea.

On our way, we can visit the amazing Pont du Gard, the huge ancient Roman aqueduct in the middle of nowhere. Arriving at the coasts of Languedoc Roussillon, we can enjoy beautiful sandy public beaches and the city of Montpellier. However, be sure you have booked your accommodation a long time in advance, since this is one of the busiest holiday regions in the world.

After you've enjoyed sun, sea, culture and great cuisine, visit the spectacular city and castle of Carcassonne. This is a must-see situated on your way to Toulouse. From here you can take your flight back home, after you've explored Basilique Saint Sernin, the town hall and the theatre of the Capitole, Le Couvent des Jacobins.

This was just a hint of all the things you can enjoy in the unforgettable region. Whether you prefer more sightseeing, time on the beach, shopping, eating, or just strolling around, the South of France is the place for you.

scan recipes: Summer delights

Skye King

The sun has come out of hiding and is warmly basking Lancaster with sunshine these days. Therefore, I have cooked up refreshing summery recipes this week that I believe you will enjoy cooking.

Ginger & Soy Noodles with Salmon

This summery dish has Asian-inspired flavours with fish and fried noodles, perfect for a casual lunch or dinner.

(Serves 2)

Ingredients

4 tablespoons light soy sauce
4 tablespoons mirin
1 finely chopped stem ginger
2 tablespoons syrup from the jar
1 crushed garlic clove
2 salmon fillets
140g any noodles
2 tablespoons sesame seeds
2 chopped spring onions

Method:

1. Heat the oven to 180 °C.
2. In a jug mix together the soy, mirin, stem ginger, syrup, and garlic.
3. Line a roasting tin with baking parchment and put the salmon in it.
4. Pour over half of the sauce, and then bake for 15 minutes or until the salmon is cooked through.
5. At the same time bring a large pan of water to the boil.
6. Add the noodles and cook following pack instructions, and then drain well.
7. In a small frying pan, toast the sesame seeds for one minute, then mix it with the cooked noodles.
8. Pour the outstanding sauce over the noodles, plus any from the roasting tin, and toss everything together.

Serve with the salmon and sprinkled with the chopped spring onions.



Photo courtesy of Great British Chefs

Fruity Popsicles

Fruity popsicles are perfect to cool you down when the weather gets really hot. These popsicles are super easy and quick to prepare, and you don't even need moulds - paper cups and craft sticks will suffice!

(Makes 10 popsicles)

Ingredients:

1 pineapple
3 nectarines
3 kiwis
10 strawberries

Orange juice

Method:

1. Dice the pineapple and nectarines and slice the kiwis and strawberries.
2. Place the fruits in cups and add the orange juice, leaving half an inch at the top.
3. Wrap each cup with cling film.
4. Snip the cling film on top of cups with scissors and insert craft sticks into each cup.
5. Place the cups in the freezer for a few hours until firm.
6. To remove the popsicles from the cups, run hot water on them until they release easily.



purple[®]

Blackpool
Tower
22.6.2014

GRADUATION BALL

REVOLUTION BLACKPOOL

Cocktails 2-4-1
Vodka Rev Bull 2-4-1
Double Spirit + Mixer 2-4-1
Selected food offers
Pitchers FROM £10
Six shot stick FROM £6
Bottle of VK £2
Selected Draughts FROM £2
Selected Bottles FROM £2
Das Bomb FROM £1.50
and free entry



REVOLUTION



LIVE LIFE. LOVE LIFE.

HERONS REACH HOTEL

twin/double room £69 B&B
and full use of leisure facilities

T&Cs APPLY - OFFERS OPEN TO PURPLE CARD HOLDERS ONLY

www.facebook.com/thepurplecard

lusu.co.uk



Comment

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

NUS should practice what it preaches on fascism

Daniel Snape
Deputy Comment Editor

“Fascism” is a word that gets bandied around a lot. The German finance minister says the French National Front is fascist; Marine Le Pen thinks the British royals are fascists; Prince Philip compared Putin to a fascist; a Kremlin confederate says the Eurovision song contest is fascist... Even the National Union of Students has a “No Platform” policy for fascists, which they renewed on the second day of their annual conference in March.

The No Platform policy dates back to 2005, but the origins of the new fascist clause are truly farcical. The NUS conference were faced with a choice: they could either adopt an election strategy in May 2015 and vote for the party that satisfies the most student demands, or they could adopt a protest strategy and campaign solidly against everyone. In the end, the Labour nursery that is NUS leadership managed to denounce in writing their greatest rivals, UKIP and the Lib Dems, and eliminate populist parties like Britain First – who must be “the fascists.”

However, the NUS failed to come up with a coherent strategy.

Each of the four delegates representing Lancaster University voted in favour of the No Platform, which now denies fascists the right to be heard on campuses up and down the country. I won't bother mentioning the other side of the policy, the creation of an “anti-fascist network” of students, because policies that require the NUS to actively do something aren't exactly the Union's speciality. My first problem with the No Platform policy is that I very much doubt there are that many fascists in the university system. If anything, I think authoritarianism is a highly under-represented viewpoint these days, but I'll humour them. The word “fascism” is draped



Photo by LUSU

over a range of ideas, from nativism to agrarianism to elitism, but the NUS is not very clear about the kind of fascists we're dealing with. If by “fascism” it means the ideology of zealous authoritarians, then we have a political minority to go after. I certainly hope it means the ideology – if the NUS means the rhetorical epithet, its policy is already unenforceable.

But which of these neofascist movements are we meant to hate?

With respect to parties, the motion put to the conference

only mentioned German National Socialism and the nightmare of the gas chambers. So, they've played the old Nazi card. Again, I'm no statistician, but I just can't get my head around the idea that there are dangerous numbers of genocidal Nazi students about. Be honest, do you know any violent scientific racists here?

The real problem is that the No Platform policy was designed to protect democracy, but it is one of the least democratic measures the NUS has ever taken. Granted, there are some neofascist movements in the world that want to eradicate the civil liberties central to democratic procedure, but is our best defence honestly to eradicate those liberties first? What the NUS should be doing is talking over these competing viewpoints. If the neofascists are so clearly wrong, we must let them prove themselves wrong in

open debate. Unfortunately, the NUS's particular interpretation of No Platform not only refuses neofascists the ability to speak on a student platform, but also refuses students the ability to speak on the same platform as a neofascist. In other words, the NUS is refusing both to listen and to speak in the neofascist argument. This is the single worst response it could have given to a dangerous populist movement. If there are large groups of students inciting division and violence – which I maintain there aren't – how on earth is ignoring them going to help?

We simply have to engage them; we can't take the easy way out by sticking

our fingers in our ears and shouting “la la la.”

The hypocrisy of the conference was even more infuriating. After silencing a political minority, the NUS slated the universities for neglecting the principles of pluralism and active dissent. Such blatant inconsistency probably means that, on the whole, the No Platform policy was a PR stunt to make out that the NUS is giving us a student movement. I for one would much prefer that the Union stops chasing imaginary fascists and starts focusing on education but, if it is even remotely on to something here, it should know that you can't preserve freedom of speech by denying people freedom of speech. That's fascism.



Should we boycott Amazon?

Jonathan Eldridge

average consumer in the west, though, is that this type of action will conflict with their thirst for cheap goods.

The Labour MP Margaret Hodge, chair of the public accounts committee, has urged shoppers to boycott Amazon's British business after it paid only £4.2 million in tax last year. This diminutive figure equates to just 0.1% of Amazon's UK revenues in 2013. It is only possible because when consumers in Europe purchase goods from any of its local websites, the payment is taken by a subsidiary company based in Luxembourg, a low tax country. Hodge's encouragement of a boycott stems partly from the fact that consumer pressure was seen to have persuaded Starbucks paying tax last year.

What troubles the

Unfortunately, issues of ethics and profitability (both for the corporation and for the consumer) appear to be difficult to mesh in a way which brings about selfish satisfaction. It is a problem which constantly re-surfaces, with our clamour for commodities generating vast pools of cheap labour in far-away places. If confronted about the ethical, social and moral consequences of their choice of consumption shoppers, more often than not, become defensive and posit that their spending equates to jobs – however low-paid – in those countries. Though this is an extremely simplistic

economic view, it does produce a twin-pronged rebuttal to the moralist: not only does it excuse the consumer, but it also justifies their consumption by portraying it as a sound, conscientious investment. This may seem to veer slightly from the subject. However, it does reveal the fact that "out of sight, out of mind" appears to be the dominant principle for us consumers in the west (along with buying as much as possible).

This ignores our unique power to alter company choice – as shown by the change in Starbucks' policy. There also seems to be a tendency to conflate legality with morality; many of those I have talked to about this issue see it as legitimate because it does not break any laws. Tax avoidance is out of sight in as much we cannot physically see the money slipping away from the grasp of the tax-man. However, its effects are most definitely felt – funds that could be channelled into public services are instead diverted to swell the coffers of private

companies, such as Amazon. According to HMRC, in 2010–11, "tax evasion and avoidance together accounted for £9 billion" of the overall £32 billion tax gap. In an era of supposed austerity this is particularly repugnant, and makes a mockery of the argument that it is not immoral because it is not illegal.

Everyone should pay their fare share of tax.

As a result of this we have at least one reason to boycott Amazon. However, it will take a paradigm shift in values if this kind of conscious capitalism is to last. For students on a limited budget, principled shopping may appear unfeasible. Nonetheless, there is a sense in which we can reclaim a degree of control, and not be in thrall to the capitalist imperative to consume. The

perpetuation of consumption (which results in a throw-away culture) is not a means to an end; it is an end in itself. This is the driving force behind our impulsion to spend large chunks of our time scrolling down website pages looking for the best offers, or trawling through shopping centres. Shopping is – perhaps unfortunately – an intrinsic part of our society and the decision to scale down your activity needn't be seen as constricting, but liberating. It gives consumers the chance to make an otherwise mindless activity more worthwhile and existentially pleasing.

Moreover, if it means less time is spent on these sites or in shopping centres, it in turn means more time can be spent engaging in other pastimes.

I would encourage everyone to engage in this habit of positive consumption, shunning companies who do not contribute to the collective wealth of society, and instead using those who make honest profits.



Photo by Ben Margot

From Burberry boy to barista

Danny Gallagher

modelling services to Burberry, is now a coffee barista for Café Nero in West London.

As was recently announced last week, the eldest son of David and Victoria Beckham has now found employment. Yes, Brooklyn Beckham is now officially part of the working world. So what glamorous, high-end sector has the 15 year old now become enthralled in, you ask? Following his father onto the sporting scene? Emulating his mother by entering the world of pop-stardom and show business? Not quite. Instead, rather the very humble world of espresso coffee service and various other confectionery goods.

The young man, who once gave his

So, should we be rushing to congratulate the actions and initiative of Victoria and David in thrusting their pride and joy to taste the fruits of everyday life and indeed learn what it really means to take home a working day's wage? An article which recently ran in the Guardian scrutinised this development down to its finest details, the consensus emerging that here were the actions of the "super-rich" attempting to walk amongst the mere mortals, and subsequently failing miserably.

Criticism has been fired from

various directions with many arriving at the conclusion that the Beckhams' attempt to portray their son as the "every-day lad" is just simply not washing, particularly when clocking off time arrives and Brooklyn hangs up his coffee apron to return to "Beckingham Palace".

It is the common case of the king in the kitchen, a lord amongst his subjects, an over-privileged individual in an unattainable position taking a job which he neither needs nor wants – purely for its higher representational message. At least that is what many disgruntled media sources will lead you to believe. But should we really have an issue with the son of one of the wealthiest British couples in existence landing himself a humble and stereotypically student part-time job?

I doubt it would appease people if young Brooklyn Beckham had instead instantly joined the

elitist world of which his parents are demigods. Indeed, this is the perception that many hold – the offspring of the rich transitioning from their mollycoddled childhood into an alternate reality of glitz, glamour and excess. It is for this reason Brooklyn's employment at Café Nero stands as an unnecessary stepping-stone on his inevitable path to the big time.

The rich will always be rich and therefore let them wallow in their world of indulgence – no cross over to be seen here. Quite a statement, but one essentially portrayed by various elements of the media in attempt of exposing Brooklyn Beckham's diminutive job employment as the PR or image stunt that they think it really is. Personally I couldn't disagree more. Instead, the enriching qualities which arrive with part-time employment are being vastly overlooked, but then again, why would we consider the thoughts and experiences of

the "super-rich"? It is absolutely undeniable that Brooklyn will enter a high prestige industry of some form later in life, the unwavering and gospel reputation that goes with the Beckham name will make sure of it.

Until then, however, the 15 year old has undertaken a role in society which may seem unnecessary to many.

But, to a young man who has forever been followed by media attention for no other reason than who his dad is, an otherwise unachievable learning curve may just have been presented on a plate.

The Immigration Bill: An Act of good intentions?

Liam Stott

scenario will permit the Home Secretary to invoke these new powers, and what actions would be regarded as 'seriously prejudicial'?

On May 14th the Immigration Bill received royal assent in the House of Lords. According to the Minister for Immigration and Security, James Brokenshire, the purpose of this new Act is to limit the factors that draw illegal migrants to the UK, and to ensure that the "immigration system works in the national interest". This legislation may well have the good intention of reducing illegal immigration and abuse of the system, but the methods by which it seeks to accomplish this objective raise serious concerns.

As part of the new Act, the number of immigration decisions that will be open to appeal will be reduced from 17 to four. According to the Home Office, this policy will "reduce the cost to the taxpayer through fewer appeals, as well as allow the UK to return "certain harmful individuals before their appeals are heard, if there is no risk of serious irreversible harm". In essence the purpose of this policy is to protect the public from individuals who are considered a threat to public safety, and preserve appeals for migrants asserting fundamental rights. However, this permits the Home Secretary to revoke an individual's naturalised British citizenship if their actions "have been seriously prejudicial to the interests of the United Kingdom".

This begs the questions: what

The Home Office also says the Immigration Act will ensure that "the courts have regard to Parliament's view of what the public interest requires when considering Article 8 of the Human Rights Act". Article 8 gives everyone "the right to respect for his private and family life," and demands that there shall be "no interference by a public authority with the exercise of this right, except such as in accordance with the law" and with "the interests of national security." According to the Home Office, however, the right to a family life is not to be regarded as absolute and unqualified, and therefore in certain situations the public's interest should receive a fair hearing in the courts. In recent years there have been several court cases that have attempted to extradite individuals deemed a threat to public safety. These cases have incurred much public expense, yet have failed when certain conditions for extradition were placed in doubt by the courts. My concern is the actual influence of Parliament over the court's judgement, although as elected representatives, it is their responsibility to ensure the safety



Photo by Gareth Fuller

and security of the public.

Finally, the Act requires that private landlords check the immigration status of tenants, while temporary migrants will be required to make a financial contribution to the NHS; a decision that could end up costing our own international students a great deal. According to the Home Office, checking the immigration status of potential tenants will "prevent those with no right to live in the UK from accessing private rented housing". However, the Scottish Association of Landlords has stated that this "could lead to discrimination against legitimate tenants whose residency status may be unclear," and potentially lead to even more migrants being forced into

the hands of rogue landlords. The Home Office has offered to produce a code of practice, although the positive impact of this policy remains in doubt. With regard to the healthcare charge, an actual figure has yet to be disclosed, although in July 2013 the government proposed a levy of £200 per year for non-EU workers and students, with the intention of reducing financial pressure on healthcare services. This clause is likely to have a negative effect on international students, especially considering that the study costs of non-EU students significantly exceed those of UK students. Nevertheless, the NHS budget has its limitations, and exempting certain groups from financial

contributions only serves to increase pressures on an ever expanding public service.

Clearly, the 2014 Immigration Act may well have the good intention of reducing illegal immigration and ensuring the security of the public, but it remains unclear as to when the Home Secretary will be able to invoke the new powers, while requiring private landlords to check the immigration status of tenants could potentially handicap legal migrants. The Coalition government has, to their credit, sought to tackle an issue that has been in the public eye for some years, although whether this Act will have a positive effect on immigration remains uncertain.



The NSA files: One year later

Jonathan Eldridge

Whistleblowers rarely come in more divisive form than Edward Snowden. For one set of people he is a staunch protector of freedom and civil liberties; for others he is a villain intent on endangering the lives of countless individuals.

The argument of the latter collective revolves around the possibility that some (or most) of the information leaked by Snowden is a threat to the national security of the US. The Defense Intelligence Agency's (DIA) classified damage assessment describes damage to US intelligence capabilities as "grave." With the revelation that this data is also shared with many allies of the US and that GCHQ, the British equivalent of the National Security Agency (NSA), has involved itself in this type of activity, questions of international security have also been raised. Both Barack

Obama and David Cameron have criticised the actions of Snowden as jeopardising the fight against global terrorism.

However, as much as this argument might garner support from those members of the establishment or the public who are excessively concerned with national and international security, the protection of the individual is sadly neglected when adopting this position. Indeed, Snowden is drawing attention to the plight of democracy and freedom in the digital age – he has labelled himself as far more troubled by matters of "transparency" than security. The fact that no evidence has been found to suggest that Snowden made the leaked documents directly available to any foreign powers implies that a desire to enliven public debate regarding surveillance was his driving motivation, rather than an insidious will to destruction.

The moral implications of such an inflated level of snooping are indeed "staggering", though debate across the Atlantic seems to have been more pyrotechnic than our own tepid dialogue. This

may be due to the constitutional ramifications that surround subjects such as privacy and freedom in the US, as well as the fact that they conceive of themselves as global leaders in the war on terror. Whilst it is true that Snowden's revelations have ignited a spark in British inclination to discuss such topics, our lack of fire in comparison to our cousins across the pond is more alarming given that – according to the Guardian – the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act (RIPA) of 2000, the British law "used to sanction much of GCHQ's activity, has been left behind by advances in technology."

The word "terrorism" has a weighted symbolic and ideological significance, and is often bandied about by politicians who wish to bring

to an end a debate by sheer force of language.

The amount of evidence amassed by Snowden has managed to sustain discussion even after the jarring use of this term; however, it continues to be the case that the majority of the public – certainly the UK public – feels uneasy when choosing sides. This is especially evident when the easy route out of such an ethical dilemma can be found by use of the dictum: "If you have nothing to hide, you have nothing to fear." This is the staple justification for the mass collection of data, and appears to be the thing to which a lot of us cling when faced with such a problematic question.

It appears to me that we should be far more engaged with this issue. A Guardian article published in January of this year warned that a "huge swathe" of GCHQ surveillance is illegal. The merging of the public and the private, which has resulted from the innovations of social

technology in recent years, requires an open and ongoing dialogue about what rights governments have to access our information. Is the collection of data acceptable if it is simply "metadata" (phone records rather than actual conversations)?

Should companies such as Yahoo and Facebook be given a legal right to refuse requests for information from organisations such as the NSA?

Do security agencies have the right to collect my information if such a policy means it is supposedly easier for them to catch criminals? These are all questions which need serious consideration if we care about the direction of democracy in the 21st century.



Photo courtesy of occupycorporatism

VOTING NOW OPEN

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

REFERENDA

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!

HAVE
YOUR
SAY

CAMPAIGNING

Week 8, 9th June

VOTING

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

lusu.co.uk/elections

LUSU



Is Ed Miliband a credible leader?

Patrick Sweeney

Ed Miliband was caught grimacing by a photographer as he ate a bacon sandwich in the run up to the recent local and European elections. The photograph – which found its way across the British press – was a blow to this Harvard-educated leader. Morecambe resident Bob Hopkinson, 47, said of Miliband: “If he can’t even eat a sandwich properly, how will this man run the country?” Yet this is a man who plans to radically reform the link between wealth and wage growth in the British economy. Miliband, while in office as secretary of state for energy and climate change, also secured the Copenhagen global carbon reduction agreement amongst his achievements.

“Unpriministerial”, “weak”, and “out of touch” were accusations made in the wake of the bacon sandwich incident. Despite the fact that he is a lifelong anti-apartheid campaigner and that he recently set out detailed proposals to break up the market-share of the UK financial sector, Miliband got a short shrift as a result of his gastronomic gaffe. Further comparisons were made with Aardman Animations’ plasticine character Wallace from Wallace and Gromit, yet the youngest

ever Labour leader prevented calamitous western intervention in the Syrian Civil War only last year, and Miliband has passed the biggest reform of his party’s relationship with trade unions in its history.

The London Evening Standard noted how “butter could be seen oozing” from the sandwich of the man who introduced tax credits for the low paid and who the Daily Telegraph declared one of the few “saints” after the 2009 MPs’ expenses scandal. The London Evening Standard also magnified charges against the Labour leader, who recently took part in a 48-hour street campaign to find out how people are struggling to keep up with the cost of living in south-west England. The Labour leader estimated his weekly shopping bill was £3.66 short of the average price, and subsequently, of course, questions were asked over whether the politician is truly fit for government – a man who has already devised a long-term plan to avert potential market crises by restoring stability through regulation in key industries.

Despite plans to invest in sciences, create apprenticeships for graduates, and cut student tuition fees, when I asked second-year physics student Charlotte Maddow whether Ed Miliband was a credible vote, she replied that she will likely vote against Mr Miliband because of buttygate. “He comes across as awkward,” Maddow clarified,

adding that she is likely to “go for Cameron” instead – the prime minister who has spent his professional life working in PR and who pledges to cut housing benefits for under-25s.

“The electorate want effective control over the UK’s nuclear weapons stock in the hands of someone they could imagine meeting in a pub,” explained Chris Mori from TheyGov.

“Miliband’s calm and inquisitive demeanour is a massive turnoff,” added Paul Ashcroft from the Institute for Studies. “People want a ‘character’ in charge responsible

for major UK trade agreements... it’s far easier to imagine the Eton-educated London Mayor with gangster connections that got caught on a zipline waving a Great Britain flag during the Olympic Games at the G8.”

The sandwich incident came as Miliband presided over impressive election results for Labour who gained an additional 330 councillors nationally, winning easily in London and England’s other major cities. In politics it seems that it’s not whether you win or lose, just how you lay the

blame.

Voters seem more concerned with Miliband’s demeanour rather than comparing policies between the Labour leader and prime minister David Cameron.



Give MPs a break

Sam Smallridge
Comment Editor



country don’t care about politics as much as them – will help the situation.

Criticisms of politicians are as hypocritical as they are frequent. People hark back to the old days while also talking about why politicians should have a strong connection to their local area. These two points are in themselves a great contradiction. MPs of the olden days seem to have been mythologised beyond recognition. This can only explain why it is ignored that Winston Churchill’s desire for a Parliamentary seat took him to Oldham, Dundee and Essex. It’s hard to think of a modern day politician who would have the gall to do such a tour around the country, well apart from George Galloway, but he can be filed in exceptional circumstances. Similarly many commentators allege that we need to stop political dynasties cropping up like the Kennedys or Clintons and have more people from working backgrounds. Yet one of the most dedicated Members of Parliament to people from working class background was Tony Benn, or to give his old title Viscount Stansgate Anthony

Wedgwood Benn, a privately and Oxbridge-educated toff who was his family’s third generation MP.

It’s become a tired cliché to say that MPs are lazy.

I’m sure that I’m not the only politics student to received rolled eyes and bland comments when telling people what I study. However, politicians today are seemingly asked to do two separate jobs, and the vast majority do them diligently. They have to be a caseworker, responding to e-mails about allotments, council tax and potholes. As well as that many have to sit on select committees, in cabinet or another governmental role helping to craft public policy. When you think about the comparison I wouldn’t blame MPs for saying “sod the allotments, I want to change the country” but none of them do. Instead they work their arses off doing two jobs for which they get next to no appreciation for.



Photo courtesy of PA

When you consider the hypocrisies and boring clichés which are common place when criticising MPs it’s no surprise that if looking into political disengagement you can often be confronted with more questions than answers. With turnout at elections in the last ten years being historically low, there does appear to be a disconnection between voters and politicians. However, it’s not something that is going to be easy to solve. Opinion pieces in national newspapers (or student ones for that matter) which seem to identify and solve the problem in less than 1000 words aren’t the answer, and in fact by being based on little evidence and facts they can sometimes contribute to the problem. Analysis often con-

tains political ideology with some right-wingers saying it’s not a bad thing as it means that people aren’t totally reliant on the state, while people on the left may say it shows the way minorities and ordinary working people are being ignored. Both could well be true, but it is detrimental to the process of solving political disengagement.

Instead, we need to think realistically about what we want from our MPs and then really look at if they are delivering for us. Who knows; you might be surprised. If people did that then maybe we could make some headway in solving what is a profound and a much more complex political problem than some people seem to understand.

Right or wrong, Charles’ comments show the anachronism of monarchy

Jonathan Eldridge

Though tensions may have eased recently, the Crimean Crisis – as it has been labelled by some – still exists as a fragile and contentious topic within the international community. Western rhetoric has been strong in the condemnation of possible insidious action from Russia but, as of yet, the discourse has been spelled out in terms of punitive sanctions and stern reprobation.

In to this delicate situation blunders our own beloved Prince Charles, who recently compared the actions of Putin to those of Hitler prior to the outbreak of the Second World War. The off-the-cuff remark was made to a Jewish museum volunteer in Halifax, Nova Scotia, during Charles and Camilla’s tour of Canada, and can be included in a lengthy collection of royal gaffes – quips that Clarence House perennially refuse to comment on. Since then, just days after Charles’ comparison, Putin sent him a personal message saying: “This is not what monarchs do... but over the past few years we have seen

so much, nothing surprises me any longer.”

Though Russia’s actions may be called inflammatory, a paralleling with those of Hitler’s Third Reich is a stretch too far.

It would be perhaps more apposite to raise concern about the rusting curtain being jingled by Russia’s annexation of Crimea. I think, given a broad assessment of the situation, the spreading of anti-humanitarian sentiment (which one might equate with the recent rekindling of Russian nationalism) is a far more likely outcome than the prospect of Russian expansion into Europe.

There are some brittle similarities which might be drawn between Putin’s annexation and the Anschluss (unification) of Germany and Austria or Hitler’s occupation of the Sudetenland, but Charles’ comments appear to ignore the democratic basis

for this current annexation. Whether or not the figure of 96% in support of being absorbed into a marginally extended Russia is accurate, it is entirely truthful to point out that there was and is widespread support for this action within the Crimean peninsula itself. The build-up and presence of Russian infantry on the Ukrainian border is worrying and, indeed, incredibly reproachable because of its catalytic relationship with the conflict within Ukraine. However, all this does not equate to Hitler’s colonial ambitions evinced by his actions in 1939.

All of us make regrettable statements now and again, and it is unfortunate that Britain has a representative who is so prone to slips of the tongue. Some might argue that Charles’ lack of accountability means he is wedded to a form of expression which is not restricted by political consideration. There could even be some in this country who see his comment as refreshing, given the tendency of the Westminsterites to couch messages in neutrality. I would agree that Charles is entitled to his opinion, however misguided it may be. The conditions on the continent

have altered since 1939 (though the dangerous environment of financial instability and snail-like economic recovery have led to the resurgence of ethnocentric politics), and he clearly lacks the nous to recognise the unique social and cultural factors affecting the region in question.

What these comments bring to light, other than their inaccuracy (well-intentioned they may be, but accurate they are not), is the fact that the words of these unelected spongers still inexplicably have a great amount of influence. Charles, as a

member of an archaic institution which observes wealth as a birthright, should not be viewed as a reputable exponent of British foreign policy. Of course, the royals should have as much right as any other ‘ordinary’ person to express their opinions. What should cease is the regarding of such opinions as especially significant.

The monarchy is an oddity which continues to bemuse.



Photo by Ben Stansall

Are cute animals the solution to stress?

Julia Molloy
Comment Editor



Most of us probably don’t do enough to tackle our stress levels. So when Bath Spa University as part of its “Stamp Out Stress” campaign decided to introduce a petting zoo onto campus, students everywhere looked wistfully at the news footage and turned to cat memes on the internet in an effort to procrastinate. The campaign also provided other services including a free and professional neck and head massage, a financial health check with money advisors, and blood pressure and cholesterol tests.

Superficially this appears to be a great idea to get students out of the library, into the sun, and holding cute and fluffy ducklings. Bath Spa University’s Student Union Welfare Officer, Emma Weskin, said: “We were keen to be able to provide opportunities for students to take some time away from their revision and the library

and spend some time de-stressing and enjoying themselves.” As we all know far too well, being one of the most examined nations in the world means that that students’ stress levels are ever on the increase. The importance of regular breaks, a balanced and healthy diet, and a good night’s sleep has never been more apt for today’s students, from secondary school right through to university.

The question is, however, won’t petting zoos be a constant distraction rather than a means of stress relief?

Susceptible to fluffy animals as I am, if there was a petting zoo on my doorstep for any length of time, the probability of me getting any work done would be almost nil. I’d also be encouraged to spend my time watching silly cat videos on YouTube, in turn making me feel more stressed out when I realise I haven’t done as much work as I should have. Regular breaks are important – but petting zoos are too

distracting (at least for someone like me).

Bath Spa University’s campaign, as well as Lancaster’s continued efforts to raise awareness about mental health issues, should without doubt be praised. However, it would be naive to think that providing the odd petting zoo or roll of bubble-wrap will improve students’ stress levels in the long run. The causes of stress need to be examined more deeply and, if possible, reduced. There is no doubt that exam periods will necessarily involve some level of stress, but my experience at university, as well as those of my friends, has led me to think that exam timetables are not as conducive to reducing pressure as they should be. Last year, if you took English Literature, English Language, and Linguistics as a first year, you would be facing exams on three consecutive days. Correct me if I’m wrong, but surely that combination of subjects is going to be incredibly popular. Equally, current second year Physics students face exams mere days after finishing lectures and in which they are required to memorise around 100 equations as a minimum. Is it any wonder that students are suffering from unusually high stress levels?

Having ways of encouraging students to take breaks is all well and good, but unless something fundamental changes about the exam period and students’ experience during that period, having petting zoos and the like is nothing more than a stunt.

Temporarily students may feel better, but surely time should be spent helping people to deal with exams and revision. Equally, not everyone would benefit from such publicity measures. People with allergies, or people who generally do not like animals, would not get much of a break. I don’t know about anyone else, but I would not want to be told that my blood pressure or cholesterol levels are

too high just before the exam period because it would just be another worry to add to the list.

Ultimately, the causes of high stress levels are not going to go away, and whilst Bath Spa’s “Stamp Out Stress” campaign is good on a short term basis, cute animals are not going to reduce stress levels in the end. The most effective ways of reducing stress still remain the same as ever: plenty of rest, a good diet, and lots of breaks including regular exercise. It’s fantastic that we’re becoming more and more aware of our mental health, but we’re a long way from realistically combating stress during exam periods, cute animals or not.





Ronnie Rowlands

Postscript

My final thought...

(Thank god. I thought you'd never pipe down. Love, Rachel. x)

For yours truly and duly, this is the end of the road: there is nothing further your author can do to screw up *ahem* enhance his degree. For the fourth time in my University 'career' (such as it is), the sun sets on another academic year, taking with it the charred remains of the tumultuous toil, the abiding anxiety and the unrelenting uncertainty that has stalked and shadowed all of us at some point.

Many of you reading this will be glad to see the back of it, many more of you have more of it to dread, but I am minded to hope in earnest that none of you reading this ever allows the hoops and the hurdles and the stress and the strain and the plummeting of self-belief to be your lasting memory of Lancaster University.

Sadly, from the three lots of new cohorts who have arrived since my first year, I get the distinct sense that there is a growing change in attitude towards what a University education ought to be. I arrived with the clear intent for my degree to take great importance, but also to serve as a subtext to the discovery of self and to an engagement with the sea of extra-curricular opportunities that really aren't afforded to you anywhere else. When I arrived here in 2010, I was an unfashionable, awkward arsepain with a sense neither of direction nor purpose. I am still an unfashionable, awkward arsepain, but I came not only to accept it, but also to a sense of purpose and a skillset. I shall bore continuing students not with the specifics, only with a lecture: You are not here to complete yet another set of exams. Some of you have an overriding passion for your subject and want to go on to pursue it in its purest form possible, and that's fine. But all of you are mere putty when you arrive, and a 100%

focus on jumping through hoops, narrowing down your absorption of culture and information merely to your reading list and embracing pressure and assessment as your only bedfellow will not mould you well at all.

NINE GRAND FEEZ has upped the ante to unsustainable proportions; schools and colleges are, more than ever, drilling vociferously into the mindset of potential students the sense that university is just another set of exams to be passed, that they are consumers, that if further education is 'big school' then higher education is 'bigger school'. Nothing could be further from the truth. You may, for example, be surprised to learn that it is perfectly acceptable to become friends and get royally trashed with your own lecturers and seminar tutors. It was only last night that your author stumbled across half of his own department in a less than classy nightclub in town and whiled the night away teaming up on a Blackjack table with someone who invigilated his exam mere weeks prior. It may surprise you to know that your author was, some time ago, fined by his College Dean. I still regard him as one of my best friends.

Indeed, the barrier is only as high, opaque and impenetrable as you erect it, and I urge you to do the shoddiest job possible constructing it.

It may surprise you to know that, nominally, the University treats students as adults. Indeed, the inaugural Vice-Chancellor of the University of Lancaster, Charles Carter, made a point of not establishing great deal of University of rules to bind the students by, under the ideology that responsible adults should be treated as such. Whether or not we act as such is another matter entirely, of course, but the sentiment is one to take

for granted regardless. Yes, University is an odd state of limbo between dependence and independence that affords you the opportunity to act completely irresponsibly in a responsible and professional environment. If your author can pull off some of the frankly embarrassing and reputation destroying that has defined his life up until this point and not face expulsion from the University (openly challenging and mocking authority in the pages of a newspaper, being light-years from sober 90% of the time and not meeting various requirements expected of me 99% of the time), then so can you: embrace this lucid, uninhibited glory period while you can, because the real world can harbour no measure of fascination and excitement that could make up for what you'd be missing out on by not following your author's advice.

Remember, also, that university is the only period in most people's lives where you'll have time to fight injustice and actually source serious support and facilitation, via the likes of the Students' Union and the political groups on campus. The landscape of higher education is changing continually, and there is a constant fight on all of our hands not only for our futures, but for the future of every single student who passes through our door. In the next year alone, there is a general election, and at least one political party who we feel will serve only to shit comprehensibly on students for the near foreseeable. Now, to me, and I bring it up only as an example, it's the Conservative Party. In the last few weeks, it has emerged that this Grabbit, Leggit and Run conglomerate of scythe waving sociopaths looks set to make drastic cuts to Student Disability Living Allowance, a source of funding utterly vital to those less fortunate

Supplementary reading

Your author has bored friends far and wide with his constant harping on about this band for a while, now. Nonetheless, I find the lyrics to 'Beat The Clock' by Sparks to be a nice little allegory for the pressure, constraint and hurry that pervades student life now. To your author's friends - this is the last time I'll spunk on about the band, I swear. I leave the lyrics here for your edification.

*I was born a little premature
Mom just couldn't take no more
Had no time to learn to cry
Goodbye, Mama, got to fly
Bye, bye, bye, bye, bye, bye, bye*

*Entered school when I was two
PhD'd that afternoon
Never entered any sports
Didn't look too good in shorts
Got divorced when I was four*

*I've seen everything there is
I've done everything there is
I've met everyone but Liz
Now I've even met ol' Liz
No time for relationship
Skip the foreplay, let 'er rip
You gotta beat the clock, beat the clock,
Beat the clock, beat the clock*

*I did lots of travelling
Parts of me unraveling
The Army then rejected me
Said I had two flat feet
Wore them out when I was three*

*Too bad there ain't ten of you
Then I'd show you what I'd do
I could cheat on five of you
And be faithful to you too
But there's only one of you.*

than ourselves, but in the same trenches nonetheless. They have cut Access to Learning Funding, a stream of financial support that the less economically fortunate of us (including your author) have clung to as a lifeline. There are talks of cuts to peripheral services offered by the on campus Doctors' surgery, and there are constant cuts to the kind of financial support required to sustain a struggling sector that they themselves are responsible for bringing into ruination. Nothing is, nor will it ever be, too much.

You may want to rip the head from my very shoulders for designing to say such mean things about a party you may or may not support, and guess what: I urge you to do it. To me, to another political party, to each other. All that matters is that you care, that you engage, that you not only wake up but rise up to whatever you perceive to be an injustice to you and your peers, and use this time to effect the sort of future that you see for society. Principal takes precedence

Read more online at scan.lusu.co.uk/comment

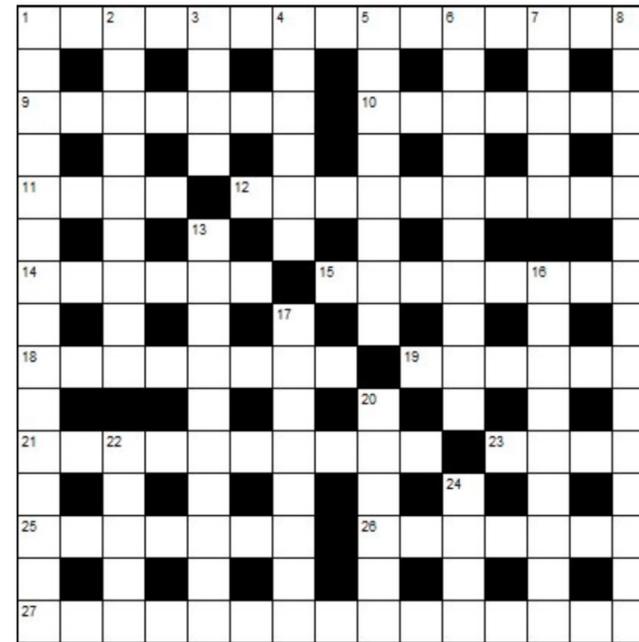
Letters to the Editor & Puzzles

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

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



Across

- 1 Dress made new fantasy second to none (5,5,5)
- 9 Run into bar for a scrap (7)
- 10 "Brown In" spelt out leader of The Guardian (7)
- 11 Strong nuts (4)
- 12 Return tab to Mr. Dawson in the Royal Oak? (10)
- 14 Overhear a number deliberate on the possible source of an American leak (6)
- 15 Peter Sellers maybe, or Cook - not good, average (8)
- 18 Jockeys in hospital or going to seed (8)
- 19 What Americans do to their plates when they want to come to the party? (4,2)
- 21 Bring back red carpet - is it unduly rash? (10)
- 23 Move a block of cast iron (4)
- 25 Liven up novel - crafty (7)
- 26 Keep soilage? (7)
- 27 Creature left herons and Scotsmen bewildered (4,4,7)

Down

- 1 Call Nick? (5,2,3,5)
- 2 Former auditor reported the Treasury (9)
- 3 Blown to heartless ruin (4)
- 4 Law and Pacino besiege Universal in real life (6)
- 5 No "S" missing from station signs (8)
- 6 Toys in a Clio? Jacks and tops leaving no room for work (10)
- 7 Start to harbour a craving (5)
- 8 One may have no interest in the company of a bedmate (8,7)
- 13 Showing no hesitation, tennis player at one-love with determination to win league (10)
- 16 Eager Heads of Intelligence met before the case (9)
- 17 Removes organ for grants? (8)
- 20 Understanding wife is married after party (6)
- 22 Monument to Biblical priest in church (5)
- 24 With which Xavier might decline immediately (4)

alberichcrosswords.com

Sudoku

Easy

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

Medium

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

Hard

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

sudoku-puzzles.net

Yr. Pal, Ron.

LUSU central



**WEEKS
9-10
purple
OFFERS**

Outstanding Value Every Day

STRONGBOW ORIGINAL

JUST £3

Strongbow Cider 2L **16th - 22nd June**

ONLY £3.50

Fosters, Carling, Strongbow, Bulmers Original, Scrumpy Jack 4x440ml **16th - 22nd June**

JUST £4

Budweiser, Stella Artois, John Smiths, Stella Artois Cidre 4x440ml Cans **16th - 22nd June**

ONLY £8

Carlsberg, Strongbow, Strongbow Pear 10x440ml Cans **16th - 22nd June**

JUST £9

Fosters, Carling, Budweiser, John Smiths 10 x 440ml **16th - 22nd June**

ONLY £2

250g Strawberries & Cream **22nd June - 6th July**

JUST £13.49

Absolut Vodka 70cl **WEEKS 8, 9 & 10**

ONLY £5.99

Aldetto Prosecco 70cl **WEEKS 9 & 10**

JUST £14

Peroni Nastro Azzuro Bottle 12x330ml; Bells Whisky, Teachers Whisky, Gordon's Gin, Smirnoff Red Label, Morgans Spice, Bacardi 70cl **16th - 22nd June**



Opening Times

shop: Monday-Friday 8.30am-9pm, Weekends Midday-5pm
central: 8.30am-Midnight, Weekends 9am - Midnight

all prices and promotions accurate at time of print

shop.lusu.co.uk



Sport

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

US Open Preview

Henry Saker-Clark
Deputy Sport Editor

Despite the absence of three time US open winner, and current world number three, Tiger Woods, this year's contest at Pinehurst looks set to be as interesting as ever. The gap left by Woods has, if anything, made this year's tournament intriguing. The recent strong form of World number one Adam Scott and 2011 champion Rory McIlroy sees

them both head to Pinehurst as favourites to lift the trophy. But, as is often the case, form could go out the window. Despite a poor last season Martin Kaymer is returning to his best golf, and many will be putting their money on 20 year old whizz-kid Jordan Spieth who just lost out at the Masters earlier this year to Bubba Watson.

The 14 time major winner Woods announced his withdrawal from the US open after failing to recover from a persistent back injury, but the current strength and depth of talent in golf is sure to provide another great tournament. His domination

of the sport in recent years has significantly faded, Woods having not won a single major in the last six years, and earlier in the year lost his position as world number one. Last year's Masters champion Scott will go into the tournament as one of the firm favourites following a consistently good season, and a recent win at the Crowne Plaza invitational which will put him in good stead. That win has kept him just ahead of the Swede Henrik Stenson, another challenger for Scott as he goes into his first major as world number one, with Scott describing in an interview this new experience, it's "maybe

added a little pressure for myself, trying to play like a number one."

Scott is not the only man who will feel the pressure, as last year's winner Justin Rose will be hoping to win back to back titles.

Rose became the first English winner of the title for more than 40 years but will hope that he can take spirit from his superb performance one year ago. He will, however, not be the only Englishman vying for the

silverware. The everpresent Luke Donald and Lee Westwood will both be aiming to replicate Rose's achievement despite neither of them having had Major success. Donald performed well last year but only managed to tie eighth behind Rose, who is currently the top ranked Englishman at nine in the world.

The lack of English success at the US open can be somewhat overshadowed by the British success in recent years. Three of the last four tournaments were won by Brits, the first of which was current world number six, Rory McIlroy. Many have questioned how he would be able to perform in recent weeks following his split from tennis star Caroline Wozniacki, but these were quickly washed away by his performance at the PGA championship at Wentworth. McIlroy's dominant victory has very much presented him as a contender, coming from seven shots behind leader Thomas Bjorn to card a six under 66 and win at fourteen under for the tournament. Despite a dip in form last year McIlroy has started to rise back up the rankings. He could have achieved even more success recently, but carded a 78 falter despite taking a three stroke lead at the start of the Memorial Tournament in Ohio.

The Memorial tournament saw a strong performance by the green jacket owning Bubba Watson whose recent success in Majors presents him as a threat too. The tournament also saw a weak performance from the US open holder Rose, failing to make the cut after the second round. Another dangerman at Pinehurst could be Martin Kaymer.

The former world number showed his return to form after a disastrous couple of years, winning the Player's Championship at Sawgrass, commanding the lead throughout and raising himself from 61 to 28 in the world rankings. Another player on the rise in Jordan Spieth who has come from nowhere to be a real contender for the title. Spieth's spirited performance at the Master's, where he at one point led by two, showed the young American's raw talent.

The talent is abundant and this year's tournament will be more open than ever.



Photo by Harry How

Belgium, France and Chile: Underestimate them at your peril

James Benson

With just a few days to go before they contest the opening game of the 2014 World Cup, Brazil are favourites to regain the title they claimed for a record fifth time 12 years ago. The next best odds are with Le Seleção's rivals Argentina, closely followed by Germany and reigning-champions Spain.

Whilst these heavy weights of the international game are likely to be involved in the latter stages of the tournament though, there remain a number of dark horses that could determine the destination of the coveted trophy. Marc Wilmot's Belgium come in to the tournament on the back of an unbeaten qualifying campaign and are priced at 18/1 to win the World Cup. Despite being considered outsiders, they will not let the bookmakers' estimations stymie their exertions. Appearing on this stage for the first time since 2002, the Red Devils could

well repeat the feat of finishing fourth as they did in 1986 and possess a squad bristling with pedigree from back to front.

Thibaut Courtois has impressed at club level since making his Genk debut in 2009, whilst the defence is marshalled by their ever impressive Captain, Vincent Kompany. Joined at the back by North London duo Thomas Vermaelen and Jan Vertonghen, the Belgians have a strong foundation on which to build. Further forward, despite enduring an indifferent season, Marouane Fellaini will accompany Axel Witsel and Moussa Dembélé in an athletic midfield that will out-compete those of their Group H adversaries.

Wilmot's side boast an array of potent attacking options that will surely strike fear in to their initial opponents' defences too.

Chelsea pair Eden Hazard and Romelu Lukaku enjoyed excellent campaigns in England's top-flight and will have Kevin De Bruyne, Dries Mertens and Adnan Januzaj in support. Progression from a pool containing Algeria, Russia and South Korea looks likely and although they might meet a Cristiano-Ronaldo-inspired-Portugal in the next round, Belgium could well go far. Elsewhere, France may have won the tournament on home soil in 1998 but they too can be deemed dark horses heading in to their opening game against Honduras, having required a two-legged play-off victory over Ukraine to reach Brazil.

Didier Deschamps, their captain in that World Cup triumph and at the European Championships two years later, faces the task of blending a squad that contains youth and experience in equal measure. Captain Hugo Lloris may be prone to rash decisions, but there is no doubting his quality, whilst the defence contains seasoned Bacary Sagna and Patrice Evra, as well as promising Eliaquim Mangala and Raphaël Varane. PSG's Yohan Cabaye and Blaise

Matuidi offer the disciplined approach that will allow the likes of Paul Pogba, Franck Ribéry and Mathieu Valbuena to roam at will and although Karim Benzema is perhaps profligate, he will have more than enough chances to put their Group E opponents to the sword. Deschamps' decision to leave Samir Nasri out in the cold drew widespread consternation, but there is sense in his assertion that, "I built the best squad, I did not pick the 23 best French players".

Runners-up to Italy in 2006, Les Bleus will surely not repeat the performances that saw them exit at the group stage in 2002 and 2010 and a round of sixteen tie against Bosnia and Herzegovina offers the real hope of a subsequent quarter-final appearance. Aside from the prospect of a surprise European showing, Chile have the potential to equal the feats of their more illustrious South American rivals. After finishing third in the CONMEBOL qualifying section, La Roja immediately set their sights on improving upon their tenth place finish in South Africa four years ago and with Jorge Sampaoli at the helm, they have

reason for optimism. The 54 year old adopts a similar philosophy to former Chile manager Marcelo Bielsa and his side will undoubtedly cause problems for Australia, Holland and Spain in Group B.

Much hope will rest upon the shoulders of Barcelona's Alexis Sánchez, though he is joined in attack by players with equally devastating pace and trickery. In midfield, Arturo Vidal is an injury concern ahead of the tournament but, if fit, he too will be an essential element of any Chilean success along with Juventus team-mate Mauricio Isla and Cardiff City's Gary Medel. Although they are unlikely to topple the reigning World Champions and win the group, Sampaoli's team will deem Holland's period of defensive transition as an opportunity they are capable of seizing upon.

The prospect of facing hosts Brazil in the first knock-out round would faze many international sides but, given the propensity for football to throw up unexpected results, the side ranked thirteenth in the world would take their place in the last 16 with relish and could even serve up the shock of the tournament on June 28th.

World Cup wonderkids aim to captivate

Danny Gallagher

The timer is parting with its final few grains now over in Brazil, as the world's greatest sporting event edges ever closer. The 2014 World Cup is poised to be one of the finest in living memory, providing an exhibition of the titans of the beautiful game colliding on the biggest stage of all, in search of the sport's most coveted trophy and the subsequent status of world domination.

The stars of global football are well known and even eagerly anticipated to bear their mark upon Brazil, however, here at SCAN we have delved into lower echelons to identify the young protégées heading to South America who really could burst onto the scene.

William Carvalho - Portugal

The Sporting Lisbon starlet has courted a whole host of top European clubs over the previous

12 months – and rightly so. The versatile Portuguese defensive-midfielder certainly has a lot to draw from in his locker, standing as a natural athlete who commits strongly to the tackle, all the while exhibiting quite a contrasting fluid and accurate passing range. Carvalho could be utilised as a lynch-pin for Paulo Bento's Portuguese XI, acting as the all-important cog in breaking up play and dictating possession to the likes of Cristiano Ronaldo. Already the owner of a 45 million euro release clause in his contract, the age-old cliché of the 'tournament shop window' could realistically be the case for Carvalho in Brazil, as a fine spate of form will indubitably leave parent club Sporting Lisbon clutching in vain to remain the proprietors of the exceedingly talented youngster.

Heung-Min Son - Korea Republic

The 21 year old left attacking midfielder is certainly one of the brighter talents to come out of Asian football over the previous couple of years; his first season alone with club team Bayer

Leverkusen seeing an impressive return of 12 goals and seven assists. Standing as one of the most potential-laden players of the Korean side, Son will be carrying the hopes of a nation on his shoulders in attempt of showcasing his Bundesliga form on the world's biggest stage. A strong crosser of the ball and somewhat of a tactician in the one-on-one situation, Son could not only provide an artistic spectacle, but also aid his somewhat underdog of a nation's progression out of a tough, yet manageable group H.

Diego Reyes - Mexico

Defenders, often overlooked when considering potential stars, can provide the momentum with which the metronome of a team can tick. This is the case with 21 year old FC Porto defender Diego Reyes, whose intelligent positioning and tranquil comfort in possession have earned the Mexican high appraisal over the past season. Lying in the heart of the Mexican defence, the youngster will be vital in assisting the fast pace and ball-retention of which

his nation will look to play when in the neighbouring territory of South America. Under the guidance and leadership of compatriot and national icon Rafael Marquez, Reyes has the potential to follow suit, winning the hearts of the 'El Tricolor' fans and simultaneously catching the attention of the world.

Christian Atsu - Ghana

Ghanaian winger Atsu will be heavily relied upon by his home nation to extensively capitalise upon his trademark attributes of raw pace and direct nature of attack. With African nations often heavily criticised for makeshift defending at major tournaments, Atsu will certainly be out to prove that this clearly isn't the case with regards to their attacking prowess. With the likes of Michael Essien and Kevin-Prince Boateng in accompaniment amongst the ranks, Atsu's talents are assuredly in good hands to be utilised to full effect. Should the Chelsea starlet hit the ground running, Brazil 2014 could be a major point of establishment for

the wide-man.

Ross Barkley - England

No shortlist would be complete without at least some home blood. With Ross Barkley however, this evidently is not a case of addition via sympathy. The born-and-bred scouser has enjoyed a fine season at his local Everton, commanding play from midfield and exhibiting a style of attack which has led some of the most decorated pundits to compare his style to 'the modern-day European midfielder', incorporating a rare concoction of flair, composure, steel and panache into his play, consequently taking his whole game to the next level. With a very diverse, accomplished and most importantly 'in-form' midfield at Roy Hodgson's disposal at the World Cup, Barkley may find his work cut-out in breaking the starting XI. Nevertheless, should the opportunity arise, the Merseysider will undoubtedly throw his entire being into procuring victory for the Three Lions. Brazil could well be the incubator for one of the most exciting youngsters in European football.



#iwantlusuto

Whether it's in 160 characters or less, online or in person, verbal or written, whatever way you express what you want from your students' union will shape our future and your time at Lancaster.

Now have your say

lusu.co.uk/iwantlusuto

The Premier League's 'Most Improved Player'

James Benson

After Luis Suárez' coronation as the PFA Players' and Football Writers' Association Footballer of the Year, thoughts turned to an honour more commonly reserved for junior football club awards ceremonies. Whilst the 'Most Improved Player' tribute suggests past failures, it undoubtedly conveys an appreciation of the individual's rise in the previous 12 months.

A number of stars have presented a strong case to claim such an accolade in the Premier League this season and it must be said the converse is true for a plethora of faltering players. Ultimately though, only one man can be anointed as the 'Most Improved Player'.

Despite his club enduring a torturous campaign, David de Gea can look back on it as a positive learning curve. After suffering a nervy start to his Manchester United career, he has proven himself as their deserved number one over the last two seasons and despite Iker Casillas' current stranglehold on the Spanish starting spot, the 23-year old has a bright international future ahead of him. In comparison to most of his United team mates, De Gea thrived amidst adversity and will build upon his performances next season.

Meanwhile, at the Old Trafford club's title rivals of yesteryear, a number of players have upped their performances this season.

Despite being part of a side that shipped eighteen goals against the rest of the top four, Per Mertesacker and Laurent Koscielny have developed a formidable centre-half pairing. With each one keeping club captain Thomas Vermaelen out of the team, they form the heart of the division's fourth best defence.

Nevertheless, the duo is not alone in its improvement and Aaron Ramsey is beginning to look like the sort of player Arsène Wenger hoped he would develop in to. The 23 year old's performances in 2013 would have made him Wales' best player had it not been for Gareth Bale and, had he stayed fit for the duration of the campaign, Arsenal may well have been in contention for more than the FA Cup come May.

Across London, César Azpilicueta has gone from being a potential misfit to an integral component of José Mourinho's Chelsea side. The ex-Marseille full-back has displaced Ashley Cole in the Blues' XI, though he remains equally adept in his favoured right sided position. Embodying the defensive and attacking capabilities that are essential for all modern full-backs, Azpilicueta looks set for a



long stay at Stamford Bridge and talks over a contract extension are said to be ongoing.

Another player whose performances this season have merited a new deal is Gareth Barry. Cast out and dejected at Manchester City, the 33 times capped midfielder looked unlikely to be in the reckoning for this summer's World Cup. However a deadline-day loan move to Roberto Martínez' Everton revitalised his prospects of a return to the England set-up. A homecoming to the Etihad Stadium is unlikely, but the 33 year old will have no shortage of contract offers.

In contrast to Barry, who has flourished on Merseyside, Jonjo Shelvey's career seemed set to stagnate during his time in Liverpool.

12 months on, following a switch to South Wales, the midfielder has become a key

element of Gary Monk's team that has struggled during its third season in the top-flight. Despite Swansea's broader travails, Shelvey has reclaimed his position as an exciting England prospect and will hope to add to his solitary cap in future.

Like Ramsey and Shelvey, who have started to deliver on the promise they showed as teenagers, Fabian Delph's career trajectory is on the up. The ex-Leeds United youngster has arguably been Aston Villa's leading light this season, particularly as Christian Benteke has failed to replicate the form which saw him touted as a £30m player last summer. Although Paul Lambert's future at Villa Park is in jeopardy, Delph will probably be part of the Midlands side's recovery.

A fellow northern-raised prospect who has excelled this campaign has been Southampton's Jay Rodriguez. After enduring a somewhat difficult first Premier League season, the Burnley-born winger-come-striker developed in to one of the South Coast club's crucial players before badly injuring his knee in April. Fifteen goals in thirty three league appearances put him in with a World Cup chance, so a call-up for Euro 2016 looks a distinct possibility.

Whilst it is clear that a plethora of individuals from across the

Premier League could be in the running for the 'Most Improved Player' award, it is without doubt that one outfit has provided the most candidates. Liverpool's meteoric rise has seen them mount their most impressive title challenge since they last secured British football's top club prize in 1990, and although Suárez and Daniel Sturridge have been integral to this, four of their teammates stand out.

Signed in early 2013, Philippe Coutinho was one of a long list of Brazilian tricksters that had failed to live up to his billing after making the move in to Europe. However, this season he has made himself a mainstay of Brendan Rodgers' side along with fellow 1990s child Raheem Sterling. Though the SAS partnership has dominated the discussions of many football fans, Sterling's part in the SSS has seen him not only become a key player on Merseyside but a potential starter for England's opener in Manaus on June 14th.

Behind the five times European Champion's forward players though, it could be argued that a pair of English central midfielders have most embodied the club's unbelievable progress this season. Once a marauding, attacking midfielder player, Steven Gerrard has adapted his game to become the Anfield side's quarterback of

sorts. Dictating play from a deeper position, Gerrard orchestrates many of Liverpool's finest moves.

However, the so-called engine room would be nothing without the cogs and pistons which allow the fancier elements make things happen. Step forward Jordan Henderson, the Premier League's 'Most Improved Player'. Perennially lambasted before this season, the midfield water carrier has upped his game to a level few predicted he would reach. Despite not being the most technically proficient individual, Henderson reflects the value of hard work and intense application that so many players who fall by the wayside lack.

Although it has been Rodgers' more advanced charges that have drawn the most plaudits, and rightly so in footballing terms, the 23-year old deserves recognition for his performances this season. Much like Fernandinho provides balance to a midfield which contains the swashbuckling Yaya Touré and defensively averse David Silva, Henderson has adapted his game to become a vital element of the Liverpool side. Their slip in the latter stages of the campaign coincided with Henderson's 3-match ban and, had the Premier League trophy ended up at Anfield this season, it would have been in no small part down to this man.

PARTY NIGHT EVENT IN SUPPORT OF LUSU
FRI 27TH JUNE
The **LAST SUGAR**
OPEN TILL 5AM

CLEOPATRAWR performing LIVE

Summer DRINK OFFERS

Beach Party

11PM - 3.30AM

thesugarhouse
 TheSugarhouse

purple £3 BEFORE 12 / £4 AFTER

THE sugarhouse

World Cup 2014: Group previews

SCAN Sport take you through the runners and riders for football's greatest competition

By Iain Beddow, Casper Law, Ollie Orton and Sam Carney. Team photos courtesy of SportsKeeda, Soccer Souls and EeveeLife



GROUP A Brazil, Croatia, Mexico & Cameroon.

This is the group that will kick off the World Cup, with Brazil and Croatia going head-to-head in Sao Paulo on June 12. With home advantage and a strong squad to call-on, including world-class players such as Neymar, Oscar and Thiago Silva, it would be one of football's biggest shocks if Brazil did not progress into the next round. Although their midfield is not as strong as in previous years, notably lacking a flair player in the mould of Ronaldinho or Kaka, they still pose a threat and will be tough to break down defensively. Assuming Brazil take the top spot, the second qualifying berth becomes a straight shoot-out between the three remaining teams. Mexico only just made it to the World Cup, sneaking past Panama in the final round of qualifying. Despite that, they possess genuine tournament pedigree, having won the 2012 Olympic Gold Medal against Brazil in the final. Since then, they have failed to progress, exemplified when not getting out their Confederations Cup group. Their squad is a solid combination of journey-men pros and the occasional big-name player – both Javier Hernandez and Gio Dos Santos are capable performers. As for Cameroon, after sweeping aside Tunisia 4-1 in their qualifying game, they will be hoping to bring their fluid, attacking style of football onto the biggest stage. After a very poor World Cup in 2010, where they failed to register a

single point, hopes will be higher for a more impressive showing this time round. With players such as Alex Song and Samuel Eto'o they possess real quality and will be hoping to impress this time out. Croatia are a very solid outfit – expect them to sit back against Brazil in particular before attacking on the counter. Former Arsenal striker Eduardo is in the squad, along with Dejan Lovren of Southampton – Croatia possess a strong core of players, and will be a tough opponent. However, the humidity and heat of Brazil may create unfamiliar territory for many of these players – if they can deal with that, I would expect them to progress. Brazil and Croatia to go through.

GROUP B Spain, Netherlands, Australia & Chile

Barring a major shock, the results of this group appear relatively clear. In Spain, the group contains the defending European and World Champions – although some members of their squad are now past their prime, they still have a group of players that are the envy of most of the world. After shining in the 2010 World Cup Final, Xavi and Andreas Iniesta will be looking for one last hurrah on the world stage. Spanish striking hopes are placed on Brazilian-born Diego Costa – after a dominant season in La Liga, Vicent Del Bosque will be hoping that he can transfer that form to the World Cup. The most dangerous opponents in the group are

the Netherlands – this offers up a mouth-watering repeat of the 2010 final. The Netherlands team is arguably not as strong as the 2010 side, having lost influential players such as Mark Van Bommel. While Arjen Robben and Robin Van Persie lead the Dutch threat going forward, the defence looks notably short, with Bruno Martins Indi the only stand-out name. The match between the two will probably decide who gets top spot – I would expect Spain to win that battle. As for Australia, after a golden generation for the Socceroos, it would now be a major shock to see them trouble this group. Having sunk to 59th in the FIFA rankings, their team seems weak throughout and hopes are pinned on former Everton midfielder Tim Cahill to provide a spark. Chile could pose a threat, being the most used to the conditions teams are expected to experience in Brazil. After beating both Uruguay and Ecuador to third spot in the qualifying stages, it would be foolish to underestimate them. However, they possess few players used to an occasion such as the World Cup and gaining any points off either Spain or the Netherlands would be a surprise. Spain and the Netherlands to go through.

GROUP C Columbia, Greece, Ivory Coast & Japan

Columbia, Greece, Japan and Ivory Coast will fight it out in Brazil this year. Japan (the

Asian champions in 2011) and Ivory Coast are the favourites to proceed to the next round this year. Japan entered the knock out stages in the last World Cup before losing to Paraguay on penalties. Midfield is their strongest position, and partnerships including Honda, Endo and Kagawa might be the key for their success this year. Now, most of the players in the squad are playing in Europe including Nagamoto, Okazaki and Uchida, who are all at their prime ages and their experience in Europe may just bring them to the qualifying round. Ivory Coast were very unlucky to be drawn into the 'Group of Death' in the past two World Cups, but this might finally be their year to progress to the knock out stages. Yaya Toure and Didier Drogba are the key players in the squad and are undeniably two of the best players in the world in their respective positions. Toure, who scored 20 goals and won Manchester City the Premier League title this year, has to prove his worth by leading his country in Brazil.

The two remaining teams in the group may not be the favourites, but they are both capable of qualifying to the knock out stages. Every football fan in the world should remember Greece's amazing run in Portugal back in 2004, where their lethal set-pieces and strong defence won them the European Championship trophy. Colombia's top striker Radamel Falcao suffered a serious injury early this year and despite the fact that he has been training very hard recently, his form remains a big question going into the tournament. Colombia has one of the strongest attacking squads in the group, including strikers Jackson Martinez, Luis Muriel and midfielder James Rodriguez. They will be the key factor in determining the fate of Colombia in the World Cup.

GROUP D Uruguay, Costa Rica, England & Italy

Group D is the 'Group of Death' for this year's World Cup and Costa Rica, England, Italy and Uruguay will compete for the two qualifying seats in the group. Uruguay, the 2011 South American Champions, have three world class strikers in Diego Forlan, Luis Suarez and Edinson Cavani. Each of them has been tearing defences apart and scoring im-

portant goals for their country in the past four years. More importantly, Fernando Muslera the Uruguayan keeper, could be the determining factor of the success of the team. His amazing performance in the 2011 Copa America was undeniably the primary reason behind Uruguay's victory. If he can keep his form in Brazil this year, they may not only qualify to the knock out stages but could even win the trophy in Brazil. Italy are always amongst the favourites to win the World Cup, their steady and strong performances brought them to the Euro 2012 final before losing to Spain. A solid defence is the key element in Italian football and from Maldini to Cannavaro and now Giorgio Chiellini, the Italian defensive line is always led by a strong leader. In addition, they have one of the best goalkeepers in the world in Gianluigi Buffon, who led them to World Cup glory in 2006.

This year's England squad are the second youngest in history, with players including Raheem Sterling and Luke Shaw who are both young and talented. Roy Hodgson's defensive and counter-attacking play could bring England a decent run in the tournament, especially in such a fierce group. This England team should be less stressful than those in the past, with there being fewer expectations from both the press and the fans. Finally, Costa Rica may exploit the situation of this strong group by playing decent football and earn a place in the knock out stages, but very few expect them to spring a surprise. If Costa Rica want to get through this group, they may just have to repeat their performances of the 1990 World Cup to get a seat in the last 16.

GROUP E Switzerland, Ecuador, France & Honduras

From what looks a relatively easy group for the French, both the 2002 and 2010 finals could have been thought of as similarly manageable – and we know how they ended. Les Bleus have a habit of making things difficult for themselves, whether it be internal conflict or leaving it late in the playoffs, their inconsistency in recent years can be considered a problem. Now led by their '98 World Cup winning captain Didier Deschamps, positive signs through expansive at-

GROUP F Argentina, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iran & Nigeria

tacking football and a youthful squad hold the key for a successful World Cup campaign. Samir Nasri's snub from the 23 man squad drew questions after arguably his best Premier League season yet, but Deschamps felt he had enough options, notably Mathieu Valbuena, to counter-balance a player deemed potentially destructive and surplus to requirements.

Vying to displace France at the top of Group E, the Swiss are ranked eighth in the world which clinched the final seeded spot after an unbeaten qualifying group. Nine clean sheets in their last fifteen games, cite a sturdy defence organised efficiently by veteran coach Ottmar Hitzfeld. In attack, options centre around the three dynamic Bundesliga men, Xheran Shaqiri, Granit Xhaka and Josip Drmic who provide their greatest attacking threat – despite young centre back Fabian Schär being their top goalscorer in qualification.

Ecuador and Honduras make up Group E making the group much tighter than expected. Both accustomed to the South American climate, did show surprising results when qualifying; Ecuador boasting a fine home record; beating Columbia, Chile and Uruguay while Honduras defeated Mexico, USA and Costa Rica. Despite their recent record the World Cup is a different ball game and I feel Honduras will struggle to get many points, leaving Switzerland and Ecuador to fight for that final place. Under Hitzfeld's organised stewardship, I'd predict Switzerland to progress behind France.

Quite like France's group, Group F, you'd think will be a breeze for Argentina. On the face of it that maybe true, with affluent attacking options at their disposal, in Lionel Messi, Gonzalo Higuain and Sergio Agüero, they no doubt have the players capable of inflicting serious damage. Their defence however could be more destructive, particularly goalkeeper Sergio Romero whose lack of game time and susceptibility for errors could prove decisive. Down their left side Marcos Rojo is probably the side's Achilles heel and as coach Alejandro Sabella deploys a 4-3-3 system, the lack of protection in the left back area will be worsened, which teams should look to exploit.

Bosnia and Herzegovina offer the biggest challenge to the Argentines, with the talented playmaker Miralem Pjanic playing behind Edin Dzeko and Vedad Ibišević. They are the only World Cup debutantes in Brazil and could be backed to merit their qualification by going further into the tournament, providing their front two yield a similar return to which saw them qualify, collectively netting 18 goals.

Iran and Nigeria hold the final two places in Group F. Despite Iran surprisingly being the highest ranked Asian team in the tournament, they have never gone further than the group stages in three attempts. I'd con-

sider it difficult to see how Carlos Queiroz will be able to avoid a similar fate when looking at their opposition. The Super Eagles on the other hand are one of two unbeaten African nations in qualifying, and will look to Victor Moses as their talisman to give energy into a team deficient of real attacking quality. Argentina and Bosnia and Herzegovina to go through.

GROUP G Germany, Portugal, Ghana & USA

Group G is perhaps the most formidable of the tournament; all four of its sides have strong recent World Cup pedigree, making the knockout stages on numerous occasions over the past decade. Germany, with their plethora of world-class attacking midfielders, are among the favourites to lift the trophy, and with the vast array of talent at Joachim Löw's disposal, they can afford to leave the likes of Ilkay Gündogan and Lars Bender, both injured, at home. Bayern Munich, shorn of their continental bauble by Real Madrid, provide the veritable core of the team, with seasoned internationals Philipp Lahm, Bastian Schweinsteiger and Thomas Müller mainstays of the exciting side that finished third in South Africa. One slight concern is the lack of options up front, with Miroslav Klose, the 35 year-old, being the only proven international striker. However, Julian Draxler, Mario Götze and André Schürrle are



dexterous enough to be able to create, and finish, chances. Their main contenders in the group will be Portugal, who of course relied on talisman Cristiano Ronaldo to qualify. Ronaldo is the key man, but talent is evident in the rest of the squad, in the shape of William Carvalho, João Moutinho and Real Madrid hardman Pepe. Many have tipped Ronaldo to 'do a Maradona' and lead his side to glory as the Argentine did in 1986. The focus, to begin with, should be making it out of the group. Aiming to prevent both the European nations doing this are Ghana and the United States, who met in the second round four years ago. Both sides are perhaps weaker than they were in South Africa; Ghana's most experienced players, Michael Essien and Sulley Muntari, are past their best, whilst the United States' manager Jurgen Klinsmann has opted to leave star player Landon Dono-

GROUP H Belgium, Algeria, Russia & South Korea

Group H looks tantalising. Oddly, its two most favoured sides did not even qualify four years ago. Many are tipping Belgium to be the dark horse of the tournament, and with their squad containing, amongst others: Vincent Kompany, Eden Hazard, Kevin Mirallas and Romelu Lukaku, you can see why. The Belgians, who qualified nine points clear of Croatia, should top the group, as long as they don't suffer defensive injuries, as that is the one area in which they lack depth. Second place in the group, presuming Belgium live up to their hype, should be a duel between Russia and South Korea, although Algeria will have something to say about that. It's tough to call, with all three sides having their own particular strengths. Russia have experience playing together and, in Alan Dzagoev, one of the most precocious talents in Eastern Europe. South Korea are a young side benefitting from coach Hong Myung-Bo's vast experience of the tournament. Swansea's Ki Sung-Yeung will be the man to watch out for. Algeria looked dour and defensive last time out, but were strong in qualification and have Valencia attacker Sofiane Feghouli in their line-up. The key game could be South Korea versus Belgium on the 26th June. If the Belgians have already qualified, the Koreans could sneak through, as they did against Nigeria in 2010. Belgium and South Korea to go through.





Sport

Sport Editors: Erik Apter & Iain Beddow [✉ scan.sports@lusu.co.uk](mailto:scan.sports@lusu.co.uk)

Froch cements place with boxing greats

Erik Apter
Sport Editor

The biggest and most hotly anticipated fight of the year ended with the champion, Carl “The Cobra” Froch, standing victorious in front of a capacity Wembley crowd. The Nottingham-born fighter raised his arms in elation after flooring Groves and the vindication in his face was clear to see, Froch is certainly not over the hill yet.

Froch described the win as “the best of his career” to the media afterwards and in a career that has seen him go toe to toe with the worlds best, defeating the likes of Kessler and Bute, that really is some statement. But on a night that asked so many questions of Froch, he delivered on every front and should go down as one of Britain’s all time greats. A pumped up George Groves may not have been the most difficult fight of his career on paper, but when you throw in the context of the last year, it became huge. Froch however, is a man for the huge occasions.

The fight was undoubtedly the biggest fight of the year for so many reasons. The primary one being the controversial circumstances in which the champion took the first fight. Groves was still hugely upset at the refereeing decision to end the fight prematurely and felt the belts should have been his. Froch’s age and previous performance against Groves led to some feeling that he was past it, time for him to retire, to move on and let in the next generation of British super middleweights, but one punch changed everything.

Both fighters entered the ring to an electric Wembley atmosphere, with the crowd being the biggest



Photo courtesy of Pro Boxing Fans

attendance at a UK boxing match since the Second World War, a huge 80,000 people turning up for the spectacle. The stage was set for what promised to be a classic contest, and it certainly didn’t disappoint.

The fight had a much more cagey start than their first meeting, both fighters approaching the bout in a tactical manner, looking to pick off their opponents mistakes rather than go on the aggressive. Groves’ arguably made the better start in the first two rounds as Froch’s left hand dropped too low, but it was tight and openings were few and far between. The champion started to get into his groove after that, dictating

the next four rounds with smart combination jabs and allowing himself to control the pace of the fight as Groves struggled to get a foothold.

Groves did fight back in the seventh, his big left hook finally connected and knocked some of the stuffing out of Froch early in the round. The champion was not to be deterred however and came back strong at the end of the round, although there was a sniff that Groves sensed a comeback. However, then came the eighth round, and with one swift right hand, it was over.

Froch was once again attempting to control the fight, focusing more on being smart

than aggressive, until he made his move. With Groves pushed back in the ring, a dummy left hand opened up the space for a thunderous right, the ‘Cobra’ had struck. The force of the right was so severe that Groves’ legs collapsed from under him, and the champion walked away nonchalantly, he knew it was over.

The punch hit with the speed and ferocity of an express train and sent a shuddering blow to the jaw of Groves. BBC commentator Mike Costello even claimed it was “The best punch you will ever see in a British boxing ring.”

With that one deadly right, Froch struck away all the criticism

and left the crowd stunned at what they had just witnessed. Froch had finally cemented his place, and legacy in boxing history, as there could be no doubting his greatness now. The fight certainly did not disappoint and will only enhance the reputation of British boxing.

It is difficult to say where Froch goes from here, Degale, Ward, Kessler and Chavez have all been touted as potential opponents but ultimately it is for the man himself to decide. Does he end his career on the biggest fight of his career, or does he have one last huge bout in his locker? Either way, the lesson has been learned: Don’t write off Carl Froch.

In this issue:

SCAN Sport take you through the runners and riders of this year’s World Cup, and is ready to guide you through the world of all things football ready for June 14th.